

'One nation, one election' not possible under present Constitution: Chidambaram

Simmi Kaur Babbar

Chandigarh, Sep 16: Congress leader P Chidambaram on Monday lashed out at the BJP-led NDA government at the Centre over the 'one nation, one election' issue, saying it is not possible under the present Constitution and requires at least five constitutional amendments.

the former Union minister said. He asserted that there were greater constitutional obstacles to 'one nation, one election'. "It is not possible. The INDIA bloc is totally opposed to 'one nation, one election'."

by polls, he said, "The practice is that elections take place, MLAs gather and their preferences are asked. Then the high command announces who will be the chief minister. I believe everything Modi says because he talked about tax on buffaloes, 'mangalsutras' being taken away, and properties being redistributed during the Lok Sabha elections campaigning, he said.

Himachal Pradesh finances are being managed and I do not think that they have a management crisis of finances," he said. Don't believe everything Modi says because he talked about tax on buffaloes, 'mangalsutras' being taken away, and properties being redistributed during the Lok Sabha elections campaigning, he said.



think the same practice will be followed in Haryana". On Modi's accusation of financial mismanagement by Congress governments in Himachal Pradesh and Karnataka, Chidambaram said, "Everything that the PM says is not necessarily true. I do not agree.

'Govt of U-turns, failed on every front': Supriya Shrinete

New Delhi, Sep 16: The Congress said that the government has been forced to backtrack on many of its decisions due to pressure from democracy, opposition, and the public. The Congress on Monday criticised the Prime Minister Narendra Modi-led government on its completion of 100 days in office, saying that it has failed on every front and that it lacks a clear plan or vision for the future.

'Greedy people hungry for power want to break India': PM Modi

ST Correspondent

New Delhi, Sep 16: Prime Minister Narendra Modi in a veiled jibe at opposition, said "some people full of negativity are attacking the unity of the country" Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Monday hit out at the opposition, saying that some people "full of negativity" are attacking the country's unity and integrity.



trust in India increases, our exports increase and more investment comes into the country. When trust in India increases, foreign investors invest their money in India. They invest in factories. On one hand, every citizen of the country wants to become India's brand ambassador in the whole world and is engaged in taking his country forward," ANI quoted Modi as saying at an event in Ahmedabad.

Myanmar national's arrest shows foreign hand in Manipur crisis

New Delhi, Sep 16: The Manipur government has lifted the temporary suspension of internet and mobile data services in several districts. The arrest of a Kuki National Army (Burma) (KNA-B) cadre, who is a Myanmarese national, by the Assam Rifles clearly indicates the involvement of foreign elements in the Manipur crisis, said chief minister N. Biren Singh on Monday.

Dhankhar's Rahul Gandhi criticism rebutted by Congress: VP post bipartisan

Navdeep Singh Sahni

New Delhi, Sep 16 The Congress on Monday took a swipe at Vice President Jagdeep Dhankhar for his repeated apparent attacks at party leader Rahul Gandhi, saying "last checked, the post of the vice president was bipartisan" and the person occupying it does not belong to any party.

took a dig following Dhankhar's repeated criticism of Gandhi over his remarks during his recent US visit. Asked about the repeated criticism of Gandhi by the vice president, Congress spokesperson Supriya Shrinete said, "I think you have



gotten it wrong. I think Jagdeep Dhankhar is criticising a leader for defaming the country overseas, he

means Mr (Prime Narendra) Modi. I think he is showing a mirror to Mr Modi, who went to China and said those who were born before 2014 used to lament about their destiny." She alleged that Modi made similar remarks in South Korea, Canada, in the US, the UK. "He is showing (the mirror) to him," she said, adding, "Last checked, the post of the vice president was bipartisan. He does not belong to any party. But if you close eyes and listen to the vice president, what would you find? You would have a better answer," Shrinete said.

Arvind Kejriwal to meet Delhi Lieutenant Governor today

Tejinder Kaur Babbar

New Delhi, Sep. 16: The Delhi CM and his former deputy Manish Sisodia met at the CM's residence on Monday to discuss potential candidates to lead the Delhi government, after which the AAP's political affairs committee gathered for further discussions. Delhi Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal is scheduled to meet Lieutenant-Governor (L-G) V.K. Saxena to tender his resignation at 4.30 p.m. on Tuesday (September 17, 2024), paving the way for the appointment of a new Chief Minister of Delhi in his stead.

17, 2024) with the L-G, all AAP legislators are scheduled to gather at 11.30 a.m. to decide on the next CM. Mr. Kejriwal and his former Deputy Chief Minister Manish



Sisodia met at the former's residence on Monday to discuss potential candidates to lead the Delhi government, after which the party's political affairs committee (PAC) gathered for further discussions. "Today

(Tuesday), he (Mr. Kejriwal) sought time from the L-G to submit his resignation, and he has got the time to meet him tomorrow. Today, he called a meeting of the PAC, which was attended by senior leaders and all Ministers of the existing (State) Cabinet. The CM talked one-to-one with all leaders who attended the meeting about the new CM and took their feedback," senior AAP leader Saurabh Bharadwaj said, after the PAC meeting took place. The L-G has approved Tuesday's appointment. Mr. Kejriwal announced his plan to resign as Chief Minister within 48 hours on Sunday. He has called for an early Assembly election to "allow the people of Delhi to decide if the AAP government is an honest government". "I will not sit on CM's chair until the people of Delhi give their verdict. I will resign after two days," the Delhi CM had announced. Shortly after this, Mr. Sisodia announced that he too would go to the "people's court".

Sandip Ghosh intentionally didn't file FIR, theory of suicide was introduced: CBI

Naresh Malhotra

New Delhi, Sep 16: Ghosh's polygraph and layered voice analysis tests by the Central Forensic Science Laboratory (CFSL) revealed that he was "deceptive" on certain important issues related to the incident. Dr Sandip Ghosh, former principal of RG Kar hospital in Kolkata, "intentionally" did not insist on registration of the first information report (FIR) into the rape of the trainee doctor rather introduced a theory of suicide despite visible external injuries on the body, the Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) has claimed.

trainee doctor was found in a semi-nude condition in the seminar room of RG Kar Medical College and Hospital on the morning of August 9. The sole accused - Sanjay Roy, a civic volunteer, has been arrested for the crime. According to CBI's court document, seen by HT, being the head of the medical college, Ghosh got information about the rape and murder of the trainee doctor at 9:58am on August 9 but "he didn't reach hospital immediately". "He did not make (a) formal complaint immediately, rather he made vague complaint at later stage through medical superintendent-cum-Vice Principal even after declaration of death of victim at 12.44 pm on August 9", the agency alleged. Despite the doctor being a staff of his college, Ghosh, CBI has said, Ghosh "did not try to get FIR lodged immediately, rather new theory of suicide was introduced which is not possible as per external injury visible on the body of victim..." "Act of principal looks like

here that he intentionally did not insist for registration of FIR despite being in consultation with (an) advocate," CBI added. Detailing how



Ghosh tried to downplay the rape and murder to suicide, CBI has alleged that he got in touch with Mondal at 10:03am and with an advocate at 1:40pm but didn't meet the family of the doctor. "Being head of the medical college, he

failed to ensure timely completion of all the formalities on part of the hospital immediately, rather he directed his subordinates to send the dead body to morgue directly," CBI note adds. About Mondal's role, the CBI has said he got information about the incident at 10:03am but he failed to reach the scene of crime immediately. Mondal reached the hospital at 11am. The General Diary (GD) entry of the police station intentionally mentioned wrong facts that 'body of PG trainee was found lying in unconscious state at seminar room of chest-medicine' whereas the body was already examined by a doctor who found her dead, CBI has alleged. Not only that, Mondal failed to cordon the scene of crime to preserve it which led to access of unauthorised persons causing damage to vital evidence. The agency has said with this act, Mondal was "trying to protect the accused Sanjay Roy and others unauthorisedly accessed the scene of crime which may have resulted in tampering with the evidence".



attacks are solely directed against the National Conference, indicating he has been fielded to target the party. Engineer Rashid has been accused by the National Conference and the Peoples Democratic Party of being a proxy for the Bharatiya Janata Party. They allege that he was granted bail just before the elections to split votes and benefit the saffron party. Omar Abdullah also accused the BJP of using money to gather people for Prime Minister Modi's rally on September 19, the day after the first phase of polls in the Union Territory. As many as 30,000 people are expected to attend the Prime Minister's rally, which the BJP plans to hold at Sher-e-Kashmir Park. "Earlier, the Prime Minister addressed a rally by gathering government employees. I will see if the BJP can win a seat from Kashmir and then I will acknowledge them.

## News box

## After 10 months, 800 Hampi artistes still to be paid

**HOSAPETE:** Over 800 artistes, who performed at the 'Karnataka Sambhrama' event to mark 50 years of state's formation, are yet to get their remuneration.

The event was inaugurated by Chief Minister Siddaramaiah at Hampi in November last. With no help coming forth, they are planning to go on an indefinite protest. The artistes were promised a remuneration of Rs 15,000 to Rs 20,000 for a six-member group. Although groups from other districts received remuneration within a few days after the event, those from Vijayanagara are yet to get it. Deputy Commissioner MS Divakar said that due to some technical issues in the Kannada and Culture Department, some artistes have not received the promised remuneration.

"I will resolve the issues in a few days and steps will be taken to pay the artistes at the earliest," he added. One of the artistes told he New Indian Express that he has been waiting for the last eight months for the money. "Whenever we approach the officials, they say funds will be released as soon as possible," he said. "We borrowed money to buy material to be used during our performance. We have to repay it, but the district administration is not keen on paying us," he said.

## Government issues orders cancelling reverse tendering

**VIJAYAWADA:** The State government on Sunday issued orders cancelling the reverse tendering process, which was introduced by the previous YSRC government through GO No. 67 of the Water Resources (Reforms) Department, dated August 16, 2019. The reverse tendering process has been replaced with the conventional tender process for calling, finalising, and entrusting works in all government departments and corporations. Orders to this effect were issued by Special Chief Secretary (Water Resources Department) G Sai Prasad. In the order, it was explained that during the implementation of the reverse tendering process, certain drawbacks were observed, and the Board of Chief Engineers was asked to review and submit its recommendations. Subsequently, the board recommended that the government restore the status quo ante in place of the reverse tendering process. After carefully considering the matter, the State government issued orders cancelling the reverse tendering process and directed the Water Resources Department to revert to the conventional tender process. Furthermore, the existing online e-procurement system, which had been revamped to suit the reverse tendering process, will now be restored to accommodate the conventional tender process for the entrustment of works in all government departments and corporations.

## Vande Bharat to boost tourism & economy: CM Mohan Charan Majhi

**BHUBANESWAR:** Odisha got two new Vande Bharat Express trains as Prime Minister Narendra Modi flagged off the Berhampur-Tatanagar and Rourkela-Howrah Vande Bharats along with four other trains at Tatanagar on Sunday. Attending the event at Berhampur, Chief Minister Mohan Charan Majhi said the Berhampur-Tatanagar Vande Bharat Express will connect Odisha's silk city with the steel city. "Berhampur is a prosperous city famous for its silk sarees, known as Berhampur patta. This city is also a famous commercial centre of the southern region of the state. There will be rapid growth in tourism and trade sector in both south and western Odisha regions due to the semi-high-speed connectivity," he said. The chief minister told mediapersons that he had proposed to the Railway minister Ashwini Vaishnaw for connecting southern part of Odisha with the coastal and northern regions through Vande Bharat. "I am thankful that he has considered my proposal and started the train from Berhampur to Tatanagar," Majhi said.

Stating that improved communication will lead to development, especially in the tribal areas, Majhi said, Indian Railways has taken several steps to expand and enhance rail connectivity in Odisha. Eight new line projects worth around Rs 20,000 crore have been approved. Under the Amrit Bharat Station scheme, 52 railway stations, including Puri, Bhubaneswar and Cuttack are being modernised and expanded, he said.

The CM said, there is no dearth of funds for the development of Odisha. "The government has changed and the new government is undertaking many welfare and people-centric works before the completion of 100 days. The double-engine government is driving the pace of development," he claimed. He took a ride on the train from Berhampur to Bhubaneswar along with school students. He interacted with the children during the journey.

# Healthcare crisis stares Karnataka in face, 2000 vacancies of doctors yet to be filled

**BENGALURU:** Government hospitals across the state are grappling with a severe crisis as they face a shortage of nearly 2,000 doctors as vacancies are yet to be filled, especially in rural areas. Data till June suggest that there is a shortage of 744 specialists, 613 general duty medical officers and 558 medical professionals, including special medical officers and others. Even in the dental sector, 25 posts are vacant of the total 425 sanctioned posts. Even as Health Commissioner Sivakumar KB is working to fill the 1,940 vacant positions across several roles, government hospital doctors lamented that lack of clear policies defining the roles, responsibilities, and work ethics is not helping either. A health department source

said that though efforts are being made to fill posts in medical colleges, attracting candidates to the public sector is a challenge. The official explained that doctors in rural health centres often have to juggle dual roles of healthcare providers and administrators. They also face the added strain of managing various health programmes, which diverts their attention from patient care to non-clinical administrative tasks. This not only affects patient care, but also discourages doctors from accepting rural posts, which many feel declines their clinical skills. Lack of interest from medical professionals has forced hospitals to opt for short-term hiring to fill the gaps temporarily, further straining the system, the official added. A source from Vani



Vilas Hospital said doctors frequently work extended night shifts after attending to outpatients, which delays patient care. This leads to patients complaining about doctors not visiting them and not making enough rounds, the source added. Doctors across various government hospitals in

Bengaluru said challenges faced by them, specifically in rural areas, extend beyond administrative burden.

**'Improve infra, provide better conditions for docs in rural areas'**

Lack of adequate facilities, poor infrastructure and insufficient staff create a high-risk

environment that further strains healthcare delivery, they added. A senior doctor from the Bangalore Medical College and Research Institute said that many rural health centres operate with limited resources, making it difficult for them to provide quality care.

Living conditions in staff quarters are often substandard, and access to good schools for their children and basic amenities is limited. These factors have led to reluctance among doctors to serve in rural areas, the doctor added.

Unless policymakers address these issues by clearly defining responsibilities, improving infrastructure and providing better living conditions, the rural healthcare sector will continue to struggle, the doctors added.

## Madras HC seeks detailed report on development of Madurai parks

**MADURAI:** The Madurai Bench of the Madras High Court directed the Madurai corporation commissioner to file a detailed report on the development and maintenance of all parks in the city. A division bench of Justices R Subramanian and L Victoria Gowri, while hearing a Public Interest Litigation (PIL) filed by M Pozhilan of Madurai, directed the corporation to file a report on the proposed developmental works to be carried out at each park, with the approximate expenditure to be incurred. The report must also contain details of the extent of the parks and structures in the parks and the timelines required for the development of parks should also be stated.

The petitioner sought a direction to the corporation authorities to take effective steps to restore and maintain AR

directed the authorities to take steps to restore the parks. It took note of the fact that a division bench of the court in 2022 had passed a series of directions about proper maintenance of parks in Madurai corporation limits.

The court had directed the corporation to file a report with details of 199 parks, their locations, facilities and steps taken to restore the parks in compliance with the 2022 order. Pursuant to the earlier order, the corporation commissioner had filed a report stating that out of the 199 parks, 54 parks were developed and the remaining parks would be restored in a phased manner by allocating funds from the corporation, through NGOs, private companies or residential welfare associations. Steps were also taken for the restoration of AR Children's Park.



Children's Park in KK Nagar. The court was also hearing another petition seeking to ensure proper maintenance of all public parks in the city. During the previous hearing, the court took a serious view and

## Boat removal operation comes to halt at Prakasam Barrage

**VIJAYAWADA:** The boat retrieval operation being carried out by Hyderabad-based Bekem Infra Projects and private rescuers from Kakinada came to a halt with their efforts failed to bring the boat ashore on Saturday. The team of Abbulu, which earlier worked with Dharmadi Satyam's firm Balaji Marines in retrieving the Royal Vasishtha boat from the River Godavari near Kachuluru in Devipatnam in 2019 after it capsized, arrived on Friday, and was able to untangle and move one of the boats a bit away from the Prakasam Barrage gate.

However, the team could not pull the boat towards the Durga ghat due to its heavy weight and filled with water after it sank. "The weight of the boat and the new



problem of water in it is proving hard to bring it back to the shore. We tried to pull the boat with a rope, and pull-back method using the crane, but in vain. Also, the underwater diving team was unable to cut the boat into parts as the metal is hard and divers could not withstand as

the water is being released downstream," said rescue operation head Abbulu. It may be recalled that the counterweight of Gate No 69 of Prakasam Barrage broke when four boats, of which three are metal made, from an unknown place upstream of Krishna drifted towards the barrage and rammed into it on the night of September 1.

Due to the impact, the counterweight broke, causing concern over the safety of the barrage. Later, the boats struck the barrage gates and became a herculean task to remove them. Speaking to TNIE, Abbulu said the rescue operation team is finding it tough to either remove or release them individually as the two boats tangled together and struck the barrage gate.

# TN govt helps to rescue 30 stranded Tamil pilgrims in Uttarakhand

**CHENNAI:** As many as 30 Tamil pilgrims on the Adhikailash Yatra, who were stranded due to landslides in Uttarakhand, were rescued by helicopters and brought to Darchula, in Pithoroghar district in the state on Sunday, through the efforts of Tamil Nadu government. The group, hailing from Chidambaram taluk in Cuddalore, will soon reach New Delhi and board a flight to TN from there. The Uttarakhand government said the pilgrims had been rescued without any injuries, and were provided shelter at a relief camp where they were given food and water. An official release here stated that Chief Minister M K Stalin had

telephoned the stranded Tamils and assured they would be rescued safely. Senior TN government officials were in touch with the Uttarakhand government regarding the rescue. The Cuddalore district administration had also contacted the Pithoroghar district administration to monitor the rescue operations. The 30 pilgrims had originally planned to reach Uttarakhand by train. However, after trains were cancelled due to heavy rains in Andhra Pradesh and Telangana, they opted to fly to Delhi on September 1 and continue their journey to Uttarakhand by road. "While returning after the darshan, they got stranded around 18km from Adi

Kailash, due to the landslide. They were unable to move from the spot as they had also run out of fuel. They were able to stay in an ashram for two days before being rescued by helicopters on Sunday," said Dr Thillai Nayagam, a Chidambaram resident whose wife Umarani was among the stranded.

