

No question of CM's resignation: Deputy CM Shivakumar

Sanjay Kumar

New Delhi, Sep. 24: Karnataka Deputy Chief Minister D K Shivakumar on Tuesday said there is no question of Chief Minister

said: "There is no question, the CM has not done anything wrong. He is not involved in any scam. It is a political conspiracy by the BJP against all opposition leaders in the country, this is what is going on." Shivakumar, who is also the state Congress President, said he and his party stand in support of the Chief Minister, who is doing a good job for the party and the state. He was reacting to High Court on Tuesday dismissing Siddaramaiah's petition challenging Governor's approval for investigation against him in the Mysuru Urban



Siddaramaiah resigning over the High Court dismissing his petition challenging Governor Thaaawarchand Gehlot's approval for investigation against him in a site allotment case. He alleged that there was a "big conspiracy" against the Chief Minister, as he asserted that the latter has done no wrong in the issue and will come out clean. When questioned about BJP demanding CM's resignation over the High Court's order, Shivakumar

Development Authority (MUDA) site allotment case. "There is a big conspiracy against our Chief Minister, like how the BJP had hatched a big conspiracy against me by filing a case and sending me to jail. Because of God's grace I came out. The case in which I went to jail was dismissed. Similarly they have hatched a conspiracy against the Chief Minister and his family," Shivakumar said.

Congress to put pressure on Centre to restore J&K statehood: Rahul Gandhi

Simmi Kaur Babbar

New Delhi, Sep. 24: Batting in support of the early

restoration of 'statehood' to the Union territory of Jammu and Kashmir, Leader of the Opposition in Lok Sabha Rahul Gandhi Monday said his party would put pressure on the Centre to restore J-K's statehood after the ongoing assembly polls. Addressing a rally along with the President of the Jammu and Kashmir National Conference Dr Farooq Abdullah in the Surankote assembly segment of Poonch district, Gandhi also trained his guns toward Prime Minister Narendra Modi, claiming the INDIA bloc "broke his psychology" after the Lok Sabha elections. "He used to boast about a 56-inch chest but he is not the same person anymore". Seeking support for Congress-National Conference alliance candidates, he said his party wanted the restoration of statehood before the ongoing polls. He said there are numerous examples of Union Territories being upgraded to states but never in the history of India a state was downgraded to a union territory. "For the first time, a full-fledged state (J&K) was turned into a UT, and your democratic rights were snatched," he told the rally. "We will put pressure on

them (Government) and we will ensure that it (restoration of statehood) is done. If they don't do it we will," Gandhi said. Rahul reiterated the stand of the party in



his second election meeting in Srinagar. "Whenever you need me, you just have to give me an order and I will be present before you. I will raise your issues in Parliament. You know the special relationship I have with you. I do not have to even mention it," Gandhi told an election rally in the Zainakote area on the city's out-

skirts. "I will be your voice in parliament," he told the gathering. Gandhi said the biggest issue for the people of J-K is the restoration of statehood. "We guarantee that it will be restored. If the BJP does not give it to you (after elections), we will ensure that it is restored." The Lok Sabha MP accused the BJP and RSS of spreading "hatred and violence" in the country and dividing people on the lines of caste, creed, religion, region, and language. Taking a dig at Prime Minister Narendra Modi's monthly radio show 'Mann ki Baat', Gandhi said Modi makes long and "meaningless" speeches but is not willing to address the issues of the country. "He only talks about his Mann Ki Baat and not Kaam ki Baat. Kaam ki baat is to give jobs and vision to the youth and reduce and restore statehood to J-K. No one is listening to your Mann ki Baat (anymore)," Gandhi said at the rally. Addressing the huge gathering in Surankote, NC chief Farooq Abdullah also made a strong appeal to the people urging them to unite and support its alliance with the Congress in the ongoing J&K polls, which he said is not about religion but action. "Aaj yah dharm ki baat nahin hai, yeh karm ki baat hai kyunki yeh badi jung hai nafraat ke khilaf (Today, it is not about religion but it is about action, because this is a big fight against hatred).

NRI quota expansion in Punjab is fraud on education system: Supreme Court

Naresh Malhotra

New Delhi, Sep 24: The Supreme Court on Tuesday condemned the expansion of the non-resident Indian (NRI) quota in Punjab's medical colleges, calling it a "fraud" that forces more meritorious students out of the admission process. New Delhi, Jan 10 (ANI): A view of the Supreme Court building, the apex judicial body of India, in New Delhi on Tuesday. (ANI Photo) (Sanjay Sharma) New Delhi, Jan 10 (ANI): A view of the Supreme Court building, the apex judicial body of India, in New Delhi on Tuesday. (ANI Photo) (Sanjay Sharma) A bench led by Chief Justice of India Dhananjaya Y Chandrachud dismissed a set of petitions challenging a Punjab and Haryana high court order that quashed the Punjab government's move to broaden the NRI quota criteria, including distant relatives of NRIs. "We must stop this NRI quota business now! This is complete fraud, and this is what we are doing to our education system," remarked the bench, which included Justices JB Pardiwala and Manoj Misra, emphasising that the NRI quota was being exploited to sidestep merit-based admissions. The bench said a broad

interpretation of NRI eligibility, which even allowed distant relatives to qualify, amounted to a "money-spinning tactic" that undermines the integrity of the education system. "All three peti-



tions are dismissed. Let us put a lid on this. This fraud has to come to an end. This NRI business is nothing but a fraud. This comes to an end now. What is ward? You just have to say 'I am looking after X'. See the students who got three times high scores have lost out. We cannot lend our authority to something which is blatantly illegal," observed the bench. The top court's stern

comments came against the backdrop of a Punjab government notification issued on August 20, which redefined "NRI candidates" to include relatives such as uncles, aunts, grandparents and cousins. This expansion was quashed by the Punjab and Haryana high court on September 11, which found the move "unjustified" and contrary to the original purpose of the NRI quota - meant to provide genuine NRIs an opportunity to study in India. During the hearing, senior advocate Shadan Farasat argued that the broader interpretation of the NRI quota was already being used in other states, including Himachal Pradesh and Uttar Pradesh. However, the Supreme Court firmly rejected these arguments, reiterating that the broader definition diluted merit and allowed less deserving candidates to gain admission based on financial power and connections rather than academic performance. Senior advocate Abhimanyu Bhandari, representing the original petitioner who challenged the notification before the high court, pointed out that a constitution bench in the PA Inamdar judgment (2005) frowned upon the fact that the NRI quota cannot be misused to pave the way for the people to use money power to get in.

Holding talks with state govts, police to prevent train sabotage bids: Ashwini Vaishnaw

New Delhi, Sep. 24: Union minister Ashwini Vaishnaw on Tuesday said the railway administration is on alert for potential train sabotage bids and is holding talks with the administration and police in several states to prevent any un-



ward incident. The central government treats security threats with the utmost seriousness and strict action will be taken against anyone attempting to sabotage trains, the railway minister told reporters at the Jaipur airport. Vaishnaw arrived here on Tuesday to inspect a Kavach-fitted train to check the efficiency of the automat-

ed train protection system at Sawai Madhopur. According to railway officials, the minister will board the Kavach-fitted engine of a train at 4 pm at the Sawai Madhopur railway station and travel for 45 minutes up to the Indargarh station. He is also scheduled to inspect a roof plaza constructed at the Gandhi Nagar railway station in Jaipur. Speaking to reporters, Vaishnaw said, "There is dialogue going on with state governments, DGPs and home secretaries. The NIA is also involved. Strict action will be taken against anyone who tries to cause such an accident. This is our resolve." He also said that the entire railway administration in divisions and zones was working with vigilance with the Railway Protection Force and local state police across the country. After reaching Jaipur, the railway minister called on Chief Minister Bhajanlal Sharma. Later, he interacted with BJP workers at Bhatia Bhawan in the Rajapark area of the city. The Kavach system, also known as an Automatic Train Protection System (ATP), has been developed by the Research Designs and Standards Organisation, and it can apply brakes automatically in an emergency when a train driver fails to act in time.

