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Arvind Kejriwal to resign as Delhi CM in 2 days

Simmi Kaur Babbar

New Delhi, Sep 15: Delhi Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal on Sunday said he would resign in the next two days. "I did not enter politics to play the game of politics and money. I will go to the public and ask them what do they think: am I an honest man or an accused," he said.

names of his wife Sunita and his ministers Atishi and Gopal Rai as his possible replacement. Kejriwal, who was earlier this week released on bail from the Tihar Jail in the excise policy graft case, said that he would



hold a meeting of the AAP MLAs in the next couple of days and a party leader would take over as the chief minister. The chief minister addressing the Aam Aadmi Party (AAP) leaders and workers at the party headquarters here made the announcement to resign and hold the post again only after he was given a "cer-

tificate of honesty" by the people of Delhi. He said that people should vote for him in the Delhi Assembly polls early next year if they thought he was honest, otherwise not. Kejriwal also ruled out the second biggest leader of the AAP and former deputy chief minister Manish Sisodia as his replacement, saying he will also not hold the post unless given clean chit by the people of Delhi. Although there was no official comment from the AAP on the new chief minister after Kejriwal's resignation, sources said the CM's wife Sunita Kejriwal could be a potential candidate for replacement in the post. A party functionary said when the chief minister was arrested by the Enforcement Directorate (ED) on March 21, Sunita Kejriwal played a crucial role in the AAP's campaigning for the recent Lok Sabha polls in Delhi, Gujarat and Haryana. However, another senior AAP leader claimed that an MLA of the party will become the new chief minister. Kejriwal said the name of the next chief minister will be decided in a meeting of the party MLAs on Tuesday. The potential candidates for the chief minister's post also include the names of ministers Kailash Gahlot and Saurabh Bharadwaj.

Anil Vij says he wants to be Haryana CM if BJP wins elections

New Delhi, Sep 15: Notably, Anil Vij remarks come at a time when the party has already made it clear that Nayab Singh Saini will be the CM if the BJP returns to power. Former cabinet minister and Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) MLA Anil Vij demanded on Sunday that he be made the chief minister of Haryana if his party wins the upcoming assembly elections. Notably, the six-time MLA's remarks come at a time when the party has already made it clear that Nayab Singh Saini will be the chief minister if the BJP returns to power. "I am the senior-most MLA of BJP in Haryana. I have contested elections for 6 times. On the demand of people, I will claim for the designation of CM on the basis of my seniority this time," Anil Vij said. "However, it is in the hands of high command whether they will make me CM or not. If they make me the CM I will change the picture of Haryana." Also Read | Discontent grows in Haryana BJP as party drops ministers, sitting MLAs in 2nd list for

assembly poll Vij, who held the home, health, AYUSH and medical education and research portfolios in former Haryana chief minister Manohar Lal Khattar's cabinet, has been upset ever since the party named Nayab



Singh Saini as the new CM. In June, home minister Amit Shah announced in June that the BJP is capable of fighting the upcoming Haryana elections under the leadership of CM Nayab Singh Saini. Prime Minister Narendra Modi, too, had sought votes for Saini during his rally in Kurukshetra. The PM was all praise for Haryana CM Nayab Singh Saini and the achievements of his government since he took over as CM in March.

VP Dhankar slams Rahul Gandhi for reservation remark

ST Correspondent

New Delhi, Sep 15 In the US, Rahul Gandhi said India can think of scrapping the reservation system only if it becomes a "fair place" providing equal opportunities to all Indians. Reacting to Rahul Gandhi's alleged remark on "ending" the system of reservations in education and employment, Vice President Jagdeep Dhankar said on Sunday that such comments by a person holding a constitutional post shows his "anti-con-



stitutional mindset". "A person from a constitutional post saying on a foreign land that reservation should be ended underscores the same anti-constitutional mindset. The baton of prejudices against reservation has been handed over. It is the same old anti-constitutional mindset," he said while addressing a public event in Mumbai, reported PTL. Hitting back at Dhankar, Congress party spokesperson Pawan Khara asked whether he agrees on Gandhi's demand to increase the ceiling limit on reservations. "Mr Rahul Gandhi has demanded removal of the 50% limit on reservations for SC/STs & OBCs. Do you support this demand of the Congress, Mr @VPIIndia?" asked the Congress leader on X. The Rajya Sabha Chairman also said that creating awareness about India's constitution is the need of the hour as some people have forgotten its soul. "Reservation is not against meritocracy, but it is the soul of the country and the Constitution. It is an affirmative action and not negative. It is not depriving someone of opportunity but handholding those who are pillars of strength of the society," Dhankar added. At a conversation during his recent visit to the United States, the Leader of Opposition said India can think of scrapping the reservation system only if it becomes a "fair place" providing equal opportunities to Indians from every section of the society. The ruling BJP alleged that Rahul Gandhi wanted to 'scrap' the system immediately and his remark showed the Congress party's "anti-reservation" mindset. Home minister Amit Shah and defence minister Rajnath Singh alleged that Rahul Gandhi was standing with forces "conspiring to divide India".

Gunfight with terrorists in J&K's Kathua

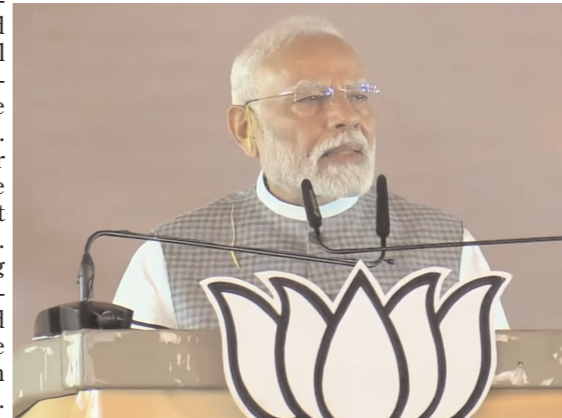
New Delhi, Sep 15: A gunfight erupted between security forces and terrorists in the Bani area of Kathua district, Jammu and Kashmir, following intelligence reports. A joint operation by the police and Indian Army led to an exchange of fire after contact was made with the terrorists. The area has been cordoned off, and efforts to neutralize the threat are ongoing. The incident follows the killing of three terrorists in Baramulla the previous day, described as a significant success ahead of upcoming assembly elections. Dig deeper Maharashtra chief minister Eknath Shinde said the state assembly elections are expected in mid-November, possibly in two phases. Shinde noted that seat-sharing between Mahayuti allies, including the BJP and NCP, would be decided within 8-10 days, with the BJP likely to contest 150-160 seats, leaving 128-138 seats for NCP and Shiv Sena. Dig deeper Babar Azam is enduring one of the most difficult phases of his cricketing career, struggling to make an impact both with the bat and as captain. This poor run of form has sparked widespread criticism from fans and former players alike, with many questioning Babar's position as captain, too. Former Pakistan captain and legendary middle-order batter Younis Khan, who famously led Pakistan to their T20 World Cup triumph in 2009, has now weighed in on Babar's current slump.

'JMM standing with Bangladeshis and Rohingyas': PM Modi

Navdeep Singh Sahni

Ranchi, Sep 15: Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Sunday hit out at ruling Jharkhand Mukti Morcha (JMM) in the state, accusing of supporting Rohingyas and Bangladeshis. "In Santhal Pargana, the Adivasi population is decreasing rapidly. The lands are being grabbed. Infiltrators are taking over positions in Panchayats. The incidents of crime against daughters are increasing... Every Jharkhandi is feeling unsafe because of the infiltrators," the prime minister said at a rally in Jamshedpur. "The JMM is standing with Bangladeshis and Rohingyas... These infiltrators and extremists are taking over the JMM... This has happened because the ghost of Congress has entered the JMM... When the ghost of Congress enters any party,

then appeasement becomes the only agenda of that party... These parties want to form their vote bank based on religion," he added. "The parents of young daughters are worried. 23 days ago,



Jharkhand High Court ordered an independent panel to investigate the infiltration. But the JMM government is not ready to admit that there is infiltration in

Jharkhand. Bangladeshi and Rohingya infiltration is a huge problem in Santhal Pargana and Kolhan. The demography of the whole region is changing rapidly," ANI quoted Modi as saying. "The RJD still seeks revenge from Jharkhand for its formation. And the Congress hates Jharkhand. Congress ruled the country from Delhi for so many decades but did not let backwards, Adivasi and Dalits come forward. The JMM came ahead in politics using Adivasi votes. But today they are standing with those who took over the jungles of the Adivasis," Modi said. "It is time to bid farewell to JMM that looted mines, minerals, Army land. Congress' school of corruption has trained the JMM government," PTI quoted Modi as saying.

24-year-old from Malappuram died due to Nipah virus

Sanjay Kumar

Malappuram, Sep 15: The 24-year-old man who died recently at a private hospital in Malappuram was infected with the Nipah virus, Kerala Health Minister Veena George said on Sunday. George said the suspicion of Nipah infection arose after a death investigation conducted by the Regional Medical Officer. "The available samples were immediately sent for testing and it turned out to be positive," the minister said in a video message. The Malappuram native who reached the state from Bengaluru died on September 9, after which his available samples were sent for testing to Kozhikode Medical college hospital laboratory. Malappuram health officials said the results from Kozhikode medical college indicated a positive result, after which a high-level meeting was held by the health minister on Saturday night itself and she initiated the necessary steps as per the protocol. The minister said 16 committees were formed on Saturday night itself and a contact list of 151 people has been identified. She said the man had travelled with his friends to various places and the close contacts had been isolated.

Union minister Ravneet Bittu calls Rahul Gandhi 'No.1 terrorist'

Tejinder Kaur Babbar

New Delhi, Sep 15: Rahul Gandhi had sparked a row with his remark in the US, alleging that Sikhs might not be allowed to practice their religious faith freely Union minister Ravneet Singh Bittu on Sunday lashed out at Lok Sabha leader of opposition Rahul Gandhi over the latter's remarks in the United States. Bittu, who quit Congress and joined the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) ahead of the Lok Sabha elections this year, called the Congress leader as the "number one terrorist". "Rahul Gandhi is not an Indian, he has spent most of his time outside. He does not love his country much because he goes abroad and says everything in a wrong way. The people who are most wanted, separatists, experts in making bombs, guns and shells, have appreciated what Rahul Gandhi has said," ANI quoted Bittu

as saying. Gandhi had sparked a row over his remark on Sikhs in the United States, alleging that the members of the commu-



nity might not be allowed to practice their religious faith freely. "The fight is about whether he, as a Sikh, is going to be allowed to wear a turban in India; or whether, he, as a Sikh, will be allowed to

wear a kada in India; or whether he, as a Sikh, is allowed to go to a Gurudwara. That's what the fight is about, and not just for him, but for all religion," Gandhi had said. Gandhi's remark triggered a political storm with the BJP accusing him of defaming the country. Union minister Hardeep Singh Puri alleged that Gandhi's remarks were "sinister" in nature as he tried to spread falsehood among the members of the Sikh community living abroad to "eke out a living". Continuing his attack, Bittu said, "The enemies of the country who try to blow up planes, trains, roads, they are in support of Rahul Gandhi...If there should be an award to catch the number one terrorist and the biggest enemy of the country, it should be on Rahul Gandhi." Senior Congress leader Sandeep Dikshit hit out at Bittu, saying,

BJP 'wants to bury' Kashmir issue, Article 370: Mehbooba Mufti

Sri Nagar, Sep 15 Three days before the first phase of assembly elections in Jammu and Kashmir, former chief minister Mehbooba Mufti on Sunday accused the BJP of 'trying to bury' both the Kashmir issue and the matter of



Article 370 abrogation. "We are contesting (the election) because the BJP wants to bury the Kashmir issue and Article 370. It (BJP) wants everyone to talk only about the election," Mufti told reporters in Kulgam, according. The PDP chief, who was the last

CM of Jammu and Kashmir before it lost statehood and became a Union territory, also asserted that her party was 'adamant' that resolving the Kashmir issue was 'very important'. "It is a matter of shame for the BJP that has been saying that the situation has improved (in J&K), but they could not hold elections here in the last 10 years. People are annoyed... they want a government that addresses their concerns," she said. An ex-ally of the PDP, the BJP has been the country's governing party since May 2014. In August 2019, the central government abrogated Article 370 that gave 'special status' to Jammu and Kashmir. Meanwhile, Mufti promised permanent employment for daily wagers if the PDP was elected to power. She also assured efforts will be made to bring multi-national companies to the Valley.

Engineer Rashid's AIP joins forces with leaders of banned Jamaat-e-Islami for J&K polls

Naresh Malhotra

Sri Nagar, Sep 15: The leadership of both AIP and Jamaat-e-Islami have called upon their cadres to spread the message of support for each other's candidates. The Awami Ittehad Party (AIP), led by Lok Sabha MP Sheikh Abdul Rashid, also known as Engineer Rashid, has entered into a strategic alliance with former members of the banned Jamaat-e-Islami (JEI) ahead of the upcoming Jammu and Kashmir assembly elections "A joint meeting was held today in which the AIP delegation was led by AIP Supreme and chief spokesperson Inam Un Nabi, while the JEI delegation was led by Ghulam Qadir Wani. Prominent JEI members participated in the discussions," the AIP said in a statement. The Jamaat-e-Islami, banned by the Indian government under anti-terror laws in 2019, saw its ban extended for another five years earlier this year. Despite this, several former JEI leaders are contesting the assembly elections as independent candidates, supported in part by this new alliance with AIP. An AIP spokesperson said the alliance was formed in the larger interest of the region's population, aiming for a "resounding victory" for AIP and JEI-backed candi-

dates. The alliance will see AIP backing JEI candidates in key districts like Kulgam and Pulwama, while JEI will reciprocate by supporting AIP candi-



dates in other constituencies. In areas where both parties have fielded candidates, including Langate, Devsar, and Zainapora, a "friendly contest" has been agreed upon. "Both parties underscored the importance of unity in resolving the Kashmir issue and

promoting a lasting and dignified peace in the region. "They highlighted the rapidly evolving political landscape, both regionally and internationally, and stressed that neither JEI nor AIP can afford to remain passive observers," the spokesperson said. Earlier in the day, Sheikh Rashid, who was granted interim bail to campaign for his party, refuted allegations of being a proxy for the BJP, asserting that his electoral success in the general elections was a reflection of the public's sentiments against the Modi government's 'Naya Kashmir' initiative. Rashid said those labelling him as a BJP proxy should be "ashamed of themselves," as he considers himself the only mainstream leader to have faced persecution from the ruling party. "The people who accuse me of being a BJP proxy should feel ashamed. I am the only one who was victimised by the BJP. While Omar and Mehbooba were kept in SKICC for several months during the abrogation, I was the only MLA jailed in Tihar," he said. "He (Abdullah) could neither become (Mahatma) Gandhi nor Subash Chandra Bose and same way Mehbooba neither became (queen) Razia Sultan nor Aung San Suu Kyi of Myanmar.

News box

Area sabha meetings not held as per norms in Chennai, RTI reveals

CHENNAI: Two years have passed since the state government mandated the conduct of area and ward sabhas every three months across all urban local bodies (ULBs). However, a recent RTI response obtained by the NGO Voice of People (VoP), in which only 126 out of 663 ULBs responded, 86% reported holding meetings only between one and four times per ward over the past two years. "Instead of consolidating responses from all ULBs under their (respective) jurisdiction, these departments redirected the RTI queries to individual ULBs, thereby evading accountability," said VoP member Charu Govindan. Despite requesting information from all 15 zones, RTI responses were received from only zones 1, 2, and 12. Each ward should have 4 to 10 area sabhas, meaning 16 to 40 area sabha meetings every year. The responses suggest only six provided meeting minutes. According to regulations, area sabha meetings are scheduled quarterly. Charu said that while officials initially assured holding area sabhas from January 1 to January 24, and a ward sabha on January 25, many ULBs are not following the practice including in the GCC. The report suggests that government should mandate ULBs to hold quarterly meetings, and maintain meeting records in the public domain. "Conducting all area sabhas within three months is challenging because of recurring public issues; like road repairs, may not be resolved in that timeframe," a councillor told TNIE.

Two college faculties booked for asking girl to consume liquor in TN's Tirunelveli

TIRUNELVELI: The Tirunelveli city police arrested a faculty member of a city-based college and are searching for another, 10 days after the duo called a female student to have drinks with them in the night. Sources said that the accused, Sebastian and Paulraj, in their 40s, worked at an aided college and hail from Thoothukudi. On September 4, the duo was consuming liquor at a place in Tirunelveli city when they called the student over phone and asked her to join them for some drinks. Terrified, she immediately cut the call and informed her parents, who complained to the Palayamkottai police the next day. After a Hindu outfit called for the investigation to be expedited in the matter and sought the arrest of the accused, senior police officials issued instructions to expedite the investigation.

In this connection, the Palayamkottai police conducted an investigation and registered a case against the faculty members under sections 74, 75 and 79 (5) of the Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita. On Friday night, the Tirunelveli city police special team went to Thoothukudi, nabbed Sebastian.

'Charges against me are baseless' says BJP MLA Munirathna

BENGALURU: Before his arrest, BJP MLA Munirathna released a video claiming that the allegations against him were false. Claiming that he had worked with many contractors in the past 15 years, he said none had accused him of abusing them. He said, "The person, who has filed a complaint against me, worked with me for eight years without any issues. Why has he filed a complaint against me now?" The MLA said that he started facing problems after he

spoke about misuse of funds released to implement a civic project in the city. He had sought an inquiry into it, he added. He alleged that former MP DK Suresh, who lost to Dr Manjunth of the BJP-JDS alliance in the Lok Sabha election from Bengaluru Rural constituency, and some Congress candidates, who were defeated in the last Assembly polls, were behind the two complaints against him.

He claimed that Velunayakar, who had filed 20 atrocity cases against some Vokkaligas, was used in the conspiracy against him. Counter complaints Meanwhile, Munirathna's lawyer told reporters that counter complaints will be filed against the contractor and the former councillor. He expressed confidence that the MLA will be released soon as there was no evidence against him.

Hindu outfits claim mosque in Himachal's Kullu illegal, recite Hanuman Chalisa

Hindu groups in Himachal Pradesh's Kullu staged a protest outside a decades-old mosque over its alleged illegal construction and recited Hanuman Chalisa.

>Row in Kullu over alleged illegal construction at mosque complex
>Hindu groups protest, recite Hanuman Chalisa outside Kullu mosque
>Dispute centres on land ownership and unauthorised construction

Shimla. Various Hindu outfits in Himachal Pradesh's Kullu raised objections over a mosque's alleged

illegal construction, gathered outside the structure and peacefully recited Hanuman Chalisa. This comes amid protests in Shimla over the alleged illegal construction of a mosque. The members of these groups demanded the removal of Jama Masjid, which has stood for nearly 50 years, claiming that there were unauthorised additions to the mosque's structure. At the centre of the dispute is a discrepancy over land ownership. The mosque, despite its long-standing presence, is still registered in the name of the Khadi Board, according to official revenue records. The issue intensified when it was revealed that the mosque had constructed

four additional floors without obtaining the necessary permissions. While the mosque was initially granted a two-year



period to complete its construction starting in 2000, the work continued until 2017, when a court asked the mosque authorities to halt the construction. According to authorities, the construction was carried out illegally under the

Town and Country Planning (TCP) regulations. The protest in Kullu, led by activist Kshitij Sood, remained peaceful, but the groups have warned that their next demonstration on September 30 "may take a different turn" if their concerns were not addressed. Meanwhile, the mosque's Imam, Nawab Hashmi, has defended the legality of the construction and the land ownership. He claimed that the Waqf Board legally owns 1 bigha and 2 biswa of land and has been collecting rent for it. "The land in question was transferred from the Khadi Board to the mosque with the help of Congress leaders in 1999, and all construction activities were carried out with

proper permissions," Hashmi said. He, however, emphasised that his silence was an attempt to prevent any escalation, but he welcomed any administrative action if the authorities found something amiss. The row in Kullu comes amid protests across Himachal Pradesh, including Shimla, over the alleged illegal construction of mosque floors.