**Group will soon board flight to TN from Delhi**

The group, hailing from Chidambaram taluk in Cuddalore, will soon reach New Delhi and board a flight to TN from there. The Uttarakhand government said the pilgrims had been rescued without any injuries, and given shelter at a relief camp.



## Comptroller and Auditor General raps BSCL, RSCL over low project execution

**BHUBANESWAR:** The Comptroller and Auditor General (CAG) has come down heavily on Bhubaneswar Smart City Limited (BSCL) and Rourkela Smart City Limited (RSCL) for their failure in taking up a substantial volume of project components approved by the Centre in 2016-17 under the Smart City Mission (SCM). In its latest audit report for the public sector undertakings, the CAG said as of March 2022, both BSCL and RSCL, the two special purpose vehicles (SPVs) formed for implementation of smart city projects in Bhubaneswar and Rourkela, managed to take up only 36 per cent and 37 per cent of their total approved smart city proposals respectively. Substantial volume of components of the projects, 64 per cent in case of BSCL and 63 per cent in case of RSCL, could not be taken up depriving city



dwellers of the envisaged benefits. As a consequence, both the cities lost their ranking as smart city drastically," the CAG said. The smart city proposals of the two cities, as approved by the MoHUA, contained projects worth Rs 4,537 crore for BSCL and Rs 2,571 crore for RSCL. However, BSCL implemented projects worth Rs 1,621.94 crore while RSCL took up projects worth Rs 950.91 crore between 2016-17 and 2021-22. "Funds were supposed to be mobilised by the two SPVs from different sources, including Rs 2,578 crore and Rs 334 crore respectively, in PPP mode. However, no planning was made to tap these sources for which both the SPVs mobilised only Rs 1,817 crore till March 2022 against the required funds of Rs 7,108 crore," the report said and added that in absence.

## Hyderabad cafe lodges complaints against excise officials for registering fake case for refusing to pay bribe

**HYDERABAD:** Over a week after officials registered a case against Ariko Cafe, an ice cream parlour in Jubilee Hills here, for allegedly selling whiskey-infused gelato, the cafe's management has accused them of filing a false case for refusing to pay a bribe.

The company alleged that they were "trapped" by the Excise police and filed complaints with the ACB, NHRC and law & order police against five officers. Meanwhile, the Excise director has denied the allegation and highlighted the department's unwavering stance against false accusations from "unethical businesses".

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NEWS BOX

### Woman rushes to rescue her son from neighbour's attack, falls on road & dies

**Ghaziabad.** A 35-year-old man was arrested on Sunday for allegedly killing a 70-year-old woman during a confrontation with her son in Madhuban Bapudham. According to police, the deceased's son, Bijendra Kumar, got into an argument with the accused, Majid, who lives in the same locality. "The woman, Ramvati Devi, intervened to protect her son. During the altercation, Majid allegedly pushed Ramvati, causing her to fall and sustain injuries, which led to her death," said an official. Abhishek Srivastava, ACP of Kavi Nagar, said that Bijendra lived with his brother and mother in LG flats under the Kanshiram Avas Yojna in Madhuban Bapudham. "Around 12.30 am on Sunday, Majid, an e-rickshaw driver, who was allegedly under the influence of alcohol, was sitting outside the Kumar residence. Bijendra had questioned why he was sitting there, which sparked the argument. Hearing the commotion, Ramvati attempted to intervene and calm the situation," explained ACP Srivastava. ACP Srivastava further added that during the altercation, Majid allegedly pushed Ramvati. "She fell and hit her head near her eyes, resulting in severe injuries. She was rushed to the hospital, where doctors declared her dead," Srivastava said. Ramvati's body was sent for a post-mortem examination, and an FIR has been filed at Madhuban Bapudham police station under BNS sections 304 (culpable homicide not amounting to murder), 352 (assault or use of criminal force), and relevant sections of the SC/ST Act.

### Tourists urinate at Taj Mahal, ABHM functionary brings Gangajal for purification

**AGRA.** Two tourists were filmed urinating inside the Taj Mahal on Saturday. After a video of the incident surfaced on social media, state coordinator of Akhil Bharat Hindu Mahasabha (ABHM) arrived on Sunday with Gangajal and cow dung to cleanse the site, claiming the monument had been defiled. State coordinator Gopal Chahar, along with his supporters, tried to enter through the western gate but was stopped by security. He staged a protest, insisting Taj Mahal is an ancient Shiv temple, 'Tejo Mahalaya', and urination had made the place impure. He demanded



access to perform a purification ritual with cow dung, but security denied entry. National spokesperson Sanjay Jat said, "Despite the ASI's claim of maintaining high-level vigilance inside Taj Mahal, two people openly urinated within the premises. For us, it is a sacred temple of Lord Shiv. This has hurt our religious sentiments, and we will ensure it is purified according to our rituals. Though we were stopped, we will find a way." Conservation assistant at the Taj Mahal, Prince Vajpayee said, "The video is under investigation, and CISF is working to identify those involved. We will implement measures, including a signboard, to prevent future incidents."

### Why are petrol prices not decreasing, asks TMC's Derek O'Brien

**NEW DELHI:** Trinamool Congress leader Derek O'Brien on Monday questioned why petrol prices in India have not decreased despite a decline in global crude oil prices. In a post on X, the Rajya Sabha MP noted that crude oil prices have dropped by around 24 per cent over the past ten years, yet petrol prices in India have risen by 30 per cent. In August 2014, crude oil was priced at USD 102 per barrel and petrol was Rs 73 per litre. By August 2024, although crude oil prices have fallen to USD 78 per barrel, petrol prices have increased to Rs 95 per litre, he pointed out. "Why are petrol prices in India not decreasing despite a decline in global crude oil prices?" O'Brien asked.



He added, "In the last 10 years, while crude oil prices have decreased by nearly 24 per cent, petrol prices in India have risen by 30 per cent. O'Brien also suggested that "windfall profits of oil companies are not being passed on to consumers." Petrol and diesel prices in India were last revised ahead of the general election in March when they were reduced by Rs 2 per litre after remaining unchanged for about two years. Last week, Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas Secretary Pankaj Jain, speaking to reporters on the sidelines of an event, mentioned that oil companies would consider reducing fuel prices if international oil prices remain low for an extended period.

# BJP, Cong leaders defect over Haryana poll tickets

**Ghaziabad.** With key leaders from both the Bharatiya Janata Party and Indian National Congress being denied tickets for the upcoming assembly elections, a wave of independent candidates is sweeping through Haryana. Once members of their respective parties, these independent leaders are drawing considerable attention and potentially reshaping the electoral landscape, said political watchers. They have pointed out that the ruling BJP may face a larger setback due to discontent among its leadership and cadre, though the Congress is also grappling with dissatisfaction. In Gurugram, the BJP's decision to field Mukesh Sharma has triggered a revolt, leading senior party members Naveen Goyal and GL Sharma to leave the party. Goyal submitted his nomination as an independent candidate, contesting from Gurugram, on Wednesday, while Sharma has defected to Congress. Goyal held a significant public rally in a show of strength. Ram Kanwar, political analyst and former professor at Haryana Agricultural University, said the Haryana elections for 2024 is clearly bipolar, i.e. between

Congress and BJP, and the independent candidates will not make much difference. "Only those leaders who have a massive local following and have grassroots political connection will be able to make a dent in polls. However, in case of a close election, the independents could play a crucial role," he added. Naveen Goyal criticised BJP's decision to give tickets to newcomers from other parties and said that the party ignored loyal BJP workers. "The top leadership should have considered the results of internal and external surveys and given tickets but that was also not done. Not only in south Haryana but across the state, the party is on the backfoot because it has not given tickets on merit," he added. Similar dissatisfaction amongst candidates who did not receive tickets has arisen in other constituencies. In Sohna, BJP replaced sitting MLA Sanjay Singh with Tejpal Tanwar, while in Pataudi, sitting MLA SP Jarawta was replaced by Bilma Chaudhary. In Rewari, the BJP's choice of Lakshman Singh, a non-local, has

provoked protests among party workers. Senior BJP leader Kalyan Singh Chauhan also filed his nomination from Sohna constituency after a ticket was denied to him by the party. The tickets in these

former senior BJP functionary, who has decided to part ways with the party. The Congress is also facing internal discord, though to a lesser extent. Senior Congress leaders in Badshahpur and



Gurugram expressed displeasure over tickets being given to newcomers instead of party veterans. In Badshahpur, Virender Singh, Pradeep Zaidair, and Kamalbir Singh were among those denied tickets. A senior Congress leader from Badshahpur, who belongs to the Kumari Selja group, said on the condition of anonymity that tickets have been distributed based on loyalty to leaders and not on

organisation work and dedication to the cause of the party. "In South Haryana, the party has given tickets based on personal relations of aspirants with top leaders and the party high command in the centre. In Badshahpur, the party has given a ticket to a relative newcomer while setting aside claims of other senior leaders," he added.

## House help, 2 others steal valuables worth 3cr from Gurugram house; booked

**Gurgaon.** Three people have been booked for fleeing with cash and jewellery worth ₹3 crore from a businessman's bungalow in Sector 4, police said on Sunday. The accused include their house help and her two associates. (File Photo) The accused include their house help and her two associates. (File Photo)



The house help, a native of Nepal and the prime accused in this case, was hired just two weeks back to take care of the patient. Taking advantage of the situation, she mixed sedatives in the woman's food to make her unconscious. Police said no police verification was conducted before hiring her. A senior police officer said that about ₹55 lakh cash, diamond, platinum and gold jewellery worth about ₹2.5 crore and other valuables

were stolen from the lockers and cupboards. The thieves then filled the stolen valuables in four bags before fleeing the spot. "CCTV footage shows the accused entering and leaving the premises after the theft. There is a strong suspicion that they may try to cross the international border via Uttar Pradesh or Bihar to enter Nepal for evading arrest," the police officer said, adding that teams have been pressed into action and counterparts in both the states were being contacted for assistance in nabbing the trio. Sandeep Kumar, public relations officer of Gurugram police, said that the investigation is underway and they are trying to recover the stolen material. An FIR has been registered on Sunday under relevant BNS sections of theft at the Sector 9A police station.

## Fake visa, passport printing unit busted; six held: Delhi Police

**NEW DELHI.** The police have unearthed an illegal press in the central Delhi's Patel Nagar area and arrested six people who were allegedly involved in printing fake passports and visas, an official said on Sunday. DCP (IG-A) Usha Rangnani said on the night of September 2, a flyer namely Sandeep holding an Indian passport, approached at Departure Immigration counter, IGI Airport, Delhi for clearance, who was intended to depart for Rome, Italy. When his documents were scrutinised, a fake Swedish visa was found affixed on his passport.

During the interrogation, the accused passenger disclosed that he met with one agent, Ashif Ali, through one, Manjot. The agent agreed to send him to a European country in lieu of Rs. 10 Lakhs.

## BJP to field old faces in Hry again

**Gurgaon.** With just over a month to go for Haryana assembly election, some senior BJP functionaries, among them former ministers, are eyeing a political comeback in the state where the party is looking to counter anti-incumbency and shrug off its losses from Lok Sabha polls. Party sources told TOI that senior party functionaries from Haryana will be in Delhi to attend BJP's central election committee meeting on Thursday evening. This includes Union minister and former Haryana chief minister Manohar Lal Khattar, and Union ministers of state Rao Inderjit Singh and Krishan Pal Gurjar. The party is considering nominating some candidates who were defeated in the 2019 assembly polls. In the fray are former ministers Ram Bilas Sharma (education), Om Prakash Dhankar (agriculture, mining, rural development), Captain Abhimanyu (finance, law, forest and environment), Rao Narbir Singh (forest, public works), Vipul Goel (industry, environment), Krishan Bedi (social justice), Kavita Jain (ULB, women and child development) and Manish Grover (urban development). Sources said on Wednesday that these functionaries may get another chance to fight from their traditional strongholds. This strategy, they added, is meant to counter anti-incumbency as BJP has been in power in Haryana for a decade. If it opts for former ministers, BJP's approach to Haryana polls will differ from its often-used practice of reshuffling top posts and fielding new faces to minimise anti-incumbency. Earlier this year, the party broke away from its ally JJP and appointed Niyab Singh Saini as CM in place of Manohar Lal Khattar, who was given a Lok Sabha ticket. But there are some in the party who believe nominating old faces could trigger infighting. "Furthermore, there is a concern about the possibility of betrayal from within party ranks. In the recent Lok Sabha election, BJP faced defeats on some seats due to sabotage, with defeated candidates later raising concerns publicly. These betrayals were reported to the party's high command, leading to disciplinary action against certain members," a senior party functionary said. BJP halved its tally -- from winning all 10 Lok Sabha seats from Haryana in 2019 -- to just five this time around. At Thursday's meeting, sources said, Gurgaon MP and Union minister Rao Inderjit Singh is expected

**Name Change**  
I, SUVIDHA POPLI W/O SACHIN POPLI R/O C-3/96B, KESHAV PURAM, NORTH WEST DELHI, DELHI-110035 HAVE CHANGED MY NAME TO SUVIDHA POPLI FOR ALL FUTURE PURPOSES.

**Name Change**  
I, Sawa Singh s/o Sunder Singh R/o VPO, Dera, Palkhani, Tehsil & Distt. Ambala, Haryana, have changed my name to Sewa Singh for all future purposes

**Name Change**  
It is for general information that I, PRADEEP KUMAR S/o RAM NIWAS R/o 208, Near Veer Pal Aata Chakki, Mahipal Pur, South West Delhi, Delhi-110037, declare that name of mine has been wrongly written as PRADEEP KUMAR in my minor daughter's name DEEPTI aged 13 years, in her School Records and Birth Certificate Registration No. MCDOLIR-0111-004660118. The actual name of mine is PRADEEP KUMAR.

**Name Change**  
It is for general information that I, JANARDHAN S/o MUNNAR R/o G-656, Jahangirpuri, Bhalawa Jahangir Pur, North West Delhi, Delhi-110033, declare that name of my father and mother have been wrongly written as MUNNAR and KRISHNA in my CBSE 10th and 12th class Educational Documents. The actual name of my father and my mother are MUNNAR and KRISHNA DEVI respectively, which may be amended accordingly.

**Name Change**  
I, BABU LAL SOLANKE Father of No-428485P Rank-HAV Name- SOLANKE SANDIP BABULAL R/O VILL-DAPURA PO-MANABDA, PS-TEH-TELHARA, DIST-AKOLA, MAHARASHTRA-444108, have changed my name from BABU LAL SOLANKE to BABULAL PUNJALI SOLANKE for all future purposes and in my son's service records my date of birth wrongly mentioned as 03/09/1963 instead of my correct date of birth as 01/01/1957 vide affidavit dated 16/09/2024 before Notary Public, Delhi.

**PUBLIC NOTICE**  
Information is given to general public at large that our client Mr. Pinku Kumar S/o Mr. Arjun Singh is the owner of Freehold Residential Entire Second Floor without Roof Rights built on Property bearing Mpl. No. XVII/2585 area measuring 51.1 Sq. Yards situated in the area of Village Khampur, in the abadi of Mandirwali Gali, Shadipur, New Delhi. By Virtue of ATS & WI dated 05.04.2004, in the chain document below mentioned documents not available i.e. Death Certificate & SMC of Late Mrs. Pushpa Kumari W/O Mr. Pinku Kumar now our client is declaring that that any other Person does not have any right over the said property, and same property sold too be Mr. Ram Prasad and same has been finance by Piramal Capital & Housing Finance Ltd. Branch NSP, New Delhi. If any person is having objection right of claim against the said property, contact to undersigned along with supporting documents within 07 days from the date of publication of this notice and or the same to the undersigned if found by the undersigned thereafter no claim shall be entertained.

**[NAVEEN KUMAR VERMA]**  
Advocate  
F-211, sector-3 Vaishali Ghaziabad  
Uttar Pradesh-201010, Contact at 09658874322

**Name Change**  
I, SORABH CHABRA S/o RAJIV RATTAN CHHABRA, R/O 131, First Floor, Tagore Park Dr. Market, Sector-19 Noida, Delhi-110009 HAVE CHANGED MY NAME TO SOURABH CHHABRA FOR ALL FUTURE PURPOSES.

**Name Change**  
I, Anju Devi W/O Lakshmeshwar Sharma, Parmanent address- jiraul, ward no-07, p.o- jiraul, Madhubani, Bihar, 847230, Present address A-203, kti nagar, timber market new delhi- 110015, have changed the name of my minor son Amarjit Sharma aged 14 years and he shall hereafter be known as VIKASH KUMAR SHARMA.

**PUBLIC NOTICE**  
It is for general information that I, Md Shahid S/O Md. Idish, R/O C-5/109 JJ Colony, Bhalawa dairy, Libas Pur, North West Delhi, Delhi-110042 declare that name of my wife has been wrongly written as Sazia in my minor daughter, Nazreen aged 15 years in her 10th class educational document and the name of mine and my wife has been wrongly written as Sahid and Sazia in her birth certificate no- MCDOLIR-0114-006414414. The actual name of mine and my wife are Shahid and Sajiya, which may be amended accordingly.

**Name Change**  
I, Anju D/O Daulat Ram, W/O Pradeep R/O House No.168, South Side Central Park Janta Flat, Pocket-1, Sector-6, Narela, North West Delhi, Delhi-110040 have changed the name of my minor son Arman aged 13 years and he shall hereafter be known as SUNIL.

**Name Change**  
I, hitherto known as KRISHAN KUMAR alias KRISHAN KUMAR PAHWIA S/O UTTAM CHAND PAHWIA R/O 2/107 SUBHASH NAGAR WEST DELHI, DELHI-110027 have changed my name and shall hereafter be known as KRISHAN KUMAR PAHWIA.

**Name Change**  
I, BHARATI BHUSHAN S/O RANJHARAM ARORA residing at FLAT NO-01142, ATS ADVANTAGE, AHINSA KHAND, INDIRAPURAM, GHAZIABAD, UTTAR PRADESH-201014 have changed my name to BHARAT BHUSHAN ARORA for all future purposes.

**Name Change**  
I, Gurmander Singh s/o Sewa Singh R/O VPO, Dera, Palkhani, Tehsil & Distt. Ambala, Haryana, have changed my name to Gurvinder Singh for all future purposes

**DATE OF BIRTH CHANGE**  
I, USHA DEVI Wife of JC-770736W Rank-SUB Name-SURYA BHAN YADAV Presently residing at VILL-HAWA, KA PURA, PO-AMILA BAZAR, TEH-GHOSI, DIST-MAU, UTTAR PRADESH-275301, in my husband's service records my date of birth wrongly mentioned as 19/08/1976 instead of my correct date of birth as 08/06/1976 vide affidavit dated 16/09/2024 before Notary Public, Delhi.