Sanjay Raut claims 'big conspiracy' behind Badlapur encounter

ST Correspondent

Mumbai, Sep 24: Shiv Sena (UBT) leader Sanjay Raut attacked the Mahayuti government in Maharashtra, saying that the Badlapur rape accused was killed to "save the main accused". Shiv Sena (UBT) leader Sanjay Raut on Tuesday attacked the BJP-led Mahayuti government in Maharashtra over the death of Akshay Shinde, the accused in Badlapur sexual assault case, in a police encounter. Terming his death as an "encounter", Raut said that Shinde was killed to save the "main accused" in the case, which is the school management. While speaking to reporters, the Rajya Sabha MP said that while there is no reason to show any sympathy to the accused, the "encounter" was suspicious, questioning how a janitor can snatch a gun and fire a locked weapon while in custody. "But this murder or encounter that has taken place was



done to save the main accused (school management). How convincing is it that a janitor snatches a gun from a policeman and fire a locked weapon? This is a basic question," Raut said. Accusing the government of protecting the school authorities over the incident, Raut said, "This is a big conspiracy. Those who are being saved enjoy patronage of the chief minister and deputy chief minister." Read more: Badlapur sex assault accused encounter | 'How can handcuffed man...': Opposition questions police version He also said the CCTV footage of the school, where the sexual assault incident occurred, is missing. "The school is related to BJP and yesterday's story (Akshay Shinde's killing) was done to save them," the Shiv Sena (UBT) leader claimed. Akshay Shinde, accused of sexually assaulting two minor girls in a government school in Badlapur, was shot dead on Monday evening when he snatched the revolver of a police officer and fired at a cop. The incident occurred at 6.15 pm when Shinde was being taken to Badlapur in Thane district from Talaja Jail in Navi Mumbai in a police vehicle.

A R Dairy gets notice: purification ritual held, devotees assured sanctity restored

New Delhi, Sep 24: A four-hour purification ritual was conducted at the Tirumala Tirupati Devasthanam shrine to appease Lord Venkateswara Swamy amid allegations of mixing animal fats in Tirupati laddus. A priest performs the purification ritual to undo the alleged desecrations that occurred at Sri Venkateswara Swamy Temple. Tirumala Tirupati Devasthanam (TTD) executive officer J Shyamala Rao has assured devotees that their concerns regarding the temple laddus can be put to rest as the sanctity of the 'prasadam' has been restored following the purification ritual. Meanwhile, India's food safety regulator has also issued a show-cause notice to a Tamil Nadu firm for allegedly providing substandard ghee to the Tirumala Tirupati Devasthanam temple authority. This comes amid increasing calls for a comprehensive investigation and strict action regarding claims of animal fat being used in Tirupati laddus. BJP leader and former minister Subramanian Swamy has urged for a court-monitored investigation. Meanwhile, former Tirumala Tirupati Devasthanams (TTD) chairman and YSRCP MP YV Subba Reddy, who denied the allegations of adulteration has sought an inquiry by an independent committee headed by a retired Supreme Court judge.

Naveen Patnaik expresses concern over deteriorating law and order

Navdeep Singh Sahni

New Delhi, Sep.24: Former Odisha Chief Minister and BJD president Naveen Patnaik on Monday expressed concern over the alleged deterioration in the law and order situation in the state under the BJP government. Patnaik said this while meeting BJD MLAs and leaders of Nabarangpur and Kalahandi districts here. The BJD president called upon the party leaders and workers to work jointly and serve the people as the law and order situation has been "deteriorating" in the state. "During our government, many developmental activities were being done and the law and order situation was well under the control of the government," Patnaik said. He also suggested to party leaders to serve the people. "We can return to power again if we fight for the rights of the people," Patnaik said. When BJD leaders from Nabarangpur district drew the attention

of Patnaik on the recent rape and murder of a minor tribal girl in Tentulikhunti block, the Leader of Opposition in



Odisha Assembly said: "This is happening not only in your district but in different places." Alleging that the police hesitate to take action against the culprits of the rape and murder of the tribal minor girl, the Nabarangpur district leaders

informed Patnaik that they have given a call for a 12 hour bandh on September 26. While expressing concern over rape incidents in different parts of the state, the BJD president pointed out to the alleged gang rape of two minor girls in Rourkela. On Friday, while making a statement on the alleged custodial torture of an army officer and his fiancée at Bharatpur police station Patnaik had stated that the way an army officer and a lady were treated in Bharatpur police station is shocking and beyond comprehension. "The manner in which police allegedly treated them has shocked the conscience of the country. This has happened to a serving army officer and a lady within Odisha," Patnaik said. Senior BJP leader and Odisha Revenue minister Suresh Pujari said: "The BJD government led by former CM Naveen Patnaik was in power for 24 years.

EC to have 'zero tolerance' towards use of money power in J'khand assembly polls

Tejinder Kaur Babbar

Ranchi, Sep.24: The Election Commission on Tuesday made it clear to central and state enforcement agencies that it will have "zero tolerance towards use of money power" in the upcoming elections to the 81-member Jharkhand assembly. Chief Election Commissioner Rajiv Kumar along with Election Commissioners Gyanesh Kumar and Dr SS Sandhu reviewed poll preparedness here and held meetings with political parties, security forces and other stakeholders since Monday. "During the review meeting with nearly 20 central and state enforcement agencies like DRI, NCB, state and central GST, RPF, RBI, state police, income tax, enforcement directorate, etc, the commission underscored its focus for inducement-free elections. The commission conveyed its zero tolerance towards use of money power in the elections," the EC said in a release. The CEC cautioned the officials to

avoid any undue harassment of the public in the name of checking during the elections. The Election Commission (EC) directed all enforcement agencies to work in a coordinated manner to "curb illicit liquor, cash and drug inflow in the state



besides synchronising and updating their route maps". The poll panel asked the police and excise department to focus on action against liquor and drug kingpins and establish backward linkages for wider

deterrence besides reviewing inter-state border and Naka arrangements. The poll panel also directed the officials to maintain a special focus on Jharkhand borders with West Bengal, Odisha and Bihar. CEC Rajiv Kumar said, "We held meetings with political parties and enforcement agencies. The parties demanded 100 per cent CCTVs at booths. We have instructed officials concerned that entire elections should be free, fair and inducement-free." "We have told DMs and SPs to ensure drug-free elections and sealing of borders to prevent any disturbance. During election campaigns, there will be allegations and counter allegations but the authorities should not take sides. We will take strict action (in such cases)," he said. The poll panel has asked officials to attract voters through various themes like paddy-sowing, tourist spots and hockey to motivate people to come out with larger numbers and par-

ticipate in voting, the CEC said. He also said the commission will soon take a "final call on election dates". According to officials, several political parties requested the poll panel to conduct the assembly elections in a single phase. As per the EC, most parties requested the poll panel to consider festivals such as Diwali, Chhath, Durga Puja and State Foundation Day in October and November before deciding on the election schedule. The parties also requested the EC to ensure enhanced participation of people in the election process. "The commission was informed that many voters in the state will be travelling during Chhath puja. Many parties also requested for a single-phase election," an official said. To avoid any undue harassment by authorities, a few parties highlighted the need for clear guidelines and demarcation of areas for setting up of desks near polling stations by parties on election days, he said. "One of the parties also raised concern about the deletion of names on voter lists in certain constituencies in previous elections.