A two-hour bandh was observed in several parts of the state against unauthorised construction of mosques and the recent police action on demonstrators. On Wednesday, Shimla witnessed chaotic scenes as locals clashed with police during a protest march over alleged illegal construction inside the Sanjauli mosque complex in the city.

Actor abduction case: Witness examined for 109 days, longest in Kerala

KOCHI: In a landmark trial, the investigation officer in the 2017 actor abduction and rape case involving film star Dileep underwent witness examination for 109 days at Ernakulam District Principal Sessions Court. This may be the longest witness examination in Kerala, if not India. The prosecution witness examination, which began in January 2020, concluded on Friday. Baiju Paulose, DySP of Kerala Anti-Terrorist Squad (ATS) and the investigation officer, was the 261st and final prosecution witness. Baiju's examination started on January 4 this year. The Special Prosecutor conducted the chief examination for 19 days. The eight other accused's advocates cross-examined him for one day, followed by



Dileep's counsel's cross-examination, which lasted over 80 days. "It might be one of the longest cross-examinations in the entire country. I can confidentially say that in Kerala Police's history, there has been no case in which a police officer was cross-examined for such a

long duration. Mostly the examination of the investigation officer lasts a couple of weeks. I assume that in Dileep's case, a lot of digital evidence was collected during the investigation stage. The examination of this evidence during the trial takes a long duration," George Joseph, retired SP of Kerala Police, told TNIE. Last month, prime accused Pulsar Suni approached the Supreme Court claiming that the trial was dragging due to the prolonged witness examination of Baiju Paulose and he has been behind bars for over seven years without getting bail in the case. The Apex court then directed the state government to submit records related to the witness examination of Baiju Paulose on September 17.

Wayanad landslides: Two sites chosen for rehabilitating survivors

KALPETTA: Steps are in progress to finalise a place for permanent resettlement of Wayanad landslide victims. Out of 29 places considered in the district, two are in the final list. The plots are located in Kalpetta municipality and Muppainad panchayat. If the government gives sanction, the authorities will start procedures to acquire the land. The areas considered for rehabilitation were examined by an expert committee appointed by the government and headed by Dr John Mathai. The Dr John Mathai committee submitted a list of nine suitable spots. Later, various government departments also conducted studies to identify the lands for rehabilitation.



Then the district authorities included more places and forwarded the report to the government. The locations in Kalpetta municipality and Muppainad panchayat

were decided by the officials in consultation with the leaders of all parties. The landslide victims have raised a demand to rehabilitate them together in one place. The government departments are planning the rehabilitation project accordingly and it is envisaged to build a township. It has been decided to build single-storey houses of 1,000 sq ft for the victims in a symmetrical style. The foundation will be laid in a way that the victims can build a second floor in the future as per their choice. The collector said that efforts are being made to complete the rehabilitation as soon as possible. Distribution of financial aid to disaster victims is also progressing.

Three convicted in Shreemathi Shetty murder case; sentencing set for September 17

His wife destroyed evidence by cleaning up the murder spot and the weapons used.

MANGALURU: Three persons, including a couple, were convicted in the sensational murder of Shreemathi Shetty, whose mutilated body parts were found in gunny bags in various parts of Mangaluru. Public prosecutor Judith OM Crasta said First Additional District and Sessions Court Judge Mallikarjuna Swamy HS found accused Jonas Samson (35) and Victoria Mathias (47), both from Valencia, and Raju (29) from Marakada guilty of committing the murder on Friday. The quantum of punishment will be pronounced on September 17. Crasta said the victim hailed from Mangaluru and was running an electrical equipment repair shop at Attavar and



a chit fund business. Jonas had not paid two installments of Rs 60,000 of the loan he borrowed from Sreemathi. When she went to his house and asked him to pay the money on May 11 in 2019,

Jonas attacked her and she fell unconscious.

Later, Jonas rode the victim's two-wheeler and dumped it near Naguri. Upon returning home, he killed the victim with the help of his wife Victoria. They cut her body into several pieces, stole the jewellery and dumped the body pieces near KPT, Nandigudda crematorium and different spots in the city. His wife destroyed evidence by cleaning up the murder spot and the weapons used. The couple later went to Raju's house who provided them shelter and his two-wheeler to the couple. Based on a complaint filed by Somesh, a petty shop vendor at KPT where the couple had dumped.

Singer Chinmayi's 'Harvey Weinstein' jibe at Vairamuthu for Hema Committee remark

Chinmayi Sripada called out Tamil lyricist Vairamuthu for suggesting Hema Committee-like panels across the country, calling him the "Tamilian Harvey Weinstein".

Vairamuthu says important to have Hema Committee in every state
Proposes gender equality training in educational curriculums
Singer Chinmayi criticises Vairamuthu, likens him to Harvey Weinstein

Chennai. Singer Chinmayi Sripada on Saturday accused national award-winning lyricist Vairamuthu of doublespeak after he advocated for the establishment of Hema Committee-like panels across the country. Chinmayi Sripada, who has accused Vairamuthu of sexual harassment, pointed out that almost 20 women have accused him of misconduct. "Anywhere else this Tamilian Harvey Weinstein would be investigated at the very least. Gangrape cases have evidence fudged and don't get justice in our country so wishing for justice is too much in India. Almost 20 women have named Vairamuthu, yet the shamelessness to platform him



requires a special wiring." Chinmayi posted on X. "My deepest, most sincere prayer and wish is that the systems, societies and people that protect sex offenders have a painful, long-drawn-out end", she added. Vairamuthu, during his visit to the Communist Party of India (Marxist) office in Chennai, said it was very

important that panels such as Hema Committee be created across the country. "This is very important. I will state that the Hema Committee should be created in important fields in all states. Not just in cinema, but women are seeking security in all fields in the country. Women are being exploited and subjected to sexual abuse," Vairamuthu said.

He asserted that the concept of womanhood should be redefined to eliminate gender-based discrimination, advocating for equality between men and women. "For them to be relieved from all this, the concept of womanhood in the term 'woman' should be completely removed.

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News box

Counterfeit visa factory dismantled in Delhi's Tilak Nagar, 6 apprehended

NEW DELHI: The Delhi Police's IGI Airport unit has dismantled a sophisticated counterfeit visa manufacturing facility in Tilak Nagar, apprehending six accused agents in the process. According to sources, the clandestine factory was engaged in producing fraudulent Schengen visas, and authorities have recovered 14 Nepalese and 2 Indian passports bearing counterfeit visas. The police have also confiscated an array of equipment employed in the creation of these fake visas, including stamps and watermark materials. The apprehended individuals are suspected to be members of an extensive syndicate implicated in passport and visa-related crimes. The police are diligently investigating the scope of the syndicate's operations and the number of individuals affected by their illicit activities. A press conference is slated for today at 12 noon at the DCP/IGIA Office Complex, where the DCP, IGI Airport, will provide the media with a comprehensive briefing on the operation. This crackdown constitutes a notable achievement for the Delhi Police, underscoring their unwavering commitment to combating passport and visa-related crimes. The investigation remains ongoing, with further developments anticipated in the near future.

Candidates' aides come to blows at Fbd election office

Gurgaon. A scuffle broke out outside the election and registration office in Ballabgarh on Thursday when the Congress candidate, Parag Sharma, arrived to file her nomination. Supporters of former MLA Sharda Rathore, who is contesting as an Independent after being denied a ticket, allegedly snatched the nomination papers from Sharma's brother's hand, which led to the clash. Police lodged an FIR against unidentified individuals on Saturday. Sharma alleged that one of the assailants was Rathore's brother. On Thursday, when Sharma arrived at the office to file her nomination with her brother Vaibhav and party members, around 15 people who were standing at the gate — including Rathore's brother and her supporters — snatched the papers from Vaibhav's hand. Following this, a scuffle broke out between the two groups, despite the presence of police at the gate. Police intervened and escorted both Sharma and Rathore to the office. "The incident occurred around 2.45pm when I was entering the main gate of the office while my sister was filing her nomination papers inside. She had half of the papers with her and I had the other half. The assailants stopped me at the gate and began physically assaulting me. During the altercation, they forcibly snatched important documents from me and ran off towards the road. Sharda Rathore, the Independent candidate, was sitting in a black Mahindra vehicle nearby, and her brother was in the group of assailants," said Vaibhav, who is an advocate, like his sister. The entire incident was captured on video, which Sharma has promised to provide to the authorities. He was unable to file the complaint on the day of the incident due to ill health, he said. The assailants not only assaulted Sharma and snatched his documents but also threatened to kill him, he alleged. "An FIR has been registered at the City Ballabgarh police station under sections 115 (physical assault), 126 (wrongful restraint), 304 (snatching, forcibly stealing) and 351 (2) (criminal intimidation) of BNS. The cops deployed at the office intervened in time and the candidates were able to file their nomination. The assailants were prevented from causing further harm. The case is under investigation," a police spokesperson said.

14 cos found dumping trash by road, MCG ends contract

Gurgaon. MCG has ended contracts with 14 private agencies which were hired to assist bulk waste generators (BWGs) with waste management. The agencies were de-empanelled for dumping inert waste at garbage vulnerable points instead of transporting it to the designated waste collection centres across the city. "Despite multiple directions in various meetings, you have failed to provide the required information as demanded by this office, such as the quantity of inert being dumped to secondary collection points. You have to take permission for off-site composting, but no permission has been taken by you. It has been reported by the SSIs that no inert reaches the secondary collection points, which shows that you are dumping waste at VPs. These non-compliance issues have not only disrupted the smooth execution of sanitation services but have also contravened the environment. Such conduct also creates adverse remarks towards the MCG office too. As a result, MCG has no option but to terminate the empanelment agreement with you effective immediately," read the order issued by MCG joint commissioner Swachh Bharat Mission Akhilesh Yadav. The agencies were informed that they could challenge the order within 30 days by submitting proof of their work. However, they alleged that MCG was moving forward with the de-empanelment without any evidence. A representative of one of the agencies claimed that the de-empanelment was being done for the benefit of another private agency. "This is also being done to benefit a private agency that has got the door-to-door waste collection and transportation contract, so that our work is assigned to that agency," the representative said. In March, MCG had hired 15 private agencies for technical support and guidance to the BWGs of the city. The agencies were put into three categories. Agencies under the first category, who were in charge of the BWGs that manage dry, wet, and hazardous waste, were de-empanelled on Friday.

What's on candidates' lips Gurgaon's public health services

Gurgaon. Public health has become the talking point of candidates in the city this election season. Gurgaon district, which has four assembly constituencies — Gurgaon, Badshapur, Sohna, and Pataudi — contributes more than 70% to the state govt's revenue. The city has several world-class private hospitals catering to patients from across the world but lacks a govt trauma centre and has only one govt hospital operational at present — the Sector 10 Civil Hospital. The high cost of treatment at private facilities is beyond the means of a majority of people, forcing them to go to govt hospitals in Delhi or other cities for affordable treatment. The city is in dire need of a trauma centre. According to health department data, due to the lack of a trauma centre here, 35% of patients who come to the emergency ward of Sector 10 Civil Hospital are referred to Delhi every month. Most of these patients have injuries from falls, road accidents, and head injuries. Approximately 110 or more patients are referred every day. Every year, more than 400 people die in road accidents in Gurgaon. Candidates in the electoral fray have now picked up public health services as a talking point and included them in their promises to

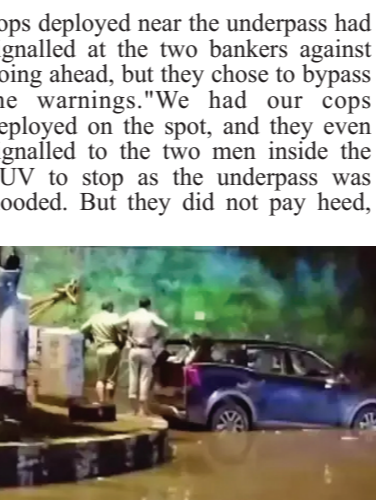


draw votes. During his public outreach campaigns, Badshapur BJP candidate and former minister Rao Narbir Singh has often highlighted that the public is unable to get treatment in pvt hospitals in the city. "People have to go to Delhi and other cities for treatment. If BJP forms govt, I will build four new hospitals for the general public so that everyone can receive treatment in the city," he recently said. The demand for better public health services is not new. Rao Narbir Singh, while serving as a minister in the Manohar Lal Khattar-led cabinet in 2014, had recommended to then Union health minister JP Nadda to open a trauma centre

in Gurgaon. Ten years later, no work has ever been carried out on that plan. Gurgaon Congress candidate Mohit Grover has also raised the issue of delay in the construction of a civil hospital and the lack of govt health facilities. "Health services for all are crucial for development and welfare of the people," said Grover. Suman, a Nathupur resident who works as a domestic staffer, said healthcare is a major concern for those who can't afford the exorbitant fees charged by private hospitals. "We can't afford treatment in big private facilities. Making trips to Delhi for treatment badly affects our daily earnings and disrupts our work," she said. Though Gurgaon has witnessed an alarming population surge in the past decade, healthcare facilities and infrastructure have not kept pace. A large chunk of the population can't afford treatment in private hospitals. As a result, over 2,000 patients visit the outdoor department of the Sector 10 Civil Hospital daily, which is struggling to meet the demand. Construction of the Civil hospital in Civil Lines, meanwhile, is expected to start by the end of the year.

Woman slips on flooded road & hits ATM shutter; electrocuted

GURGAON. Two employees of a private bank died after getting trapped inside their SUV when they allegedly ignored warnings by police and entered a flooded underpass in Old Faridabad late Friday night. Viraj (26), a cashier with HDFC Bank in Sector 31 of Gurgaon, had offered to drop his manager, Punyashreya Sharma (45), at his Faridabad home because of persistent rain through the day. Around 11.30pm, Viraj attempted to accelerate his XUV 700 through the flooded underpass, unwilling to make a detour of several kilometres. As the vehicle reached the middle of the underpass, water started to gush in through the gaps. Realising the SUV wouldn't move ahead, the two even tried to come out, but the doors were jammed. Passersby rushed to their rescue and pulled Viraj out after almost 20 minutes. He was rushed to a nearby hospital, where doctors declared him dead on arrival. But Sharma could not be traced till 4am. He had died by the time rescuers pulled him out of the muddy waters. Police claimed traffic



cops deployed near the underpass had signalled at the two bankers against going ahead, but they chose to bypass the warnings. "We had our cops deployed on the spot, and they even signalled to the two men inside the SUV to stop as the underpass was flooded. But they did not pay heed, even waved their hands at the cops to tell them they would manage," said Yashpal Sharma, a spokesperson for Faridabad police. "The underpass was under 6-7ft of water. At one point, they realised they couldn't navigate through and tried to escape. But they couldn't open the vehicle's doors despite repeated attempts. Passersby and cops pulled the bodies out," he added.

While Viraj was from Sector 28 in Gurgaon, manager Sharma lived in Omaxe BPTP in Faridabad. Viraj was supposed to spend the night at Sharma's house as it was quite late. Sharma's wife tried reaching him on his phone, but the calls did not go through. After trying for an hour or so, she set out to find him along with a few neighbours. One of Sharma's neighbours accused the authorities of negligence, denying there was any cop or barricade to warn them about the flooded underpass. "There were no cops or barricades on the stretch. Police claimed they had warned locals about the waterlogged underpass a number of times. But how would others know? The man driving the car was not even from Faridabad. He was unlikely to have gauged the depth of the water. Even if there was a diversion in place, there was no sign or barricade to alert commuters. If this isn't negligence of authorities, what is," he asked TOI.

Big focus on sanitation workers during this year's 'Swachh Hi Seva' campaign



NEW DELHI. Single window health camps to ensure better quality of life to sanitation workers and their family members is one of the key elements of this year's 'Swachhata Hi Seva' campaign starting September 17. To honour the "everyday heroes" and to recognise their efforts, the Centre has asked district authorities across states and Union Territories (UTs) to set up preventive health checkup camps during the two-week long drive. All workers — either a direct employee, contracted, or outsourced by local bodies to carry out key 'swachhata' functions such as road sweeping, door to door collection of waste from households, mechanical de-silting of sewers and septic tanks — will be benefited from the initiative, said officials. Besides Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) kits, protective gears will be provided to sanitation workers to safeguard them from occupational hazards. While briefing at the curtain raiser event of the campaign, Union Minister for Housing and Urban Affairs Manohar Lal said that in the camps, the sanitation workers would be helped in enrolling various social welfare schemes being run by the government. "Because our Swachhata Sipahis (sanitation warriors) are involved in a work that affects their wellbeing, health camps will be organised to carry out check-ups for them. If any treatment is required, it will be ensured. How can their economic status and lifestyle be improved? How can they benefit from various government schemes? This will also be ensured," said the minister. The theme of this year's campaign is 'Swabhav Swachhata Sanskaar Swachhata (4S) 2024'. As part of the initiative, the Centre has also planned to clean and transform about two lakh 'dirty and difficult' garbage spots or sites such as tourist places and water bodies.

Students wear hijabs in school play on amity, outfit protests

Gurgaon. Controversy erupted in Sonipat's Badauli village earlier this week when members of a right-wing outfit protested against a school programme where some students wore hijabs. At Govt Senior Secondary School on Wednesday, a group of students organised a play to promote amity and religious harmony. Students represented members of different communities and wore dresses associated with them. Some girls wore hijabs. The day ended peacefully. But trouble erupted on Thursday when pictures of the play were circulated on social media. Manish Rai, who identifies himself as the president of Akhand Hindu Swabhiman Sangathan, led a group of villagers to the school premises and raised slogans against the principal and teachers. The protesters accused them of leading Hindu students against their religion by making them wear hijabs. A police team had to be deployed to prevent any untoward situation. "Yes, we panicked when villagers and members of the outfit entered the compound and created a ruckus. We called police and



a team reached the school to pacify the villagers. The protesters demanded that the principal and teachers of the school be transferred elsewhere for hurting their religious sentiment," a school staffer said. Principal Praveen Gulia tried to reason with members of the outfit, saying the school had merely organised a multi-faith programme and the students were dressed in hijabs to promote amity in keeping with directions of the

education department. But the protest and heckling did not stop. It was only after Gulia apologised and promised never to hold such programmes on the school campus that the protesters left. District education officer (Sonipat) Jitendra Kumar said the play was not intended at hurting anyone's religious sentiments and assured such events would not be organised in the future. "We are preparing a report on the incident and will send.

Haryana govt school students can apply for scholarship under Centre's scheme
GURGAON. Students in Class 8 of govt schools in the state can now apply for scholarships. The National Means-cum-Merit Scholarship Scheme (NMMS) is being implemented across the country by the department of school education and literacy under Union ministry of education. It has already been rolled out in many states. Asked if launching the programme was a violation of model code of conduct, an official said it's a centrally sponsored programme, the budget for which is allocated by the Union govt.

Name Change
 I, MANOJ KUMAR S/O PUJARI LAL Residing at RZ-88, Sukhram Park, Uttam Nagar, West Delhi - 110059 have changed the name of my minor Son SAMBHAV alias SAMBHAV RADI aged 15 years and he shall hereafter be known as SAMBHAV RADI.

Name Change
 It is for general information that I, SIDDHANT SINHA S/O H C SINHA R/O B-147, Subhash Park Extn, Gali No-3, Near Apni Bakery, Uttam Nagar, West Delhi-110059 declare that the name of mine has been wrongly written as SAARAANSH SINHA aged 14 in his school record. The actual name of mine and my minor son is SIDDHANT SINHA and SAARAANSH SINHA respectively which may be amended accordingly.

Name Change
 It is for general information that I, ANKIT SHARMA S/O BIJENDER KUMAR R/O Sisar Khas (123), Sisarkhas, Rohtak, Haryana-124112 declare that name of my Father and my Mother have been wrongly written as BIJENDER SHARMA and LAKSHMI SHARMA in my 10th and 12th class educational documents. The actual name of my Father and my Mother are BIJENDER KUMAR and LAXMI DEVI respectively which may be amended accordingly.