**Name Change**  
I, PUSPA DEVI Wife of JC-284619N Rank-SUB Name-MUKESH GOLE R/O VPO-LALLOO BASHI, TEH-AMRITA, DIST-MORENA, MADHYA PRADESH-478554 have changed my name from PUSPA DEVI to PUSHPA DEVI for all future purposes vide Affidavit dated 16/09/2024 before Notary Public, Delhi.

**Name Change**  
It is for general information that I, ANKIT SHARMA S/O BIJENDER KUMAR R/O Sisar Khas (123), Sisarkhas, Rohtak, Haryana-121112 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**  
I hitherto known as Babal Ali alias Babar Hussain S/O Md Jiyuddin, Parmanent address Kartipur Toia, Post-Sikita, Thana-Azamnagar, Sitalpur, Kathiar, Salmani, Bihar, 855113 Present address Hno-2031, Mohalla Kabaristan, Kail Masjid Turkman gate, Delhi, 110008 have changed my name and shall hereafter be known as BABAR ALI.

**PUBLIC NOTICE**  
It is for general information that I, Soniya Karoliya W/O Ved Prakash Karoliya, R/O M-100-P R Lane, Khan Market NDMC, Pandara Road, PO, Lodhi Road, DIST: Central Delhi, Delhi-110003 declare that name of mine and my husband has been wrongly written as Meetu and Ved prakash in my minor son Daksh Karoliya aged 15 years in his school record and name of mine wrongly written as Meetu in his birth certificate no-10977 the actual name of mine and my husband are Soniya Karoliya and Ved Parkash Karoliya, which may be amended accordingly.

**PUBLIC NOTICE**  
Information is given to general public at large that our clients Mrs. Mitchell Singh was the owner Property as Residential PVT Flat No. 4 on Second Floor built on Property No. D-678, part of Kharsa No. 193/3, situated at Village Krichpur, Tehsil of Gali No. 01, Block, East Vinod Nagar, Delhi-91; measuring 50 Sq. Yd.; Vide Sale Deed dated 27.03.2014, Duty Registered at SR VIII, Delhi as Doc No. 2185, Book No. 01, Vol No. 7815, Page Nos. 135-141, Dated 27.03.2014. Title and she has lost/Misplace his Original Sale Deed dated 11.06.2009, executed by Mr. Shiv Kumar in favour of Mrs. Vishnu Dutt Chaturvedi, duly registered in the office of SR VIII, Delhi as Doc No. 689, No. 01, Vol No. 4050, Page Nos. 168-174, Dated 11.06.2009, now our client is declaring that that any other Person does not have any right over the said property, and same has been finance by ICICI Home Finance Co. Ltd. Block-3, Pitambara, Delhi-110016. If any person(s) have any objection(s) or claim(s) with respect to the right, title or interest in the said property then contact us within 07 days from the date of publication of this notice and or the same to the undersigned if found by the undersigned thereafter no claim shall be entertained.

**[NAVEEN KUMAR VERMA]**  
Advocate  
F-211, sector-3 Vaishali Ghaziabad  
Uttar Pradesh-201010, Contact at 09658874322

**PUBLIC NOTICE**  
GENERAL PUBLIC IS HEREBY INFORMED THAT ORIGINAL SALE DEED DATED 29.03.2023 EXECUTED BY SH. PRINCE KUMAR IN FAVOUR OF SH. SUBHASH YADAV IN RESPECT OF LAND AREA 100 SQ. YARDS. PART OF KHARSANA NO.10314/32.33, (NOW PART OF PLOT BEARING NO.3733 NEW NO.3611), SITUATED AT VAKA SIVANA, MAUZA GURGAON VILLAGE, NOW ABADI RAJENDRA PARK, GURUGRAM, TEHSIL & DISTRICT GURUGRAM, HARYANA. VIDE DOCUMENT NO.15075, BOOK NO.1, REGISTERED ON 29.03.2023, WITH SUB-REGISTRAR-GURUGRAM, HAS BEEN LOST BY THE PREVIOUS OWNER MR. SUBHASH YADAV AT RAJENDRA PARK MARKET, GURUGRAM, ON 01.07.2023. PART OF KHARSANA NO.10314/32.33, (NOW PART OF PLOT BEARING NO.3733 NEW NO.3611), SITUATED AT VAKA SIVANA, MAUZA GURGAON VILLAGE, NOW ABADI RAJENDRA PARK, GURUGRAM, TEHSIL & DISTRICT GURUGRAM, HARYANA. VIDE DOCUMENT NO.15075, BOOK NO.1, REGISTERED ON 29.03.2023, WITH SUB-REGISTRAR-GURUGRAM, HAS BEEN LOST BY THE PREVIOUS OWNER MR. SUBHASH YADAV AT RAJENDRA PARK MARKET, GURUGRAM, ON 01.07.2023. 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PART OF KHARSANA NO.10314

News box

Mexico President signs into law controversial judicial reforms to elect judges

UPDATED Mexico's judicial reform overhauling the country's courts, which will allow voters to elect judges, officially took effect on Sunday after the text of the constitutional changes was published in the government gazette.

The reforms mark a major legislative victory in President Andres Manuel Lopez Obrador's final weeks in office. Lopez Obrador, who often clashed with judges he derided as corrupt, argued the overhaul was needed to better serve the interests of ordinary citizens. Critics countered that electing judges rather than appointing them, would end the judiciary's political independence while undermining investor confidence. The reform was championed by Lopez Obrador, and approved by his allies in



Congress and a majority of state legislatures earlier this month. Lopez Obrador signed a decree for the reform's publication while sitting next to his successor, Claudia Sheinbaum, in a video posted on social media. The constitutional reform's publication in the government's gazette kicks off the process to prepare for the first judicial elections for federal judges, including Supreme Court justices, set for next June.

Typhoon Bebinca makes landfall in Shanghai, worst storm in 75 years

UPDATED: Typhoon Bebinca made landfall in Shanghai on Monday morning as a Category 1 storm, the most powerful tropical cyclone to directly hit the Chinese financial hub in more than seven decades. Packing top wind speeds of 151 kph (94 mph) near its eye, Bebinca landed in the city of nearly 25 million around 7.30 am (2330 GMT), state media reported, the strongest storm to strike Shanghai since Typhoon Gloria in 1949. Shanghai is rarely subject to direct hits from strong typhoons that generally make landfall further south in China. Yagi, a destructive Category 4 storm, roared past southern Hainan province last week. Hundreds of flights have been cancelled from the city's two airports since Sunday night and Shanghai railway station has suspended some rail services. These disruptions come as China celebrates the three-day mid-Autumn Festival public holiday. Resorts in Shanghai, including Shanghai Disney Resort, Jinjiang Amusement Park and Shanghai Wild Animal Park, have been temporarily closed and many ferries halted.

Who is Ryan Routh, Ukraine supporter arrested for shooting at Trump in Florida

World The incident occurred just two months after an earlier assassination attempt in Butler, Pennsylvania, where former President Trump was shot in the ear during a campaign rally. Routh, a North Carolina resident with an extensive criminal record, has been vocal about politics and has consistently supported Ukraine, Democratic candidates and causes since 2019. Earlier, in one of the interviews, Routh claimed that he initially went to Ukraine at the start of the war with Russia to



"fight" to support the Ukrainians. He stated that after reaching Kyiv he helped in recruiting people to participate in the Russia-Ukraine war. "We need everyone here fighting... that's why I'm in Kyiv, so every project that I promote is about getting people here to support the Ukrainians," he stated. He attended North Carolina Agricultural and Technical State University and later relocated to Hawaii around 2018, according to media reports. The 58-year-old was reportedly a supporter of both Vivek Ramaswamy and Nikki Haley in the upcoming elections before they decided to drop out.

In one of his posts, he urged the to not drop their names from the 2024 presidential race: "You cannot quit. Why? You must stay on the ballot until the end. You must fight. Keep giving speeches and push all the way to Election Day, no matter the outcome. Do not give in. Join Nikki and keep working. Never give up," he wrote, encouraging the former presidential candidate. In a post on X from April 22, he slammed Trump, emphasising, "Democracy is on the ballot."

Hamas has enough resources to continue war with Israel despite losses: Official

A senior Hamas official stated that the Palestinian Islamist movement has sufficient resources to continue its resistance against Israel, despite significant losses in the ongoing Gaza conflict.

Istanbul. A senior Hamas official told AFP on Sunday that the Palestinian Islamist movement had ample resources to continue fighting Israel despite losses sustained over more than 11 months of war in Gaza. "The resistance has a high ability to continue," Osama Hamdan told AFP during an interview in Istanbul. "There were martyrs and there were sacrifices... but in return there was an accumulation of experiences and the recruitment of new generations into the resistance." His comments came less than a week after Israeli Defence Minister Yoav Gallant told journalists that Hamas, whose October 7 attack triggered the war, "no longer exists" as a military formation in Gaza. "The number of casualties... is much

less than what is expected in a battle of this size, level and breadth," Hamdan said on Sunday. Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu launched retaliatory military operations to destroy Hamas after the group's surprise attack on southern Israel, which resulted in the deaths of 1,205 people, mostly civilians, according to an AFP tally based on Israeli official figures.

The Israeli military campaign has killed at least 41,206 people in Gaza, according to the Hamas-run territory's health ministry, which does not provide breakdowns of civilian and militant deaths. Militants also seized 251 hostages on October 7, 97 of whom are still held in Gaza, including 33 the Israeli military says are dead. Netanyahu is facing mounting domestic pressure to seal a deal in which hostages would be released in exchange for Palestinian prisoners. Israel's announcement this month that the bodies of



six hostages had been recovered from a tunnel in Gaza after they were "executed" by Hamas spurred an outpouring of grief and anger, leading to a brief general strike and large-scale demonstrations that continued in Tel Aviv and Jerusalem on Saturday night. But months of negotiations aimed at securing a truce -- mediated by the United

States, Egypt and Qatar -- have apparently stalled. In the interview on Sunday, Hamdan said the United States, Israel's most important military backer, was not doing enough to force concessions from Netanyahu that would end the bloodshed. "The American administration does not exert sufficient or appropriate pressure on the Israeli side," Hamdan said. "Rather it is trying to justify the Israeli side's evasion of any commitment." During two press conferences after officials announced the deaths of the six hostages earlier this month, Netanyahu said it was Hamas who refused to compromise and vowed "not to give in to pressure" on remaining sticking points. He also said Israel's military campaign had killed "no less than 17,000" Hamas militants.

Hong Kong man pleads guilty to sedition for wearing t-shirt with protest slogan

UPDATED A Hong Kong man on Monday pleaded guilty to sedition for wearing a T-shirt with a protest slogan, becoming the first person convicted under the city's new national security law passed in March.

Chu Kai-pong, 27, pleaded guilty to one count of "doing with a seditious intention an act". Under the new security law, the maximum sentence for the offence has been expanded from two years to seven years in prison and could even go up to 10 years if "collusion with foreign forces" was found involved. Chu was arrested on June 12 at an MTR station wearing a T-shirt with the slogan "Liberate Hong Kong, revolution of our times" and a yellow mask printed with "FDNOL" - the shorthand of another slogan "five demands, not one less". Both slogans were frequently chanted in the huge, sometimes violent pro-democracy protests in 2019 and June 12 was a key kick-off day of the



months-long unrests. Chu told police that he wore the T-shirt to remind people of the protests, the court heard.

Chief Magistrate Victor So, handpicked by the city leader John Lee to hear national security cases, adjourned the case to Thursday for sentencing. Hong Kong was returned from Britain to China in 1997 under Beijing's promise of guaranteeing its freedoms, including freedom of speech,

would be protected under a "one country, two systems" formula. Beijing imposed a national security law in 2020 punishing secession, subversion, terrorism or collusion with foreign forces with up to life in prison, after the months-long protests in the financial hub. In March 2024, Hong Kong passed a second new security law -- a home-grown ordinance also known as "Article 23" according to its parent constitution, the Basic Law. Critics, including the U.S. government have expressed concerns over the new security law and said the vaguely defined provisions regarding "sedition" could be used to curb dissent. Hong Kong and Chinese officials have said it was necessary to plug "loopholes" in the national security regime.

No one is even trying to assassinate...: Elon Musk on Trump Florida shooting

World Tech billionaire Elon Musk reacted to the second "assassination attempt" on former US President Donald Trump and made a controversial statement saying why "no" assassination attempts are being made on US President Joe Biden and Vice President Kamala Harris. Responding to a question from an X user, "Why they want to kill Donald Trump?", the Tesla CEO said, "And no one is even trying to assassinate Biden/Kamala". Former US president and Republican presidential candidate Donald Trump on Sunday (local time) faced the second assassination attempt

after gunshots were fired outside a golf course in Florida where he was playing. The suspect left an AK-47-style assault rifle and other items at the scene and fled in a vehicle but was later arrested by US investigative agencies. The apparent attempt on Trump's life came just two months after he was shot at a campaign rally in Pennsylvania, sustaining a minor injury to his right ear. After the incident, Trump Campaign Communications director, Steven Cheung said, "President Trump is safe following gunshots in his vicinity. No further details at this time."

In a message to his supporters, Trump said he is safe. "There were gunshots in my vicinity, but before rumors start spiraling out of control, I wanted you to hear this first: I AM SAFE AND WELL! Nothing will slow me down. I will NEVER SURRENDER!" the former president said. In July this year, Musk extended his support to Donald Trump in the coming US Presidential polls. The former President also praised Musk for his cost-cutting measures at the social media company and also hinted at a role for the Tesla CEO if he wins the presidential polls in November.

Philippines ship leaves disputed South China Sea reef after standoff with Beijing

A Philippine vessel has left a disputed reef in the South China Sea. The ship had been asserting Manila's territorial claims since April.

Manila A Philippine vessel that spent months anchored at a disputed reef in the South China Sea has left the area, the national maritime council said Sunday. The Philippine Coast Guard ship BRP Teresa Magbanua had been anchored inside the Sabina Shoal since April to assert Manila's claims to the area and prevent China from seizing it. Beijing has continued to press its claims to almost the entire South China Sea despite an international tribunal ruling that its assertion has no legal basis. Philippine and Chinese vessels have collided at least three times recently near Sabina Shoal, located 140 kilometres (86 miles) from the Philippines' western island of Palawan and 1,200 kilometres from China's nearest major landmass, Hainan island. The Teresa Magbanua's bridge wing and freeboard were damaged in one of

the collisions. "During her deployment... she challenged an encirclement by a larger flotilla of intruders, battled inclement weather, with her crew surviving on diminished daily provisions," National Maritime Council Chairperson Executive Secretary Lucas Bersamin said in a statement Sunday. Last month Chinese vessels blocked a resupply mission to the Filipino sailors on board the ship, leaving them running critically low of food and other provisions. "Overwhelming odds" The Teresa Magbanua "carried out her sentinel duties against overwhelming odds", Bersamin added. China's coast guard noted the ship's withdrawal on Sunday, and said Beijing "has indisputable sovereignty over... Xianbin Jiao and



its adjacent waters", using the Chinese name for Sabina Shoal. Manila's actions had "seriously infringed on China's territorial sovereignty... seriously undermining regional peace and stability", spokesperson Liu Dejun said in a statement. "We sternly warn the Philippines to stop inciting propaganda and risking infringements, and to meet China halfway to safeguard the seriousness and validity of the Declaration on the

Conduct of Parties in the South China Sea," Liu said. Beijing "will continue to carry out rights protection and law enforcement activities in waters under China's jurisdiction", Liu said. Philippines National Maritime Council Spokesman Alexander Lopez said the country would "continue to monitor and enforce our rights, exercise our rights, sovereign rights, sovereignty and jurisdiction over the area". Earlier this week officials from the Philippines and China held high-level talks on their maritime issues where Beijing reiterated its demand for the withdrawal of the Philippine vessel. The latest situation has echoes of 2012, when Beijing took control of Scarborough Shoal -- another strategic feature about 240 kilometres west of the Philippines' main island of Luzon.

New York City mayor's top counsel quits amid multiple government probe

Lisa Zornberg, after resigning, stated that she could no longer "effectively serve" in her position. Mayor Eric Adams thanked Zornberg for the work she did for his administration for 13 months.

UPDATED The top legal adviser to New York City Mayor Eric Adams resigned abruptly over the weekend, the latest sign of instability in the Democrat's administration as it deals with multiple federal investigations. City Hall announced Lisa Zornberg's departure late Saturday night. She had advised Adams and other city officials on legal strategy for over a year and often parried legal questions from the press

on his behalf. She was not his personal lawyer. "It has been a great honor to serve the City. I am tendering my resignation, effective today, as I have concluded that I can no longer effectively serve in my position. I wish you nothing but the best," Zornberg wrote in a three-sentence resignation letter to Adams. The resignation comes after the phones of multiple members of Mayor Eric Adams' inner circle were seized by federal investigators, including the head of New York City's police department, who resigned Thursday. Zornberg, a former federal prosecutor in the U.S. attorney's office now leading some of the investigations into the Adams administration, wasn't one of the officials who had their phones seized. The police commissioner, Edward Caban resigned citing the "distraction" created by news of the investigations. Federal

authorities haven't disclosed the subjects of the investigations. Besides the police commissioner, phones were taken from the head of the public schools system, a top deputy mayor, and two top advisers to Adams on public safety issues.



Investigators seized devices from Caban's twin brother, James Caban, a former NYPD

sergeant who runs a nightclub security business. They also conducted searches related to Terence Banks, who is the brother of Adams' top deputy on public safety, Phil Banks, and Education Chancellor David Banks. In separate investigations, federal authorities have previously seized phones from Adams, searched the home of one of his top campaign fundraisers, and searched two homes linked to his director of Asian affairs. Adams has denied any knowledge of wrongdoing. Adams said an interim replacement for Zornberg would be announced in the coming days. "We appreciate all the work Lisa has done for our administration and, more importantly, the city over the past 13 months," Adams said in a statement. "These are hard jobs, and we don't expect anyone to stay in them forever. We wish Lisa all the best in her future endeavors."