News box

'Opened multiple bank accounts': Rs 382 crore tax notice leads to Aadhaar, PAN misuse scam in Thane

THANE. A real estate agent from Diva was shocked on receiving an income tax notice, accusing him of conducting transactions amounting to Rs 382 crore. The unsuspecting agent, who resides in a chawl, soon learnt that he had become a victim of a massive financial scam involving fraudulent bank accounts and proprietary firms set up in his name for money laundering purposes, said a police officer.

The ordeal began in 2022, when the complainant was approached by an acquaintance. The prime accused offered him a job at a monthly salary of Rs 20,000. The prime accused, with two others, asked for his Aadhaar card, PAN card, photos, and a signed cheque. The trio allegedly used the documents to open multiple bank accounts and set up fake firms, including a proprietorship firm. These accounts were used for huge monetary deals to the tune of Rs 382 crore. The scam came to light when the complainant received a notice from the Income Tax Department, asking him to explain the massive financial activity under his name. He approached the cyber crime police, who registered a case and began an investigation into the matter.

The police said the accused had used the complainant's documents to orchestrate the scam, facilitating illegal financial operations and money laundering through fake firms. "They opened multiple bank accounts used for large-scale money laundering," said an officer. Police have warned the public about sharing personal documents as such scams are becoming common.

Mumbai: Month after dentist died in crash, 'drunk' acquaintance who drove her home held

MUMBAI. A 26-year-old son of a businessman from Ghatkopar was arrested on Sunday two days after his blood report in a drunk driving case came positive for alcohol content. The case pertains to the death of a 26-year-old dentist in a car crash at Vikhroli last month. The permissible blood alcohol content in India is 0.03% per 100 ml of blood. The report stated there was a presence of 0.145% of alcohol in his blood samples, indicating he had consumed a high dose of hard drinks and yet drove the car, leading to the accident.

The Vikhroli police arrested Vishak Harilal Patel. While he was initially booked for rash and negligent driving, and endangering human life, the police on Sunday invoked stringent sections of culpable homicide not amounting to murder and intentional knowledge.

He was produced in the holiday court which sent him to police custody. The police said they added this section as the accused knew that drinking and driving would risk his life, and endanger that of others. The deceased, Vibhuti Khatri, was a dentist. On the night of Aug 25, she was with her friend at Ghatkopar when another friend asked her to go for a stroll. The two went to another friend's place near at Ghatkopar, where Patel's cousin Ishan Patel joined them. Early morning, one of the friends asked Patel to drop Vibhuti home in his chauffeur-driven car. The trio came to Patel's Ghatkopar home. "From here, Patel took his own car and decided to drop his cousin Ishan at Powai and then drop Vibhuti at her house."

Watch: Snake on Jabalpur-Mumbai train sparks panic

MUMBAI. Panic spread among passengers aboard an air-conditioned coach of the Jabalpur-Mumbai Garib Rath Express on Sunday after they spotted a snake during their journey. The incident occurred while the train was en route to Mumbai. A video of the snake quickly went viral on social media, showing the reptile hanging from the iron grip of a side berth, with passengers leaving their seats in alarm in G17 coach. "According to railway officials, as soon as the presence of the snake was reported at Kasara, passengers were promptly shifted to another coach. No one faced any major inconvenience. The coach where the snake was found was locked, and it was safely removed." The snake reportedly entered the train while it was stationary near Kasara, possibly from an nearby tree. Some passengers attempted to throw the snake out using a blanket, but while the blanket fell out, the snake retreated into the air-conditioning panel. Another official said, "The train continued its journey after the coach with the snake was detached from the rake's configuration." This is the second incident of a snake being found on a Mumbai-bound long-distance train. In July 2024, one was spotted on the side upper berth of an AC coach on the Gorakhpur-Bandra Terminus Weekly Express at Charbagh station in Lucknow division. That incident, too, had gone viral, showing the snake's tail emerging from an opening in the coach roof.

Tamil Nadu govt allots houses to families of Kannappar thidal in Moolakothalam after two decades

These families were evicted from the streets near Nehru Stadium in 2002 and relocated to the Kannappar Thidal shelter.

CHENNAI. Ending the two-decade-long struggle of 114 families residing at the corporation-run shelter in Kannappar Thidal, Minister of Youth Welfare and Sports Development Udhayanidhi Stalin on Monday issued housing allotment orders for them. The authorities have planned to resettle the families at the Tamil Nadu Urban Habitat Development Board tenements at Moolakothalam.

The beneficiary contribution that each family was to pay for their house had initially worked out to Rs 4.27 lakh. However, the city corporation later decided to fund two-thirds of this amount, bringing it down to Rs 1.42 lakh per family. The residents can pay this amount in instalments.

These families were evicted from the streets near Nehru Stadium in 2002 and relocated to the Kannappar Thidal shelter. Over the years, as residents increased in the building, many families found themselves cramped into small spaces, unable to even stretch their legs. In 2023, Chief Minister MK Stalin



visited the shelter following Cyclone Michaung and promised the residents that housing would be provided to them before 2024 monsoon. Initially, it was proposed to relocate them to Kannagi Nagar, but following opposition from the families as the site was far from their workplaces, the Moolakothalam tenements were decided on. Protesting the Rs 4.27 lakh beneficiary

contribution, the residents staged a protest in August this year, demanding free housing.

Speaking at an event held to hand over the allotment orders on Monday, Udhayanidhi said, "Just as food and water are basic necessities, housing is equally vital. During the 2021 election, CM Stalin assured the residents that they would receive housing, and now that promise has been fulfilled. The

22-year dream of these residents has come true." Rajesh, a resident of Kannappar Thidal, told TNIE, "After all these years, we are finally going to have a proper home. Electrical work at Moolakothalam is still pending, but we expect to move there in 10 days."

Protests in Allikulam

The residents of Thideer Nagar in Allikulam, and V V Koil Street near Kannappar Thidal staged a protest, seeking housing allotments. They said an enumeration was carried out but they had not been allotted houses. Egmore MLA I Paranthamen told TNIE, "These protestors earlier requested homes to be built in same location. So, we planned to relocate the residents in the homeless shelter first and then construct houses on that land for these people. But now, Allikulam and V V Koil street residents are suddenly demanding houses at Moolakothalam. We are in discussions with them, and we are taking measures to ensure that they receive housing soon."

Andhra Pradesh: Two bodies of missing medics retrieved from Maredumilli waterfalls

VIJAYAWADA. National Disaster Response Force (NDRF) personnel retrieved the bodies of two medical students who drowned in the swollen stream of Maredumilli in Alluri Sita Ramaraju district, while the search for a third student is ongoing as of Monday.

Two teams of NDRF had been conducting intensified search operations in the waterfalls since Sunday afternoon and retrieved the bodies of two students, Kosireddy Sowmya of Bobbili (20) and B Amrutha of Bapatla (21), on Monday morning, said Rampachodavaram Assistant



Superintendent of Police (SP) Jagadeesh Adahalli. Search operations continue to recover the body of Ch Haradeep (21) of Prakasam

district. The recovered bodies were shifted to Rampachodavaram area hospital for postmortem.

On Sunday, a group of 14 medical students from Alluri Sitarama Raju Academy of Medical Sciences (ASRAM) College in Eluru went on a trip to Maredumilli. Tragedy struck when six of them slipped into a waterfall after sudden water flow due to brief heavy rains in the upper catchment of Maredumilli. The survivors were identified as Harini Priya, B Prajna, and Gayatri Puspaa.