Name Change
 It is for general information that I, NAVREEN S/O RAMPHL residing at Village Ram Nagar Post Office, Ghosola, District Charkhi Dadr, Ghosola (172), Haryana -127306 declare that the name of mine has been wrongly written as NAVREEN KUMAR in my minor son MAHESH KUMAR YADAV aged 18th Years in his 10th Class Educational Documents. The actual name of mine is NAVREEN which may be amended accordingly.

Name Change
 It is for general information that I, VIJAY NATH S/O RATAN LAL, R/O 592/1, Gali Telyan, Telwara, Sadar Bazar, North Delhi, Delhi - 110006 declare that the name of my Father has been wrongly written as RATAN NATH in my Cast Certificate No. 63269. The actual name of my Father is RATAN LAL, which may be amended accordingly.

Name Change
 It is for general information that I, AJMER ALI S/O ROSHAN ALI, R/O House No. 57, Panwari, Sambhal, Uttar Pradesh - 202421 declare that name of my wife has been wrongly written as JAMEELA BEGUM in my PPO No. 20157030282558. The actual name of my wife is JAMEELA BEGAM, which may be amended accordingly.

Name Change
 I, hitherto known as KISHORE KANT alias KISHOR KANT S/O ANIL KUMAR residing at B-435, Sudershan Park, Ramesh Nagar, New Delhi 110015 have changed my name and shall hereafter be known as KISHOR KANT.

Name Change
 I, RIMPY BHATIA W/O VARUN JETHANI residing at HNO-38, 1ST FLOOR PKT-3, ROHINI-21, DELHI-110086 have changed my name to PAYAL JETHANI for all future purposes.

Name Change
 I, Sunil S/O Shikunna R/O Sahni Baberu Banda Uttar Pradesh 21021 have Changed my name Sunil to Sushil Kumar for all future purposes.

Name Change
 It is for general information that I, MANOJ KUMAR S/O PUJARI LAL residing at RZ-88, Sukhram Park, Uttam Nagar, West Delhi - 110059 declare that the name of my minor Daughter BHOOMI RADI aged 17 Years has been wrongly written as BHOOMI in her 10th Class Educational Documents. The actual name of my minor Daughter is BHOOMI RADI which may be amended accordingly.

Name Change
 I, hitherto known as NEERAJ KUMAR alias NEERAJ KUMAR PAHAL S/O MOHINDER SINGH Residing at House No. - 153, Police Colony, Ashok Vihar, Phase -1, North West Delhi, Delhi-110052 have changed my name and shall hereafter be known as NEERAJ PAHAL.

Name Change
 I, ARATI wife of No-16117414A Rank-HAV Name-RAJESH GARDI Presently residing at VILL-MANGANOR, PO-HATTARWAT, TEH-CHIKKODI, DISTT-BELGAUM, KARNATAKA-591228 have changed my name from ARATI to ARATI RAJESH GARDI for all future purposes vide Affidavit dated 14/09/2024 before Notary Public, Delhi.

Name Change
 I, hitherto known as SHOBHA RANI Alias SHOBHA RAWAT D/O KUNDAN SINGH W/O LATE SHRI ANAND SINGH RAWAT R/O KH NO-9 22 18 2 G F, BLOCK D QUTUB VIHAR PHASE II, DABBU CHOWK SHIV MURTI, GOYLA DAIRY, TAJ PUR KHURD, SOUTH WEST DELHI, DELHI-110071 have changed my name and shall hereafter be known as SHOBHA RAWAT.

Name Change
 I, SAVITHRI Rank-NK Name-SANOOP V M residing at VILAKKUMADAM MEETHAL, VILL-CHEMANCHERI, PO-THUVAKKODE, TEH-KOYLANDY, DIST-KOZHIKODE, KERALA-673304 have changed my name from SAVITHRI to SAVITHRI PARAKKAL for all future purposes, in my son's service record my date of birth wrongly mentioned as 15/03/1969 instead of my correct date of birth as 15/03/1968 vide affidavit dated 14/09/2024 before Notary Public Delhi.

Name Change
 I, No-16117414A Rank-HAV Name-RAJESH GARDI S/O MAHADEV GARDI Presently residing at VILL-MANGANOR, PO-HATTARWAT, TEH-CHIKKODI, DISTT-BELGAUM, KARNATAKA-591228 have changed my minor son's name from PRAJWAL to PRAJWAL RAJESH GARDI for all future purposes vide Affidavit dated 14/09/2024 before Notary Public, Delhi.

Name Change
 I, PARAMJEET SINGH S/O RAGHIBIR SINGH residing at 1/15-B, JANGPURA-A, HOSPITAL ROAD, DELHI-110014 have changed my name to PARAMJEET SINGH for all future purposes.

Name Change
 I, K ELAVARASI wife of NO-170007079M HMT KUMARESAN S residing at VILL-VIZHUNDAKKAL, PO-ANNANGUDI, TEHSIL-KATPADI, DISTT-VELLORE, TAMIL NADU-632202 have changed my name from K ELAVARASI to ELAVARASI for all future purposes vide Affidavit dated 14/09/2024 before Notary Public, Delhi.

Name Change
 I, PADMAVATI mother of NO-4588989N Rank-SEP Name-MALAPPA KAREPPA KADAKOL R/O VILL-CHIKKOPPA K S, PO-HIREKOPPA K S, TEH-RAM DURG, DIST-BELAGAVI, KARNATAKA-591114 have changed my name from PADMAVATI to PAD-DAVVA KAREPPA KADAKOL for all future purposes vide affidavit dated 14/09/2024 before Notary Public, Delhi.

Name Change
 I, No-15418285A Rank-HAV Name-ANSARI MOHMEED SOEB Presently residing at VILL-CHAND NAGAR, PO-TEH-HIMMAT NAGAR, DIST-SABARKANTHA, GUJARAT-383001 have changed my wife's name from AFSANA PARVIN MOHMEED SOEB ANSARI to ANSARI AFSANAPARVIN for all future purposes vide Affidavit dated 14/09/2024 before Notary Public, Delhi.

Name Change
 I, No-16117414A Rank-HAV Name-RAJESH GARDI S/O MAHADEV GARDI Presently residing at VILL-MANGANOR, PO-HATTARWAT, TEH-CHIKKODI, DISTT-BELGAUM, KARNATAKA-591228 have changed my minor daughter's name from AARADHYA to AARADHYA RAJESH GARDI for all future purposes vide Affidavit dated 14/09/2024 before Notary Public, Delhi.

News box

Israel military says missile fired from Yemen, sirens sounded across cities

Jerusalem. A surface-to-surface missile fired at central Israel from Yemen hit an unpopulated area, causing no injuries, Israel's military said on Sunday. Moments earlier, air raid sirens had sounded in Tel Aviv and across central Israel, sending residents running for shelter.

"Following the sirens that sounded a short while ago in central Israel, a surface-to-surface missile was identified crossing into central Israel from the east and fell in an open area. No injuries were reported", the military said. Loud booms were also heard in the region, which the military said came from missile interceptors that had been launched. It added that its protective guidelines to Israel's residents were unchanged. In July, Iran-aligned Houthis in Yemen fired a long-range drone at Tel Aviv, killing one man and wounding four others. The attack prompted Israel to carry out a major air strike on Houthi military targets near Yemen's Hodeidah port, killing at least three people and wounding 87.

Mexico's Sinaloa state witnesses 19 homicides in 5 days as violence grips state



Mexico City. Mexican authorities logged seven homicides in the western state of Sinaloa on Friday, the latest violence to plague an area where increasingly frequent shootouts are fueling fears of the possible start of an intra-cartel war. The deaths bring the number of killings within the week to 19, after 12 killings were registered between Monday and Thursday. The Sinaloa prosecutor's office in a statement late on Friday said the latest victims were found in four separate locations. Two people were killed in the capital of Culiacan, and five in the municipality of Concordia, both of which the statement described as places "where violent events have occurred between criminal groups." Sinaloa, on the Pacific Coast, is the home base of the powerful Sinaloa Cartel, a drug gang once led by kingpin Joaquin "El Chapo" Guzman, who is now serving a life sentence in the US.

The July arrest of another veteran gang leader, Ismael "El Mayo" Zambada, has stoked fears of infighting and turf battles. The prosecutor's office also said on Friday it received eight reports in Culiacan of men who had been kidnapped. In Culiacan, businesses have closed, public transportation has been cut back and Independence Day festivities have been canceled due to the worsening violence.

Tropical Storm Ileana makes landfall on Mexico's Sinaloa coast after pounding Los Cabos

MEXICO CITY. Tropical Storm Ileana made landfall on the coast of the Mexican state of Sinaloa Saturday a day after it pounded the resort-studded Los Cabos.

The tropical storm formed Thursday off Mexico's Pacific coast and was packing winds of 40 mph (65 kph) as it moved ashore Saturday, the Miami-based National Hurricane Center said. It made landfall near the coastal city of Topolobampo and was located late Saturday about 15 miles (25 kilometers) south-southeast of Los Mochis.

Forecasters say Ileana will churn over the coastal region of northern Sinaloa during the next several hours and then move over the Gulf of California roughly parallel to the coast on Sunday, weakening into a tropical depression. On Friday, a warning had been in effect for portions of the Baja California Peninsula, including Cabo San Lucas and San Jose del Cabo. Juan Manuel Arce Ortega, from Los Cabos Civil Protection, said the municipalities of La Paz and Los Cabos had suspended classes in schools due to the storm.

Authorities prepared 20 temporary shelters in San Jose del Cabo and Cabo San Lucas, according to Los Cabos Civil Protection.

At the Hacienda Beach Club and Residences in Cabo San Lucas, valet worker Alan Galvan said the rain arrived late Thursday night and has been constant. "The rain isn't very strong right now, but the waves are choppy," he said.

"The guests are very calm and already came down for coffee," Galvan said. "There's some flights canceled but everything is ok at the moment." The rain remained consistent through Los Cabos Friday afternoon, with several roads flooded and some resorts stacking up sandbags on their perimeters. Some people were still walking around boat docks with their umbrellas. "The priority has to be safety, starting with the workers. We always have to check on our colleagues who live in risk areas," said Lyzzette Liceaga, a tour operator at Los Cabos.

Post-Hasina Bangladesh gravitates towards Urdu and Jinnah

World In a nation where Bangla was a central pillar of its independence movement against Pakistan, it came out as an unmissable irony when the 76th anniversary of the death of Muhammad Ali Jinnah, the founder of Pakistan, was celebrated with Urdu poetry and songs in Bangladesh's Dhaka. This was the first time in Bangladesh's history that Jinnah's death anniversary was commemorated in Dhaka. Speakers also said that without Jinnah, Bangladesh wouldn't exist. The unusual tribute came on Wednesday, a month after the military-led interim government took over following former PM Sheikh Hasina fled after massive student protests, hijacked by the Pakistan-backed BNP and Jamaat.

While the event marked a rejoice for some, Urdu, Jinnah and Pakistan are still engrained in the bloody memory of the minds of a section of its people. Some experts saw this as an attempt to rewrite history.

JINNAH COMMEMORATED AT DHAKA PRESS CLUB

The 76th death anniversary of Pakistan founder Muhammad Ali Jinnah was marked at the National Press Club in Dhaka on Wednesday, with a gathering of speakers, Urdu poetry recitations, and musical performances, reported Bangladeshi news

outlet Dhaka Tribune.

The event, organised by the Nawab Salimullah Academy at the Tofazzal Hossain Manik Miah Hall, was where several speakers emphasised Jinnah's crucial role in the creation of Pakistan, stating that without him, "Bangladesh too would not exist." While the Pakistani High Commissioner to Bangladesh was expected to attend as the chief guest, he was notably absent. Instead, Deputy High Commissioner Kamran Dhangal represented Pakistan at the event in Bangladesh, where millions were killed, thousands were raped in a Pakistan-devised genocide, until its independence in 1971.

As early as 1952, East Pakistan saw protests advocating for Bangla to be recognised as a co-official language, used in government, education, media, currency, stamps, and to retain its script. The protests saw a heavy-handed crackdown by the West-dominated, Urdu-imposing Pakistani regime.

Dozens were killed in police firing in the pro-Bangla language movement, and five of them have been recognised as martyrs by the Bangladesh government.

On Wednesday, Professor Mostafizur Rahman presented a keynote paper that traced the milestones of Jinnah's life. Jafarul Haq Jafar,



meanwhile, paid tribute by reciting an Urdu poem about Jinnah, and Pakistani students Mohammad Tahir and Kamran Abbas performed Urdu songs dedicated to him. These performances took on added significance in the context of Bangladesh, where the Bengali language once resisted Pakistan's attempts to impose Urdu as the national language. The president of the academy, Muhammad Abdul Jabbar, presided over the event, reported Bangladeshi news outlet Dhaka Tribune. In a controversial statement, Md Samsuddin said that without Pakistan, Bangladesh might have suffered the same fate as Kashmir, with India "holding weapons to our necks." He credited Jinnah's efforts for not only the

creation of Pakistan but also for enabling Bangladesh's eventual independence. "If we hadn't been part of Pakistan in 1947, Bangladesh wouldn't exist today," he said, adding that the removal of names of like 'Allama Iqbal Hall' or 'Jinnah Avenue' in Dhaka University campus, were decisions driven by New Delhi's interests, not Bangladesh's own. A speaker, Nazrul Islam, echoed similar sentiments, saying, "Jinnah is the father of our nation, but we do not acknowledge it. We must preserve our brotherhood with Pakistan."

POST-HASINA JINNAH TRIBUTE, IS DHAKA REWRITING HISTORY?

The celebration of Jinnah's legacy in post-Hasina Bangladesh—a nation whose very language was central to its struggle for independence from Pakistan—presents a curious juxtaposition. Moreover, Pakistani misadventures in East Pakistan until 1971, turned out to be the darkest chapter of South Asian history.

Reacting to Jinnah's remembrance, Dhaka-based journalist Salah Uddin Shoaib Choudhury said, "It was a slap on our face of independence, where 3 million Bengalis sacrificed their lives. I am speechless!"

Financial troubles 'temporary', no plans to seek IMF bailout: Maldives

Colombo The Maldives says its financial troubles are "temporary" and the luxury tourist destination has no plans to seek an International Monetary Fund bailout after warnings of a possible sovereign default.

Foreign minister Moosa Zameer said the Indian Ocean archipelago, best known for its upscale resorts and celebrity visitors, was pressing ahead with tax hikes to meet its debt servicing obligations. "We have bilateral partners who are very sensitive to our needs and our situation,"

Zameer told reporters in Colombo on Friday night. "I seriously don't think it is a time where we will be right now engaging with the IMF... The issue that we have is very temporary because currently we are

having a dip in reserves." He said tax reforms, along with the rationalisation of state-owned enterprises, would improve liquidity.

Zameer was visiting Sri Lanka along with Finance Minister Mohamed Shafeeq to meet with local central bankers and other officials. China and India are the two largest bilateral lenders to the Maldives, a tiny nation of 1,192 tiny coral islands in the Indian Ocean scattered across the equator. President Mohamed Muizzu came to power a year ago on the back of a campaign to evict a small contingent of Indian troops deployed in the Maldives and pursue closer ties with China.

Rough patches After the removal of the

troops, the two nations have mended fences and had "cleared misunderstandings," Zameer said.

"At the start of our government, we did have some rough patches, you know," he added. "We have fantastic bilateral relations with both China and India... Both countries continue to support us." China has pledged more funding since last year's victory by Muizzu, who thanked the country for its "selfless assistance" for development funds on a state visit to Beijing shortly after taking power. Official data showed the Maldives' foreign debt at \$3.37 billion in the first quarter of this year, equating to around 45 percent of gross domestic product.

Venezuela arrests US, Spanish, Czech nationals over 'destabilisation' plot

UPDATED. Three Americans, two Spaniards and a Czech citizen were detained in Venezuela on suspicion of plotting to destabilise the country, the government said Saturday, as the United States denied Caracas's allegations it was involved. The arrests come amid heightened tensions between Venezuela and both the United States and Spain over Venezuela's disputed July 28 presidential election, which the country's opposition accuses President Nicolas Maduro of stealing. Interior Minister Diosdado Cabello said that the five foreign nationals were being held on suspicion of planning an attack on Maduro and his government. We know that the United

States government has links to this operation," Cabello asserted.

Cabello said two Spaniards were recently detained in Puerto Ayacucho in the southwest. He added that three Americans and a Czech national were also arrested and linked the alleged plot to intelligence agencies in the United States and Spain as well as to Venezuelan opposition leader Maria Corina Machado. Maduro has in the past heaped blame for the tide of adversity his country faces on the "imperialist" United States, which he accuses of conspiring with Venezuela's "fascist" right to overthrow him. A State Department spokesperson said Saturday that "any claims of US

involvement in a plot to overthrow Maduro are categorically false."

The State Department spokesperson additionally confirmed that a US military member was being held and noted "unconfirmed reports of two additional US citizens detained in Venezuela."

Cabello meanwhile said that those detained had "contacted French mercenaries, they contacted mercenaries from Eastern Europe and they are in an operation to try to attack our country." He added that "more than 400 rifles were seized" and accused the detainees of plotting "terrorist acts." Spain and the Czech Republic have yet to react to the sensational claims.

Austrian court finds woman guilty of fatally infecting neighbour with Covid-19

Former President Donald Trump owns about 57% of Trump Media, which saw its shares slump this week following his televised debate with Democratic rival Vice President Kamala Harris.

World Republican presidential candidate Donald Trump said on Friday he will not sell his shares in the company that owns his Truth Social platform when limits on selling are lifted in the coming days, driving up the stock after a recent sell-off.

Shares of Trump Media & Technology Group DJT.O surged as much as 30% following his comments before closing with a 12% gain for the day. Trump owns about 57% of Trump Media, which saw its shares slump this week following his televised debate with Democratic rival Vice President Kamala Harris. Friday's leap in the stock follows weeks of steady declines ahead of key dates this month when Trump and other company insiders will be allowed to sell their shares. "No, I'm not selling," the former president said in answer to a question asked by Reuters. "I'm not leaving. I love it. I think it's great."

Trump Media saw its value balloon to nearly \$10 billion following its stock market listing in March. Trump Media's stock is popular amongst retail traders and is seen as a speculative bet on his chances of securing a second four-year term as president. However, since its listing, Trump Media shares have lost most of their value, with losses accelerating in recent weeks after President Joe Biden gave up his re-election bid and Trump lost a lead in opinion polls ahead of the November 5 presidential election. According to provisions related to Trump Media's listing, Trump and other insiders will be allowed to sell stock beginning later this month, potentially flooding the market with additional shares. If the stock price remains at or above \$12 for any 20 trading days commencing Aug. 22, then Trump will be free to sell shares beginning on September 20. Otherwise, he is eligible to sell



shares beginning on Sept. 26. The stock ended at \$17.97 on Friday following Trump's comments, making his stake worth about \$2 billion. Forbes values Trump's wealth at \$3.7 billion. Trump Media's revenue is equivalent to two Starbucks SBUX.O coffee shops, and strategists say its \$3.6 billion stock market value is detached from its day-to-day business. It lost \$869,900 in its most recent reported quarter ended June 30. "There are no fundamentals behind this company. It doesn't have a path to profitability. It's just driven by

commentary, and by hopes and dreams," said Dennis Dick, a trader at Triple D Trading. The upcoming lock-up expiry related to Trump's shares is "something a lot of people on the street have been watching for weeks, if not since its inception now," said Jay Woods, chief global strategist at Freedom Capital Markets, ahead of Trump's statement that he would not sell. A New York judge earlier this month delayed Trump's sentencing in his hush money criminal case to November 12, after the election, months after the U.S. Supreme Court's landmark decision on presidential immunity, easing at least the short-term pressure over legal fees. The Nasdaq stock exchange halted trading in Trump Media's shares for two five-minute periods following Trump's comments, a common occurrence during bouts of volatility.