## News box

## Temperature surges amid rain break in Telangana

**HYDERABAD:** With a break in torrential rains, Telangana has seen a significant surge in the maximum temperatures. As per TGDPs reports, mercury levels touched 38°C in Khammam, the highest recorded temperature in the state on Sunday.

The IMD said the highest deviation of 1.5 degrees was recorded in Bhadrachalam with the maximum temperature at 34.2 °C. The maximum temperature in Hyderabad was recorded in Khalender Nagar at 34.5°C. Meanwhile, short intense rain spells were experienced at isolated places in the city on Sunday evening. It is reported that the state will experience light to moderate rains at isolated places till September 21. In the next 48 hours, the city will experience light rain or drizzle towards evening or night. Maximum and minimum temperatures are likely to be around 32°C and 23°C respectively. Surface winds are likely to be westerly/north-westerly with wind speeds around 06-10 kmp/h.

## 7 students expelled from hostel over cooking 'meat'

**BERHAMPUR:** Seven students of Parala Maharaja Engineering College in Sitalapalli, located on the outskirts of Berhampur city, have been expelled from their hostel for allegedly cooking meat in one of their rooms.

The issue snowballed into a controversy after Bajrang Dal and Vishwa Hindu Parishad activists lodged separate complaints with police alleging that the seven, including six from minority communities, allegedly cooked and consumed beef in their hostel room on the night of September 11. On September 12, the dean of Students' Welfare office of the government engineering college expelled the seven for their involvement in "restricted activities". The notification stated, "The dean of Students' Welfare, Parala Maharaja Engineering College, Berhampur, has expelled the following boarders from their respective halls of residence (HoRs), with the approval of the competent authority, for their involvement in restricted activities in Room No B-23 of Falguni hostel on the night of 11-09-2024, which breached HoR Rules and the Code of Conduct." One of the expelled students was imposed a fine of Rs 2,000. Sources said, when the complaints reached Gopalpur police, a team went to the college and carried out preliminary inquiry. The seven reportedly told police that they had brought mutton from a kin's wedding which they cooked in one of the rooms and consumed the same. The Bajrang Dal and VHP activists, however, alleged that beef was cooked and consumed in the hostel room. They met principal Prof Chittaranjan Mohanty, demanding action against the students and an FIR with the police. "Since it was not possible to ascertain what was consumed, we asked the college authorities to conduct an internal inquiry and inform us basing on which we could decide the next course of action," DIG Sarthak Sarangi said. On September 12, the seven students were expelled from their hostel. The college authorities, however, remained tight-lipped on the matter even though attempts were made to contact them.

## Four years on, Lingaraj Temple Ordinance remains in cold storage

**BHUBANESWAR:** The Lingaraj Temple Ordinance is yet to be promulgated even though it was cleared by the state government four years back for better administration of the 11th century shrine. The delay is puzzling as the state had complied with multiple objections raised by the Ministries of Culture, Law & Justice, and Rural Development (department of Land Resources) on various provisions of the ordinance. In December 2020, the state cabinet had approved the ordinance for vesting of management of the affairs of Lingaraj temple and its properties including shrines situated within its premises besides other temples and mutts, in a committee for its better administration and governance. The committee was to be called Shree Lingaraj Temple Managing Committee, drawn along the lines of Shree Jagannath Managing Committee at Puri. Currently, the Centrally-protected shrine is being governed by the Odisha Hindu Religious Endowment Act, 1951. The ordinance was sent from the Governor's office to the Ministry of Home Affairs on December 29, 2020. According to official reports, between 2020 and 2023, there have been seven occasions when the ministries raised objections on different aspects of the ordinance, the most important of them being violation of the Ancient Monuments and Archaeological Sites and Remains (AMASR) Act and National Monument Authority norms.

The ordinance covers 12 Centrally-protected monuments in Ekamra Kshetra including the Lingaraj temple and three holy tanks. The Ministries of Law and Culture proposed that any new construction within the prohibited and regulated zones of these monuments should be done in adherence to the AMASR Act rules. Subsequently, the state cabinet on September 29, 2021 approved the Centre's proposal to stick to AMASR Act for conservation of the 12 monuments and amended the ordinance by incorporating a new sub-clause.

## MSME associations urge TN to revise network charges for rooftop solar systems

**MSME associations say imposing charges on all kinds of energy generation will disincentivise solar power adoption**

**COIMBATORE:** Several MSME associations have called upon the state to reduce network or wheeling charges for rooftop solar systems, especially for consumers who do not transfer excess energy to the power grid. Having received the first bill recently after charges were revised, the associations said they have to shell out huge sum. They said network charges should be applied only for the energy exported to the grid, and not on the energy generated, including that consumed on-site. Pradeep Natarajan, President of Tamil Nadu Electricity Consumer Association said, "The existing norm of imposing charges on all energy generated, regardless of whether it is consumed on-site or exported, disincentivises the adoption of rooftop solar installations." "To instal 1MW solar rooftop system, industries spend up to Rs 4.5 crore. The Tamil Nadu Electricity Board (TNEB) has fixed network or wheeling charge to utilise the generated electricity from solar energy. We have no grievances over collecting network charges for ground mounted solar plants. But, in concern to rooftop solar, an industrial unit consumes energy generated by rooftop solar plants immediately without exporting it to the grid. However, TNEB is collecting Rs 1.05 per unit for HT

line as network charges all energy generated from the rooftop irrespective of exporting it to the grid," he said.

J James, Tamil Nadu Association of Cottage and Enterprises (TACT) said, "After prolonged demand and protest about EB charges, TNEB reduced network charge



for MSMEs by 50% (from Rs 1.53 to Rs 0.76 per unit (kWh) ) in December 2023. However, the network charge has been increased by up to Rs 1.59 per unit from July, 2024." S Surulivel, president of Coimbatore SIDCO Industrial Estate Manufacturers Welfare Association (COSIEMA) said, "Already MSMEs are facing a struggle to pay electricity charges due to severe hikes. As an alternative, if they opt for solar energy systems of their own, the wheeling charges is discouraging." "We accept that wheeling charges are fixed for using the grid when an industry exports generated energy

from solar power during non-operational days, such as Sundays and when surplus energy is fed into the TNEB grid. We demand abolition of the charge on energy produced and used immediately by industry from rooftop solar," he said. M Raja, president of Tamil Nadu Solar Power Generators Association said, "At present, TNEB does not permit carry forward methods in the utilisation of solar energy. That means, the energy generated from solar energy should be utilised in the month itself. If anything remains after the utilisation of energy from the total unit produced in the month, it would not carry forward to next month. Due to the norm, industries which have adapted solar models face up to 20% loss in the total energy produced in a month. The norm should be modified."

A senior TNEB official said, "As per the charges fixed by TNERC, TNEB is collecting it from the consumer. If they have any grievances, they have to appeal with TNERC. We have no role in the fixation." He said as the solar energy installed consumers use referral electricity from TNEB line, the tariff could not be abolished entirely despite the units using energy produced immediately from the rooftop solar without exporting it to the grid.

## Early tablet use in kids linked to tantrums: Study

**GUNTUR:** While allowing young children to spend time in front of screens often gives parents a much-needed break, a new study suggests that early tablet use is linked to increased outbursts later on. Since the COVID-19 pandemic, screen time has significantly increased among children, with even toddlers being given electronic devices for entertainment or distraction.

The study, published in the journal 'JAMA Pediatrics,' shows that tablet use by children at 3.5 years old was associated with a higher number of expressions of anger and frustration one year later. Additionally, children who were more prone to anger and frustration at 4.5 years old were more likely to have higher tablet use a year later, at 5.5 years old. The authors of the study noted that early childhood tablet use "may contribute to a cycle" of problems in emotional regulation. Children logging 75 minutes or more of daily screen time at 3.5 years old were more likely to have outbursts of anger and frustration one year later, according to the study. The research, published in early August in 'JAMA Pediatrics,' involved a survey of 315 parents of preschool-aged children when their kids were 3.5, 4.5, and 5.5 years old. Parents self-reported their children's tablet use and assessed their children's expressions of anger using a standard questionnaire called the Children's Behaviour Questionnaire. The findings suggest a vicious cycle, with young children who exhibited more anger and frustration at 4.5 years old likely to spend even more time on a tablet by 5.5 years old. The experts noted that the association between tablet use and anger was bidirectional, with children whose parents reported higher levels of anger and frustration at 4.5 years old being more prone to increased tablet use later on. Commenting on the impact of increased screen time on children's emotional development, K Raghunath, a psychiatrist, explained that children need to learn how to manage their negative emotions as part of their natural development, with support from parents and teachers.

## Teachers, activists decry exclusion of special schools from arts, culture fest

**Despite the Kalaithiruvizha having been conducted for two years at special schools, a recent Integrated School Education Department circular excluded them this year.**

**CHENNAI:** Even as the arts and culture festival is being held across government and government-aided schools in the state, special schools for students with visual and hearing impairments have been excluded from the event this year. The decision, based on a directive from the Integrated School Education Department, has drawn criticisms from disability rights activists. Despite the Kalaithiruvizha having been conducted for two years at special schools, a recent Integrated School Education Department circular excluded them this year. Even though these schools are under the

Department of Welfare of Differently Aabled Persons, academic activities are carried out as per School Education Department's instructions.

A special school, unaware of the circular, proceeded with the competitions and attempted to upload the results on Education Information Management System. Only then, officials from the school education department informed them about the directive. Excluding talented children not only affects their self-esteem but also denies them an opportunity for creative expression, said special school teachers.



To counter the issue, the integrated education department issued a circular that 95,600

children with disabilities have participated in the festival, so far. However, special school teachers said they were government school students. The department also denied issuing such a circular, they added.

Meanwhile, activists urged the state to bring special schools under the School Education Department. "These issues arise because special schools are managed by a department that does not have education experts. Thus, children with special needs face discrimination," said S Namburaj, State VP of TN Association for the Rights of All Types of Differently Aabled and Caregivers.

## 20L form human chains in Karnataka on Democracy Day: CM

**BENGALURU:** Marking the International Day of Democracy, people from a cross-section of society, including children, formed human chains across the state on Sunday. After flagging off the human chain in Bengaluru, Chief Minister Siddaramaiah said that over 20 lakh people took part in the event in the state. The aim of the event was to strengthen unity and send out a clear message to destructive forces, he added. He urged people to rise up against divisive and destructive forces, which are aiming to break society under the guise of unity. He assured the people that the Constitution stands against such divisive forces. People, in their everyday life, should celebrate pluralism upheld by the Constitution, he added. Siddaramaiah pointed out that India had a form of

democracy and parliamentary systems during the times of Buddha and Basavanna. The "Anubhava Mantapa", started by Basavanna, was a symbol of

true political freedom is meaningful only when economic and social democracy is achieved.

"As long as inequality exists in India, political freedom will lack real significance and country's freedom remains incomplete," he added. Efforts are underway to teach and instill these values in schools and colleges across Karnataka, he added. He called for a Karnataka and India where peace and equality thrive with no space for discrimination. He emphasised that the government is working towards equality by implementing programmes that empower the poor and middle class from all castes and religions. The CM accused BJP and its allies of being against the poor and middle class.



early democratic institutions, he added. "There should be no space for discrimination" Referring to the speech by the Father of the Constitution, Dr BR Ambedkar, on November 25, 1949, Siddaramaiah said

## Dung beetles threatened as dung quality dips, urbanisation spreads

**BENGALURU:** A tiny, yet an important insect that plays a silent but significant role in improving soil quality and keeping greenhouse gas (GHG) emission undercheck -- dung beetles -- now face the threat of extinction. "Their population is declining because of increasing concretisation, changing landscape and lack of availability and poor quality of dung," said Priyadarsanan Dharma Rajan, Senior Fellow, Ashoka Trust for Research in Ecology and Environment (ATREE).

Researchers from ATREE said the world has over 5,000 dung beetle species, of which 500 are in India and 130 in Bengaluru. Rajan said dung beetles need soil for burying the dung, but availability of such spaces has now become limited. Also the quality of dung is decreasing with cattle feeding on some dangerous items in urban areas, he added. Cattle dung is a major source of greenhouse gases. But by burying the dung, beetles

help reduce these emissions. These beetles enhance nutrient cycling, improve soil aeration, aid in secondary seed dispersal and help control parasites," said Dr Seena Karimbunkara, ATREE entomologist and author of 'Study on the genus Onitis (Coleoptera: Scarabaeidae: Scarabaeinae) of the Indian Subcontinent.'



## One new species of dung beetle in B'loru

A team of ATREE researchers in the paper -- Study on the genus Onitis (Coleoptera: Scarabaeidae: Scarabaeinae) of the Indian Subcontinent -- has noted the presence of three new species of dung beetles in the country.

They found Onitis visthara in Hesaraghatta grasslands, which not only support a diverse array of species, but also serve as an important grazing ground for the livestock of local communities.

The team found Onitis kethai in Biligiri Rangaswamy Temple Tiger Reserve and Onitis bhomorensis in Tezpur, Assam.

They said that finding Onitis visthara in Hesaraghatta further emphasises the need to conserve the grassland ecosystem, which faces threat of urbanisation from realtors and politicians. On an average, a cow produces 30 kg of dung daily and over 10 tonnes per year.

As India has the world's largest livestock population, exceeding 535 million heads, the amount of excrement produced is substantial and plays a crucial role in nutrient cycling. A significant portion of this dung is processed and decomposed by dung beetles, which belong to the family Scarabaeidae.

## Speculations emerge over Congress exploring new strategies to weaken BRS

**HYDERABAD:** The speculation over possible merger of the BRS Legislature Party into the Congress is dying down fast. After the Telangana High Court's directive to the Speaker on MLAs disqualification petitions, the pink party legislators seem to be reluctant to take chances by changing their loyalties. However, the ruling Congress is said to be exploring alternative strategies to weaken its rival. According to party insiders, the leadership is looking for an opportunity to effect a 'Shinde-like' vertical split in the pink party, thus destabilising the Opposition. Considering the current political situation in the state, the Congress seems to have realised that it may not be possible to convince two-thirds of MLAs of the BRS, required for its merger into the grand old party, to quit the pink party. However, sources said that they see the possibility of a majority of BRS MLAs defying its leadership.

**Plan B to outsmart BRS** Additionally, the high court, taking a

serious view of defections, directed the Speaker to hear out the disqualification petitions within four weeks. In view of this, the Congress is readying its plan B to outsmart the BRS. In the last eight months since it formed the government, the Congress engineered defections of 10 MLAs with a view to merge the BRS Legislature Party. Although the party didn't openly announce its plans of the merge of BRS Legislature Party into the Congress LP, senior Congress leaders repeatedly hinted at this publicly. Around 10 more BRS MLAs are ready to defy the leadership of KCR. If they come forward, the rebel BRS MLAs count would go to 20 out of total 38 MLAs. In such a scenario, the rebels would be in the majority and that faction may be recognised as the BRS party in the Assembly," a senior Congress leader, who is privy to the developments within the party, said. The leader also said that a Dalit MLA from the BRS would lead the rebel faction as the Leader of Opposition.

### Memorable visit to DAV College, Lahore

The importance of preserving cultural heritage came to the fore when I recently visited DAV College, Lahore, and my birthplace, Eminabad. The Pakistani town is associated with Guru Nanak Dev and historical monuments and artefacts have been well maintained.

DAV College was started in 1886 as a memorial to the founder of Arya Samaj, Swami Dayanand Saraswati. After Partition, the college was relocated to Ambala city in 1948. The campus in Lahore served as a refugee camp till 1952. Thereafter, it was used as a medical and law college by an Islamic NGO, before being converted in 1958 into Government Islamia College Civil Lines for post-graduate studies. At present, 7,500 students are studying in this institution. DAV College, Lahore, was associated with many fearless freedom fighters. Famously, Bhagat Singh and Rajguru sought refuge here after Assistant Superintendent of Police John Saunders was shot in front of the police station, located across the road from the college. They fled through the college gates as Chandrashekhar Azad fired at Constable Chanan Singh, who was in pursuit. DAV College is also the site of samadhis of three members of Maharaja Ranjit Singh's family. A board on the campus states that the first samadhi belongs to Raj Kaur or Datar Kaur, who died in 1838. She was the mother of Kharak Singh, the Maharaja's eldest son and



successor. The second samadhi belongs to Chand Kaur, wife of Kharak Singh and mother of their son Nau Nihal Singh. She died in 1842. The third samadhi is of Sahab Kaur, who married Nau Nihal Singh at the age of 16 in 1837, and died in 1841. Hard to miss on the campus is the board listing the names of all those who donated more than ~5,000 towards the establishment of the college in 1883. One of the top donors contributed as much as ~60,000, which was a very significant amount at the time.

College principal Dr Akhtar Hussain Sandhu, who joined as the vice-principal after completing his higher education from London in 2019, found the donor board plastered over with cement. He was told that this was done since the board carried the names of Hindus and Sikhs associated with the institution. He sought help from Dr Assal Ali Dani, an associate professor of Urdu, to restore the board. Both appreciated the work done by the DAV college managing committee and Arya Samaj leaders for setting up the college, saying had they not set up the institution, "we would still have been shepherds".

The main building of the college displays a foundation stone acknowledging the gift by Rai Bahadur Ganga Ram. A drinking water tower in front of another building acknowledges the donation made by Malan Devi in memory of her husband, Lala Sada Nand Grover.

When my friend Amar Raj Singh Nain politely mentioned that Sandhu is in fact a caste amongst the Sikh community in India, Dr Sandhu disclosed that his ancestors had converted to Islam. All religious places and historical legacies must be given 'izzat' (respect) and 'itram' (reverence), he said. A message leaders on both sides of the divide would do well to adhere to.

### Cyber fraud is rampant, be aware and mindful

Resist clicking on links sent on email, WhatsApp or SMS, or downloading applications sent by anyone

You may be an extremely cautious person, but sometimes scammers can get the better of you. A Pune resident learnt this the hard way. He was checking out hospitals online for a consultation and when he got a call from someone claiming to be from one of the well-known hospitals he had visited virtually, he found no reason to suspect the veracity of the caller.

So much so that he readily opened the link sent to his mobile phone for payment of the 'registration fee' for appointment with a doctor, and transferred the money through it. It was only when his bank informed him that ~64,000 had been deducted from his account through various online transactions, did he realise that he had been taken for a ride! Obviously, the cybercriminals had installed some spyware on his phone, possibly through an application he had installed, and were following his digital footprint.