Tamil Nadu CM Stalin drops 'strong hint' about making son Udhayanidhi as deputy CM

CHENNAI. Tamil Nadu Chief Minister MK Stalin on Tuesday dropped a strong hint about making his son and Minister for Youth Welfare and Sports Development, Udhayanidhi Stalin as the deputy chief minister.

When asked about his recent remarks about the reshuffle in the state cabinet and the possibility of making Udhayanidhi Stalin as the deputy CM, Stalin said, "There won't be any disappointment. But there will be change." The CM said this during his visit to his assembly constituency Kolathur to inaugurate completed works and to distribute welfare assistance to the people.

The speculations about making Udhayanidhi Stalin as the Deputy CM have been doing the rounds for many months. There were rumours that this would happen ahead of Stalin's visit to the USA. But that didn't happen.

On August 4, when reporters asked about the demand for making Udhayanidhi Stalin as the Deputy CM, Stalin said, "The demand is getting louder. But the time is not ripe yet for that."



Ahead of boarding the flight for the USA, when asked about a reshuffle in the Cabinet, Stalin said, "Maatram Ondre Maarathathu (Change is the only constant). Wait and See. On September 14, on his return to Chennai from his trip to the USA when asked about a Cabinet reshuffle, Stalin hinted that there would be changes in the State Cabinet.

When asked about the opposition parties' demand for a white paper on the investments attracted during his foreign visits, the Stalin said, "Everyone knows about the white papers issued during their regimes. The investment commitments made during my visit to foreign countries are genuine. Industries Minister TRB Rajaa has given a detailed

reply to this and this itself resembles a white paper." DMK is not a Sankara Mutt to encourage dynastic politics: D Jayakumar

Meanwhile, talking to reporters, AIADMK organising secretary D Jayakumar said, "Many years ago, former Chief Minister M Karunanidhi said the DMK is not a Sankara Mutt to encourage dynastic politics. But slowly, he brought MK Stalin in the party step by step. In the same fashion, for the past three years, they have been spreading the information that Udhayanidhi Stalin is the Deputy CM. Today, Stalin said there won't be any disappointment - that means, the climax to this speculation has come. Though the Cabinet reshuffle is a prerogative of the Chief Minister, there are umpteen number of senior who have put in enormous work for the DMK. Are they not eligible for this post?"

Meanwhile, reacting to remarks of Stalin about the Cabinet reshuffle, the former governor of Telangana, Tamilisai Soundararajan said, "So, the CM said the time is ripening for making Udhayanidhi Stalin as the deputy CM.

Telangana: First-of-its-kind initiative to hone skills of youth set for launch on September 25

The chief minister has invited private entities to join in the efforts of the government to hone the skills of the youth in the state through Skill University.



HYDERABAD. To enhance skills among youth, the state government is all set to launch a grand skilling programme, the first such initiative in the country, on September 25.

Chief Minister A Revanth Reddy would launch the programme to train thousands of engineering and non-engineering students that would ensure jobs in the Banking Financial Services & Insurance (BFSI) sector. The programme is designed in such a way that students can get jobs as soon as they complete graduation. This will reduce unemployment in the state.

It may be recalled that the state government has already established the Telangana Young India Skill University in which courses would start from next month. Recently, the chief minister announced that the government will provide Rs 100 crore for the Skill University.

The chief minister has invited private entities to join in the efforts of the government to hone skills of the youth in the state through the Skill University. As a part of skill development initiatives, the Telangana Council of Higher Education (TGCHE) has entered into an agreement with the Banking Financial Services & Insurance Consortium (BFSI) with the aim to meet the demand for IT and ITES professionals in the sector. This will be done by integrating industry-specific knowledge into undergraduate courses to empower students with industry relevant skills. This initiative will be evolved through CSR partners, ensuring there is no additional cost to the government or the students.

Sreekaryam in Thiruvananthapuram: Land of the temple accountants

Hence, it is believed that Sreekaryam got the name because it was home to the 'sreekaryakar'.

THIRUVANANTHAPURAM. The Sree Padmanabhaswamy Temple is said to be among the richest Hindu temples in the world. And this extraordinary wealth suggests a long history of meticulous account-keeping, making it a place of both reverence and intrigue.

The ties between Sreekaryam and the temple run deep, rooted in the financial stewardship that defined the area for centuries. "The Padmanabhaswamy temple evolved into the Hindu temple we see today approximately seven-to-eight centuries ago. Following that, the 'sreekaryakar' of the Potti community were responsible for maintaining accounts related to the temple's worship practices and expenses," notes historian Velland Ramachandran. Hence, it is believed that Sreekaryam got the name because it was home to the 'sreekaryakar'.

Another fascinating aspect of Sreekaryam has been the discovery of megalithic burial urns, known as 'nannagadi', in the area. "The urns were commonly found between 500 BCE and 1000 BCE. This indicates that a significant community thrived here long



before the Padmanabhaswamy temple was established. One of the urns is preserved at the archaeology department of the University of Kerala," says Ramachandran.

In more recent times, Sreekaryam evolved as a bustling area and vital traffic junction. The Sreekaryam-Thiruvananthapuram road was one of the main and oldest routes in the city

that is used to connect with the Padmanabhaswamy Temple.

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NEWS BOX

On WhatsApp, man lured to invest in shares, loses 1 crore

Noida. A resident of Noida was cheated of over Rs 1 crore by fraudsters, who lured him into making stock investments. The complainant said he was scammed by at least four fraudsters who added him to WhatsApp groups between April and June. In an FIR filed with the Cyber Crime police station on Sept 22, the complainant, son of a retired professor, said that he was first added to a WhatsApp group called "The Vanguard Group Investment Club 140", managed by someone named Kuldeep Khanapurkar, and an assistant, Priya Sharma. On their advice, he transferred a total of Rs 91.8 lakh to different bank accounts. However, when he tried to collect his profits, the suspected fraudsters did not allow him to withdraw his alleged gains. Instead, they began to offer more high-profit opportunities which he invested in, but did not see any money in return.

The complainant said he was similarly added to another WhatsApp group called "Wealth Storm Plan 928", managed by Dev Vyas and an assistant, Sunita Singh. The fraudsters here convinced him to invest Rs 10 lakh in high-profit IPO opportunities. On the basis of his complaint, a case has been registered under sections 419 (punishment for cheating by personation) and 420 (cheating and dishonestly inducing delivery of property) of the BNS, and section 66 D (punishment for cheating by personation by using computer resource) of the Information Technology Act. Further investigation in the case is underway, said police officials.

Paved sidewalks to modern streetlights: Udyog Marg set for a Rs 50cr makeover

Noida. Noida Authority will redevelop Udyog Marg as a model road with better streetlights and paved sidewalks. DGM Civil Vijay Rawal said a contractor for the project will be finalised soon, and the work order is expected to be issued within next two weeks.

Udyog Marg, which extends from sectors 14 A to 11, sees severe traffic jams during peak hours. The redevelopment project will include extensive upgrades to civil infrastructure, electricity, traffic management, water, and sewer systems along the entire stretch. The total investment in this transformation is estimated to be Rs 49.4 crore.

The main carriageway will be developed with side tracks, paved with tiles. A narrow central verge will be built to prevent vehicles from criss-crossing, which has been a major cause of traffic disruptions. Furthermore, the existing brick masonry drains will be



replaced with reinforced concrete drains. All utility services, such as electric lines and fibre cables, will be placed underground to improve the road's aesthetic and functional appeal. The road will also be equipped with high-quality, modern, and attractive street-lights. Unauthorised roadside parking and encroachments by vendors will be restricted to ensure smooth traffic flow. The speed limit along the entire 2km stretch will be set at 30 km/h, and speed metres will be installed to fine any violations.