Typhoon Yagi kills 74 in Myanmar, search ops on for 89 missing people

Bangkok The death toll in Myanmar from flooding and landslides caused by Typhoon Yagi has reached at least 74, with 89 people missing, Myanmar's state television said Saturday.

Difficulties in compiling information have raised fears that the number of casualties may be higher. The new official death toll announced by the country's military government was more than double the 33 reported on Friday. Typhoon Yagi earlier hit Vietnam, northern Thailand and Laos, killing more than 260 people and causing major damage. The new totals were announced after state media reported that Senior Gen. Min Aung Hlaing, the head of the ruling military council, said that Myanmar was requesting relief aid from foreign countries. Nearly 240,000 people have been displaced, according to the reports. There were already 3.4 million displaced people in Myanmar at the beginning of

September, according to the UN refugee agency, mostly because of war and unrest in recent years. In Myanmar, low-lying areas in the central regions of Mandalay and Bago, as well as eastern Shan state and the country's capital, Naypyitaw, have been inundated by water since Wednesday. Min Aung Hlaing and other military officials inspected flooded areas and reviewed rescue, relief and rehabilitation efforts in Naypyitaw on Friday, the state-run Myanmar Ainn newspaper reported. Its report said that he instructed officials to contact foreign countries, as other countries affected by the storm did, to receive rescue and relief aid for the victims. "It is necessary to manage rescue, relief and rehabilitation measures as quickly as possible," he was quoted as saying.

The exact extent of the damage still wasn't clear, but there were fears that the death toll may rise sharply. Local news outlets



reported more than 100 people missing. Efforts to tally casualties and damage and provide relief are complicated. Myanmar is in a state of civil war that began in 2021, after the army seized power from the elected government of Aung San Suu Kyi. Independent analysts believe the military controls much less than half of the country's territory. Myanmar experiences extreme weather virtually every year during the

monsoon season. In 2008, Cyclone Nargis killed more than 138,000 people. In that case, the military government then in power delayed accepting international assistance, and when it finally relented, tightly controlled its distribution, with little or no oversight by aid donors. Saturday evening's state television news said that 24 bridges, 375 school buildings, one Buddhist monastery, five dams, four pagodas, 14 electrical transformers, 456 lampposts and more than 65,000 houses were damaged by floods in central and eastern parts of the country. Naypyitaw is one of the areas that was hit hardest by the floods. Myanmar's Eleven Media group reported on Friday that record rainfall had damaged several pagodas in Bagan, the country's ancient capital that is a Unesco World Heritage site. The rain, said to be the heaviest in 60 years, collapsed walls at several centuries-old old temples, it said.

News box

BBMP launches helpline number to curb dog bites

BENGALURU: After over 16,000 stray dog bites were reported since January in the city, the Animal Husbandry Department of the Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike (BBMP) has launched a helpline number to help citizens report dog bite incidents. Officials said the BBMP, in collaboration with WVS and CARE Institute, has launched the helpline number, 6364893322, for people to register complaints of dog bites and suspected cases of rabies. The public can also call the corporation helpline number 1533 for their complaints. Suralkar Vikas Kishore, Special Commissioner Health, Sanitation and Animal Husbandry, said, "The animal husbandry department is taking steps to control the population of stray dogs and rabies in a scientific and effective manner. For the control of stray dogs in all zones under the corporation, the sterilisation surgery programme is being carried out, as per the directives of the Supreme Court, and as per the guidelines of Pet Dogs Rules - 2023 of the Indian Animal Welfare Board."

Vaccine will be administered to protect stray dogs from rabies. The programme is progressing in all sectors to create awareness among the public about neutering of stray dogs, rabies vaccination campaign and measures to be taken in the case of culling of dogs, the official said.

CBI busts global cybercrime network, seizes 57 gold bars; arrests 1 in Mumbai

Mumbai. The CBI has busted an international cybercrime network and arrested an alleged accused from Mumbai, officials said on Saturday. The accused, Vishnu Rathi, was arrested in connection with the CBI's Operation Chakra-3, carried out against cybercriminals in coordination with the USA's Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI). According to officials, the network has been targeting victims in foreign countries since 2022, with their operations involving cryptocurrencies and bullion.

In a latest such incident, Rathi allegedly duped a US citizen of approximately Rs 3.8 crore (USD 453,953) by posing as a technical support agent. The CBI conducted multiple raids over the last two days in connection with the case, during which the agency seized 57 gold bars of 100 grams each, Rs 16 lakh in cash, a mobile phone, a laptop used to manage cryptocurrencies, and details of lockers from Rathi's premises. A case was registered against the accused and others on September 9 for allegedly targeting a US citizen by gaining unauthorised remote access to the victim's computer and bank account in 2022. Under the pretext of offering tech support services, they falsely informed the US-based victim that her bank account had been compromised. Claiming the funds were at risk, they allegedly manipulated the victim into transferring Rs 3.8 crore to cryptocurrency wallets controlled by them, according to the CBI. Searches were conducted by the CBI at seven locations across Mumbai and Kolkata on September 12 and 13. Further operations are ongoing to identify other victims and proceeds of the crime, officials added. The CBI is coordinating with the FBI and law enforcement agencies in multiple countries through Interpol to follow up on leads.

Clashes erupt in UP's Mahoba after stone pelting during Ganesh idol procession

Mahoba. A clash broke out between two communities in Uttar Pradesh's Mahoba district after stones were allegedly pelted at devotees during a Ganesh idol immersion procession. According to the allegations, buckets of water and stones were thrown at



the devotees while they were proceeding for the immersion through the Muslim-dominated City Kotwali area. This led to a clash between the two communities. Angered by the incident, Hindu organisations created chaos outside the police station, demanding action. Similar incidents were reported from other parts of the country. In Bihar's Rafiganj, tension prevailed when members of one community allegedly raised slogans against another during a Ganesh idol immersion procession. In Gujarat's Surat district on September 9, some minors reportedly threw stones at a Ganesh pandal, leading to the arrest of seven people in connection with the incident. On September 7, stones were allegedly thrown at a Ganapati procession in Madhya Pradesh's Mochipura, resulting in violent protests afterward.

Tree of life: A nourishing tale of second innings

It was not an isolated act, in fact, he has given life to 45 trees that were either cut down or uprooted.

PUDUCHERRY: Beneath the scorching sun, where the sands of Pandy Marina glisten like gold, D Anandan, whose hands are calloused from nurturing plants, stands as a silent guardian in front of a banyan tree. The 55-year-old man from Pooranankuppam in Puducherry is not just a caretaker of trees — he is their saviour, their voice, and the one who breathes life into their roots once again. On that sunny day, he was inspecting the banyan tree he transplanted from Auroville, where trees were being uprooted for development work a few years ago. It was not an isolated act, in fact, he has given life to 45 trees that were either cut down or uprooted.

For Anandan, who works as the manager at Perunthalaivar Kamaraj Krishi Vigyan Kendra (PKKV), love for nature is not just a fleeting hobby but a lifelong calling. His journey began in 2013, two years after winds of Cyclone Thane swept through Puducherry. For most, the aftermath was a blur of debris, but for Anandan, it was the heart-wrenching sight of countless trees, toppled and broken, that stirred him to action. "It was heartbreaking to see the trees that once lined our streets reduced to

debris," he recalls. And so, he embarked on a mission, one rooted in hope and nourished by his resolve, to revive trees. Yet, like many noble causes, the road was not smooth. His initial attempts at transplantation were fraught with



disappointment. "At first, I transplanted all kinds of trees, but many died. It was disheartening," he recalls. After consulting botany experts, he learned that certain trees—particularly banyan and peepal—have a better chance of survival when transplanted. Armed with this knowledge, Anandan refocused his efforts, on saving trees threatened by both human actions and natural calamities. "It costs between Rs 15,000 and Rs 20,000 to

transplant a single tree, and it requires manpower," says Anandan. More often than not, he digs into his own pockets to cover the expenses, though he occasionally receives donations from volunteers and private sponsors.

With the help of these volunteers, Anandan has planted over 700 trees in Puducherry town alone. He also plants saplings along roadsides for residents, sometimes offering his services for free or charging only for fencing. But perhaps the most enduring symbol of his work is the palm tree — the state tree of Tamil Nadu and a representation of its cultural and ecological identity. Since 2016, Anandan has earned the moniker 'Panai Anandan' for his relentless campaign to preserve and promote panaimaram. He has sown lakhs of palm seeds across Tamil Nadu and Puducherry, working tirelessly to raise awareness about the tree's importance. "The palm tree is like the peacock, our national bird. Cutting it down should be treated as a serious offense," he says. He laments that it wasn't until 2021 that a law was introduced requiring permission to fell palm trees.

Lack of temperature control in TN warehouses spoiling drugs

CHENNAI: For her seven-year-old child, Nivetha (name changed) regularly purchases an antiepileptic — sodium valproate (200 mg) tablets — from the Institute of Child Health and Hospital for Children in Egmore. Two to three tablets in every strip were always in a viscous state. Worried, she wrote to Tamil Nadu Medical Services Corporation (TNMSC) a few months ago.

TNMSC, which procures and supplies drugs to all government hospitals, immediately issued a "stop-issue-cum-retrieve" order to all the warehouses for the particular batch of the medicine. However, the issue persisted even after getting the same drug from a different manufacturer. Meanwhile, TNMSC is awaiting the laboratory results on the samples of the batch of medicine flagged by Nivetha. Subsequent enquiries by the TNIE shed light on the potential root cause of the issue — lack of air-conditioning and other



temperature-monitoring systems at TNMSC warehouses and GH pharmacies. Several pharmacists told TNIE that it was not an isolated incident. Despite warehouses having 120-200-sq ft walk-in cold storage facilities and Ice-lined Refrigerators (ILRs), the problem appears to be with those drugs stored at room temperature, which is prescribed to be between 25 and 30 degree Celsius. None of the 32 drug warehouses or GH

pharmacies across the state are air-conditioned. Two Chennai warehouses that the TNIE visited did not have air-conditioning or other temperature-control measures in place. An official from the State Drug Control Department said air conditioners are not mandatory, as per The Drugs and Cosmetics Rules. However, the department has been advising on mandatory air conditioning before issuing licences to pharmacies. The pharmacies in government hospitals are given an exemption since no sales is involved, the official added. Advising against taking tablets in a liquified state, a government doctor said not just heat, but moisture during the rainy season could also affect the efficacy of the tablets. However, tablets that are disintegrated would not lose their effectiveness. A few years ago, the Kerala government made efforts to air-condition the pharmacies at government

hospitals. A senior Kerala government official said almost all pharmacies in the state, even those at the Primary Health Centres, are now air-conditioned.

A senior TNMSC official told TNIE that their warehouses were huge facilities and that air-conditioning them would be expensive. However, he said, the TNMSC does not compromise on medicine quality. Only those that pass the quality control checks are distributed, he said, also acknowledging occasional complaints from companies regarding issues due to storage.

'Drug rules do not mandate air-conditioning'

Speaking to TNIE, Health Secretary Supriya Sahu said while Rule 64 of the Drugs and Cosmetic Rules mandates the licensing authority to get satisfied with respect to storage conditions, no specific requirements of air-conditioning are mandated.

Post-disaster needs assessment to focus on four sectors in Kerala

THIRUVANANTHAPURAM: The State Disaster Management Authority (SDMA) has identified four areas for sectoral assessment as part of the Post-Disaster Needs Assessment (PDNA) of landslide-hit areas of Wayanad. PDNA will focus on the social, infrastructure, productive and cross-cutting sectors for rehabilitation. Along with this, the women and child development department has formulated draft guidelines for the rehabilitation of children who had lost their parents by arranging sponsorship from individuals and establishments. According to the SDMA's final assessment, the total area of the landslide is estimated at 86,000 sq m. Wards 10, 11 and 12 of Meppadi panchayat were affected in the landslide leaving 231 dead and 119 missing. Experts from the National Disaster Management Authority and SDMA had visited the site from August 26 to 31 and assessed the ground-level situation. In the social sector, damage



assessment and estimation of recovery and reconstruction needs were undertaken. The focus was on housing and settlements, education, health and nutrition, public buildings, civic amenities, and creating psycho-social wellbeing infrastructure. In infrastructure sector, the priority has been fixed on providing drinking water and sanitation, roads, bridges, power and irrigation. In the productive sector, agriculture and horticulture, animal husbandry, tourism and MSME are given priority while in the cross-cutting sector

priority will be on disaster risk reduction and environment, forest-environment and social inclusion-tribals, persons with disability, gender perspective. It has also been decided to prepare the PDNA report after collection of data. The report will present sector-wise damage. The cost estimate of the total damage will be included in the report. KSDMA has been entrusted with drafting the report. It will submit the final report to the Ministry of Home Affairs. Meanwhile, as part of the process to rehabilitate children who had lost parents, the women and children development department has decided to receive financial help in the form of sponsorship. Under the 2015 Juvenile Justice Act, Section 45, three types of sponsorships could be accepted. In the first type of sponsorship, financial aid could be given in the form of a one-time deposit which could be withdrawn when the child reaches 18.

Bangalore Blue grapes turn juicy for farmers



The dark blue grape needs a cool climate and ideal temperature hovering around 36-37 degrees Celsius for it to get that deep colour.

BENGALURU: The demand and availability of grapes is now all year round. Improved pruning patterns and change in weather patterns have helped in achieving this. Of all the grape varieties, Bangalore Blue is the most sought after. The Geographical Identification (GI) tagged variety has seen a rising demand from Kerala, Maharashtra and Tamil Nadu, forcing the state government to regulate its trade. Not just the searing demand, but soaring temperatures too are worrying agri-scientists and farmers. Well-known expert on fruits and retired horticulture department officer SV Hittalmani said the grape variety is named after the state capital because of the city's climatic conditions. The dark blue grape needs a cool climate and ideal temperature hovering around 36-37 degrees Celsius for it to get that deep colour.

But the recent spike temperature in April and May affected the crop, making the grapes either pinkish or reddish. To keep its original colour, farmers are now consulting experts and scientists. Additional Director, Horticulture (Fruits), KB Dundi, said, "95% of the crop is used for juice making. The demand is from Bengaluru, Kerala and Tamil Nadu. It has grown substantially, especially in the last two years. Some of the produce is also sent to distilleries. At the moment, the market is unorganised. But farmers' produce organisations are being strengthened to avoid middlemen." Managing Director, Karnataka Wine Board, Somu T, said there is a 5 per cent year-on-year increase in the production and sale of Bangalore Blue. There is demand from distilleries in Maharashtra too. Hittalmani said Bangalore Blue is grown in abundance in Bengaluru Urban and Rural, Devanahalli, Chikkaballapur, Kolar, Sidlaghatta and surrounding areas.

Three more palliyodams to add glitz to Uthrattathi regatta in Kerala

PATHANAMTHITTA: This season, three stunning new palliyodams have joined the iconic snake boat fleet, used for the annual water processions of Uthrattathi Jalamel and Valla Sadhya in the Pampa river. Palliyodams are a symbolic representation of Lord Parthasarathy. These snake boats are Parthasarathy's 'Palli Kollunna Odam' (resting boats) and were made to look like Sheshanaga, the serpent on which Lord Vishnu rests. As these iconic boats age, they are replaced or even exchanged among regions (karas). According to boat experts, they can last up to 60 to 100 years with proper maintenance. Skilled traditional carpenters from Vishwakarma families craft these expensive boats, valued between Rs 55 lakh to Rs 1 crore today. Varying from the traditional 'Chundan Vallam', palliyodams have steep elevation on both ends and resemble a curved 'U'. In a symbolic way, four



amarakkars (captains) of the boat represent four Vedic scriptures and the eight singers represent "Ashtadik palakannar." As many as 64 oarsmen represent 64 arts. "As many as 52 boats, including 34 belonging to NSS, funded by residents of various regions (Kara), will participate in the water carnival this time. Among the new three, one palliyodam belongs to Chakkamar Mahasabha," K V Sambadevan, president, Palliyoda Seva Sangham, a collective of snake boats,

said. Niranam Kadapra Puthen Palliyodam, belonging to Niranam Kadapra, No 18 Chakkamar Mahasabha, was built with the assistance of Airoor Santhosh Achari. Goa Governor P S Sreedharan Pillai had presided over its Neeraniyal, the launching ceremony last week. Another one Keekkozhur-Vayalathala Palliyodam was introduced after the old one got damaged. The Keekkozhur region did not have palliyodams after 1970. Later, they got one from Kottathoor Kara which got damaged. It is being relaunched this time. The palliyodam symbolises communal harmony and represents Lord Parthasarathy's boat in Aranmula, showcasing the rich cultural heritage of the region. Mar Thoma Church has given its land for the construction of Keekkozhur Palliyodam while Orthodox Church Nilakkal Diocese head Joshua Mar Nicodemose has given the first contribution.

National interest, balance of power continue to reign supreme

DURING a recent dialogue on 'A Global Order in Churn: Seeking Solutions' and their implications in the contemporary strategic context, a stray reference to two books written in the early and mid-1990s prompted a think.

These books were The End of History and the Last Man (1992) by American political scientist Francis Fukuyama and The Clash of Civilisations and the Remaking of World Order (1996) by Samuel P Huntington. Fukuyama's book was a sequel to a 1989 article that he wrote in a magazine called National Interest a couple of months before the collapse of the Berlin Wall. He argued that "What we may be witnessing is not just the end of the Cold War, or the passing of a particular period of post-war history, but the end of history as such: that is, the end point of mankind's ideological evolution and the universalisation of Western liberal democracy as the final form of human government..."

Essentially, what he argued was that the Western liberal and democratic model would be the default option of the global order in the years and decades ahead. On the other hand, Huntington argued in his book that the epoch of ideology had reached an inflection point, and thereafter, humankind would regress into an age delineated by cultural conflict all over again. In his hypothesis, he argued that, henceforth, the primary axis of conflict would be along cultural trajectories. He postulated that the template of diverse civilisations as the pinnacle of cultural distinctiveness would evolve into a progressively efficacious matrix in analysing both the potential for conflict and the genesis of actual conflict. In a 1993 Foreign Affairs article, he prophesied about "the clash of civilisations" by submitting that "This is not to advocate the desirability of conflicts between civilisations. It is to set forth descriptive hypothesis as to what the future may be like." Both Fukuyama and Huntington were gazing into the crystal ball, trying to predict the ebb and flow of historical and Westphalian impulses in shaping the post-communist world order that had led to a unique situation of unipolarity in international affairs, with the US emerging as the only hegemon after the dismemberment of the Soviet Union, the collapse of its Eastern European satellite states that brought about an end to "bloc politics" that had characterised the post-World War II global milieu.

Almost three decades later, how did both these seminal treatises measure up in predicting the train of global events since their publication in the 1990s. This becomes especially relevant at a point in time when, after the end of World War II, humankind is witness to a three-continent conflict playing itself out concurrently. These battles are the Russia-Ukraine War that began in February 2022, the Israel-Hamas conflict that broke out in October last year and the rise of China over the past three decades that has attained portentous overtones in large parts of the world beyond the immediate Chinese realms in North Asia, Southeast Asia and South Asia.

Rewinding to September 11, 2001, when semi-state actors put the only omnipresent hyper power in the world, the US, on notice by crashing passenger-filled jet liners into the World Trade Centre, liberal democracy certainly has not emerged as the global choice. The events of 9/11 opened a new chapter in global affairs, wherein the 'war on terror' became the new buzzword to invade nation-states that were tyrannical in their disposition but by no stretch of imagination directly involved in the events that took place on that tragic September morning in New York. The invasion of the Taliban-controlled Afghanistan, codenamed Operation Enduring Freedom, on October 7, 2001, was not a clash of civilisations but a tactical attempt to get even with the masterminds of 9/11, namely the Osama bin Laden-led Al-Qaeda that had.