Today, online frauds have become rampant. Worse, with the help of artificial intelligence, cybercriminals are perfecting their modus operandi to such an extent that it is becoming almost impossible for consumers to identify the fake. Earlier, poor language skills exposed them, but with AI, language is not a barrier anymore. There have been 'fake traffic challan' scams, 'narcotics-in-your-parcel' fraud, 'Aadhaar card linked to terrorism' hoax, cryptocurrency and investment rackets, online loan and job scams, matrimonial cons, frauds through impersonation using deep fakes and voice cloning. Well, the list is endless and the victims in many cases have lost their entire savings, or incurred huge liabilities.

Recently, a reader told me about a phone call that he received — an automated pre-recorded message in faultless English and Hindi, telling him that it was from the Reserve Bank of India and that his bank accounts would be frozen in two hours for involvement in 'illegal transactions'. 'Press 9 for more information,' said the voice at the other end. Consumers have also got such calls claiming to be from their bank, asking whether they had made a transaction of considerable amount on their debit or credit card. Press #1 to confirm and #9 to deny and report the fraud, they are told. In their anxiety, people press #9 and are asked to give their name, card number and date of birth to confirm their identity. Next, they are sent a link or an app on WhatsApp with malicious software, ostensibly to lodge a complaint with the cybercrime police. When they open the link or install the app and follow the instructions, they end up becoming victims of cybercriminals.

Recently, a friend received an authentic-looking email from the 'cybercrime police', saying she was under their radar for using her Internet connection for child pornography! Last year, a senior citizen lost ~1 lakh to another carefully crafted ploy. It all started with the man

trying to add ~155 worth of talk time and data on his phone. The bank deducted the money, but the recharge was unsuccessful. He sent an email to the service provider, and was asked to contact his bank. Meanwhile, someone claiming to be an executive of the service provider called and said they would credit ~155 to his bank account. To facilitate that, they asked him to download an application and scan his debit card on it. The app that he downloaded was Rust Desk — an open source remote access and control software, using which

the fraudster carried out transactions worth over ~1 lakh on his card. Obviously, the man's email was compromised. While the Central government as well as several state governments are equipping cybercrime police with sophisticated equipment and skills to track and nab online scammers, consumers need to exercise utmost caution and resist the temptation to click on any links sent on email, WhatsApp or SMS, or download applications sent by anyone, as they are the source of malware that can track your online browsing, steal crucial data stored on your computer or phone and access your email. So, even if your service provider sends a link to help you pay your dues, it would be safer to download the official app of the service provider, or go to its authentic website to pay. If you want an app, go to your phone's official store and download the app from there, but only after reading the user reviews and ensuring its authenticity. And allow the app to access only those controls or data that is necessary for its functioning. Install good anti-virus software and always download the security updates sent by your phone's computer operating systems. If anyone calls from an unknown number, claiming to be from your service provider or even the police, disconnect and call them on the official number provided on their website. Keep yourself updated on online frauds. Remember, today, every Internet user is at risk. Only your awareness and presence of mind can save you.

### Sitaram Yechury: Comrade's love, not war

Last week, we had more rain than I can remember in a long time. News trickling in from friends and relatives in the hills is frightening and one lives in terror of the floods and landslides that will surely follow. The previous week, during an idyllic vacation at a resort on the Ganga in Rishikesh, I was appalled to see the surging waters of the river. One slip of the foot and one could be swept away forever. The hotel had barred the gates where guests could walk down for a private dip in normal times and the aarti, done each evening, was performed but with an awning strung over the area. Nevertheless, the serenity and beautifully green ambience was like a balm on the soul of those of us who crave for peace and a noise-free environment. Back in Noida, where we consider ourselves fortunate if we get a brief, occasional shower during the monsoons, we have been blessed with overcast skies, steady drizzles and the kind of dark thundery sky that uplifts sagging spirits. Of

course, we oldies can savour this but the plight of the commuters, delivery boys and schoolchildren caught in the interminable traffic jams is another story. Then there was the presidential debate in Philadelphia — an event that had everyone waiting to see the outcome. I must say, our politicians are better at hurling insults and trading non sequiturs. The stage was set up clearly to trump (excuse the pun) one candidate, while the other relied on age and charm rather than on facts and policies. Disappointing, to say the least. Meanwhile, our media has been feeding off the visit of our LoP, and he provides good TRPs is all I can say. Let's wait now for the next Indian leader's visit and see what he will provide to his friends and foes. The triviality of all these events was revealed by the demise of Sitaram Yechury after a brief battle in Delhi's AIIMS. It is significant that every newspaper and all the news channels paid fulsome tributes to a man who was truly one of a kind.

### Bail for Kejriwal

AAP relieved, CBI's credibility under a cloud

DELHI Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal's prolonged stay in jail has come to an end weeks before the Haryana Assembly elections, with the Supreme Court granting him regular bail in the corruption case lodged by the CBI in connection with the excise policy 'scam'. He is now free to campaign for AAP candidates but cannot make any public comment on the merits of the case. Nor can he discharge his duties as the CM as normal. Despite the restrictions and riders, Kejriwal and his party have every reason to feel relieved. They are also feeling vindicated as one of the two judges on the SC Bench that gave him bail, Justice Ujjal Bhuyan, questioned the timing of his arrest by the CBI. The judge observed that the probe agency's aim was to scuttle the grant of bail in the money laundering case registered by the Enforcement Directorate (ED). Over the past few



months, the Delhi CM has found himself helplessly wedged between these Central agencies, with both giving no quarter. Even the interim bail granted by the apex court

in July in the ED case brought no relief to him as he remained behind bars over the CBI case. Well aware of the ground reality — the trial is not likely to be completed in the near future — the court has done the right thing, constitutionally as well as legally, by ordering Kejriwal's release. No less important is the court's rejection of the apprehension that the CM may tamper with evidence.

Nevertheless, Kejriwal is under judicial scrutiny — and so too is the CBI. Mincing no words, Justice Bhuyan has asked the agency to dispel the notion of being a 'caged parrot' — an infamous tag that is hard for it to shed. If the CBI has a watertight case against the CM, it should not be bothered about whether he is out on bail or in jail. If not, its credibility will take another hit, buttressing the Opposition's charge of political vendetta.

### A Buddhist monk in his exclusive aviary

One bright morning in March 1981, my journey to Gangtok was interrupted by a sizeable landslide, about 20 km short of the destination. A functionary of the PWD estimated three hours for the resumption of traffic. Noticing my camera and..

One bright morning in March 1981, my journey to Gangtok was interrupted by a sizeable landslide, about 20 km short of the destination. A functionary of the PWD estimated three hours for the resumption of traffic. Noticing my camera and binoculars, he stated pointing to the ridgetop, "Uper wahan Karmapa Sahib kay pinjre mein bahut sundar parinday hain..." (Up there in Karmapa Sahib's cage are very beautiful birds). Twenty minutes later, huffing and puffing, I stood transfixed by the 'pinjra', which was a spacious, state-of-the-art aviary-cum-hermitage of the venerable Karmapa. Tall and handsome, he was a high priest of Buddhism ordained by His Holiness, the Dalai Lama, at the Potala, in the 1940s. After brief pleasantries, as he led me inside, the birds, at once, scuttled around or perched on his shoulders as he casually informed that they were 108 in number. Noticing my puzzled look, he then put me wise about the sacredness of the figure, both to the Hindus and Buddhists — 108 Upanishads as also 108 beads in a monk's rosary. At this stage, the Karmapa discreetly moved away, stipulating that he and his hermitage must not figure in any photo frame. My challenge, however, lay in picking the seven birds corresponding to the unexposed film. The dilemma resolved itself as the first to make 'parikramas' around me was a female green peafowl, the most coquette photo-model as she mischievously moved the moment I zeroed out the camera! Unlike our National Bird, which has a pan-India presence, their green cousin was essentially confined to Manipur, Mizoram and a few in Jalpaiguri, from where this interloper had seduced the Karmapa. After all, who



could resist their blue and yellow facial skins, heads adorned by an erect bluish-green plume, necks and breasts a glistening bronze-green and the tail of males tinged copper bronze turning violet under certain light! Unknown to me at that moment, I became, perhaps, the last person to photograph possibly the last surviving green peafowl of India. Tragic, but that is God's truth.

Riding on luck's high tide inside the Karmapa's hermitage, my lifetime's next encounter was with a

male grey peacock pheasant. As pheasants go, his silver-brown plumage was sombre, but the purple-green eyespots over the crown and tail were simply mesmerising but regrettably so spooky that the photograph is worthless. Let's hope that because of the species' retiring nature, they may survive farther into the future than was the case with our green peafowl. My choice for the next photo frames fell on two 'ornamental' birds — a golden pheasant from China and a ring-neck pheasant from Russia. The

golden vied most aggressively for notice, possibly conscious of his apt moniker, 'Rainbow Pheasant'. Who could fault him, with polished gold from the crown down the neck, eyes a bright yellow with a tiny black pupil, rust-coloured face and throat, wattles pinkish-yellow, upper body jade green, underparts bright red, tail barred pale brown and legs and feet, yellow. Phew! The male ring-neck's plumage was yet another colour extravaganza; bottle green head offset by red wattles, upper parts barred bright gold tinged with copper and purple, small of back royal blue and tail light brown barred black! But, sadly, they are destiny's discarded creatures, having become the favoured 'game bird' of Europe and Americas.

My cup of luck brimmed over on two more counts, firstly lifetime's yet another first sighting, the emerald dove, and secondly, that I had one vacant photo frame to freeze her likeness! True to her name, the dazzling emerald green on her back, wings offset by mellow pinkish-grey underparts and the bright red bill made for a euphoric memory. There was one other-worldly aspect to this entire episode. I was the only "outsider" ushered in by the Karmapa inside his hermitage, and I shall never know why. When I revisited some six months later, armed with several rolls of film, gone was the 16th Karmapa and his aviary. He had been claimed by cancer and the birds had been freed in the Pharaonic belief that they would accompany the Karmapa's soul to heaven! My wife and I sat for long, facing the Rumtek monastery, in silent homage to a great Buddhist.

# DIY amazing face masks

Winter requires special skin care routines. As part of our mission to bring you the best winter care secrets, we share with you our effective homemade face masks to brighten your skin this winter.

### Strawberry and yogurt

The tiny seeds present on the outside layer of a strawberry, act as a great exfoliator for your skin. Yogurt on the other hand, helps brighten and tone the skin. This face mask not only leaves your skin soft and glowing but also leaves back a sweet smell that lingers on for a bit. All you have to do is mash the strawberries in the yogurt and apply it to your face. Gently rub the mixture onto your skin and let it remain for about 15 minutes. You can now wash your face with warm water and dry it with a soft towel.



All you have to do is raid your kitchen shelves and try these combinations for a glowing and radiant complexion with our DIY amazing facemasks.

### Oatmeal and honey

Oatmeal is a known exfoliator and will make for an excellent face mask. Blend about a cup full of oatmeal in a mixer and reduce it to a coarse powder. When you remove it, drizzle some honey, a spoonful of yogurt and an egg white and stir to combine this mixture. Apply this mixture on your face and leave it on for 15 minutes. You can then wash this off with warm water. Honey has antioxidant properties that will protect your skin and oatmeal is good to calm your facial skin.

### Sugar and oil

This is the easiest face mask to mix up because the ingredients are always easy to find. Mix together two spoons of sugar and two spoons on olive oil/canola oil. You could also add a few drops of essential oil to give it a

sweet scent if you want. Take this mixture in your hand and gently rub it on your face and leave it on for a few minutes. Rinse you face with warm water and you will be able to feel the difference on your skin.

# Bath salts for a glowing skin



Bath salts not only exfoliate your skin and relieve muscle tension, but also heal common problems such as eczema, psoriasis and rashes. They cleanse and brighten your skin as well.

skin's appearance.

Puffy skin and cellulite: Mineral or seaweed bath salts are your best bet.

They have negative ions, which pull in minerals and nutrients into your bloodstream and help flush toxins.

### Pick the right one

Always pick a bath salt that is not lumpy. Says beauty expert Nikos Narkissos, "They should contain natural ingredients and nutrients. Blue and purple bath salts are soothing, while yellow and orange are energising.

Grain size also matters. For example, finer grains dissolve quickly and work well as scrubs and exfoliants."

### Types of bath salts

### The benefits

When used in their natural form, bath salts contain minerals and nutrients that keep your skin soft, smooth and supple. Says beauty expert Farheen Shaikh, "Bath salts contain Magnesium, Sodium and Bromide. They get easily absorbed in your skin pores and purify it, thus improving its radiance, texture and tone."

### A good relaxant

Bath salts ease muscular tension and help remove fatigue. They also remove toxins from the body and promote a feeling of well-being.

### Choose the right one for your skin

Dry and flaky skin: Use a bath salt which will boost your skin's radiance and increase moisture. Almond or orange bath salts work the best for you.

### Tired and dull skin:

Rosemary or peppermint will provide a cooling sensation, which will improve blood circulation and perk up your



# Go bright with Makeup



Bright makeup is in this season and many people are rocking the look.

If you haven't really warmed up to the idea yet, it may be time to get experimental with your makeup.

While clothes are much easier to experiment with, when it comes to makeup, one must exercise caution one wrong move and your entire look could go kaput. Here are a few tips that will help you get the look right.

-When it comes to makeup, the colour of your eye shadow and lips are what catch the eye first. Make sure that the two compliment each other.

-Keep it bright in only two areas of your face. Anything more than this might be OTT.

-There are a lot of different shades of eyeliners available in the market, pick the most commonly used ones like brown, blue, purple and grey which can be matched with most of your outfits.

-You can use two different shades of the same colour eyeliner at once by layering them. Use the darker colour closer to the eyelashes and the lighter one on the top.

-Nail colours are also a great way to brighten your look. So if bright makeup is not your thing, give your nails a dash of colour pop.

-Your makeup also depends on where you are going. If you are headed to a place that doesn't give much room for brightness, then just go red on the lips.



# Post-party beauty Detox



Lifeless skin Constant application of make-up takes a toll on the skin, making it look dull and causing breakouts. It needs thorough, deep cleansing. Try a gentle cleanser that will remove dirt and oil without stripping the skin of its moisture. Use face masks twice a week: for flaky skin, use a hydrating mask and for blemishes, go for one that unclogs pores. To get that glow back, scrub your skin with an exfoliating cleanser and

then moisturise it. Tired, puffy eyes To reduce puffiness around the eyes caused by lack of sleep and alcohol, drink plenty of water throughout the day and place herbal tea bags (the bags should be immersed in hot water for 2-3 minutes and then cooled) over closed eyes. Lacklustre hair If you've over-styled your hair with tools and products, your locks will get frizzy and out of control. Indulge in hot oil massages and hair masks.

Dull hair, lacklustre skin and puffy eyes - all that make-up, late-night partying and binge-drinking must have created havoc on your skin and hair. Here are some quick solutions to get back your natural beauty.

Avoid using hairstyling tools for a few days. Brittle nails Fancy party manicures and nail art make cuticles dry and brittle. To rejuvenate them, mix a teaspoon of olive oil to a few drops of lemon juice. Massage the mixture on your nails every night. Don't forget to wear gloves before going to sleep.

# Benefits of Rose water

Generations of women have used rose water as part of their skin care regime. It isn't uncommon to hear grannies extolling its benefits and not without reason.



Rose water and rose oil are one of the oldest skin care and grooming products. It used to be added to baths as also to treat mild skin conditions. They are found in many cosmetic products these days.

### Here are a few ways how

### rosewater works wonders for you:

1. Since rose oil has anti-inflammatory properties, using rose water can help in reducing the redness from irritated or overheated skin.

2. It is a great cleanser and aids in removing oil and

dirt accumulated in clogged pores. Thus preventing acne and pimples.

3. It has astringent like properties, which is why it is used after facials and clean ups to close open pores. Applying rose water after steaming tightens capillaries, reduces redness and blotchiness.

4. The aroma of roses is said to be a powerful mood enhancer. It rids you of feelings of anxiety and promotes emotional wellbeing, thereby making you look relaxed. Since it is de-stressing, it helps you sleep better

which means you will wake up feeling fresh.

5. The best and easiest way to use it is to apply it at night. It helps clear all impurities that your face has collected through the day.



# Kolkata rape: Ex-RG Kar principal tried to deceive investigators, says CBI

The forensic report of the polygraph test of Dr Sandip Ghosh, former RG Kar hospital principal, has revealed that he deliberately tried to deceive the CBI investigators. The report was mentioned in the federal agency's remand note that was exclusively accessed by India Today.

New Delhi: The forensic report of the polygraph test of former RG Kar hospital principal Dr Sandip Ghosh suggested that he deliberately attempted to deceive the CBI investigators in connection with the rape-murder of a trainee doctor. India Today has exclusively accessed the remand note of the federal agency which mentioned the report. It stated that Ghosh did not intend to register a First Information Report (FIR) in the gruesome case, which has shaken the entire nation and triggered massive protests. The revelation came two days after Ghosh, along with a senior police officer, Abhijit Mondal, were arrested by the CBI for the delay in filing the FIR and missing evidence in the rape-murder case. The CBI's remand note mentioned that Ghosh

was subjected to layered voice analyst (LVA) and polygraph tests during the investigation.

"As per report of CFSL (forensic report), his (Ghosh) version has been found deceptive on certain important issues relating to this case," the note added. It further stated that Dr Sandip Ghosh did not intend to register an FIR in the matter despite being in consultation with a lawyer. The complaint was eventually filed by the RG Kar hospital's vice-principal, and that too by passing it off as a suicide. The CBI remand note stated that the former RG Kar hospital principal had been in touch with Abhijit Mondal since 10.03 am on August 9, when the trainee doctor's semi-naked body was found inside the seminar hall. Ghosh, however, tried to downplay the rape. Dr

Sandip Ghosh also did not go to the hospital immediately, even though information about the body found was conveyed to him at 9.58 am on August 9.

Last month, the Calcutta High Court gave the CBI a three-week deadline to submit a progress report on their ongoing investigation into the Kolkata rape-murder. The federal agency is expected to present the report tomorrow. Ghosh was earlier arrested by the CBI in a separate case pertaining to the alleged financial fraud in the RG Kar hospital and underwent a polygraph test. Kolkata Police arrested a civic volunteer, Sanjoy Roy, on August 10 - a day after the 31-year-old trainee doctor's body was found. The doctor's autopsy suggested she was brutally raped before being murdered.