Temple replicas to zamindar houses, pandals bring alive tradition

Noida. From replicas of Bishnupur terracotta temple in Bankura to Ayodhya's Ram temple and traditional wooden houses, the 'Bonedi Bari' of affluent zamindars of Bengal in Sectors 21-15 or depiction of rural Bengal in Sector 50, Durga Puja pandals in Noida will have various themes this year. In Ghaziabad, themes will include gamcha (a towel woven in handloom) as an ode to the handloom tradition of West Bengal. Ananya Nari at Shalimar Garden will have every role, from the priest to the dhaki, adorned by women, championing women empowerment as the driving theme. Anupam Banerjee, vice president of Noida Kalibari in Sector 26, told TOI, "This year's pandal will be a replica of the famous Bishnupur terracotta temple. These temples, constructed between 1622 CE and 1758 CE, represent the local architectural heritage of Bengal, blending history with devotion." The Noida Kalibari enters its 42nd edition this year, the oldest in the city. An additional attraction of the temple is the Jago Durga contest, now in its 3rd year, which brings together Durga puja committees from Noida, Greater Noida, and Ghaziabad, where the best presentation is judged by a jury and awarded for its pandal theme and idol. "The competition awards the best pandal, best idol and overall categories, with the winners selected by a panel of external judges. This initiative fosters community spirit and celebrates artistic excellence across the region," said Banerjee. The Jalvayu Vihar Sanskritik Kalyan Samity (JVSKS) in sectors 21 and 25 is the second oldest in the city. The JVSKS Durga puja this year will pay homage to the rich cultural heritage of Bengal - The Bonedi Bari. "Bonedi bari defines the great traditional houses that once belonged to the zamindars, aristocrats and other affluent people. The theme will transport visitors to the opulent palaces of the Bengali aristocracy," said Ananya Chokroborty from JVSKS. In Sector 50, Saptarshi Sangha (SSDP) will celebrate with a rural Bengal theme. "This festival amalgamates our Puranas, Vedas, religion, spirituality, rich heritage, ancient wisdom and folklore -- all of which are scientifically linked to bountiful Indian harvesting cycles and favourable seasons.

Seen no change here in past 10 years': Sohna voters demand better civic infra

Gurgaon. The Sohna assembly constituency, which comprises 56 villages, has long struggled with inadequate civic amenities, such as water and electricity supply, broken roads, schools and employment opportunities. The area is now witnessing a new real estate boom with many new projects coming up. Despite these changes, civic issues continue to plague the constituency. With a large population of Ahirs, as well as Gujjars, Jats, Rajputs, and Muslims, Sohna's diverse regional ethnicity has often led to caste-based politics and polarisation. The seat has a total of 2,83,000 registered voters at present, with 292 booths built for the Oct 5 polls. In 2019, the Sohna assembly constituency had a total of 2,30,071 electors. The total number of valid votes in the polls was 1,63,499. BJP candidate Sanjay Singh won, securing a total of 59,117 votes. JJP candidate Rohtas Singh stood

second with a total of 46,664 votes, losing by 12,453 votes. Over the past 10 years, urban areas of Sohna have seen some development related to roads, health, and electricity, but rural areas have been left untouched, according to residents. Locals recently demanded that political parties field local candidates who reflect their needs and aspirations, instead of giving tickets to 'outsiders'. On Aug 27, residents of around 100 villages in Sohna and Tauru conducted a mahapanchayat to oppose "outsider" candidates for the upcoming assembly elections. The mahapanchayat threatened to boycott the upcoming polls if political parties field candidates who are not locals. Since 1972, none of the MLAs elected from the Sohna assembly constituency are from the area. They mostly belong to adjoining districts and constituencies. IMT Sohna, which was expected to bring employment opportunities to the area,

has failed to attract major firms, leaving the local population struggling for jobs. "There are no universities or colleges in this constituency. As a result, a majority of the population is not very well educated. There is a lack of employment opportunities. Even the development of Sohna-Palwal Road (NH-919) and DND Delhi-Vadodara Expressway has not resulted in any benefits for locals. We want a candidate who will focus on education and generation of jobs for our youth," said Om Prakash Gaur, a resident of Sohna. Another resident, Manish Khatana, said: "Nothing has changed on the ground all these years. IMT Sohna failed to attract any major firms and thus no employment was generated. We have been suffering for the past 10 years."

Elections were held for the Sohna Assembly seat for the first time in 1967, when Independent candidate Rao Mahavir won. BJP first won the seat in

2014, with Tejpal Tanwar becoming the MLA. In 2019, BJP again won, with Sanjay Singh elected as the MLA in 2019. Singh is currently a minister in the Nayab Singh Saini-led govt, a first for Sohna.

Political parties seem to have taken into account voters' demand for local candidates — this time, the four top contenders in the electoral fray include Tejpal Tanwar from BJP, Rohtash Khatana (Congress), Sunder Bhadana (BSP), and Dharmendra Khatana (AAP), all from the Gujjar community and residents of Sohna. Political experts expect it to be a tough contest between BJP and Congress this time. There are six other candidates in the poll race — Ataulah Khan from the Loktantra Suraksha Party, Vinesh Kumar from the Azad Samaj Party (Kanshiram), and Independent candidates Kalyan Singh, Javed Ahmed, Dayaram, and Subhash Chand.

Safai workers stage protest, traffic comes to a crawl on eway for 3 hours

Noida. Hundreds of sanitation workers staged a protest near Dalit Prerna Sthal and on Monday demanding regularisation of their jobs under the three industrial authorities in Noida, Greater Noida and Yamuna.

Under the banner of Akhil Bhartiya Safai Majdoor Congress (ABSMC), the protesters gathered at Dalit Prerna Sthal at 10 am, which affected traffic movement on the Noida Expressway.

A traffic police team reached the spot and requested the workers to shift the agitation to Noida Authority's office Sector 6 around 1 pm and cleared the road. The agitators claim around 30,000 sanitation staff are hired on contract across the three authorities, which denies them of various benefits.



Nitin Kumar, vice-president of ABSMC, said sanitation workers are hired for collecting door-to-door garbage, mechanical sweeping and cleaning schools and villages, but receive varying wages between Rs 15,000 and Rs 21,000 while labour contractors

take a large commission. Regularisation of service would get them access to other benefits like pension, gratuity and health insurance.

Sudheer Kumar, a sanitation worker, claimed in case of death on duty, their kin do not receive suitable compensation. Kumar was among the nearly 500 workers who stayed away from work on Monday. KK Jain, general secretary of the Federation of Noida Residents Welfare Associations (FONRWA), said as workers stayed away from work, garbage was not picked up at several sectors on Monday. An official from Noida Authority, meanwhile, said talks were on with the sanitation workers to end the strike.

Sexual harassment charge against GBU prof not under purview of physical assault

Noida. A report by the internal complaints committee (ICC) has said allegations of sexual harassment levelled by a PhD student against a Gautam Buddha University (GBU) professor did not fall under the purview of physical assault.

The university, however, will form another committee to implement the recommendations of the ICC. Until then, the professor will be barred from heading his department. The ICC report highlights that the act of sexual harassment, as alleged by the PhD student, does not fall under the purview of physical assault, the GBU registrar said on Monday. The ICC was set up by the university after a written complaint was submitted by the PhD scholar's sister on June 10.