BJP can't afford to take Jammu for granted

THE GREAT GAME: This large and unwieldy region may tip the balance in the upcoming Assembly elections

THE national highway from Jammu to Kathua is peppered with one-liner BJP hoardings that seek to drive home simple 'before' and 'after' messages between 2014 — when the former state last voted, to the situation today — when the Union Territory goes to the polls again in a few days, after a whole decade.

Dark images of smoke, flailing hands and burning cars on one side of the hoardings have been juxtaposed with bright, shiny pictures that hope to symbolise hope and prosperity. A photo of Prime Minister Narendra Modi, central to the BJP's advertising campaign, is splashed right across the frame. Matam-Swagatam. Dar-Nidar. Shanti-Ashanti. And then the line, "shanti, shirta aur vikas/Jammu ko Modi par vishwas." Peace, stability and progress. That's why Jammu believes in Mo

The big question, of course, is whether Jammu will believe in Modi as well as the BJP's local candidates staking their claim to 43 constituencies in this large and unwieldy region south of the Pir Panjal — although these Assembly elections are being fought for the first time in an altered, rejigged landscape after the recent delimitation of constituencies added six more seats to the region. Another five candidates will be nominated to the new Assembly — making up a total of 95 MLAs, compared to 87 before. Saam. Daam. Dand. Bhed. In this part of the world, where the international boundary with Pakistan is within spitting distance, all of Chanakya's ancient wisdom that bespeaks endearment, bribery, punishment and betrayal are certainly being employed by all political parties to win the affections of the people. For the BJP, which won 25 seats in 2014, all from Jammu — but failed to get any from the Valley — the stakes are clearly enormous.

On the streets, there is confusion. If the "hum ko kya mila" war cry is allowed to further fester in the heart of pro-BJP Jammu, which votes on October 1, it might just tear down the fortress. Voters are dealing with the daily nightmare of awful traffic (Nitin Gadkari's ministry is building bridges and new flyovers), while 'smart city' promises of covering open drains and cleaning up garbage dumps haven't materialised. Pensions are delayed and government scheme beneficiaries find it difficult to negotiate faceless online processes which constantly break down — and then you have to bribe the same old

people, anyway. Moreover, the rest of India is travelling to the Valley in search of the latest Insta memory in its tulip gardens, summer on the Dal and winter in Gulmarg-Pahalgam. Everyone's bypassing Jammu — 15 out of 25 trains, packed with tourists, go straight to the Vaishno Devi temple in Katra. Business is slow. The fear of the outsider is both real and unreal, especially because the few corporates wanting to invest here are still hesitating to invest large sums. Even the two spanking new AIIMS hospitals, one IIM and IIT were promised during the BJP-PDP government that lasted from 2015 to 2018. None of this is new.



Jammu is discovering today what UP and Bihar have known forever — that politicians promise things and then disappear into thin air. But of course Jammu doesn't like being treated like a poor, second cousin. This very real problem, the acute and palpable disconnect between the BJP leadership and its flock, can be fixed, of course, but the question is whether it's already too late. (It helps the BJP that the Congress-National Conference alliance is either in deep disarray in these parts or doesn't exist altogether.) The question over how much RSS ideologue Ram Madhav can do — he who had been instrumental in negotiating the BJP-PDP alliance, was subsequently mothballed by the Modi government and only recently pulled out of that offending corner — is a real one. PM Modi's rallies across the UT over the next few days, the party

desperately hopes, will help it turn the corner. The question is why. Did the BJP take Jammu for granted, like an ageing, uncomplaining wife, precisely because Jammu had always voted in its favour? Both parties know that this is the heart of the ideological battle, the fire-burn that has for decades churned the heart of Hindutva.

When Bharatiya Jan Sangh ideologue Syama Prasad Mookerjee died allegedly of a heart attack in June 1953 at Lakhnampur, he was trying to enter Jammu to protest the implementation of Article 370 by the immensely powerful and charismatic duo of Jawaharlal Nehru and Sheikh Abdullah. That Article had constituted a reassurance to the Muslim-majority Kashmiri population — which had chosen to reject the two-nation theory by rejecting Pakistan and acceding to India — that they would be safe in a Hindu-majority India.

Mookerjee's death stirred the RSS-BJP into making the abrogation of Article 370 part of its core ideology, but the debate would soon, more or less, falter into history. The rest of India had so much else to do. There it would lie, unclaimed, until Modi, in August 2019, decided to permanently banish the argument. Article 370 was abrogated because the RSS-BJP believed that Hindu-majority Jammu deserved better than to play second fiddle to the Kashmiri Muslim elite that was predominant in the Valley. Jammu had always held up its side of the bargain. It celebrated on the streets when Article 370 was revoked — in contrast, as we all know, the Valley was shut down, the Internet was shut down, protests were disallowed and political leaders arrested.

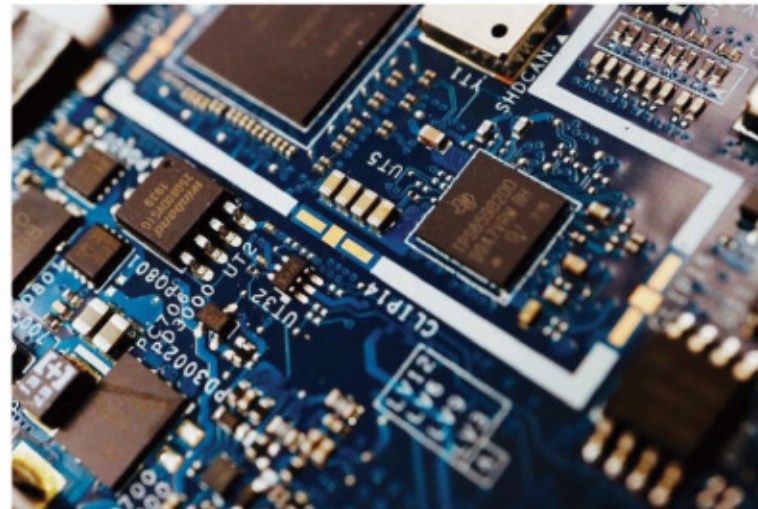
That's why the coming elections, hard-fought on the ground, constituency by constituency, mohalla by mohalla, village by village, are so important. Will Jammu give the BJP what it wants — enough seats it can use as a lever to negotiate a return to power in the newly refurbished Jammu & Kashmir? Or will it have to settle for less, with the region telling its mentors to go back and play by different rules. To bury Article 370 forever, but to also reach across the ideological divide and join the Valley and Plains together. To bridge the Himalayan gap. To recharge the whole of Jammu & Kashmir.

Chip challenge

Competitive field makes India's task tough

INDIA is nurturing the grand ambition of becoming a global hub of semiconductor manufacturing. The ongoing Semicon India 2024 conference in Greater Noida is showcasing the country's semiconductor strategy and policy. PM Narendra Modi's catchy remark — "the chips are never down in India" — is an open invitation to industry stakeholders to make big-ticket investments here. Indeed, India's growth story is worth betting on, but the government's sustained support will be required to fulfil the PM's promise of providing an integrated ecosystem to international players.

It is no exaggeration to say that semiconductors power the contemporary world. Chips are everywhere — be it smartphones, cars, washing machines, pacemakers or aeroplanes. That's why this is a highly competitive field. Taiwan, which is home to thousands of semiconductor-related companies and has a robust end-to-end supply



chain, is the global numero uno. Among the other leading nations are South Korea, Japan, the US and China. The

Covid-19 pandemic slowed down the manufacture of semiconductors, particularly in Taiwan and China. Amid these large-scale disruptions, India got its foot in the door by launching the ISM (India Semiconductor Mission) in 2021. A critical lesson from the pandemic was that the global supply chain should be diversified.

India is eyeing a bigger piece of the pie, but the road ahead is going to be anything but easy. Even as Asian nations are wooing investors with incentives, the US is projected to triple its domestic semiconductor manufacturing capacity by 2032, a decade after the CHIPS and Science Act was enacted. Beyond the optimism and hyperbole, India needs to set clear-cut timelines for achieving its goals. Ease of doing business holds the key to attracting long-term investments. India's semiconductor ecosystem is no doubt at an early stage, and there should be no reluctance to learn from other countries' experience.

The wall between judiciary, executive must not fall

Our expectations of good conduct are far higher for judges than for politicians. Politicians can and do get away with things much more easily.

IMAGES are as powerful as oral messages, often more so. One can play with words, retract or deny. A picture, however, is a plain reflection which captures the moment. Just like Omar Khayyam's phrase "the moving finger writes and having writ moves on", so too can one say that "the picture has been clicked and once clicked the subjects cannot move out".

Many comments have been made on the photograph of Prime Minister Narendra Modi participating in Ganapati Puja at the residence of Chief Justice of India DY Chandrachud. It is likely that this arose from a polite invitation which was responded to, and the heads of the executive and the judiciary conducted themselves with propriety when they met. It is unlikely that any conversation would have transpired which should cause us alarm. Nevertheless, the dust does not settle easily, and perfect equanimity does not attend this image. There is a constitutional distance that must be maintained between the judiciary and the executive; the doctrine of separation of powers creates a wall between the two. Checks and balances are the stuff of democracy, but they are to be had only if the parties stand some distance apart and not chummily close to each other. In a democracy, the judiciary is the watchdog, the sentinel on the qui vive. It is the guardian and enforcer of the Constitution; it tempers the mighty State and makes it responsive to the plea of the hapless citizen. All this implies an elevation and a distancing; only if these two are there can we have the picture of the one who does not spare the rod when the other gets out of hand.

Judges and ministers are not supposed to be friends. There have been earlier instances when prime ministers have spoken of cordial relations between the executive and judicial branches and have been promptly corrected by Chief Justices, who pointedly referred to the need for a certain tension between the



government and the court and the constitutional requirement of the latter acting as a check on the former. Only thus is the constitutional balance maintained. The problem is one of precedent. Granted that there was no lack of a good motive on the part of the inviter and the invitee, yet the test to be applied is how this would look on a larger, repetitive scale. Would we feel comfortable if ministers and judges freely mix with one another at religious functions? And then why stop at religious functions, why not social functions too? Let's not get into private dinners. Once the line breaks, the natural order of things is that it will break again and again. More than anybody else, judges are aware of the power of precedent. One breaks the ranks and accepts to become a governor virtually under the

Home Ministry, and lo and behold, after several years, another does, and this time there is less protest. Good conventions require much effort in their making, but the reverse is true of breaches, as in a dyke, one breach will occasion several more.

The problem is also one of perception. The judiciary is no stranger to the axiom that justice must not only be done but must be seen to be done. Similarly, the separation of powers involves barriers and distancing and this must be seen to be erected and to exist not just in the performance of official functions but every moment. Conformity to convention will not draw comment, but dissonance will get magnified. That is why those holding high offices must be particularly circumspect in the public imagery that they send forth. Ultimately, in these things, it is not for the high

and mighty to be satisfied that nothing is amiss. We must come lower to meet the eyes of the common man. The law affords a particular place of importance to this person who has no real shape (save in RK Laxman's drawings) but comes alive in the books of law. He represents the public at large, those whose good opinion one must secure for governance to be said to be good. If one pictures this little man, can one see him sanguine or would we see him perplexed and a little troubled on seeing this photograph? That's the simple test, and at the end of the day it is this test that matters. There are critical comments about the Chief Justice having invited the Prime Minister, but surely the PM also has the duty to uphold conventions and respect propriety. That said, it is the judiciary which is more damaged if the contact is looked at askance. This is because our expectations of good conduct are far higher for judges than for politicians. Part of the reason we surrender to them the power of deciding between right and wrong is because they are upholders of right, convention and propriety.

Politicians can and do get away with things much more easily; what would occasion the raising of eyebrows with respect to a judge will not cause a flicker with respect to a politician. Society needs these fine upholders of high values — and these values — to be on constant display. There is no need for excessive criticism or alarm and one should not read too much into this incident; yet, it is best if everyone learns a cautionary lesson from it. Our codes of conduct can be written, but it is in observance that the tone is set and the lesson ingrained. Of legal luminaries Motilal Setalvad and CK Daphtary it was said that when they were around, there was no need for a code of conduct; one had to just ask what they would have done in the circumstances. That is what we require today of our men and women holding high judicial offices.

Get fuller looking Eyebrows with these tips



Use natural products

Rubbing a little coconut or olive oil works the best for your eyebrows. Says beautician and makeup artist Puja Taluja, "Every night before you go to bed, take a little oil on your palms and rub them hard so that the oil warms a bit. Apply this evenly on your brows and massage it for a while. Keep this on for the whole night." Oil will make your brows healthier and in a few days, you will notice that they have become fuller.

Find the right shade of colour

When you fill your eyebrows with a shadow or a pencil, always choose a colour that is closest to your natural brow colour. For example, if your brows are dark brown, choose a shade of coffee to fill in. But if you cannot find the exact colour, always go for a shade lighter. This will make your brows look as natural as possible.

Fill them with a pencil colour

If you have extremely thin brows, it is always best to fill it in with a brow shadow for a soft and natural look. To do this, use an angled brush (if you are using a shadow) or a pencil colour and apply it on your brows, without straying too far from your natural hair line. If you have a bigger spot to be filled, it is best to use an eyebrow pencil. Apply thin and light strokes in the direction that your hair grows.

Do not use tweezers too often



Tweezing your eyebrows more often will make them thin. If you have unwanted hair growth and wish to get rid of that, it is always best to go in for a threading than tweezing and taking out that hair. Says beautician Tasneem Subzwari, "Your eyebrows normally takes about six to eight weeks to grow fully. Thus wait for it to grow completely, rather than forcefully taking it out because that will damage your hair growth and in turn make it thinner."

Hair gel can work wonders too

At times applying hair gel on your brows will make your brows thicker as well as make them look well-groomed as well. But do not apply this on an every day basis. Adds Taluja, "If you apply a hair gel on daily it will make your brows sticky and thereby making the roots weak. Stick to applying this at least once in a fortnight."

Box - Shape them perfectly

- Use a concealer that is as close to your natural skin colour and apply this on the inner area of your brows.
- Pick an eyebrow pencil and fill in your brows perfectly.
- Take an angular brush and comb your brows properly.

Can your Beauty salon harm you?



If you're planning on some post party indulgence, here's why you should think twice

The quickest way to pamper yourself is to indulge at the salon. However, a recent study claims that a simple fish pedicure that involves tiny toothless carp nibbling away at dead skin could spread deadly infection and disease. And that's just the tip of the proverbial iceberg. So, if you have intentions of stopping by the salon for a beauty treatment, read on.

Skin-tillating? ...not at all! If you have a weak immune system, or condition like diabetes and psoriasis in particular, experts advise you to stay away from your local beauty parlour. They warn of the dangers of contracting Hepatitis C from the use of unsterile scissors (through a nick during a haircut or even a manicure). A website even reports how American singer Paula Abdul suffered a long and painful thumb infection she picked up at a Los Angeles nail salon and

testified before legislators in support of a bill to increase nail salon health standards.

"If a person is already infected with a bacterial or fungal infection and warts or molluscum (viral) and bleeds into the water in the tank, then there definitely is a very chance this could be passed to another client, either via the fish or contaminated tank water; if this not taken care of it can be harmful," says skin expert Dr Krupa Amonkar. In addition, there is a danger of contracting the Hepatitis c virus from unsterile scissors either through a nick during a haircut or during a slip that draws blood in a manicure. A website reports how singer and American Idol judge Paula Abdul suffered long, painful thumb infection that she apparently picked up at a Los Angeles nail salon and testified before legislators in support

of a bill to increase nail-salon health standards. Mike Comins, chairman of the British Association of Cosmetic Doctors, says: "Hepatitis C is a robust virus that can live outside the body for quite a long time and may not display any symptoms at all. It can linger for decades, increasing your risk of cirrhosis and liver cancer. It's very contagious and not routinely tested for." Adds skin doctor Rita Shah, "One has to be careful. If the instruments are not sterilised properly, there's a risk they could spread blood-borne infections." Hair and now! Ever thought a simple blow dry could nix it for you? That's apparently that case.

You can actually suffer 'asphyxiation' from a Brazilian Blowdry as a major ingredient in the straightening treatment dubbed the Brazilian, or permanent, blowdry is said to be formaldehyde. And in spite of certain restrictions on the amount of the chemical that can be used, and new formaldehyde-free formulations, certain firms are still selling products that can cause breathing difficulties and other unpleasant side-effects. That's a scare, not counting smaller woes like head lice from dirty brushes! And don't forget hot wax has the potential to be seriously dangerous if it's not handled properly or even a stroke from a washbasin! If you have managed to just end up with a crick in your neck and shoulder after a shampoo, count your blessings. Research indicates that the position in which you have to hold your neck while being shampooed over a basin could, in a few cases result in a stroke, known as Beauty Salon Stroke Syndrome. The result can be dizziness, facial numbness, and even a blood clot in the brain. This is especially dangerous for those with high blood pressure. The warning signs are out, next time you might want to do a re-think before your hairdo or manicure.

Young women are colouring their hair grey!



and have access to high-end beauty products and salon services are not afraid to move away from conventional trends and try something path-breaking." why it will suit Indian women "The silver streaks would look more enhanced and beautiful on black hair that most

Pop stars Rihanna and Lady Gaga, singer Kelly Osbourne, reality TV star Kylie Jenner are among the many young women, who have been spotted with grey hair. And we're not talking about a few odd pesky strands; they're going the whole hog and dyeing their hair in this stale shade of silver! Closer home, designer Nandita Mahtani has been known to proudly sport grey streaks. Why is this dull hue becoming such a rage amongst young women?

Grey is the new black

Stylist Uday Shirali believes granny chic beauty is a reflection of the carefree attitude that young women have today. "The confidence of sporting grey hair makes one look sexy. Feminine dye colours like pink, purple, blonde, magenta, cherry are done to death; grey is a welcome change. Also, there is the constant pressure to look different. So women who like experimenting

Vintage style granny chic fashion like thick-rimmed glasses, floral tea dresses, frumpy cardigans and kitten heels have featured heavily on the catwalks for many seasons. Taking a cue from this popular sartorial style, we now have celebrities who have extended this trend to beauty as well.



India n girls have. This is a great look to pull off, if you are in your twenties and thirties," says Shraddha Naik, hairstylist. The key to sporting the trend right -If you're going grey on your hair, you have to complement it with the right make-up. Wear your lips in bright shades of hot pink and fiery red. Match the grey tones in your hair by going for smokey eyes. -To lend a whimsical touch to your grey locks, add a purple or red tinge to

the tips of your hair. -Flowing waves or a bob work best for grey hair. -Says Dr Amrapali Patil, "Since dyeing is a chemical process, your hair will require regular maintenance, like conditioning treatments and frequent touch-ups. Also, hair colour fades over time and looks dull, so avoid washing your hair frequently. Be careful in chlorine-treated swimming pools, as chlorine can cause the hair colour to change."

Chandigarh grenade blast: Punjab Police arrests second accused from Delhi

In a major breakthrough, Punjab Police, with the assistance of central agencies, arrested Vishal Masih, the second accused in the Chandigarh grenade blast case.

NEW DELHI. In a major breakthrough, Punjab Police, with the assistance of central agencies, arrested Vishal Masih, the second accused in the Chandigarh grenade blast case. Masih was arrested from Delhi following a swift investigation that started after the incident on September 11. According to a post by DGP Punjab Police on X, two suspects had carried out a grenade attack in Sector 10, Chandigarh, causing widespread concern. Punjab Police managed to arrest the first suspect, Rohan Masih, on September 13, just two days after the blast. The second accused, Vishal Masih, son of Sabi Masih and a resident of Raimal village in Batala, District Gurdaspur, was arrested within 72 hours of the incident.