## 5-Year-Old Attacked, Injured By Pack Of Stray Dogs In Pune

New Delhi: A five-year-old child was severely injured after being attacked by a pack of dogs in Chakan in Pune district in Maharashtra. In a shocking video (the incident was captured by a nearby CCTV camera), the young boy can be seen standing by the side of a partly-flooded dirt road and waving away at a black dog. The boy does not move toward the dog and does not appear to make any threatening gesture. Seconds later a second dog sprints forward from the boy's right hand side. The dog attacks the boy before he can run away. The CCTV feed captures the young boy's scream as the dog attacks.

As soon as the boy is thrown to the ground at least half-a-dozen other dogs converge, barking and surrounding the boy, who continues screaming. The terrified boy is soon pinned on the ground and the dogs circle around, even seeming to jump on the young child. His screams and the dogs' barking bring a woman racing out of a nearby house. She throws a few stones at the dogs but they continue their attack, seeming to drag the child into nearby bushes. Then two men appear on the scene and rush at the dogs, who then race away. This disturbing incident has reignited the debate over attacks by stray dogs in Pune, and other parts of the country. Last month there was a horrific incident from Telangana's Rajanna Sircilla district in which an elderly woman was killed by pack of stray dogs which then ate parts of her body. These incidents, in addition to several in Uttar Pradesh and Kerala over the past few months have led to renewed calls for stricter measures to control stray dog populations.

## Two female Indian Navy officers to embark on global sailing expedition

New Delhi: Two female officers from the Indian Navy are set to embark on a global sea expedition, the Navy announced on Sunday. The Navy announced that Lieutenant Commanders Roopa A and Dilna K will soon embark on the 'extraordinary expedition' as part of the second Navika Sagar Parikrama aboard INSV Tarini. Both officers have been preparing for the mission over the past three years. "Indian Navy has made significant efforts to revitalise the sailing tradition, emphasising its commitment to preserve



maritime heritage and promote seamanship skills," it said in a statement.

The officers were part of a six-member crew that participated in a trans-oceanic expedition from Goa to Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, via Cape Town, South Africa, and back. They also completed a sailing expedition from Goa to Port Blair and back in double-handed mode. Earlier this year, both officers successfully undertook a sortie from Goa to Port Louis, Mauritius, again in double-handed mode, the Navy stated. Both officers are being trained under the mentorship of ace circumnavigator and Golden Globe Race winner, Commodore Abhilash Tomy (Retired).

Sagar Parikrama would be a gruelling voyage requiring extreme skills, physical fitness, and mental alertness. The officers have been training rigorously and gained thousands of miles of experience under their belt," the Navy said. The Navy also unveiled the logo of the Navika Sagar Parikrama. "The circumnavigation of INSV Tarini will be a significant step forward in India's ocean sailing enterprise and maritime endeavours, showcasing the nation's growing prominence in global maritime activities and gender equality on the high seas," the navy added.

## Mukhtar Ansari died of heart attack, not slow poisoning: Report

New Delhi: Gangster-turned-politician Mukhtar Ansari died of a heart attack, a report by the District Magistrate (DM) of Uttar Pradesh's Banda district said, re-affirming the findings of the post-mortem report. Ansari died of a cardiac arrest at a hospital in Banda in March this year at the age of 63. A five-time MLA from the Mau Sadar seat, he was in jail in Uttar Pradesh and Punjab since 2005. He had over 60 criminal cases pending against him. Ansari was sentenced in eight cases since September 2022 by different courts in Uttar Pradesh and was lodged in the Banda jail, where he died in March this year. After the death of the gangster-turned-politician, his family alleged that he died due to a "slow poisoning" in



Banda's District Jail. Mukhtar Ansari's son Umar Ansari claimed that his father was subjected to "slow poisoning" in prison, and also demanded that his post-mortem be conducted by AIIMS doctors in Delhi and a magistral probe of the death. Speaking to the media, Umar Ansari said his father was given poison through the food served to him, which led to his death. After the

accusation, a probe was ordered by the District Magistrate of Banda, which confirmed that Ansari died after suffering a heart attack in jail. The DM's report has been sent to Uttar Pradesh's secretariat for necessary action. According to sources, during the probe, the samples of salt, jaggery, and chickpeas found in Mukhtar Ansari's barrack were sent for forensic examination, which did not confirm the presence of any poisonous substance. Statements by security personnel who were deployed in Mukhtar Ansari's barracks, the doctors from the jail, Banda Medical College who treated him, and the panel of doctors who conducted his post-mortem, were also recorded during.

## Key accused in attacks on Manipur-Assam border areas arrested in Guwahati

New Delhi: AAP leader Manish Sisodia will meet Arvind Kejriwal at his residence today where the two are likely to discuss probabilities for the Delhi Chief Minister's post day after Kejriwal's Sunday bombshell that he will resign. As feverish speculation began on the likely contenders, the Opposition sneered at Kejriwal's move as a "PR stunt" and a "mere gimmick" in a bid to correct his image. Arvind Kejriwal, who was released from the Tihar Jail on Friday after the Supreme Court granted him bail in the liquor policy case, announced his decision in his first address to AAP leaders and workers.

He had also said that a legislative party meeting is expected to be held within the next two days to decide on his replacement. "I am going to resign from the Chief Minister's position after two days. I will not sit in the Chief Minister's chair until the people give

their verdict... I will go to every house and street and not sit in the Chief Minister's chair till I get a verdict from the people," he said.

Assam Police have arrested a key suspect involved in a series of sabotage activities in violence-hit Manipur. The suspect, identified as LS Yosef Chongloi, 34, was arrested by Assam Police's Special Task Force (STF) from Guwahati on Friday. Chongloi, a native of Churachandpur district in Manipur, is believed to be a senior member of the United Kuki National Army (UKNA), a militant group active in the region. Authorities have described him as the "self-styled Finance Secretary" of the UKNA, and he is suspected of orchestrating multiple acts of sabotage in both Manipur and the bordering areas of Assam. The UKLA is not part of the Suspension of Operations (SoO) agreement in Manipur. Chongloi is allegedly involved in sabotage

activities, including a bomb attack that destroyed a crucial bridge on National Highway-2 in Manipur's Saparameina in April and orchestrating an armed attack on a convoy of the 10th Central Reserve Police Force (CRPF) in the Tamenglong district, targeting key infrastructure and security forces in the region.

Manipur Police, working closely with their counterparts in Assam, confirmed the arrest and are now expanding their investigation. In a statement, Manipur authorities clarified that Chongloi had previously served in the state's Village Defence Force (VDF) but was dismissed from his post in June 2022 after an extended period of unauthorised absence. The arrest followed reports linking him to a controversial Facebook profile where he appeared in a Manipur Police uniform, though authorities now confirm his dismissal.

## Centre deliberating on adding caste column to census, no decision yet: Sources

New Delhi: The Centre is considering to add a caste column to the census, which has been delayed due to the Covid-19 outbreak, government sources told India Today. The country has been conducting censuses every ten years, starting from 1881. Parties across the political spectrum have been demanding a caste census. In August, while citing data from India Today's Mood of the Nation (MOTN) survey, Leader of the Opposition in Lok Sabha Rahul Gandhi said, "Modiji, if you are thinking of stopping the caste census, you are dreaming—no power can stop it now. India's order has come—soon 90 percent of Indians will support and demand a caste census. Implement the order



now, or you will see the next Prime Minister doing it."

According to the MOTN survey, 74 per cent of respondents were in support of a caste census, an increase from 59 per cent in February when the survey was last conducted. Not just the opposition, some allies of the BJP, like MP Chirag Paswan's LJP and Nitish Kumar's JD(U) in Bihar, have also been advocating for a nationwide caste census. Calls for a national caste census emerged after Nitish Kumar's Janata Dal (United), the ruling party in Bihar, released the results of a statewide caste survey. The survey, released in October last year, revealed that over 80 per cent of the state's population belongs to extremely backward classes. Earlier, after an uproar over the lateral entry hiring in government jobs broke out, Paswan clarified that his party has always been in favour of the caste census. The implementation of the Women's Reservation Act, passed by Parliament last year, is also tied to the completion of the ten-year census. The act reserving one-third of the seats for women candidates in the Lok Sabha and state assemblies is likely to come into effect after an exercise of delimitation will begin after the figures of the census come.

## India has launched "Operation Sadbhav", deploying emergency aid to Myanmar, Laos, and Vietnam in response to the catastrophic flooding caused by Typhoon Yagi.

New Delhi: India on Sunday launched "Operation Sadbhav", sending emergency relief supplies to flood-hit Myanmar, Laos and Vietnam to aid in their recovery from the devastating effects of a powerful typhoon.

Myanmar, Laos, and Vietnam are grappling with severe flooding following the landfall of Typhoon Yagi, which is being called Asia's most powerful storm of the

year. The storm has unleashed torrential rains, causing widespread damage and displacing thousands across the region.

The typhoon that originated from the South China Sea made landfall over a week back, reportedly killing over 170 people in Vietnam and around 40 in Myanmar. The Indian Air Force (IAF) deployed its C-17 Globemaster aircraft for urgent Humanitarian Assistance and Disaster Relief (HADR) operations in Laos and Vietnam. The operation was coordinated at Hindan Air Base, where the loading process was executed with precision to ensure prompt delivery of the relief materials to the affected countries, officials said. The C-17 Globemaster, renowned for its cargo capacity and extensive range, was selected for this critical mission due to its capability to transport substantial quantities of relief materials and supplies

efficiently. To Vietnam, a 35-ton consignment was sent, encompassing vital items such as water purification equipment, containers, blankets, kitchen



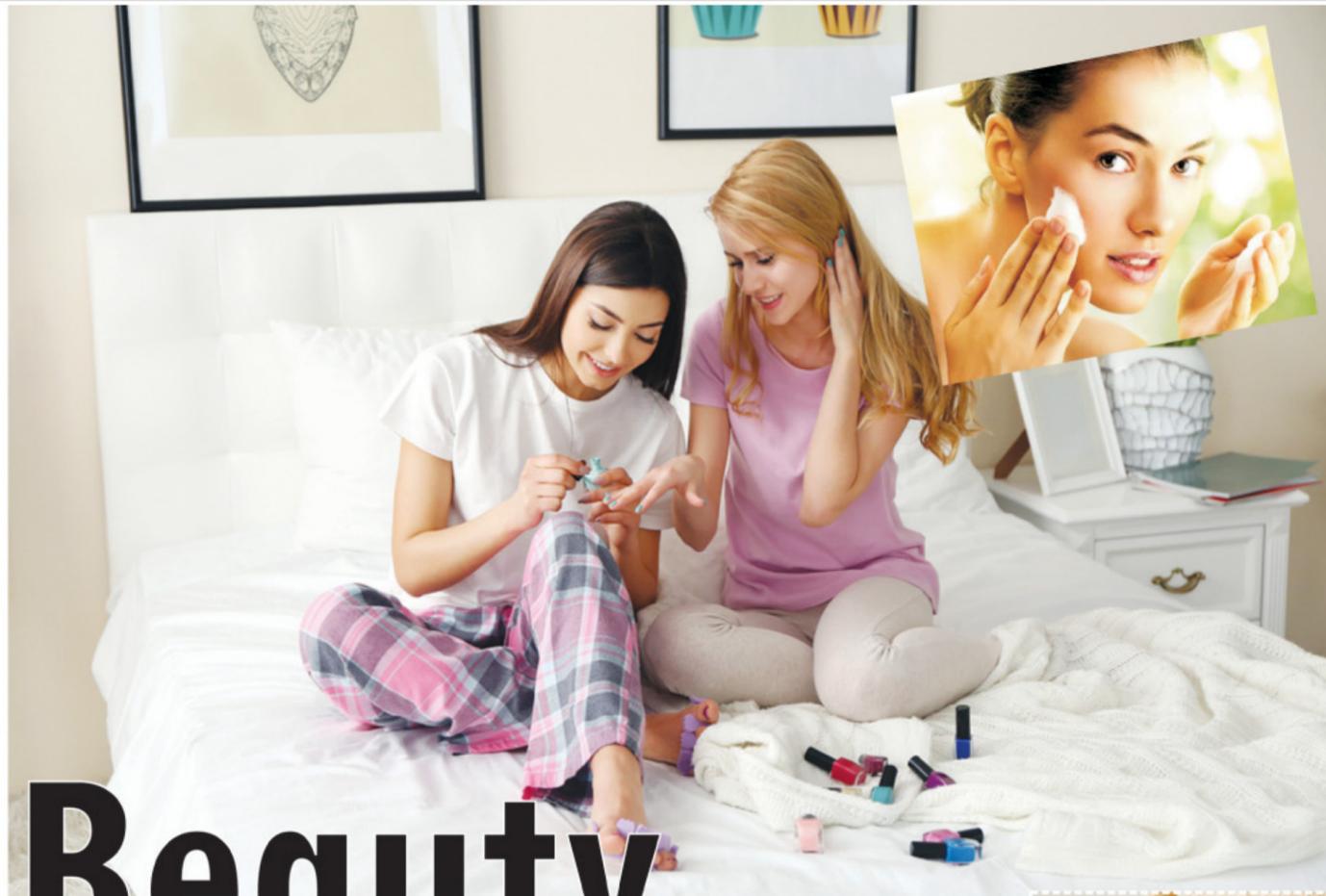
utensils, and solar lanterns. Meanwhile, Laos received 10 tons of urgent supplies, including generators, hygiene products, mosquito nets, blankets, and sleeping bags.

External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar said that 10 tonnes of aid including dry rations, clothing and medicines were also

dispatched to Myanmar onboard the Indian naval ship INS Satpura. "India launches #OperationSadbhav. Demonstrating our solidarity with the

people affected by Typhoon Yagi, India is dispatching aid to Myanmar, Vietnam and Laos," Jaishankar said on "X". "10 tons of aid including dry ration, clothing and medicines left for Myanmar onboard @indiannavy INS Satpura today," he said.

According to the Indian Navy, the Eastern Naval Command in coordination with Eastern Fleet and other supporting units successfully completed the overnight loading of HADR pallets including drinking water, rations and medicines onto an Indian naval warship destined from Visakhapatnam for operations in Yangon in Myanmar. "This rapid mobilisation comes despite the short notice, showcasing the Navy's ability to swiftly respond to humanitarian crises in the region," Navy spokesperson Commander Vivek Madhwal said.



# Beauty Rituals

## from around the world

There is wisdom in those words. Beautiful skin, hair and nails do not have to be synonymous with lighter wallets and wasting hours on end. We bring you a compilation of some amazing beauty techniques from around the world. Not only are they intriguing, but also completely natural. From soothing a flaky

scalp to getting lustrous skin, there's a way to have it all.

### Spanish circles

You surely must have tried cucumber slices to lighten dark circles around your eyes. And there's also a range of haemorrhoidal creams to treat under-eye circles. Weird as it sounds, it is

supposed to work like a dream! Not brave enough to try it? Then follow Spanish women and use very thin potato slices over your eyes. Keep them on for ten minutes. You will notice that they actually lighten the skin reducing the blueness of the veins under your eyes.

### Kiss cellulite goodbye, the Brazilian way

Cellulite is every woman's despair and there seems to be no way to shooing it away. Here's a thing to learn from Brazilian women, who rub sand on their bodies. When it comes to cellulite, dry brushing is the best, natural and probably, the only way to getting rid of them. So, use sand to kiss cellulite goodbye.

### Greek TLC for lips

Beauty regimens need not mean spending a bomb on products or devoting a lot of time to it (unless you are greatly inspired by



Spending too much on expensive shampoos, but not getting the desired results that you see in TV ads? It is mostly possible and very common, because we see overly exaggerated results on TV, since these ads are designed to attract customers.

# Top 20 natural ways for great Hair

But, reality speaks a different story. Instead of spending on those branded shampoos and conditioners, Dr. Sandeep Suttar - Hair Restoration and Skin Rejuvenation surgeon at Hairrevive, Mumbai, shares some natural ways to get great hair. Follow these easy and simple steps to give that luster and shine to your hair, and flaunt your hair like the models do...

### Egg treatment

Use the entire egg to condition your hair. If you have dry or brittle hair, use egg whites to moisturize your hair. Use 1/2 cup of any egg mixture (egg white, entire egg) and apply to clean, damp hair. Leave it for 20 minutes and rinse with cool water.

### Cleanliness is important

The most important reason for hair fall is dandruff and itchy scalp. Therefore, maintain good cleanliness for beautiful and healthy hair.

### Avoid hot water

Skip hot water showers, because hot water will make your hair dry and brittle as it strips protective oils from your hair - says Dr. Suttar. Thus, prefer a temperature which is just a bit warmer than your body temperature.

### Bottle gourd treatment

Extract some bottle gourd juice and apply it into your hair. Keep this solution for half an hour and wash it off thoroughly.

### For that shiny soft hair

Prepare a mixture of 1 cup of your daily conditioner and 2-3 tablespoons of honey. Apply this mixture evenly on your wet hair. Leave it for 30 minutes and wash it off thoroughly. This mixture will

close down your hair's cuticle and give your hair that amazing shine.

### Baking soda therapy

Make a mixture of 3 tbsp. of baking soda and some water. Rinse your hair with this solution after shampooing. Let it set in for at least 5 minutes before the final

shampoo and styling product from your hair.

### For bouncy hair

Apply a one to one mixture of warm water and apple cider vinegar to your hair. Rinse it thoroughly after 5 minutes to get rid of the apple cider smell.

### Don't wash your hair frequently

Wash your hair every 2-3 days, for proper regulation of natural hair oils. Washing your hair less often will also help regain your hair's natural body and luster.

### Make your conditioner

For a protein packed conditioner, mix eggs and yogurt and rub it into your scalp. Leave on for five or 10 minutes, and then wash it off completely.

### For strong hair

Use almond oil to treat dry and damaged hair. It is a very simple procedure, pour some almond oil in a bowl and heat it for 40 seconds. Then evenly distribute on your hair. Leave it for 30 minutes and then rinse normally with shampoo and conditioner using cold water.

### Say bye-bye to dull

### hair with lemon juice

After the final rinse, apply 1 tspb lemon juice to your hair. Simply towel dry your hair and style as normal to get rid of dry hair.

Use protection before you jump into the pool Pools can do great damage to your hair as it contains harsh chemicals - says Dr Suttar. He says; prevent your hair from the pool damage by simply applying a little conditioner to your hair before you swim. This will protect your hair before it comes in contact with the pool water.

### Treat sun damaged hair

Make a mixture of 1/2 cup honey, 1-2 tspb olive oil and 1-2 tspb of egg yolk. Apply this mixture on your hair for 20

minutes and then rinse with warm water. This treatment will help to replenish keratin protein bonds - says Dr. Suttar.