An FIR was registered against the professor on Sept 18 after the PhD scholar accused him of sexual harassment in June. A complaint submitted by the woman's family members at Ecotech 2 police station claimed the professor, who is also the dean of the department where she was completing her degree, had called her to his office on June 8 and used "obscene words" and behaved with "indecenty". According to the ICC report, the PhD scholar's signature on some forms related to an international seminar was missing, so the dean called her to his office on June 8 and asked her to sign the document. However, she did not have a pen, and the conversation escalated. The report said the complainant's statement mentioned that the professor told her that "she must be able to insert a 6-inch one", which allegedly were vulgar words, however, the word "mobile" was later added to the sentence. The professor, in his statement before the committee, clarified that he had told the student that "pen and book are the ornaments and pride of a student and teacher, you should also keep a pen along with a mobile in your pocket". The ICC report states the student and two of her associates, also did not abide by the university's rules in their research discourse. "Due to this quality of the research work also seems to be affected. If the university wants, another independent academic committee can be formed to check the seriousness and progress of the research of the said students. Because the related subject matter does not come under the purview of the internal complaint committee and the committee cannot take cognizance of it," the registrar said. However, the report stated,

Snatchings up in Ghaziabad city area, beat cops under lens

Ghaziabad. After chief minister Yogi Adityanath recently said that action would be taken against beat police officers up to the rank of DSP (or ACP) if they fail to check cases of chain and mobile snatching within their jurisdiction, police commissioner Ajay Kumar Mishra said the ACP will review all beat police officers weekly. Police data shows the district recorded 306 mobile phone and chain snatchings in the first eight months of the year. This, the commissioner said, is nearly 14% less than the 358 cases recorded during the corresponding period last year. A total of 434 such cases were recorded in 2023. "Constables and head constables

beat too. Now, the ACP will review all beat police officers weekly," Mishra said. While Ghaziabad has 686 beat officers, trans-Hindon areas that reported the maximum snatchings — 167 — in the first eight months of the year, have 187 beat police officers, the least among the three zones of Ghaziabad. Rural areas, which saw the least number of snatchings at 44, have 339 beat officers, which is the highest in the police commissionerate. City zone that has 160 beat cops and saw 95 snatchings cases till Aug 31. Data shared by the police department shows the city zone, which includes Kotwali, Sihani Gate, Kavi Nagar, and Nandgram among others, saw a nearly

down the number of snatchings cases in the trans-Hindon area by 22% since last year. At least 216 snatchings were reported from this zone between Jan and Aug in 2023. According to cops, proximity to Delhi and Noida from Indirapuram, Kaushambi, Vaishali and Vasundhara, which are a part of the trans-Hindon zone, allows criminals to speed off into another district after committing a crime. However, cops managed to apprehend at least 167 snatchers from the trans-Hindon area this year. Ninety-nine arrests were made for the crimes recorded within the city zone and 50 for rural areas. "After the CM's directive, senior officers have made it clear that beat

Dog beaten to death in condo, dumped in drain

Noida: A dog was allegedly beaten to death by a few guards and residents of Gaur Atuliyam society in Sector Omicron 1, Greater Noida after it reportedly bit several people. The accused allegedly wrapped the dog's body in a sack and put it in a drain to dispose of it. Dabri chowki in-charge Yespal Sharma said that they have received a complaint in the matter and further investigation is underway. Kaveri Rana, an animal activist and complainant in the case, told TOI the dog's body was found in the drain on Wednesday. A brief video of the incident, seemingly shot from a balcony of one of the society's flats, shows a few residents and guards just outside the society's gate, surrounding the body of the dog. An unidentified man can be seen poking the dog's body with a stick. "The innocent animal was relentlessly pursued and subjected to a vicious beating. The guard of the neighbouring HIG apartments who witnessed the entire incident, has provided a statement confirming the involvement of the perpetrators. GNIDA's health department also bears responsibility for this tragic incident. Despite having an Animal Birth Control (ABC) program in place, they have failed to effectively implement it throughout the city, leading to such heinous acts of animal cruelty. It is imperative that swift action is taken against all those involved in this criminal conspiracy, and that GNIDA takes immediate steps to strengthen the implementation of the ABC program to prevent such incidents from occurring in the future," Rana said. In cases of dog bites, the authorities bear the primary responsibility to take action. If they fail to do so, the DM will intervene, she explained. Meanwhile, Pawan Sharma, the vice president of the society's AOA, denied any involvement of the society in the dog's death. He also alleged that the dog had recently attacked more than 15 residents including children and senior citizens. Some people had even been hospitalised, Sharma said.

NAME CHANGE
I, RAHMANATH Mother of No. 16133649W Rank-SPR Name-NISHAMUJDEEN VK Presently residing at VELLAMKUNJU HOUSE, MANKARA R S ROAD, NEAR RAILWAY STATION MANKARA R S, MANKARA, PALAKKAD, KERALA-678613 have changed my name from RAHMANATH to RAHMANATH N P for all future purposes vide Affidavit dated 24/09/2024 before Notary Public, Delhi.

PUBLIC NOTICE
It is for general information that I, DHARMENDRA KUMAR S/O RAM LAKHAI PRASAD, R/O 247.G Block Mangolpur, Mangolpur S Block, North West Delhi, Delhi- 110083, declare that name of Mine and my Wife has been wrongly written as DHARMENDRA and SONI in my minor daughter TARU, aged about 16 years, in her 10th class marksheet cum certificate. The actual name of mine and my wife are DHARMENDRA KUMAR and SONI KUMARI, which may be amended accordingly.

NAME CHANGE
I, RAJEEV JALLANDHARI S/O RADHEE JALLANDHARI R/O RZ-24/1 KH-335, JAGDAMBA VIHAR, WEST SAGAR PUR, SOUTH WEST DELHI-110046 have changed the name of my minor son AADHAVAN JALLANDHARI aged 03 years and he shall hereafter be known as NATIK JALLANDHARI.

NAME CHANGE
I, AFSANA PARVIN MOHMED SOEB ANSARI Wife of No. 15419285A Rank-HAV Name-ANSARI MOHMED SOEB Presently residing at VILL-CHAND NAGAR, PO+TEH-HIMMAT NAGAR, DIST-SABARKANTHA, GUJARAT-383001 have changed my name from AFSANA PARVIN MOHMED SOEB ANSARI to ANSARI AFSANAPARVIN for all future purposes vide Affidavit dated 24/09/2024 before Notary Public, Delhi.

PUBLIC NOTICE
My clients, Islamuddin S/O Rafiq Ahmad and his wife Sameera R/O L-1214, Gali No.26, Sangam Vihar, Delhi, South Delhi, Delhi-110062 have severed all their relations from their son Sonu and daughter in Law Farana and debarred and disinherited them from all their movable and immovable properties. My client have no control over them. Anyone dealing with them shall be doing so at their own risk and consequences. My clients and their other family members shall not be responsible for any act/decide done by them. (M. Naushad) Advocate Ch. No.351 Saket Court New Delhi-17

NAME CHANGE
I, Arju Dev W/O Lakshmeshwar Sharma, Permanent address- jraul ward no-07, p.o- jraul, Madhubani, Bihar, 847230, Present address A-203,kirti nagar, timber market new delhi- 110015, have changed the name of my minor son Arju Sharma aged 14 years and he shall hereafter be known as VIKASH KUMAR SHARMA.

NAME CHANGE
I, AFSANA PARVIN MOHMED SOEB ANSARI Wife of No. 15419285A Rank-HAV Name-ANSARI MOHMED SOEB Presently residing at VILL-CHAND NAGAR, PO+TEH-HIMMAT NAGAR, DIST-SABARKANTHA, GUJARAT-383001 have changed my name from AFSANA PARVIN MOHMED SOEB ANSARI to ANSARI AFSANAPARVIN for all future purposes vide Affidavit dated 24/09/2024 before Notary Public, Delhi.