Investigations are ongoing as officials work to unravel the full details of the plot. The main

perpetrator of the suspected Chandigarh grenade blast case, Rohan Masih, was arrested a day after the incident in which the grenade was lobbed at the house of a retired police officer in the city's upscale Sector 10

area. The grenade attack took place at around 5.30 pm on September 11 and due to the impact of the blast, windows and flower pots were damaged.

Sources told India Today TV that three people arrived at the scene in an autorickshaw shortly before the explosion. The blast was loud enough to be heard even from far away.

According to the sources, the attackers had conducted surveillance of the house just two days before the grenade attack. A CCTV camera captured the moment when the explosion occurred. In the footage, an autorickshaw is seen speeding away, narrowly dodging a car from the opposite direction before making a swift turn. According to the sources, Khalistani terrorist Rinda, currently based in Pakistan, is suspected of involvement in the grenade attack case.

SpiceJet Cancels Flight Just 5 Minutes Before Boarding, Sparks Outrage And Protests At Delhi Airport

NEW DELHI. Passengers on a SpiceJet flight had a heated exchange with airline officials at Delhi Airport on Saturday after the carrier cancelled the flight just five minutes before boarding. The cancelled flight, SpiceJet No. SG 495, was scheduled to travel from Delhi to Darbhanga, Bihar.

Distressed passengers were seen shouting slogans like "SpiceJet murdabad, murdabad" at the boarding gate in Terminal 3 of Delhi Airport, visibly protesting the last-minute cancellation. Several passengers have expressed their frustration with SpiceJet's frequent flight cancellations and delays on the social media platform X. One passenger expressed frustration over the cancellation of his flight from Delhi to Goa, stating, "SpiceJet SG211 flight from Delhi to Goa is being cancelled after repeatedly delaying it for multiple times. We have been waiting at the airport since 7:00AM in the morning and have been travelling since past evening from Shimla," he wrote.

Another passenger shared their frustration about a different SpiceJet flight, from Ahmedabad to Varanasi.

Kashmiri pandits hold protest in Delhi, demand SIT probe into atrocities, homeland

NEW DELHI: Members of the Kashmiri Pandit community on Saturday staged a sit-in at Jantar Mantar to observe the 'Martyrs Day' and reiterated their demand for a homeland for the exiled community. Every year, the community across India and around the world observes September 14 as 'Martyrs Day' to remember the violent events that led to the exodus of the Pandits from the Kashmir Valley in the late 1980s and early 1990s.

Prime Minister Modi who on Saturday addressed a public rally in Jammu and Kashmir's Doda, also remembered Tika Lal Taploo, a BJP leader who was gunned down by terrorists on this day in 1989. The Pandits raised slogans "We want justice" and demanded the formation of a SIT to investigate the atrocities committed against their community from 1990 onwards. Kashmiri Samiti president Sameer Chrunoo questioned the Central government's actions over the past 11 years to alleviate the suffering caused by "forced migration."

The gathering unanimously passed several resolutions, including the one on the genocide bill in the coming Parliament session. The protesters highlighted the need for a comprehensive return and rehabilitation policy that encompasses the entire Kashmiri Pandit community and not just to younger generation seeking employment.

Encounter breaks out between security forces, terrorists in J&K's Poonch

The encounter began when the security forces initiated a cordon and search operation based on information about the possibility of terrorists being present in the area.

NEW DELHI. An encounter erupted between terrorists and security forces in Jammu and Kashmir's Poonch district on Sunday, just days ahead of the upcoming Assembly elections. The gunfight began when the security forces initiated a cordon and search operation based on information about the possibility of terrorists being present in the area. Acting on a tip-off, police and Army personnel launched a joint search operation



in the Pathanateer area on Saturday evening, according to a security official. Two to three terrorists are hiding in the forest area of Mendhar.

During the operation, the search team came under fire from suspected terrorists hiding in the area, leading to a gunfight. Intermittent exchanges of gunfire between the two sides continue, the official said, noting that reinforcements have been dispatched to the location.

On Saturday, two Indian Army personnel, including a Junior Commissioned Officer (JCO), were killed in an encounter in Jammu and Kashmir's Kishtwar district. In a separate operation in Baramulla, security forces killed three terrorists. The Union Territory has been witnessing sporadic incidents of violence ahead of the upcoming Assembly polls, the first elections in the region in a decade, adding to concerns over regional stability.

PM virtually flags off 6 Vande Bharat trains for Jharkhand, Odisha, Bihar, UP

NEW DELHI. Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Sunday virtually flagged off six Vande Bharat trains for Jharkhand, Odisha, Bihar and UP at Ranchi. Earlier, the PM was scheduled to flag off the trains from Tatanagar but his chopper could not take off due to poor visibility and inclement weather conditions. On the occasion, Union Agriculture Minister Shivraj Singh Chouhan and Jharkhand Governor Santosh Kumar Gangwar were present at Tatanagar station. The new trains will run on the Tatanagar-Patna, Brahmapur-Tatanagar, Rourkela-Howrah, Deoghar-Varanasi, Bhagalpur-Howrah and Gaya-Howrah routes.



The trains will offer faster connectivity, the Prime Minister's Office said in a statement. The introduction of these Vande Bharat Express trains will benefit regular

travellers, professionals, business and student communities. These trains will boost religious tourism in the region by providing a faster mode of commute to pilgrim sites like Baidyanath Dham in Deoghar (Jharkhand), Kashi Vishwanath temple in Varanasi (Uttar Pradesh), Kalighat, Belur Math in Kolkata (West Bengal) etc.

Coal and mines industries in Dhanbad, jute industries in Kolkata, iron & steel allied sector in Durgapur will also get a major boost, the statement added.

High Court orders DU to admit medical student over clerical error in certificate

Consequently, she approached the HC challenging DU's decision denying her a seat.

NEW DELHI: The Delhi High Court has recently directed Delhi University (DU) to admit a medical aspirant, whose seat under the Children/Widows of Armed Forces Personnel (CW) category was wrongfully denied due to a clerical error in processing her Education Concession Certificate (ECC). The bench comprising acting Chief Justice Manmohan and Justice Tushar Rao Gedela has ordered the DU to immediately rectify the situation by creating either a 'supernumerary seat' for the student—Yashika Malik—or increase the number of seats under the CW quota, ensuring her rightful place in the medical course. Malik, who secured 604 out of 720 in the NEET 2024 examination, was entitled to a seat under the CW category. However, despite meeting all the requisite

qualifications for admission, Malik's name was erroneously removed from the final admission list following the



cancellation of her certificate by the Kendriya Sainik Board (KSB) in August 2024. The cancellation was

later acknowledged to be a mistake, as Assam Rifles personnel, under whose service Malik's father was awarded the medal, fall under the purview of the Ministry of Home Affairs (MHA), not KSB. Consequently, she approached the HC challenging DU's decision denying her a seat.

The single-judge's order was challenged by Malik by way of letter patent appeal (LPA), contending that the Single Judge had incorrectly instructed the appellant to be considered in the first round of counselling only subject to the availability of seats, depriving her of her right to be considered for reservation in the first round.

The division bench modified the impugned judgment and directed DU to "take appropriate steps to either increase the number of seats by one, in the CW category or create a seat.

"Women Judges Need To Be Tougher Because...": Justice Hima Kohli

New Delhi: Justice Hima Kohli (retired), who has always been vocal about women's rights and is considered a tough judge, recently retired from the Supreme Court. In an exclusive conversation with NDTV, Justice Kohli spoke on a range of issues from her long experience in the legal profession. Women judges need to be tougher because they face more difficulties in the judiciary. It was very difficult to become a woman judge back in the 1980s. Women also face many difficulties in advocacy," Justice Kohli told NDTV. She was the ninth woman judge in the history of the Supreme Court, and the first woman judge in the Delhi High Court.

Justice Kohli has been known as a tough judge, and has been part of many historic decisions, with a focus on women's rights. Explaining some of the difficulties that women face, Justice Kohli said first and foremost they have to take care of family and children. "Why should only women judges run family courts, child welfare, etc? Women judges should get jurisdiction in other areas too... Gender bias as far as bench composition is concerned is



absolutely abhorrent. They face problems in working on criminal cases... First-generation lawyers face the biggest challenge as they do not have any resources, office or anyone to handle files," she said. "A woman choosing to be a lawyer was difficult in itself. While judicial officers had it easier to make it to the bench, going to the bench from the bar was more difficult for a woman lawyer," Justice Kohli told NDTV. "How well

you handle any situation could determine if you reach there. As a judge, I never had a problem with my colleagues. Senior peers were quite supportive," she said.

She asked the public to keep their trust in the Supreme Court as judges listen to their conscience. Though there have been controversial cases, it is only natural for judges to make mistakes sometimes as they are also human, Justice Kohli said. She praised the use of virtual hearings as it has enabled justice to reach the homes of the common people directly. On professionalism, Justice Kohli said it is important for judges to see everyone equally. "Whatever kind of relationship you have with someone outside, you should not cross the line. Mutual relations should not come in the way of work. As judges, we have to look only at the merit of the case and not the face," Justice Kohli said. She pointed at the need for judges to be aware of what's happening in today's world and not to stay disconnected. "Judges should know the problems of the common people.

Kolkata Doctor Rape-Murder Case: Why CBI Has Arrested Sandip Ghosh And Is Seeking His Custody

The agency has also arrested Tala Police Station SHO Abhijit Mandal. It submitted a petition to the CBI court on Saturday evening, seeking the custody of Sandip Ghosh, accusing him of being involved in causing 'considerable delay in registration of FIR in conspiracy with others' and thereby 'leading to deliberate destruction of vital evidence'

NEW DELHI. The Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) on Saturday arrested RG Kar Medical College and Hospital's ex-principal Sandip Ghosh and a police officer for alleged delay in the registration of the FIR and missing evidence in the postgraduate trainee

doctor's brutal rape and murder in Kolkata. The arrested police officer is Tala Police Station SHO Abhijit Mandal. The agency submitted a petition to the CBI court on Saturday evening, seeking the custody of Sandip Ghosh, accusing him of being involved in causing "considerable delay in registration of FIR in conspiracy with others" and thereby "leading to deliberate destruction of vital evidence". The central agency has also mentioned in the petition that Ghosh "committed the offence with mala fide intention of safeguarding the prime accused and other co-accused persons, if any".

Turning Point? This action by the CBI may work as a potential turning point in the ongoing investigation. In a prayer before the CJM court (Sealdah), submitted on September 14, the agency has sought to take Ghosh in custody in connection with the main

case — the rape and murder of a junior resident doctor at Kolkata's RG Kar Medical College and Hospital. News18 has a copy of the prayer, submitted by the assistant superintendent of the CBI, who



is also the investigating officer (IO) in the case. This marks a significant moment in the investigation, as it's the first time since the CBI took over the case that the agency has sought custody of a second person. Ghosh has been arrested by the CBI in a separate case of financial

corruption and he is currently in judicial custody.

What CBI Plea Says The investigating officer of the CBI's special crime unit (I), who is also an assistant superintendent of police (ASP) has stated in the prayer that Ghosh, along with others, "conspired" and delayed the FIR which led to the destruction of "vital evidence".

"That in compliance of the order dated 13.08.2024 passed by the Hon'ble High Court, Calcutta in WPA (P) No. 331/2024, 332/2024, 333/2024, 334/2024, 335 of 2024 and 339 of 2024, the investigation of FIR No 52/2024 dated 09.08.2024 of Tala PS has been taken over by CBI and re-registered as case RC0482024S0010 dated 13.08.2024 u/s 64/103(1) of BNS against unknown accused persons. The investigation of this case is in progress," the plea said.



Fight off dry Skin and keep it radiant

While most of us love bidding goodbye to the harsh and hot summer months and welcome the transition to cooler climes, at least one part of our body doesn't agree with us!

Our skin, especially in people who have dry skin, feels the extreme brunt of winter as icy winds make it scaly, itchy, irritated and dry like sand.

While you cannot control the climate, you can certainly take some measures to reduce the trauma that the cold season inflicts upon your skin. Make no mistake, as much as your body needs a transition to winter clothes, your skincare regimen also needs to change to suit the needs of the colder months. Hence, Dr Veena Rao, Dermatologist from Bangalore has come up with some tips to adopt as winter sets in.

1. Make sure your products are have moisturising ingredients

Refurbish your dressing table. Remove all skincare products that are alcoholic or astringent or water based as they zip away all oil from your skin. Replace them with products that are thicker, cream-based and moisturizing. And this means changing everything, right from face wash to cleanser to moisturizer to scrub. Each product you use should be cream based and moisturising so that the skin's natural oil is retained and augmented. Even sunscreen should be changed from gel to lotion or cream based.

2. Get a cream based thick moisturizer with UV protection

Need we even say this? A moisturizer is the single most important skincare accessory.



It is not just a remedy for dry skin, but it is also a very important antidote for early ageing. Loss of moisture is one of the two prime reasons for skin ageing (other is exposure to UV radiation). You need to immediately get your hands on a very good moisturizer that also offers UV protection so that your skin also remains protected against harmful UV radiation.

3. Go for steam therapy and exfoliation

As we apply loads of moisturizers and cold creams on our skin, the pores tend to get blocked. The creamy skin products also tend to attract more dirt and grime, which further

blocks the skin pores. Over time, this residue covers the top most layer of the skin in the form of dead cells. This may also ignite acne. To help the skin cope better, subject it to steam therapy once every week; this helps open the pores. At the same time also use a good face scrub once a week to help remove the dead cells. These procedures make the skin more receptive to moisturizers and also prevent allergies.

Add oil to your bath. No matter how much moisturizer you apply, bathing washes it all off. It is a good idea to add a few drops of olive oil to your bath water to give your skin a healing bath.

4. Go for moisturizing medi-facials

Medi-facials are not the usual facial massages that you get in beauty salons. Medi-facials are medically designed facial treatments that treat the nutritional deficits in your skin. If you have extremely dry skin, your dermatologist will examine its needs and prepare a customized medi-facial for you complete with infusion of vitamins and moisturizing agents into your skin using micro-jets. Visit a dermatologist to have your skin examined.

5. Increase intake of omega 3 fatty acids and vitamin E

Omega 3 fatty acids and vitamin E help the skin retain moisture and provide more resilience to it. Increase intake of food rich in this inputs such as fish, olive oil, nuts and cucumbers

6. Use hyaluronic acid based fillers

When administered into the skin, hyaluronic acid based fillers like Juvederm help increase the skin's water absorption and retention ability. This provides the skin a radiant glow and also serves to hydrate the skin. As the skin absorbs and retains more water from the atmosphere, it would better deal with the winter dryness.



Paint your pout mocha this winter season



Ditch basic and boring shades, try crimson, cranberry, oxblood, chocolate, blackest berry and blueberry on your pout this winter, says an expert.

Bharti Taneja, Cosmetologist, Aesthetician and Founder-Director of ALPS Beauty Group, has suggested a few shades that could make you look more trendy and daring:

1. Dark-matte lips: You can use a lot of rich, melodramatic shades like wine, plum, oxblood, masala, chocolate, coffee and cappuccino browns to turn away the winter gloom.

Just make sure to create a smooth canvas for your colour by scrubbing and moisturising your lips beforehand to get the best out of your mattes.

2. Vampire lips: As eyes are going to downplay this season, you can go a little more bold while choosing your

lip colour and round-up for shades like venom, blackest berry, extra-dark maroon, blueberry, violet, deep wines or plums and even black.

3 Pastel and bright pink lips: Bring out all your summer favourites like salmon, fuchsia, carnation, baby, hot, rose and all other forms pink.

4. Red lips: Paint your pout in all shades of red including ruby, blood, brick, cherry, crimson, candy, cranberry reds. This will surely let you infuse some warmth to the winter chill.

5. Neutral lips: Let a no-colour pout say it all for you the season of icy-chill. Choose nude glosses or lip colours like beige, mocha, peach, taupe, honey or salmon pink to match it with your skin-tone well as the weather.

6. Shimmer lips: Some shine on your lips is sure to glamourise the gloomy mood of autumn-winter, making sparkly lips a hit this season.

Simple tips to look your best on your D-Day

Every woman wants to be the centre of attraction and look perfect on special day. Start your skin care from taking at least six to eight hours sleep and eat a lot of super foods as they help in repairing skin cells, says an expert. Monika Sood, expert and managing director of TBC by Nature, an all natural cosmetic brand, has shared some tips to make it easy for you this bridal season.

- Sleep better: Start your skin care from taking at least six to eight hours sleep everyday for avoiding dark circles or tired eyes. Good proportion of sleep helps to rejuvenate you and balance your hormones. This is the most important thing you need to look like a princess on your special day and also drink 12-15 glasses of water daily to remove toxins from your body.

- Eat super foods: A lot of vitamins and antioxidants super foods can help you fight with skin problems. It can also repair your skin cells. You need to eat Vitamin C rich citrus fruits everyday like papaya, kiwi fruit, guava and watermelon.

- Cleansing your skin: Leave your regular cleansing routine aside for winters. Swap your cleansing milk for rose water, honey, turmeric, sandalwood paste or even saffron face wash to boost your glowing skin naturally.

- Homemade herbal face packs: This is the natural way to get smooth, glowing and supple skin. There are some home-made face packs given below:-

-Tulsi face pack for removing sun tan: Tulsi is known for its antibacterial, anti-fungal properties. Due to its healing properties, tulsi helps in removing sun tan, pigmentation and dark patches.

Method: Crush a few tulsi leaves with a little rose water, add two tablespoon of fine sugar, add one tablespoon of lemon juice. Now

properly mix it and apply the mixture to your face and neck. Leave it for 10 minutes. While removing the pack gently scrub your face in circular motions especially the sun tan areas. Wash your face using cold water and pat dry.

- Rose petal face pack for bridal glow: Rose has been the main ingredient in making beauty products from many years. You can prepare a rose petal face pack with some rose petals which gives natural glowing skin.

Method: Crush the rose petals with some milk for oily skin and with milk cream for dry skin. Apply the face pack for 20 minutes and wash with lukewarm water. Apply this face pack twice a week.

- Exfoliate your elbows: Most of the times brides only focus on improving skin tone but forget about their elbows.

You must get rid of the dead skin and dry patches on your elbow to get that wholesome beauty.

Mix salt and lemon to make an exfoliating scrub. Apply this scrub on a daily basis for couple of weeks. This will give you miraculous results.



Adani Wins Bid to Supply 6,600 MW of Electricity, Rs 4.08/unit Tariff Beats JSW, Torrent: Report

New Delhi Adani group has won a bid to supply 6,600 MW of bundled renewable and thermal power to Maharashtra for the long term after its quote of Rs 4.08 per unit beat the likes of JSW Energy and Torrent Power, sources said. Its bid for the bundled renewable and thermal energy supply for 25 years was almost a rupee lower than the cost at which Maharashtra currently procures electricity and will help meet future electricity requirements of the state, two sources with direct knowledge of the matter said. Supplies are to start in 48 months from the date of award of the letter of intent.

As per the bid conditions, Adani Power will supply solar power at a fixed cost of Rs 2.70 per unit throughout the entire supply period, while that from coal will be indexed to coal prices.

Maharashtra State Electricity Distribution Company (MSEDCL), in March, floated a unique tender for sourcing 5,000 MW of electricity generated from sunlight and 1,600 MW of power generated from coal. That tender was floated just ahead of the model code of conduct for the Lok Sabha elections kicking in, and it was awarded to Adani before the announcement of the assembly elections in the state. The tender combined solar power with thermal electricity to meet peak energy demand and that during non-solar hours (like night hours or monsoon/winter months).

It gave equal energy weightage to electricity generated from renewable energy and that from coal. Bidders were asked to quote a unified tariff for the supply of 6,600 MW of electricity (5,000 MW from solar and 1,600 MW from thermal). Adani Power quoted Rs 4.08 per unit to win the contract, according to sources said.

Its bid compares to Rs 4.36 per unit quoted by the second lowest bidder, JSW Energy, and Rs 4.70 per unit average procurement cost of Maharashtra last year.