### Tight is NO-NO

To prevent breakage due to brittle hair avoid using bands and do not tie your hair too tightly.

### The proper brushing technique

Avoid using a comb with plastic bristles to prevent hair breakage from static electricity. The best way to brush your hair is by first brushing the ends to remove tangles and then take the long strokes from the roots of the hair to the ends. This technique will help proper spreading of natural hair oil and thus prevent breakage.

### Moisturize your hair

Pour a little beer in your wet hair.

Distribute evenly and massage your scalp with your fingers for 20 minutes. Then rinse it thoroughly to get rid of the beer smell. Do this procedure once a week for salon smooth hair. Dr. Suttar says- it is recommended that people with sinus and cold should avoid using this treatment.

### Trim your hair regularly

Get your hair trimmed at least every six weeks to eliminate dry, split ends.

### Do not brush wet hair

Wet hair is three times weaker and thus more likely to break - says Dr. Suttar. He recommends to towel dry your hair first and then gently detangle your hair using a wide tooth comb.

### Let your hair air-dry

Allow your hair to dry by itself instead of using a blow-dryer or hot rollers. Using this artificial mode of drying technique will make your hair more brittle and dry. If you have no time to let your hair air dry, then use blow-dryer sparingly and make sure you use a warm setting instead of a hot setting.

### Good diet

Drink lots of water and eat a healthy diet of raw fruits and vegetables. The most effective home treatment for hair care is a healthy diet. You are what you eat, and what you put into your body will be reflected on the outside.



## Kross shares list flat on D-Street: Should you book profit or hold

**NEW DELHI.** The shares of Kross Limited made a flat debut at Dalal Street listing at its issue price of Rs 240 on Monday.

The grey market premium for Kross Limited IPO was showing a marginal gain ahead of its listing and had also received decent bids. It was subscribed 17.66 times, with the retail category subscription being 11.26 times, the Qualified Institutional Buyers (QIB) category 24.55 times, and the Non-Institutional Investors (NII) category 23.40 times by September 11, 2024. Shivani Nyati, Head of Wealth, Swastika Investmart Ltd said that Kross Limited, a leading player in the organised trailer axle manufacturing industry, made a subdued debut on the stock market, listing at Rs. 240 per share, exactly matching its issue price.

This flat performance is likely influenced by other IPO listings and potential concerns specific to Kross Limited. She further said that despite a decent subscription of 17 times, the listing's lack of premium indicates a cautious approach from investors. While the company boasts strong fundamentals like backward integration, long-term client relationships, and consistent financial growth, the industry's relatively high valuation and potential challenges might have tempered investor enthusiasm.

"Investors who participated in the IPO may consider holding their shares while closely monitoring the company's performance and market conditions and keeping a stoploss at the issue price," said Nyati. The bidding for Kross IPO began on September 9, 2024, and concluded on September 11, 2024. The price band for the Kross IPO was set between Rs 228 and Rs 240 per share. The minimum number of shares for an application is 62. Retail investors need to invest at least Rs 14,880.

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

**NEW DELHI.** Both gold and silver prices recorded a hike on the Multi Commodity Exchange (MCX) on Monday, September 16, 2024. Gold futures, maturing on October 4, 2024, stood at Rs 73,670 per 10 grams on the MCX, after recording a jump of Rs 155 or 0.21 per cent. The previous close was recorded at Rs



73,515.

Meanwhile, silver futures, maturing on September 5, 2024, witnessed a marginal hike of Rs 972 or 1.09 per cent and were retailing at Rs 90,152 per kg on the MCX against the previous close of Rs 89,180. The gold and silver prices in India depend on several factors, including the value of the rupee against the dollar. Global demand also plays a key role in determining the trends observed in the rate of precious metals.

## Centre to launch digital platform BHASKAR to strengthen start-ups



**BENGALURU.** With an aim to strengthen the start-up ecosystem, the Department for Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade (DPIIT) will launch a digital platform - The Bharat Startup Knowledge Access Registry (BHASKAR) initiative, under the Startup India program on Monday.

This is a platform designed to centralise, streamline, and enhance collaboration among key stakeholders within the entrepreneurial ecosystem, including start-ups, investors, mentors, service providers, and government bodies. The commerce ministry said the primary goal of BHASKAR is to build the world's largest digital registry for stakeholders within the start-up ecosystem.

The platform will offer key features including networking & collaboration, providing centralised access to resources, creating personalised identification, apart from enhancing discoverability and supporting the country's global brand. There are over 1,46,000 DPIIT-recognised start-ups in the country, and BHASKAR seeks to leverage this potential by providing an all-encompassing, one-stop digital platform that addresses the challenges faced by entrepreneurs and investors alike, the ministry said. BHASKAR will help unlock the full potential of the country's start-up ecosystem.

The commerce ministry said BHASKAR is poised to redefine the country's start-up landscape and create a more connected, efficient, and collaborative environment for entrepreneurship. By providing personalised BHASKAR IDs for each stakeholder, the platform will facilitate easier interaction, enhance searchability, and allow for efficient discovery of relevant opportunities and partnerships, it added. For years, Google gave its ad exchange, called AdX, the first chance to match a publisher's proposed floor price. For instance, if a publisher wanted to sell a specific ad impression for a minimum of 50 cents.

# 'Can afford, but won't buy': Edelweiss MF Radhika Gupta CEO on not owning luxury cars

**Edelweiss MF Radhika Gupta CEO currently owns an Innova, which is known for its practicality and reliability rather than for being a luxury car.**

**NEW DELHI.** The allure of luxury cars can tempt anyone, but for Edelweiss Mutual Funds CEO Radhika Gupta, the choice is clear: she simply won't buy one. In a world where status symbols often drive our spending, her decision to stick with a humble Innova rather than splurge on a flashy ride might surprise many. But as she shared in a recent podcast, it's not about what she can afford—it's about what truly adds value. Radhika Gupta said that despite having the financial capacity

to own a luxury vehicle, she chooses not to. She considers luxury cars a 'depreciating asset,' meaning their value decreases over time. In the podcast, she explained that this is one of the main reasons she avoids buying one, despite the temptation. She currently owns an Innova, which is known for its practicality and reliability rather than for being a luxury car. Reflecting on her middle-class upbringing, Gupta admitted that earlier in her career, not owning designer or expensive items made her feel insecure. But over time, her perspective has changed, and she no longer feels the need to prove her worth through expensive possessions. "I can't get myself to buy a luxury car. I can afford it, but I can't buy it. Every time I tell myself, 'I'm going to get a bonus, I'll buy myself a fancy car,' I remind myself that a car is a depreciating asset. I don't drive, and even if I take it out, 30% of its value will be gone," Gupta shared during the



podcast. She further spoke about how her relationship with money has evolved over the years. "Eighteen years ago, when I graduated from college, people would say, 'Oh! You don't have a fancy handbag?' and I would feel insecure about it. Now, if someone says: 'Why are you driving an Innova?' I can

confidently say, 'My place, my life.' I don't feel the need to prove anything to anyone anymore."

What is a depreciating asset? Gupta's reference to luxury cars as depreciating assets points to an important financial concept. A depreciating asset is something that loses value over time due to factors such as age, wear and tear, or changing preferences.

Imagine purchasing a new car for Rs 10 lakh. After driving it home, its value may immediately fall to Rs 9 lakh, and in a few years, it might only be worth Rs 6 lakh. This gradual decrease in value is known as depreciation. For someone like Radhika Gupta, who is mindful of how she allocates her money, buying a luxury car that will only lose value over time doesn't make financial sense. While many see luxury vehicles as a status symbol, Gupta views them as an investment that will only shrink, rather than grow

## Bajaj Housing Finance shares list at 114% premium. What should investors do

**NEW DELHI.** Bajaj Housing Finance has made a spectacular entry on Dalal Street, listing at Rs 150 per share, a remarkable 114% premium over its IPO price. The company's shares have surged further, trading at Rs 157.98, reflecting a 125.69% premium just an hour after listing. Analysts had anticipated a strong performance, and Bajaj Housing Finance has delivered beyond expectations. The IPO was met with unprecedented enthusiasm, being oversubscribed by over 67 times with bids totaling more than Rs 3.2 lakh crore. Prashanth Tapse, Senior VP of Research at Mehta Equities Ltd, highlighted the IPO's success: "The magnificent subscription demand and record-breaking oversubscription met our expectations. Bajaj Housing Finance's debut reflects its strong market position and the confidence investors place in the Bajaj brand." Tapse highlighted that Bajaj

Housing Finance's IPO not only met but exceeded expectations, doubling investors' wealth on the listing day. He remains optimistic about the company's future, citing its robust



brand and significant assets under management (AUM) of Rs 97,071 crore. The positive outlook is reinforced by the company's historical growth, with a compound annual growth rate (CAGR) of 30.9% in AUM from Fiscal 2022 to 2024.

What should investors do now?

Tapse advises cautious investors to consider booking profits, as the listing gains have surpassed initial expectations. For long-term investors, he recommends holding onto the stock, given the optimistic sector outlook and the company's strategic positioning. He believes that the housing finance sector will continue to perform well over the next 3-4 years, and Bajaj Housing Finance is well-positioned to capitalize on this growth. He also notes that the Bajaj brand, combined with strategic investments in technology and diversified funding avenues, will further enhance the company's appeal and support its premium valuation.

"Hence, considering all attributes, we strongly recommend long-term investors to 'HOLD' their positions for future growth," Tapse concludes.

## Bajaj Housing Finance turns multibagger on listing: Book profits or hold for future gains

**NEW DELHI.** Bajaj Housing Finance shares made a stellar debut at Rs 150 on the stock exchanges, more than doubling investors' wealth in one go.

The impressive listing marked a premium of 114% over the IPO price of Rs 70, closely matching what market analysts had predicted, further underlining the strong demand for the stock.

This bumper listing was not entirely unexpected, given the IPO's massive subscription rate and the high grey market premium leading up to the debut. The listing success reflects investors' confidence in the company's solid financials and its association with the reputable Bajaj Group.

With this blockbuster entry on Dalal Street, the key dilemma for investors is now whether to book profits immediately or hold onto their positions for long-term gains?

Book profits now or hold for long-term gains? Shivani Nyati, Head of Wealth at Swastika Investmart Ltd, commented on the stock's strong performance: "Bajaj Housing Finance, the housing finance arm of the renowned Bajaj Group, made a spectacular stock market debut,



listing at Rs. 150 per share, a staggering 114% premium over its issue price of Rs. 70."

Nyati explained that this performance was "widely anticipated, given the IPO's overwhelming subscription of 67.43 times and the sky-high grey market premium."

According to her, the listing reflects investors' strong confidence in the company's financial health, supported by the reputation of the Bajaj Group. She added that "Bajaj Housing Finance's consistent growth, coupled with its reasonable valuation, made it a highly attractive investment proposition." For those who secured IPO allotments, Nyati advised considering booking profits now. However, for investors planning to hold, she recommended "potentially setting a stop loss at Rs 135" as a precaution. She further noted the importance of "continuously monitoring the company's performance and market conditions for informed decision-making."

## More than 650 offshore gaming companies evade GST: Report

**NEW DELHI.** The GST department has identified 658 offshore online gaming companies as non-registered/non-compliant and has initiated investigation against the same. As many 167 URL/websites have been recommended for blocking.

The investigation wing of the GST department - Directorate General of GST Intelligence (DGGI) - in its annual report has revealed that real money online gaming companies are the biggest tax evaders with Rs 82,000 crore evasion detected in FY24, which is 41% of the total Rs 2 lakh crore evasion detected during the year.

The DGGI Annual Report reveals that the department has initiated actions against 118 domestic online gaming companies, and Show Cause Notices have been issued to 34 taxpayers involving tax amount of Rs 1,10,531.91 crore. The department says that bringing offshore gaming companies under the tax net is a challenge as many such firms are set up in offshore tax havens -- Malta, Curacao Islands, British Virgin Islands, Cypress etc -- known for their

opacity. "There are online gaming platforms who keep on changing their URL/website/apps to avoid tax compliance. Use of dark web or VPN based platforms for such supply further accentuates the difficulties in tax law enforcement," says the DGGI Annual report. Meanwhile, the GST department has managed to collect Rs 2,675 crore from 574 offshore entities offering digital services to Indian entities in FY24. The annual revenue from offshore entities has increased from Rs 80 crore in FY 2017-18 to Rs 2,675 crore in FY24. In GST parlance, services that are delivered over the internet or electronic network are called Online Information and Database Access or Retrieval services (OIDAR Services). These services include cloud services, digital content, online gaming, online advertising etc. According to the DGGI, when such services are provided by an offshore entity in a taxable territory, the supplier becomes liable for obtaining registration and discharging GST on the same. The fact that service providers are located abroad and are

liable to discharge tax to the Indian government for such supplies create challenges in GST enforcement, however, efforts by DGGI in reaching out to such suppliers have resulted in various such suppliers coming onboard and taking registration and discharging tax. According to DGGI, several such offshore service providers are ignorant of the law, and upon conveying the legal position clearly, such suppliers agree to comply with the GST mandate.

The department has named companies like Udemy Inc (USA), Canva Pty (Australia), OVH group (France), and Blackboard (Netherlands) who registered themselves following the efforts of DGGI and discharged significant tax liability. "However, there are other entities that are non-cooperative and appear to intentionally avoid tax compliance," says DGGI in its annual report for FY24. These include various online casinos based out of tax-havens like Malta, Cypress, Curacao, BVI etc. There are also other entities that are difficult to reach out to on account of them operating through VPN or cloud-based platforms.

# Sensex, Nifty rally as Fed rate cut looms; markets stay bullish

**New Delhi.** Benchmark stock market indices opened higher on Monday, on hopes of US rate cuts this week.

The S&P BSE Sensex added 169.53 points to 83,060.47, while the NSE Nifty50 gained 62.55 points to 25,419.05 as of 10:25 AM. Dr. V K Vijayakumar, Chief Investment Strategist, Geojit Financial Services said that globally equity markets will be focused on the Fed rate action on Wednesday which is likely to influence the stock market trend in the near-term. "The first rate cut by the Fed in four years is a foregone conclusion, the only uncertainty is about the extent of the rate cut, that is, whether the cut will be 25 bp or 50 bp. The market will also be keenly watching the Fed commentary on the evolving economic outlook," he added. Leading the gainers on Nifty50 index was NTPC with an increase of 1.41%. Adani Enterprises also performed strongly, rising 1.38%. Kotak Mahindra Bank showed growth, climbing 1.32%. Mahindra & Mahindra (M&M) and Shriram Finance rounded out the top gainers, advancing 1.20% and 1.05% respectively. On the downside, Bajaj Finance experienced the largest decline,



dropping sharply by 2.60%. Hindustan Unilever also faced significant losses, falling 2.15%. Bajaj Finserv declined by 1.95%, while Britannia Industries and SBI Life Insurance completed the list of top losers, dipping 0.84% and 0.54% respectively. Nifty which has rallied 16.7% YTD is one of the best performing stock indices in the world. Even though India's economic fundamentals and corporate earnings are strong, the single most important factor driving the Indian market now is the sustained domestic

liquidity flows into the market. The resilience of the Indian market despite elevated valuations has forced FIIs to turn buyers in the cash market, where they bought on all days last week," said Vijayakumar. The IPO of Bajaj Housing Finance made a bumper debut at Dalal Street listing at a premium of 114% after having received bids worth over Rs 3.2 lakh crore. Early trading session saw modest gains in the broader market indices, alongside a slight increase in volatility. The Nifty Midcap100 index

rose by 0.29%, indicating some positive sentiment towards medium-sized companies. The Nifty Smallcap100 index showed minimal movement, inching up by just 0.01%. Meanwhile, the India VIX, often called the market's fear gauge, increased by 1.19%. Since the undertone of the market continues to be bullish, it makes sense to remain invested. Among sectors, IT and pharma are showing strength. The indices that gained ground include Nifty Media rising 0.79%, Nifty Metal (0.68%), Nifty PSU Bank (0.37%), Nifty Bank (0.38%), Nifty Auto (0.22%), and Nifty Financial Services (0.10%). Nifty Realty led the gainers with a 1.18% increase, while Nifty Private Bank and Nifty Consumer Durables also saw notable gains of 0.44% and 0.77% respectively.

On the downside, Nifty FMCG experienced the largest decline, dropping 0.40%. Other indices in the red include Nifty Financial Services 25/50 (-0.11%) and Nifty IT (-0.09%). The healthcare sector showed positive movement, with both Nifty Healthcare Index and Nifty Midsmall Healthcare advancing by 0.37% and 0.24% respectively.

## NEWS BOX

## Paris St-Germain condemn online racism towards Nuno Mendes after Ligue 1 win

Paris Paris St-Germain (PSG) have condemned the online racist abuse directed at their defender, Nuno Mendes, following their 3-1 win over Brest in Ligue 1 on Saturday. The club has expressed full support for the Portuguese left-back after Mendes, 22, shared the offensive comments he received on his Instagram story.

The incident occurred after Brest took the lead through a penalty conceded by Mendes, who brought down Ludovic Ajorque in the first half. Romain del Castillo converted the spot-kick, putting the visitors ahead. Despite this setback, PSG rallied to secure a comeback victory, thanks to two goals from Ousmane Dembele and a strike from Fabian Ruiz. In an official statement, PSG reiterated their zero-tolerance stance toward racism and discrimination. "Paris St-Germain doesn't tolerate racism, antisemitism, or any other form of discrimination," the club stated. "The racial insults directed at Nuno Mendes are totally unacceptable. We stand firmly by Nuno and all those affected and are working with relevant authorities to ensure those responsible are held accountable." The club



emphasized its commitment to promoting inclusion and respect both on and off the pitch, adding, "Racism has no place in football, and we will continue to uphold the values of tolerance and respect that define our club." Mendes, who has been a key player for PSG since joining the club from Sporting Lisbon in 2021, has made 80 appearances in all competitions. He initially arrived on loan before making his move permanent in May 2022. PSG's win over Brest extends their perfect start to the Ligue 1 season, keeping them ahead of rivals Marseille and Monaco at the top of the table. The team's focus now shifts to their Champions League opener against Girona, with confidence running high after four consecutive league wins.