NAME CHANGE
I, JYOTI SINGH PARIHAR wife of JC-342792L Rank-NB SUB Name- PRAKASH SINGH RAJPOOT R/O VILL-MANKAHARI, PO-MAUJHAR, TEH-RAGHURAJ NAGAR, DIST-SATNA, MADHYA PRADESH-485001 have changed my name from JYOTI SINGH PARIHAR to JYOTI SINGH for all future purposes vide affidavit dated 24/09/2024 before Notary Public, Delhi.

NAME CHANGE
I, GULAFSHAN PARVEEN W/O FAISAL R/O 382 CHITLA GATE, CHAWRI BAZAR, CENTRAL DELHI-110006 HAVE CHANGED MY NAME TO GULAFSHA PARVEEN FOR ALL PURPOSE.

PUBLIC NOTICE
It is for general information that I, MANOHAR LAL S/O KALU RAM R/O C-6/293, SULTANPUR, DELHI-110086, declare that name of mine has been wrongly written as Manohar in my minor daughter Kanishka Yadav 15 years in her school records. The actual name of mine is Manohar Lal, which may be amended accordingly.

NAME CHANGE
I, AFSANA PARVIN MOHMED SOEB ANSARI Wife of No. 15419285A Rank-HAV Name-ANSARI MOHMED SOEB Presently residing at VILL-CHAND NAGAR, PO+TEH-HIMMAT NAGAR, DIST-SABARKANTHA, GUJARAT-383001 have changed my name from AFSANA PARVIN MOHMED SOEB ANSARI to ANSARI AFSANAPARVIN for all future purposes vide Affidavit dated 24/09/2024 before Notary Public, Delhi.

PUBLIC NOTICE
It is for general information that I, Divender yadav S/O Radhey Shyam Yadav, R/O H NO-720, Gali no-11, Kapashera, South West Delhi, Delhi, 110037, declare that name of my wife has been wrongly written as Manohar in my minor daughter Kanishka Yadav 15 years in her school records. The actual name of my wife is Ritu Yadav, which may be amended accordingly.

NAME CHANGE
I, CHANCHALA MISTRI Mother of No. 14436630P Rank-HAV Name-PULAK MISTRI R/O VILL-ANAGRAM PO-GOKARNA, PS-KANDLI, DISTT-MURSHIDABAD, WEST BENGAL-742136 have changed my name from CHANCHALA MISTRI to CHANCHALA MISTRI for all future purposes, in my son's service record my date of birth wrongly mentioned as 01/07/1956 instead of my correct date of birth as 16/11/1960 vide Affidavit dated 24/09/2024 before Notary Public, Delhi.

NAME CHANGE
I, HEMA Wife of No-14645257L Rank-HAV Name-ANISH KUMAR SHARMA Residing at VPO-BAHERI, TEH-DARBHANGA, DIST-DARBHANGA, BIHAR-847105 have changed my name from HEMA to HEMA DEVI for all future purposes and in my husband's service records my date of birth wrongly mentioned as 02/02/1985 instead of my correct date of birth as 20/02/1985 vide Affidavit dated 24/09/2024 before Executive Magistrate, Delhi.

NAME CHANGE
I, JAYDEV MISTRI Father of No. 14436630P Rank-HAV Name-PULAK MISTRI R/O VILL-RANAGRAM PO-GOKARNA, PS-KANDLI, DISTT-MURSHIDABAD, WEST BENGAL-742136 have changed my name from JAYDEV MISTRI to JOYDEB MISTRI for all future purposes, in my son's service record my date of birth wrongly mentioned as 01/07/1951 instead of my correct date of birth as 01/03/1958 vide Affidavit dated 24/09/2024 before Notary Public, Delhi.

NAME CHANGE
I, KHAJAJHUSSAIN Father of No.16133649W Rank-SPR Name-NISHAMUJDEEN VK Presently residing at VELLAMKUNJU HOUSE, MANKARA R S ROAD, NEAR RAILWAY STATION, MANKARA R S, MANKARA, PALAKKAD, KERALA-678613 have changed my name from KHAJAJHUSSAIN to KHAJAJHUSSAIN for all future purposes vide Affidavit dated 24/09/2024 before Notary Public, Delhi.

PUBLIC NOTICE
It is for general information that I, Rohtash S/O: Satya Narayan R/O, House No.4062-B Plot No. Old No.12, 2nd Floor Street No.236, Ram Nagar Tri Nagar, Chandar Nagar, Okar Nagar, North West Delhi, Delhi - 110035 declare that the name of mine and my wife has been wrongly written as Rohtash Sharma and Pooja Sharma in my minor son Chirag Sharma aged 11 years in his school record, the actual name of mine and my wife are ROHTASH and POOJA, which may be amended accordingly.

NAME CHANGE
I, Udit S/O Mukesh Aggarwal R/O 2, Gali No-7 B, Ashok Vihar Phase-3-Extn, Near Omkanti Villa Flats, Gurgaon, Haryana-122001 Have Changed My Name to Udit Aggarwal For All Future Purposes

NAME CHANGE
I, No-15428627W Rank-HAV Name-GAIKWAD AMOL DATTATRAYA S/O GAIKWAD DATTATRAYA SUKHDIV R/O PATIL WASTI, LAXAMI DAHIWADI, PO-LAXAMI DAHIWADI, DIST-SOLAPUR, MAHARASHTRA-413305 have changed my minor son's name from SWARAJ to SWARAJ AMOL GAIKWAD for all future purposes vide affidavit dated 24/09/2024 Before Notary Public, Delhi.

PUBLIC NOTICE
My client Ishrat Ali S/o Late Nazzar Ali R/O E-232, 5th Floor, Flat NO.502, Shaheen Bagh, Abul Fazel Enclave, Part-II, New Delhi-110025, has disowned and debarred from his son Ashraf Ali & his wife Khuroon Nisha from their all movable, immovable properties and have no relation with them. My client shall not be responsible for his acts. PANKAJ KUMAR GUPTA ADVOCATE CH.NO.482, 4TH FLOOR, SAKET DISTRICT COURT NEW DELHI

News box

California passes law to ban smartphones in schools by 2026

Sacramento California Governor Gavin Newsom signed into law on Monday a bill that requires schools to limit or ban the use of smartphones, amid a growing consensus that excess usage can increase the risk of mental illness and impair learning.

Thirteen other states this year have banned or restricted cellphones in school or recommended local educators do so, after Florida led the way by banning phones in class in 2023, according to Education Week. California, with nearly 5.9 million public school students, has followed the lead of its own Los Angeles County, whose school board banned smartphones for its 429,000 students in June. That same month US Surgeon General Vivek Murthy called for a warning label, on social media platforms, akin to those on cigarette packages, likening the problem to a mental health emergency.

Murthy cited a study, in the medical journal JAMA showing adolescents who spend more than three hours a day on social media may be at heightened risk of mental illness, while referring to a Gallup poll, showing the average teen spends 4.8 hours per day on social media. California's bill, which passed 76-0 in the state assembly and 38-1 in the senate, requires school boards or other governing bodies to develop a policy to limit or prohibit student use of smartphones on campus by July 1, 2026, and update the policy every five years. "We know that excessive smartphone use increases anxiety, depression, and other mental health issues - but we have the power to intervene. This new law will help students focus on academics, social development, and the world in front of them, not their screens, when they're in school," Newsom said in a statement.