Nayara Energy Sees 14% Rise in Domestic Fuel Sales, Exports Drop

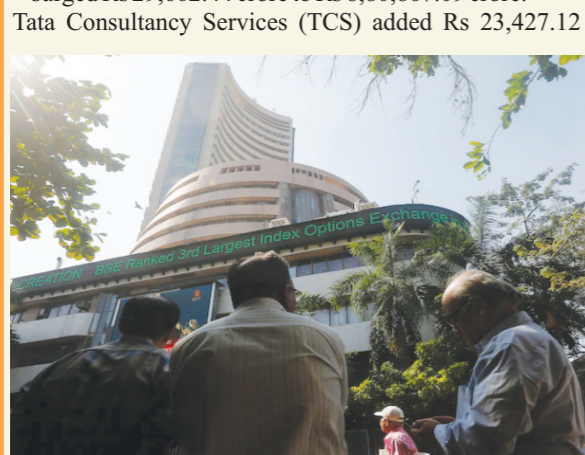
New Delhi Nayara Energy, India's largest private fuel retailer, posted a 14.3 per cent rise in fuel sales for the second quarter of the 2024 calendar year, while exports dropped as the firm met rising local demand for fuel. In the April-June quarter, Nayara sold 75 per cent of all diesel it produced at its Vadinar oil refinery in Gujarat in the local Indian market and 60 per cent of its petrol production locally, Nayara said.

Over the past few years, Nayara Energy has steadily built its domestic business while expanding its fuel retailing network strategically to underserved markets that uphold the potential to fuel India's growth. Retail diesel sales rose 14 per cent to 2.08 million tonnes in April-June from 1.82 million tonnes a year back, while institutional business' year-on-year growth was 23 per cent, Nayara said. Similarly, retail petrol sales grew 14.7 per cent to 0.916 million tonnes in the second quarter compared to 0.809 million tonnes a year back. Nayara Energy owns the largest private retail network with over 6,500 petrol pumps across India. Its retail network is fully automated (99 per cent of petrol pumps) for enhanced controls and standards, enhancing mobility and connectivity within our nation. The firm said over the last few years, it has strategically expanded its network, with almost 35 per cent of its fuel stations situated in Tier 3, 4 and 5 towns, enabling mobility and spurring commerce.

"Nayara Energy's positive sales momentum is the reflection of its growing presence through the strategic expansion of our fuel retail network," it said. After fulfilling domestic demand in India, surplus products were exported by Nayara Energy—about 1.36 million tonnes (28 per cent of total sales), including jet fuel, diesel and others, during April-June 2024.

Mcap of Nine of Top-10 Most Valued Firms Jump Rs 2 Lakh Crore; Bharti Airtel Sparkles

New Delhi Nine of the top-10 most valued firms together added Rs 2,01,552.69 crore in market valuation last week, with Bharti Airtel stealing the show, amid bullish investors' sentiment in equities. Last week, the BSE benchmark jumped 1,707.01 points or 2.10 per cent. The 30-share BSE Sensex hit its lifetime high of 83,116.19 on Thursday. Bharti Airtel's valuation jumped Rs 54,282.62 crore to Rs 9,30,490.20 crore, becoming the biggest gainer among the top-10 firms. The market capitalisation (mcap) of ICICI Bank surged Rs 29,662.44 crore to Rs 8,80,867.09 crore. Tata Consultancy Services (TCS) added Rs 23,427.12



crore taking its valuation to Rs 16,36,189.63 crore. The mcap of Hindustan Unilever soared Rs 22,438.6 crore to Rs 6,89,358.33 crore and that of HDFC Bank zoomed Rs 22,093.99 crore to Rs 12,70,035.77 crore. The market valuation of Infosys climbed Rs 17,480.49 crore to Rs 8,07,299.55 crore and that of ITC rallied Rs 15,194.17 crore to Rs 6,42,531.82 crore. The valuation of Reliance Industries jumped Rs 9,878.19 crore to Rs 19,92,160.61 crore and that of State Bank of India went up by Rs 7,095.07 crore to Rs 7,05,535.20 crore. However, the mcap of Life Insurance Corporation of India (LIC) declined by Rs 3,004.38 crore to Rs 6,54,004.76 crore. Reliance Industries was leading the chart of the top-10 most valued firms followed by TCS, HDFC Bank, Bharti Airtel, ICICI Bank, Infosys, State Bank of India, Hindustan Unilever, LIC and ITC.

Amazon, Flipkart and major smartphone brands face antitrust heat: Report

NEW DELHI The convenience of online shopping has changed the way we buy products, but it has also raised questions about fair competition. Amazon and Flipkart, along with major smartphone brands like Samsung and Xiaomi, are now facing antitrust scrutiny, reported news agency Reuters. The Competition Commission of India (CCI) has found that these companies have been involved in exclusive product launches on their platforms, which may have restricted competition and harmed smaller businesses. Samsung, Xiaomi, and other smartphone makers have allegedly colluded with Amazon and Walmart-owned Flipkart to launch products exclusively on their platforms, a violation of India's competition laws. A report by the CCI, as seen by Reuters, highlights that this practice not only hurt smaller players but also gave an unfair advantage to certain sellers and products.

The CCI's investigation into Amazon resulted in a 1,027-page report, which claims that the Indian units of Samsung,

Xiaomi, Motorola, Realme, and OnePlus were involved in exclusive phone launches in coordination with Amazon and its affiliates, breaking competition laws. Similarly, a 1,696-page report on Flipkart states that brands like Samsung, Xiaomi, Motorola, Vivo, Lenovo, and Realme engaged in similar practices on Flipkart's platform. The involvement of major smartphone brands in this case could lead to increased legal and compliance issues for them. G.V. Siva Prasad, the additional director general of the CCI, noted that exclusivity in business goes against free and fair competition and is not in the best interest of consumers.

Although these findings are not yet public, Reuters was the first to report the accusations of anticompetitive behaviour by these smartphone companies, which are detailed in the CCI's reports dated August 9. While Xiaomi declined to comment, other smartphone makers, Amazon, Flipkart, and the CCI have not



responded to requests for comments so far. The reports from the CCI also mentioned that Amazon and Flipkart attempted to downplay the allegations, but the investigation found that exclusive launches were quite common on both platforms. This practice has been a concern for years, with small retailers arguing that their businesses have been harmed as customers preferred shopping for exclusive models online.

Counterpoint Research data shows that Samsung and Xiaomi together hold nearly 36% of the Indian smartphone market, with Vivo holding 19%. India's e-

commerce sector is growing rapidly, with the market expected to reach over \$160 billion by 2028, up from Rs 57-60 billion in 2023, according to consultancy firm Bain. The findings of the investigation could be a significant blow to Amazon and Flipkart, especially in India, a key market where they have already faced criticism from small retailers. The CCI report also noted that these e-commerce giants used foreign investments to offer discounted services like warehousing and marketing to select sellers, further tilting the playing field. Some smartphone makers, including Xiaomi, Samsung, OnePlus, Realme, and Motorola, have been instructed to submit their financial statements for the past three fiscal years to the CCI, according to a document from August 28. This move is part of the ongoing investigation, which started in 2020 following a complaint by an affiliate of the Confederation of All India Traders, a retailer association representing 80 million members.

Bajaj Housing Finance IPO Listing on Monday: GMP Indicates 120% Listing Gains today

New Delhi The listing of Bajaj Housing Finance's shares is set to take place on Monday, September 16. The IPO listing on Monday is expected to provide huge listing gains up to 120 per cent to investors in just a day as indicated by the latest grey market premium (GMP). According to market observers, Bajaj Housing Finance's unlisted shares are currently trading at Rs 154 in the grey market, which is a 120 per cent premium.

The share allotment of the Bajaj Housing Finance IPO has already been finalised. Investors can check the allotment status on the websites of BSE and NSE as well as on the portal of registrar Kfint Technologies. The Bajaj Housing Finance IPO, which was opened for public subscription between September 9 and September 11, received a whopping 67.43 times subscription garnering bids for 46,25,57,71,082 shares as against the 68,60,00,009 shares on offer. The price band of the Rs 6,560-crore much-

awaited initial public offering was fixed at Rs 66 to Rs 70 per share. Bajaj Housing Finance IPO: GMP Today According to market observers, unlisted shares of Bajaj Housing Finance Ltd are trading Rs 84 higher in the grey market than its issue price. The Rs 84 grey market premium or GMP means the



grey market is expecting a 120 per cent listing gain from the public issue. The GMP is based on market sentiments and keeps changing. Bajaj Housing Finance IPO: More Details

The proposed IPO comprises a fresh issue of equity shares of up to Rs 3,560 crore and an offer-for-sale (OFS) of equity shares to the tune of Rs 3,000 crore by parent Bajaj Finance.

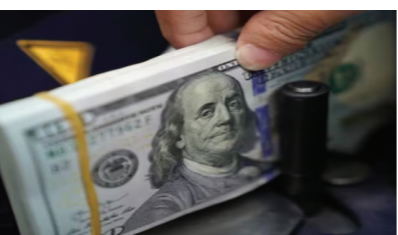
The share sale is being conducted to comply with the Reserve Bank of India's (RBI) regulations, which require upper layer non-banking finance companies to be listed on stock exchanges by September 2025.

The company collected Rs 1,758 crore from anchor investors ahead of its IPO. Among the anchor investors are Government of Singapore, Abu Dhabi Investment Authority, Fidelity, Morgan Stanley, Nomura, Goldman Sachs, JP Morgan India Investment Trust Plc, SBI Life Insurance Company, ICICI Prudential Life Insurance Company, HDFC Mutual Fund (MF), Kotak Mahindra MF, SBI MF, UTI MF and Nippon India MF. Proceeds from the fresh issue will be used to augment the company's capital base to meet future capital requirements.

FPIs Inject Rs 27,856 Crore in Equities in September 2024 So Far on US Rate Cut Expectations

New Delhi Foreign investors have infused Rs 27,856 crore in domestic equities in the first fortnight this month, owing to the resilience of the Indian market and growing optimism around the potential interest rate cut in the US. Foreign Portfolio Investors (FPIs) have been consistently buying equities since June. Before that, they pulled out Rs 34,252 crore in April-May.

With the focus shifting to the US Federal Reserve's decision on interest rates in its upcoming FOMC meeting next week, its outcome will likely play a pivotal role in shaping the trajectory of future FPI investments in Indian equities, Himanshu Srivastava, Associate Director-Manager Research, Morningstar Investment Research India, said. According to the data with the depositories, FPIs put in a net investment of Rs 27,856 crore into equities this month (till September 13). With this, FPIs' investment in equities reached Rs 70,737 crore so far this year. VK Vijayakumar, Chief Investment



Strategist, Geojit Financial Services, has attributed two major reasons for FPIs' strong buying. First, there is a consensus now that the US Fed will start cutting rates from this month onwards, pushing the US yields down. Recent data showing US inflation cooling for the fifth consecutive month, hitting a 43-month low of 2.5 per cent year-on-year in August, has strengthened expectations that the US Federal Reserve may proceed with a rate cut at its upcoming policy meeting. This will facilitate fund flows from the US to emerging markets. Secondly, the Indian market is

extremely resilient with strong momentum and missing out on the Indian market would be a bad strategy for FPIs, he added. High valuations in India, however, continue to be a "The robust inflows are due to underlying factors such as global confidence in India's economic outlook and the government's commitment to drive a long-term growth story. FPIs are encashing at the right time to tab the Indian market amidst positive market sentiments, political stability, contributing to the rally," Manoj Purohit, Partner and leader, FS Tax, Tax and Regulatory Services, BDO India, said. Also, a series of regulatory reforms aimed at streamlining the process for FPI investments has further uplifted investor sentiment. Apart from equities, FPIs invested Rs 7,525 crore in debt through the voluntary retention route in the first two weeks of September and Rs 14,805 crore in government debt securities designated under the Fully

US Fed Might Cut 50 bps Stock Market to Focus on US Interest Rate Decision This Week

New Delhi Even as the markets hit all-time high last week on Thursday, the Indian equities market the coming week will focus on the US Fed's interest rate decision on Wednesday. Apart from this, a host of macroeconomic data from the global front and trading activity of foreign investors will also be focus areas, according to analysts.

The Indian equity market had an exceptional last week, with both the Nifty and Sensex hitting their all-time high levels on Thursday. The BSE benchmark breached the 83,000 level for the first time on Thursday. "One of the most anticipated events of the year is set to unfold this week with the US Federal Open Market Committee (FOMC) meeting scheduled for September 18th. It is almost certain that this will mark the beginning of an interest rate cut cycle in the US. The general consensus is for a 25 basis points (bps) rate cut, though some market participants are speculating a more aggressive 50 bps cut. Such a move would be a significant positive trigger for global markets, particularly for emerging markets like India, as it would likely result in a weaker dollar and lower US yields, spurring foreign inflows into Indian equities," said Santosh Meena, Head of Research, Swastika Investmart Ltd. Additionally, Japan's inflation data is due on Friday, followed by the Bank of Japan's (BoJ) monetary policy announcement, he said. "In addition to this, other crucial factors that will influence market sentiment include FII (Foreign Institutional Investors) flows, the geopolitical landscape, and crude oil prices," Meena added.

"The outlook for the market will be guided by the major domestic and global economic data such as India's WPI inflation, US industrial production, US Fed interest rate decision, US FOMC economic projections and US initial jobless claims," Palka Arora Chopra, Director, Master Capital Services Ltd, said.

Last week, the BSE benchmark jumped 1,707.01 points or 2.10 per cent and the Nifty climbed 504.35 points or 2.02 per cent. "Looking ahead, this week will be critical with the US Fed meeting scheduled, and its outcome expected on September 18. Domestically, participants will be closely monitoring WPI inflation data and foreign fund flows," said Ajit Mishra - SVP, Research, Religare Broking Ltd. V K Vijayakumar, Chief Investment Strategist, Geojit Financial Services, said, "A significant trend in the market for the week ended 13th September is that FIIs were buyers of equity in the cash market on all days of the week." There are two reasons why FIIs have changed their strategy from selling to buying, he noted.

"One, there is a consensus now that the Fed will start cutting rates from this month onwards pushing the US yields down.

Rent vs buy: What's the smarter financial move for you

New Delhi The rent-versus-buy debate is an age-old dilemma. It's like choosing between chai or coffee—it all boils down to what suits your lifestyle and wallet better. For young professionals living in big cities like Bengaluru, renting seems like the more flexible, carefree option. However, buying a home taps into deeper cultural values, giving the sense of settling down and securing the future. Renting offers the freedom to move, explore career opportunities, and invest in other ventures. Buying a home, on the other hand, offers long-term security, a sense of ownership, and equity building. The key question is, what makes more financial sense for you?

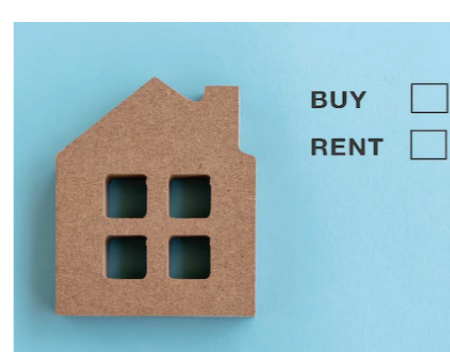
Weighing the costs of renting Renting provides flexibility and lower upfront costs, which is ideal in today's fast-moving job market. For example, a young professional in Bengaluru might rent a 2BHK in Whitefield for Rs 25,000 per month instead of buying a house worth Rs 80 lakh. This choice allows flexibility in career mobility and also frees up capital for other investments.

The biggest advantage of renting is that it requires much less financial commitment. Monthly rent payments are usually lower than the EMIs for a home loan, making renting a more affordable option, especially in metro cities where property prices are high. For example, in

cities like Mumbai, where the house price-to-rent ratio is very high, renting is often the smarter choice. However, renting has its downsides. Rent payments increase by 10% every year, and at the end of the rental period, you don't own the property. Over the long term, renting can feel like spending without building equity, especially in areas where property appreciation is strong.

The benefits of buying a home Buying a home provides long-term financial security and ownership of an asset that typically appreciates over time. A family in Pune, for instance, might buy a Rs 60 lakh apartment and watch its value grow, creating equity over the years. While homeownership comes with additional costs like property tax, maintenance, and repair, the appreciation in value can make it a good long-term investment. For instance, property prices in prime areas of Gurgaon have risen over 150% in the past ten years. An apartment bought for Rs 70 lakh in 2013 could now be worth Rs 1.75 crore, offering substantial appreciation.

Buying a property also provides an additional income stream through rental yields, though rental returns in India are typically low at 2-3%. Still, this can help offset some costs. On the flip side, homeownership involves high upfront costs, including a down payment, and



monthly EMIs that are often higher than rent payments. For instance, buying a Rs 2.5 crore property with a Rs 50 lakh down payment would result in an EMI of around Rs 2.5 lakh per month at a 9% interest rate. Over 10 years, this amounts to about Rs 3 crore in payments, but the property's value could appreciate to Rs 4.6 crore, making it a valuable asset for the future.

Understanding price-to-rent ratio To make an informed decision, it's crucial to compare the price-to-rent ratio in your chosen area. A ratio above 20 generally favours renting, while a ratio below 15 makes buying a more financially sound option. In high-cost cities like Mumbai, renting often makes more sense, while in tier-2 cities like Indore, buying may be a better choice due to lower property prices

and a reasonable price-to-rent ratio. For people who anticipate staying in one place for at least 5-7 years, buying can be beneficial. In tech hubs like HITEC City in Hyderabad, where professionals may need to move for work, renting is often the more practical choice.

What do the experts say? "The rent-versus-buy decision is not just about the monthly expenses. It's about understanding the wider financial implications," said LC Mittal, Director of Motia Group. He said that renting frees up capital that can be invested elsewhere, potentially yielding higher returns. For example, a professional in Delhi might rent a 2BHK house in Dwarka for Rs 20,000 per month and invest the savings in a diversified portfolio. Over time, investments in stocks or mutual funds could provide significant returns.

Manoj Goyal, Director at Fortesia Realty Pvt Ltd, pointed out that while renting allows more financial flexibility, buying offers the benefit of equity building and the potential for property appreciation. "It's all about balancing your financial goals with your personal situation," he said. He added that government schemes like the PMAY, which offers subsidies for first-time homebuyers, make the buy decision more attractive for some people.

NEWS BOX

Aakash Chopra recalls how MS Dhoni's audacious shot left him stunned in 2004

New Delhi. Former India cricketer turned commentator Aakash Chopra recently recalled his first meeting with legendary India captain MS Dhoni from 2004. Notably, Chopra was picked for an India A tour in Kenya and Zimbabwe where he came across Dhoni for the first time. Recalling, young Dhoni's batting style, Chopra revealed how his belligerent strokeplay left everyone astounded. The former India opener mentioned how Dhoni played an audacious reverse sweep against the Pakistan fast bowler Iftikhar Anjum who had already played international cricket. "So that was a very different Dhoni - carefree but not careless. Carefree because he was very confident and happy with where he was, and not careless because when he got an opportunity, in Kenya and not in Zimbabwe, he batted like a man possessed. Before him, I never saw a batter hit a reverse sweep against a bowler. There was a Pakistan bowler named Iftikhar Anjum, who used to bowl at 140+kmph and already played for his country... Dhoni hit him for a four at fine leg. The bowler changed his field, sent back the fine leg fielder and called in the one at third man, but Dhoni smashed the next ball for a six over the third man region. I was like, 'Who is this guy?'" Chopra told Raj Shamani on his YouTube show. Chopra also spoke about the good nature of the Ranchi-



born cricketer as he even bowled to his competitor Dinesh Karthik to help him practice.