## R Ashwin picks Jasprit Bumrah as most valuable Indian cricketer over Rohit-Kohli

New Delhi. India off-spinner Ravichandran Ashwin ignored star batters Virat Kohli and Rohit Sharma while naming his most valuable Indian cricketer right now and gave the honour to speedster Jasprit Bumrah. Notably, Bumrah has been phenomenal with the ball ever since his comeback in international cricket in August 2023.

He was the fourth-highest wicket-taker in the ODI World Cup 2023 with 20 wickets and later rose to the number one rank in Test bowling rankings in February 2024. Bumrah recently played a pivotal role in India's victorious campaign in the T20 World Cup 2024 having picked 15 wickets from eight matches with a record-breaking economy rate of 4.17. Courtesy of his performance, he was bestowed with the Player of the Tournament award in the T20 extravaganza. Speaking about Bumrah's stature in Indian cricket, Ashwin mentioned how he was given the same treatment as superstar Rajnikanth during his recent visit to Chennai. "We Chennai people appreciate



bowlers a lot. He was here for an event as a chief guest 4-5 days ago. We gave him a Rajni treatment. We (Chennai people) treat bowlers very nicely. He should be treated as a champion. I don't want to name, but Jasprit Bumrah is the most valuable Indian cricketer right now," Ashwin said on Vimal Kumar's YouTube channel.

Bumrah's sensational return to international cricket ever since his comeback in international cricket from a back injury. Bumrah has scalped 31 wickets from six Test matches at an average of just 15.35 with two five-wicket hauls. In T20Is, he has scalped 19 wickets from ten matches at an average of 8.57 at a phenomenal economy of 4.32. In ODIs, he's taken 28 wickets from 16 innings since 2023 at an average of 20.28 and an economy of 4.40. His sensational performance in the longest format saw him become just the fourth Indian bowler and first pacer to climb to the top of the Test bowling rankings. He currently holds the joint second rank in the list along with Josh Hazlewood with 847 ratings to his name.

## Still feel in shadow of Shane Warne: Nathan Lyon on comparisons with spin legend

**Veteran Australian off-spinner Nathan Lyon admitted that he still feels the pressure of succeeding Shane Warne as the country's premier spinner, even after a decade at the helm.**

New Delhi. Australia's star off-spinner Nathan Lyon recently opened up about the immense pressure he faced at the start of his career, stepping into the shoes of the legendary Shane Warne. Lyon, now one of modern cricket's finest spinners, reflected on the constant comparisons with Warne and the challenges that came with it. In a candid conversation, the 36-year-old revealed how difficult it was to cope with the expectations placed on him by the media and Australian cricket fans who were desperate for the next big spin sensation after Warne's retirement.



Warne, who retired in 2007 with a staggering 708 Test wickets, left behind a legacy that weighed heavily on those who followed. Lyon, who made his Test debut four years later in 2011, found himself under the intense scrutiny of a cricketing nation still yearning for another "King of Spin." "I probably struggled with it early doors

because you would be trying your hardest every game, but I feel like the media and the Australian public were asking, 'who's the next spinner? We need a spinner to do what Shane Warne did on the last day,'" Lyon told Sky Cricket. "And I'm 10 matches into my first-class career. I'm never going to be able to do what Warne did. Warne's once-in-a-

generation, he's the greatest to play the game in my opinion." Lyon, who has now played 129 Test matches and claimed 530 wickets at an average of 30.28, admitted that despite his achievements, the comparisons to Warne persisted throughout his career. Although he now feels more comfortable with this, the early years were particularly tough as he grappled with trying to live up to the impossible standard set by Warne.

"All I wanted to do was make my family proud and make Shane Warne proud and just go out there and compete," Lyon added, acknowledging the constant pressure.

Reflecting on his journey, Lyon revealed that it took several years to understand and embrace the idea that pressure is a privilege. He explained that being compared to Warne, despite the challenges, was a testament to his standing in the game. "I still feel in the shadow of Shane Warne now and I'm 129 Test matches in with 530 wickets," Lyon remarked. "The thing is, I'm happy with that, and I'm comfortable with that now. A lot of us felt the pressure of Shane Warne's shadow... and it probably took me a good five, six, seven years to understand that pressure is a privilege. And if you've got pressure, you're doing OK, enjoy it."

## England continue to be cautious as Jofra Archer returns to ODIs after 18 months

**England vs Australia: Jofra Archer will not feature in all five ODIs against Australia as the team management will continue to manage his workload. England and Australia will meet in a five-match series from September 19 to 29. It marks Archer's return to the 50-over format after 18 months.**

New Delhi. England's interim coach Marcus Trescothick said they will continue to monitor Jofra Archer's workload in the upcoming five-match ODI series against Australia. Archer will be rested for a couple of games in the ODI series, which will be crucial to England and Australia's preparations for the Champions Trophy next month. England and Australia will meet in the ODIs from September 19 to 29 across five venues.

Archer proved his worth for England in the recently-concluded T20I series, nailing yorkers at will in the season opener in Southampton. Archer bowled 3.3 overs and picked up two wickets before he was rested for the second T20I in Cardiff. Archer was due to play the final match of the series in



Manchester, but the series finale was washed out due to rain on Sunday, September 15.

Archer was picked in England's squad for the ODI series, marking his return to the 50-over format for the first time since England's tour of Bangladesh in March 2023. Trescothick highlighted the jump in workload for Archer in the 50-over format of the game, adding that everybody in the team, including the fast bowler, is well aware of the plan. Archer has been struggling with elbow and back injuries and has been in and out of the senior national team since the start of 2020.

"He (Archer) knows the plan. It's discussed long in advance of picking the team on each day. We know what we're doing with him, and where we're going. He is comfortable:

he knows what he is doing," Trescothick said. "That's a bigger structure, in terms of what we're trying to do with Jofra. You come into the series knowing what we've got and what we can do with him.

That's an agreed plan between the coaches, directors, physios and all the different people. We'll still be managing him in the ODIs - exactly the same thing," he added. Captain Jos Buttler, who will miss the ODI series with an injury, also stressed the need to manage Jofra Archer's workload, saying he will be allowed to gradually get used to 50-over cricket after having been eased into international cricket this year. Archer played two T20Is in May against Pakistan before featuring in the T20 World Cup. Archer's workload was managed in the recently-concluded Hundred before he was picked for both the T20I and the ODI series against Australia. England will look to have a fully fit Archer for the Champions Trophy in February-March next year. The pacer, despite the nagging injury concerns over the last four years, has not given up hopes of returning to Test cricket during the Ashes next year.

## Ishan Kishan posts two-word message after superb hundred in Duleep Trophy

**Wicketkeeper Ishan Kishan posted a two-word caption with his photo after a superb hundred in the second round of the Duleep Trophy. Ishan did not play for Team India in 2024.**

New Delhi. Indian wicket-keeper batter Ishan Kishan made a significant return to red-ball cricket, smashing a superb hundred in the Duleep Trophy to reignite talks of his comeback to the Indian national team. Playing for India C, Kishan scored 111 runs off 126 balls, showcasing his aggressive strokeplay and undeniable talent. His performance comes after a prolonged absence from red-ball cricket, marking an impressive return to the format. Kishan, who had last represented India during the tour of South Africa in 2023, withdrew from the series due to mental fatigue and has since



been missing from India's playing XI. Despite his absence from Jharkhand's Ranji Trophy campaign, the wicket-keeper batter did feature in the 2024 Indian Premier League (IPL) for the Mumbai Indians. However, his absence from the Test squad left many questioning his red-ball future.

Kishan silenced his critics with a commanding century, laced with 14 fours and three sixes, playing a pivotal role in India C's innings. The young wicketkeeper shared a crucial 189-run partnership for the

third wicket with Baba Indrajith, who scored 78 off 136 balls. After the game, Ishan took to Instagram to share pictures from his innings, simply captioning his post: "Unfinished Business." The two-word message created a buzz amongst fans and experts, hinting at his determination to make a strong case for a return to the Indian Test side. Though Kishan was not part of India's squad for the upcoming Test series against Bangladesh, his hundred in the Duleep Trophy will certainly have caught the attention of the selectors. His innings came at a time when India's wicket-keeping department is undergoing transition, and Kishan's impressive form could lead to opportunities shortly. Notably, Kishan was a late inclusion in the India C squad, joining the team on the eve of the game after recovering from a groin injury that had kept him out of the first round of the tournament. Sanju Samson had initially replaced him in the India D squad due to his injury.

## Basit Ali reveals how Mohammad Rizwan is better skipper than Babar Azam

**Former Pakistan cricketer Basit Ali has backed Mohammad Rizwan to become the next captain of Pakistan replacing Babar Azam.**

New Delhi. Former Pakistan cricketer Basit Ali has backed Mohammad Rizwan to become Pakistan's new skipper replacing Babar Azam. Notably, Rizwan and Babar were up against each other in Match 4 of the Pakistan Champions Cup between Markhors and Stallions where Markhors emerged

victorious by 126 runs. Batting first, Markhors were bundled for 231 runs in 45 overs. In reply, Stallions were all out for just 105 runs as Zahid Mahmood picked up a sensational 5/18 in 4.4 overs. Following his team's remarkable victory, Basit Ali showered praise on Rizwan's captaincy calling him the best skipper in Pakistan. He showered plaudits for Rizwan's game sense and his pitch-reading abilities saying even Babar couldn't have done that. Basit further said that him not being the captain of the current team is a big loss for the nation. "The way Rizwan led the side, he proved there is no better skipper than him. He has shown it with his captaincy. He can't do that. I am not even talking about Shan. If you don't make him captain at this time, then it is a loss for Pakistan. This is the best time



you should make Rizwan the captain," Basit said on his YouTube channel. Babar's poor tenure as Pakistan skipper. Notably, Babar has been under fire for his poor captaincy ever since the Asia Cup 2023 where Pakistan failed to qualify for the final.

match. He also has a higher rating than me," Liren said in an interview with the International Chess Federation (FIDE). "I have dropped a lot since last year, but I will fight my best to try to overcome the rating difference." Liren, 31, one of the highest-rated chess players in history, claimed the world title in May 2023 after defeating Russian Grandmaster Ian Nepomniachtchi. However, following his championship win, he took a break from chess to address personal struggles, including a battle with depression. He returned to competitive action earlier this year at the Tata Steel Chess Tournament, where he finished ninth. Gukesh, who earned his spot as the world title challenger after winning the Candidates Tournament in April, turned 18 this May, making him the youngest contender in history. The World Chess Championship match between Gukesh and Liren will be held in Singapore from November 20 to December 15, with a prize fund of USD 2.50 million. If Gukesh triumphs, he will become the first Indian to claim the title since the legendary Viswanathan Anand, who won it five times.

Despite the excitement surrounding the match, Gukesh remains focused on the ongoing Chess Olympiad and has been reserved about his future plans. "This is an important tournament.



## D Gukesh is favourite to win World Chess Championship match: Ding Liren

New Delhi. Defending World Chess Champion Ding Liren has labeled his Indian challenger, D Gukesh, the favorite to win their much-anticipated World Chess Championship showdown in November. Liren acknowledged his dip in form over the past year, giving Gukesh the upper hand as the two gear up for the high-stakes contest. Currently, both Gukesh and Liren are competing in the 45th Chess Olympiad, where the Indian team has been in dominant form with five consecutive victories. The Indian squad, comprising Gukesh, R Praggnanandhaa, Vidit Gujrathi, and Arjun Erigaisi, is tied for the top spot with Liren's Chinese team and hosts Hungary.

"I can see my opponent (Gukesh) playing extremely well in this tournament. Maybe he is a favorite in the World Championship



# Navya Nair

**Buys BMW X7 Worth Rs 1.7 Crore**



Navya Nair is an Indian actress, primarily seen in Malayalam cinema, as well as a few Kannada and Tamil films. Lately, Navya's personal life has become a topic of discussion. Fans noticed that her husband, Santosh Menon has not been seen with her recently. He is absent from her social media posts and events. Recently, Navya shared a video of herself buying a new BMW X7 worth Rs 1.7 crore. In the video, Navya is accompanied by her son and father, but her husband is notably absent. This has sparked questions in the comments section. Navya mentioned that she is concerned because her husband couldn't accompany her due to a stomach ache. Fans are questioning the absence of her husband, asking if there are any issues. Some are wondering if Navya is now a single mother or if a separation has been publicly announced. Navya Nair began her film career in 2001 with *Ishtam* opposite Dileep, directed by Sibi Malayil. The film was a commercial success due to its humour and fresh subject matter. Critics describe her as the surprise of the film. She then starred in *Mazhathullikkilukkam* (2002) opposite Dileep, a commercially successful film. She then starred in *Kunjikoonan* (2002), which was also a box-office hit. Her next release was the 2002 Malayalam film *Nandanam*, directed by Ranjith and starring Prithviraj Sukumaran. Her portrayal of Balamani, an orphan who works as a maid and is an ardent admirer of Lord Guruvayurappan, was critically acclaimed and she received several accolades for her role, notably her first Kerala State Film Award for Best Actress. She soon became a household name. Over the years, she has become best known for her role as Balamani. Her other releases of the year were *Kalyanaraman*, opposite Dileep and *Kunchacko Boban*, which was a commercial success, and *Chathurangam* with Mohanlal, which was a box office failure.



## NOTTO Expresses Gratitude To Riteish Deshmukh, Genelia Deshmukh



Bollywood has a history of real-life romances, with actors falling in love with their co-stars on the sets of films and eventually marrying. One such romance that has blossomed in the tinsel town is between Riteish Deshmukh and Genelia D'Souza. The lovebirds are a match made in heaven. Not many would know that the star couple took a pledge in 2020 to donate their organs. Now, the National Organ and Tissue Transplant Organisation (NOTTO) shared a tweet on X (formerly known as Twitter) expressing their gratitude to Riteish and Genelia for this noble act. NOTTO wrote, "Thanks to Riteish Deshmukh & Genelia, the Bollywood star couple for pledging to donate their organs during the ongoing organ donation month of July. Their gesture will motivate others also to connect with the noble cause."

Riteish Deshmukh and Genelia D'Souza had announced it on National Doctor's Day in 2020. National Doctor's Day is celebrated in honour of the birth and death anniversary of the second Chief minister of West Bengal and the great physician, Dr. Bidhan Chandra Roy. It is marked on July 1. Sharing the video on Instagram, the couple can be heard talking about their pledge of donating an organ. "There is no greater gift to someone than 'The Gift Of Life'. @geneliad & me have pledged to donate our organs. We urge you all to join this great cause and be part of 'The Life AfterLife'," Riteish wrote.

On the professional front, Riteish Deshmukh is gearing to win over his audience with the fifth instalment of *Housefull 5* alongside actor Akshay Kumar. Directed by Tarun Mansukhani, the film will hit the silver screens in 2025.

## Nicholai Sachdev Showers Wife Varalaxmi Sarathkumar With Expensive Gifts: Reports



Actress Varalaxmi Sarathkumar recently got married to a Mumbai-based gallery owner Nicholai Sachdev. The actress got married in a private ceremony in Thailand, followed by a star-studded wedding reception in Chennai. The grand reception was attended by prominent politicians and celebrities. Reports suggest that Nicholai has showered her wife with gifts like a diamond-studded saree, gold sandals and diamond and gold jewellery, but no official information about it has been released. Recently, Varalaxmi shared a romantic picture with her husband from her honeymoon diaries on her Instagram Story. The honeymoon celebration photo is gaining attention on the internet. In the photo, she is seen holding her husband tight. The picture was taken in the resort and the newlyweds appeared to be enjoying themselves. The honeymoon location of the newly married couple is unknown. Sharing the photo, she wrote, "Calm after the storm."

Varalaxmi recently shared a video of when she was in Delhi to meet Prime Minister Narendra Modi and invite him to her wedding with Nicholai. Taking to Instagram, she wrote, "Delhi in a day... What a privilege it was to meet our Honourable Prime Minister Shri @narendramodi ji, He Spent so much time with us despite his very busy schedule... we had the honour of inviting him to our wedding... thank you, sir, for being so warm and welcoming." The daughter of veteran actor Sarathkumar also thanked his father, stating, "Thank you daddy @r\_sarath\_kumar for making this happen."

The couple got engaged on March 1, and reportedly they knew each other for 14 years. Nicholai Sachdev first married Kavitha and is a father of a 15-year-old daughter. Sachdev takes care of his daughter after his separation from his first wife, Varalaxmi Sarathkumar will be next seen in the film *Raayan*, written and directed by Dhanush.

# Bipasha Basu

**Congratulates New Parents Alanna Panday, Ivor McCray**



Alanya Panday's cousin, social media influencer Alanna Panday, has welcomed her first child, a baby boy, with husband Ivor McCray. The couple shared the joyful news on their Instagram handles, further revealing the baby's face to their followers. "Our little angel is here," they wrote. While the entire Panday family is cheering on the little one's arrival, many others, including celebrities like Bipasha Basu and Jibraan Khan, also congratulated the proud parents. The actress reshared Alanna's video on her Instagram Stories and wrote, "Congratulations to our doll @alannapanday & @ivor. And to the entire Pandey fam." Bipasha also commented on the original post and wrote, "Congratulations sweetheart." In the video, Ivor can be seen entering the scene, sitting on the bed, and calling out to Alanna. She soon appears with their baby in her arms. The couple share gazes and a sweet kiss before the adorable video ends. Both the parents are dressed in matching blue outfits, while the newborn is also dressed in blue. Many reacted to the video with heartwarming reactions. Filmmaker Anurag Kashyap's daughter, Aaliyah Kashyap wrote, "Oh my god!!!! congratulations you guys," while Jibraan Khan commented, "Ohhhhh my god!! Congratulations you two." Prior to this, the Liger star shared her cousin's video and wrote, "My beautiful baby boy nephew is here." For those unaware, Alanna Panday is the daughter of Chunky Panday's brother Chikki Panday, and fitness instructor Deanne Panday. She got married to US-based filmmaker Ivor McCray in March 2023 in a picturesque ceremony in Mumbai. Earlier this year, they announced Alanna's pregnancy with dreamy maternity pictures. "We love you so much already, we can't wait to meet you," the post read.

Ever since the US-based couple has been sharing their journey to embracing parenthood. Alanna and Ivor also held a 'gender reveal' party, confirming that they were expecting a boy. While the entire family was eagerly waiting for the baby's arrival, actress Ananya Panday was among the most excited ones. A few months ago, a video of Ananya's reaction to Alanna's pregnancy went viral. Unable to contain her happiness, the actress lovingly caressed her cousin's baby bump and jokingly said, "I just want to take it out."