"He never used to bat in the nets. He, in fact, used to bowl to Dinesh Karthik, his competitor. He wasn't getting the opportunity to play, but he wanted to keep himself involved. I told him, 'Why are you bowling to Karthik? Why aren't you batting? If he keeps batting and does all the scoring, when will you bat?' But he replied saying, 'No, I just want to bowl because I'm enjoying it.' He is just talented. In fact, he does not practice keeping that much, but his hands are faster than anyone in the world even now," he added. Dhoni's phenomenal performance in Kenya Triangular tournament Dhoni had a phenomenal run in the Kenya Triangular tournament 2004 finishing as the highest run scorer with 362 runs from six innings at an average of 72.40 and a strike rate of 90.15.

Ashwin always has a plan: Usman Khawaja lauds Indian spinner ahead of Test series

New Delhi. Australia opener Usman Khawaja said Indian spinner Ravichandran Ashwin is a very good bowler who consistently challenges their batting order with his strategic approach to the game. Khawaja highlighted the tactical brilliance that Ashwin brings to the field, acknowledging the off-spinner's ability to stay one step ahead.

"Ravi is a very good bowler. He is very strategic; he always has a plan. He tries to figure it out and stay ahead of the game, which I respect. I respect his cricketering brain. It's always cool to play against him, and I look forward to the challenge," Khawaja told Star Sports. As the first Test in Perth approaches on November 22, all eyes will be on Ashwin, who holds an impressive record against the Australians. In 22 Test matches and 42 innings against them, Ashwin has picked up a staggering 114 wickets at an economy rate of 2.70. His ability to perform both at home and in Australia has made him



one of the most formidable opponents in this contest. Ashwin has taken 39 wickets in 10 Tests in Australia at an economy of 2.93. This year's BGT series carries a sense of history and momentum for India. India has emerged victorious in the previous four series, including two historic wins on Australian soil in 2018-19 and 2020-21. India's dominance has tipped the overall series balance in their favor, with 10 BGT victories compared to Australia's five. Australia's last series win against India came back in 2014-15, and their last win on Indian soil dates back to 2004-05.

The upcoming series, stretching from November 22 to January 7, 2025, will feature five Tests played across iconic Australian venues. Following the first Test in Perth, the teams will head to Adelaide Oval for the second Test, scheduled from December 6 to 10, which will be a day-night affair under the lights. The third Test at Brisbane's Gabba will take place from December 14 to 18, followed by the customary Boxing Day Test at Melbourne Cricket Ground from December 26 to 30. The series finale will be staged at the Sydney Cricket Ground from January 3 to 7.

Mohammed Shami backs India to complete hat-trick in Australia: We are favourites

India tour of Australia: Pacer Mohammad Shami believes India have a good chance of winning the Test series for the third successive time against Australia Down Under this winter.



New Delhi. Senior pacer Mohammed Shami has backed India to complete a hat-trick of Test series victories in Australia, positioning the Rohit Sharma-led team as favorites for the Border-Gavaskar Trophy. India, having won the last two away series in Australia (2018-19 and 2020-21), have dominated their rivals, with Australia failing to reclaim the trophy since 2014. Shami, who was instrumental in India's 2018-19 triumph, missed the 2020-21 series but played his last Test match against Australia during the World Test Championship final in June 2023 at The Oval. Out of action since the ODI

World Cup 2023 final due to surgery, Shami is determined to make a full recovery before returning to the national squad. "I believe India are the favourites to win the series. In the last series in Australia, we played with a young team, with many senior players absent, yet we still proved we were the best. I expect the next series to be highly competitive, but I'm confident that India will come out victorious," Shami said. Speaking

at an awards function in Kolkata, Shami outlined his cautious approach to his return. "I don't want to rush myself, even though I want to come back as soon as possible. It's not advisable to return with any doubt. I need to be stronger, and the stronger I feel, the better it will be. My goal is to return at my strongest," Shami explained. Shami emphasized the importance of fitness, adding, "I've already started bowling. But

unless I'm 100 percent in every aspect - both mentally and physically - I won't consider returning to action. If needed, I'll even play domestic cricket to ensure I'm at my best."

Shami, who has taken 229 wickets in 64 Test matches, is also optimistic about India's upcoming two-Test series against Bangladesh, which starts on September 19 in Chennai. Confident in India's form and playing conditions, he remarked, "It's fine if Bangladesh have beaten Pakistan, but we're playing at home. Bangladesh should consider our record, current form, and the strengths of the Indian team."

Looking ahead, Shami expressed a strong desire to represent Bengal in the Ranji Trophy as part of his comeback. "I definitely want to play for Bengal in the coming season. Playing two or three matches will help me make a strong return to international cricket," he stated, underscoring the importance of domestic cricket in regaining full match fitness. Shami also shared his deep gratitude toward Bengal, which played a pivotal role in shaping his cricketering career. "I was born in a family in UP where there was no opportunity. So I often say I was born in UP but made in Bengal. This is a journey of 22 years, and I am so grateful to Bengal for making me what I am," he said.

People advised me to commit suicide: Navdeep Singh recalls harrowing past

New Delhi India's gold medalist from the Paralympics 2024, Navdeep Singh, recently opened up on his harrowing past when he was asked to commit suicide by everyone. Navdeep scripted history in Paris as he won a gold medal in the men's javelin throw F41 event with a throw of 47.32 metres.

Recently, the 23-year-old was asked what keeps him motivated to face the challenges of life. The para-athletics star revealed that he drew his motivation from people's belief that he wouldn't be able to do anything in life. "Aapko kya lagta hai hume hausla kaha se aata hai? Jab wo bolte hain ki tu kuch nahi kar sakta. Isse acha to tu suicide kar le. Ye kya jeewan hai tera [Where do you think we get our courage from? When they say you can't do anything. It's better if you just commit suicide. What kind of life is this for you?]," Navdeep told Shubhankar Mishra on his Youtube Channel. Further speaking ahead, Navdeep remembered his late father who helped him start his sporting journey.

"Shuruwat unhone karwai thi. Har jagah saath thi [He was the one who got me started. He



was with me every step of the way]," Navdeep added. Meanwhile, Navdeep has become a social media sensation for his aggressive celebrations on the field with people drawing comparisons with star India cricketer Virat Kohli. However, he recently revealed Rohit Sharma to be his favourite cricketer.

Navdeep's silver was turned into gold In Paris, Navdeep also shattered the Paralympics record with a powerful throw of 47.32 metres, surpassing the previous record held by China's Pengxiang Sun from Tokyo 2021. He originally finished in the silver medal position with Iran's Beit Sadeqh taking the top spot with a throw of 47.64 metres.

However, the Iranian athlete was disqualified due to unsporting conduct after he flaunted a controversial flag after his victory which pushed Navdeep in the gold medal position. The Haryana-born athlete stands at just 4 feet 4 inches tall, but the stature of his achievements has left everyone in awe of his grit and determination.

Unai Emery admits selection headache after Aston Villa's 3-2 win over Everton

Aston Villa manager Unai Emery admits facing a challenge in managing his striking options after a thrilling 3-2 comeback win against Everton. Jhon Duran and Ollie Watkins both impressed, creating a selection headache for the manager.



London Aston Villa manager Unai Emery has admitted that he faces a "challenge" in managing the striking options at the Premier League club after Jhon Duran and Ollie Watkins impressed in a thrilling 3-2 comeback win against Everton.

Watkins, who had yet to score in the Premier League this season, netted twice, helping Villa overturn a two-goal deficit after Everton's Dwight McNeil and Dominic Calvert-Lewin put the visitors ahead. Duran,

Villa's go-to super-sub, capped off the comeback with a spectacular 30-yard strike past England goalkeeper Jordan Pickford. Speaking after the match, Emery acknowledged the selection headache posed by his two in-form forwards. "Jhon's potential is huge," Emery said. "I want to support him and help him grow in confidence with more goals. He came back from international duty with Colombia, trained once, and yet he was excellent today. Duran, who has consistently made an impact off the bench, has now scored decisive goals in several games this season.

Emery praised his development, saying, "He has great potential to explore, and since he decided to stay with us, we've been focusing on his progress. We're very happy with him." On Watkins, who ended his goal drought in style, Emery expressed faith in the forward's ability to find the back of the net. "Ollie was creating chances in previous games but didn't score," he said. "I was always confident the goals would come, and today they did. Even after his two goals, he had more chances, which is important for his confidence." Emery hinted at the tactical challenge ahead in deciding how best to utilize both strikers. "We have to feel comfortable with these two strikers and figure out how we can play with one or both. That's the challenge we have." The victory serves as a confidence boost ahead of Aston Villa's return to European competition, as they prepare to face BSC Young Boys in the Champions League on Tuesday, marking their first appearance in Europe's top-tier tournament since 1983.

Play till 40 R Ashwin reveals his retirement plans ahead of Bangladesh Tests

India vs Bangladesh: Ace Indian spinner Ravichandran Ashwin has spoken about his future in international cricket, stating that his retirement will come when he no longer feels the drive to improve his game.



New Delhi. Ace Indian spinner Ravichandran Ashwin, now 37, has addressed growing speculation about his future in international cricket. While still a key figure in India's Test squad, Ashwin clarified that his retirement will come only when he no longer feels the drive to improve his game.

Speaking ahead of India's home Test series against Bangladesh, Ashwin revealed that he hasn't set any specific retirement timeline. Instead, his decision will hinge on his personal motivation and performance.

"There is nothing like that in my mind. I am only thinking about one day at a time because when you get older, you have to put in extra effort every single day. It's not the same. I have put in a lot of effort in the last 3-4 years. I haven't decided (retirement), but the day I feel that today I don't want to improve, I will leave. That's all," Ashwin said during a conversation with Vimal Kumar on his YouTube channel when asked if one can expect him to play till 40. Despite nearing 40, Ashwin remains highly motivated, stating that his daily effort and passion for the game fuel his performance. Ashwin holds the top spot in the ICC Test bowler rankings and will play a crucial role in India's upcoming five-Test home series,

starting with two matches against Bangladesh, followed by three against New Zealand. With 516 wickets in 100 Test matches, he is India's second-highest wicket-taker in the format, behind only Anil Kumble, who holds the record at 619. While many believe Ashwin could surpass Kumble's tally, the off-spinner downplayed such goals, choosing to focus on enjoying his game. "I haven't set any targets for myself. Anil Bhai wants me to break his record, but I'm just happy living day by day. I don't want to lose my love for the game by setting targets," he explained.

Ashwin also reflected on the challenges he faced between 2018 and 2020, a period where injuries and form affected his game. "I know how my life changed after that tough phase. I'm just holding on to my joy of cricket, and the moment I feel I'm losing it, I'll step away." The seasoned bowler acknowledged that all players eventually leave the game and that others will take their place, continuing the legacy of Indian cricket. "We all play, and we all have to leave. Somebody else will come and do well. It's Indian cricket," he concluded.

Carlo Ancelotti reacts after Real Madrid beat Sociedad: We didn't deserve to win

Real Madrid manager Carlo Ancelotti made a shocking confession after his team secured a 2-0 win over Real Sociedad in the La Liga clash. With the victory, Real Madrid remain second in La Liga, now on 11 points.

was sealed by second-half penalties from Vinicius Jr and Kylian Mbappe. In his post-match press conference, Ancelotti praised his players for their resilience and character in weathering the pressure from a determined Real Sociedad side. "It was a complicated match. We didn't deserve to win because Real Sociedad pushed us really hard," Ancelotti said. The Italian manager highlighted the team's defensive grit, noting their ability to endure difficult moments. "We held on and suffered, showed character and a lot of commitment. I value that a lot because it's not easy to find commitment in a team with so much talent and quality, and today we did it," he added.

While Real Madrid managed to secure the crucial three points, Ancelotti acknowledged that the performance left room for improvement. "I leave very satisfied, but we have to be self-critical in order to improve.



It's a great opportunity for us to assess what we didn't do well, but with three more points in the table. "With the victory, Real Madrid remain second in La Liga, now on 11 points, trailing leaders Barcelona by a single point. Barcelona are set to visit fifth-placed Girona on Sunday, a match that could have significant implications for the league standings. Ancelotti also touched on his team's struggle with fatigue and a congested

fixture schedule, compounded by injuries to key midfielders Jude Bellingham, Eduardo Camavinga, Dani Ceballos, and Aurelien Tchouameni. "We have to take into account that we are not at 100 percent. It's normal, we don't have four midfielders who are injured. I value a lot the work of those who have played," Ancelotti explained. Kylian Mbappe, who netted his third goal for Real Madrid, received praise from the manager for his improving form as he settles into his new club. "I see Mbappe fresher, more active. He's very dangerous and combines well with Vinicius and the other forwards. He is improving a lot. I liked his game a lot," Ancelotti said.

With this victory behind them, Real Madrid now shifted their focus to their Champions League title defence, starting with a home match against Stuttgart on Tuesday.



Niharika Konidela's

Sequin Bling Bodycon Dress Is Perfect For Your Next Party



Niharika Konidela is an active face in the world of Telugu film industry. The actress belongs to the family which has gifted us numerous fine actors. Besides acting, she is also an active social media user. She frequently shares glimpses of her professional and personal life, which are often widely shared by her fans. Today, we will talk about one such post of her's that surfaced on the internet, creating a buzz among the fans. Her fans are flooding the comment section after seeing the post. In her recent post, she was seen wearing a sequin bling bodycon dress, perfectly teamed up with black colour diamond earring. The photos were likely taken during a photoshoot. Niharika Konidela was seen wearing light makeup along with red lipstick and perfectly drawn eyebrows, in which she looked elegant. In one of the pictures, she was also seen flaunting her tattoo. Several users praised her beautiful looks in the comment section.

Talking about her personal life, Niharika Konidela's relationship with her ex-husband Chaitanya Jonnalagadda didn't last long. Married on December 9 2020, the couple got divorced just three years later on July 5, 2023. Several of her fans criticised her for posting such pictures on social media after the divorce. The comments have created a massive stir on social media platforms. One user commented, "In this society, they are roaming easily leaving their married husband." Several other users criticised this user for such a comment.

As Niharika Konidela is enjoying her single life, several rumours have emerged stating that she has had relationships with numerous heroes. She never shared much about her personal life in public. The post garnered millions of views and was liked by more than 98,000 users. Several users praised her beauty. One user commented, "You look so beautiful," while another user wrote, "You are a natural beauty."



Sana Makbul

Reveals Why She Never Dated Actors, Says She's 'Jealous' of Neha Kakkar: 'Want What They...'

Sana Makbul is currently dating Telugu businessman, Srikanth Bureddy. He grabbed attention when he arrived to pick her up on the grand finale of Big Boss OTT 3 in Mumbai. He confirmed their relationship while addressing the media and even stated that he's planning on marrying her very soon. Now, in an exclusive chat with News18 Showsha, Sana tells us that she has never been into actors and spills the beans on why never wanted to date them. She says, "I've actor friends who're either married or are dating but they don't have that sense of security. Understanding each other is rare and it's beautiful. Taking each other's criticisms positively is very important. Everyone has their own perspective on this but I've never dated anybody who's an actor. I've never been in a situation like that. I've always looked for somebody outside the industry, maybe a businessman. And since I haven't had the experience of dating an actor, I don't know how it works."

But the one couple she looks up to his Neha Kakkar and her husband, Rohanpreet Singh. Sana recently collaborated with Rohanpreet on the recently released music video titled Kaala Maal. Talking about them, she says, "If I talk about Rohanpreet and Neha, there's an understanding that they share and that's what partnership is all about. It's all about appreciating each other. If you and your partner are compatible, half the battle is already won. As husband and wife, they understand each other's professions too."

Sana admits that it's never easy for couples belonging to the same profession. And commenting on how the idea is to not take criticisms to heart in a relationship, the Bigg Boss OTT 3 winner adds, "Judgement is a deal-breaker. They may not like each other's works but if they've the transparency when it comes to communication, then it gets very easy. Neha and Rohanpreet give so much importance to each other and that's why they're together. I look at them and feel really jealous (laughs). I'm in awe of them. I want to have what they have."



Sunny Kaushal Compares Vikrant Massey To Vicky Kaushal: 'He Is Like An Elder Brother To Me'



Sunny Kaushal, who was last seen in Phir Aayi Haseen Dillruba, recently shared insights into his off-screen bond with co-star Vikrant Massey. In the romantic thriller, Sunny shared the screen with Vikrant Massey and Taapsee Pannu. During a recent interview with Instant Bollywood, Sunny revealed that he saw shades of his brother, Vicky Kaushal, in Vikrant, describing Vikrant as an elder brother figure to him. Sunny stated, "Vikrant, I see Vicky in him. He's like an elder brother to me." He also recalled a conversation with his father, Sham Kaushal, who had worked as an action director on Vikrant's film Mumbaikar. Sunny shared, "Usko (Vikrant) milke na mujhe teri aur Vicky ki yaad aa gayi (After meeting him, I was reminded of you and Vicky)."

Sunny reflected on how he and Vikrant's similar upbringing contributed to their bond, saying, "Kahin na kahin hum logon ki upbringing, hum jahan se aaye hain woh na kaafi match karta hai (Somewhere our upbringing, where we have come from, matches a lot)." He added that whenever they exchanged childhood stories, they found striking similarities in their experiences. Meanwhile, Phir Aayi Haseen Dillruba was released on Netflix on August 9, 2024. The film, a sequel to the 2021 hit Haseen Dillruba, is directed by Jayprad Desai and produced by Colour Yellow Productions and T-Series Films, with a screenplay by Kanika Dhillon. Following its release, Vicky Kaushal took to Instagram to praise the film, particularly the sequel's ability to elevate the story.

Vicky expressed his admiration for the film, writing, "Taking the twists, turns, romance and romanch notches up from the first part... whatay mazzedaar watch. Don't miss it! Congrats team." He also praised his brother Sunny's performance, saying, "@sunsunnykhez You have truly surprised me with your ability to pull off such a twisted character. So tastefully done. I know how excited you were to take up this part and could see you have fun playing it through and through. So proud! Onwards and upwards brother!"

Bhumi Pednekar Has A Special Wish For Her First Co-Star Ayushmann Khurrana On His 40th Birthday



Bollywood actor Ayushmann Khurrana is celebrating his 40th birthday today, and the outpouring of love from family, friends, and fans has been overwhelming on social media. Among the many heartfelt tributes was a special post from actress Bhumi Pednekar, who made her Bollywood debut alongside Ayushmann in the movie, Dum Laga Ke Haisha. On Saturday, Bhumi took to her Instagram Stories to share an adorable selfie with the birthday boy. In the snap, the duo can be seen enjoying a hot cup of chai and some cookies, with Ayushmann sporting a black sweatshirt and Bhumi in a white hoodie. Sharing the picture, Bhumi wrote, "Happy Birthday @ayushmannk, Have the bestest year," followed by a sparkle and nazar amulet emoji.

Apart from Bhumi's debut movie, Dum Laga Ke Haisha, she and Ayushmann starred together in the 2017 romcom, Shubh Mangal Saavdhan, a film about erectile dysfunction. On September 1, the R S Prasanna-directed film completed seven years of its release. To celebrate the same, Ayushmann shared a montage of several clips of the film and wrote, "#7YearsOfShubhMangalSaavdhan," followed by a red heart, cookie and teacup emoji.

Ayushmann and Bhumi also worked together in the 2019 satirical film, Bala. In it, Bhumi played a friend to Ayushmann's titular character, who suffers from male pattern baldness. Then, Bhumi made a cameo appearance in the Anhadhun actor's 2020 film, Shubh Mangal Zyada Saavdhan, which revolved around the love story of a gay man.

Ayushmann Khurrana was last seen in the sequel to his 2019 superhit, Dream Girl, Dream Girl 2. He will be next seen in Karan Johar's upcoming untitled film, co-starring Sara Ali Khan. Reportedly, he is also expected to join the Maddock Films horror-comedy universe with the film Vampires of Vijay Nagar alongside actress Rashmika Mandanna. Meanwhile, Bhumi Pednekar was last seen in Bhakshak, a crime thriller based on the Muzaffarpur shelter case. She will be next seen in the Netflix series, The Royals, co-starring Ishaan Khatter, Zeenat Aman, Chunky Panday, Sakshi Tanwar, Dino Morea, and Milind Soman.