Tsunami hits Japanese islands after 5.9-magnitude earthquake, residents on alert

World A small tsunami hit Japan after an earthquake of magnitude 5.9 hit an unpopulated island in the Pacific Ocean on Tuesday. According to the Japan Meteorological Agency, a tsunami of 50 cm (1.6 feet) entered Hachijo island, one of the Izu islands, around 40 minutes after the earthquake. Smaller tsunamis have been detected on three other islands, Kozushima, Miyakejima and Izu Oshima as well, the weather body said. No casualties have been reported due to the tsunami or the earthquake so far.

The weather body has also issued a warning for a tsunami of around 1 m (3.3 feet) high for Izu and Ogasawara islands. About 21,500 people live on the islands in the Izu group and about 2,500 on the Ogasawara Islands, news agency The Associated Press reported. Meanwhile, record rains hit central Japan's Noto region on Saturday, killing at least one person and over seven people were reported missing. Hourly rainfall hit record 121 mm (4.8 inches) on Saturday morning in Wajima, while neighbouring Suzu received 84.5 mm in an hour, also an all-time high.

A massive 7.6 magnitude earthquake hit Suzu, Wajima and surrounding areas in Japan in January this year, killing more than 300 people. Japan is situated on the Pacific Ring of Fire, a line of seismic faults in the Pacific Ocean, and is one of the world's most earthquake and tsunami-prone countries.

'Hezbollah Has Used You'...: Day After Deadly Strikes, Israeli PM Netanyahu Sends Out Message For Lebanese Citizens

Source Amid the ongoing deadly conflict between Israel and Hezbollah, Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu addressed the Lebanese people, emphasizing that Israel's military actions are not aimed at them but specifically targeted at Hezbollah. Notably, his remarks come in the wake of Israeli strikes on Monday that resulted in the deaths of nearly 500 Lebanese citizens. In his video message shared online, Netanyahu said, "For a long time, Hezbollah has used you as human shields. They have stored rockets in your homes and missiles in your neighborhoods. These weapons are aimed directly at our cities and citizens, and to defend our people from Hezbollah's attacks, we must destroy these weapons." Warning the Lebanese people, Netanyahu further said, "Earlier today, the military started advising you to evacuate the danger zone. I strongly encourage you to take this warning seriously. Don't let Hezbollah jeopardize your safety or that of your loved ones. Don't allow Hezbollah to place Lebanon in harm's way." Deadly Israeli Attacks Lebanon's Hezbollah-led Health Ministry reported 492 casualties as of Monday night, including 35 children and 58 women. According to the reports, at least 1,645 people were injured, and thousands of families had been forced to flee their homes. According to Lebanese officials, the recent wave of attacks marks the deadliest since the 2006 conflict between Israel and Hezbollah. The Israeli military urged civilians in southern and eastern Lebanon to evacuate as it intensifies its airstrikes on Hezbollah positions.

Donald Trump Says He Won't Seek Reelection if He Loses In 2024 US Presidential Election

The 78-year-old former president is pitched in a tight race with Democratic presidential candidate Vice President Kamala Harris. Trump would be 82 by the time of the next elections in 2028.

World Former US president Donald Trump has ruled out running for the White House in 2028 if he loses his presidential bid in November this year. "No, I don't. No, I don't. I think that that will be, that will be it. I don't see that at all. I think that hopefully we're gonna be successful," Trump told host Sharyl Attkisson in an interview over the weekend. Trump is running for presidential elections for the third consecutive term this time. He won the first time in 2016 and lost in his second attempt in 2020. The 78-year-old former president is pitched in a tight race with Democratic presidential candidate Vice

President Kamala Harris. Trump would be 82 by the time of the next elections in 2028. The presidential elections in the US will take place on November 5. When asked what keeps him healthy, Trump said he plays golf and tries to eat properly. "Well, I used to play golf a little bit. That gave me, so I don't know, but it seems to be quite a dangerous sport in retrospect. I try and eat properly. I try. I do the best," the Republican presidential candidate said. "I like perhaps all the wrong food. But then I say 'Does anybody know what the right food is?' he asked. "I have people lecturing me for years, 'Oh don't eat this, don't eat that'. They're gone, they have passed away long ago," Trump said. During the interview, Trump stressed that he does not get credit for the fight against COVID-19.

"I never got great credit on the fighting of the China virus, which is COVID. But we call it the China virus 'cause we like to be accurate.



But if you think of what I've done, I took, I took a disaster that came into our shores. That dust flew in from China and we started making things like the ventilators. We were supplying the whole world with ventilators," he said. "Within a period of seven months, we took auto factories and started making ventilators and auto factories. We did the gowns, the cost, you know, all of the

different things, all of the rubberised products, the masks, all, everything. And we also had to go, because our, you know, when I took over, the cupboards were bare. We had nothing," Trump said. "We had, we were supposed to have, but we had nothing. And in all fairness to previous presidents, the reason is that nobody really thought a pandemic in this world, in this age, was possible. You know, you remember 1917, we had the great pandemic that people talk about. A hundred million people they say died," he said.

"And basically this would've happened here too. And it didn't happen here. I think I did a great job. I think I will not be given credit for it. But there are a lot of people that think I did a really fantastic job on that. Nobody knew what it was. Nobody knew where it came from. And remember, we had far fewer deaths than (incumbent President Joe) Biden. And Biden just got the tail end. So we did a good job," Trump claimed.

Gunman who killed 10 at Colorado supermarket in 2021 gets life imprisonment

Ahmad Al Aliwi Alissa, 25, had pleaded not guilty by reason of insanity. The jury instead found the Syria-born man guilty in Boulder District Court on 10 counts of first-degree murder.



Denver, The man who killed 10 people in a mass shooting at a Colorado grocery store in 2021 was convicted on Monday of first-degree murder and sentenced to life in prison without the possibility of parole. Ahmad Al Aliwi Alissa, 25, had pleaded not guilty by reason of insanity. The jury instead found the Syria-born man guilty in Boulder District Court on 10 counts of first-degree murder. Jurors also found him guilty on dozens of counts of attempted murder and weapons offenses.

After relatives of the victims addressed the court, Judge Ingrid Bakke formally gave Alissa the mandatory sentence under Colorado law of life in prison without the possibility of parole. Colorado Governor Jared Polis said in a statement that "though I know this guilty verdict won't heal the pain so many of us feel, or bring back those who were killed, I hope that it can

provide some peace." It was never in dispute that Alissa carried out the rampage. The case focused on his mental state at the time of the shootings. Under Colorado law, a person must be found to be unable to distinguish between right and wrong for an insanity defense to prevail. Authorities said Alissa was armed with a legally purchased Ruger AR-556 pistol, which resembles an AR-15 semiautomatic rifle, when he entered the King Soopers grocery store in Boulder, about 30 miles (50 km) northwest of Denver, on March 22, 2021. Alissa shot dead two people in the parking lot before entering the store and killing eight others, including a police officer who responded to the shooting. He is methodical and he is brutal," District Attorney Michael Dougherty told jurors in

closing arguments on Friday. The psychologists and psychiatrists who testified during the trial that began last month agreed that Alissa was diagnosed as a schizophrenic who was profoundly mentally ill. But that diagnosis alone does not render a person legally insane. "This tragedy was born out of disease, not choice," defense attorney Kathryn Herold told the jury. Eyewitnesses described Alissa as focused as he opened fire, shooting dead at least two victims at point-blank range after wounding them in the opening salvo. Sarah Chen, a pharmacist working that day, testified during the trial that she heard Alissa shriek with delight as he fired his weapon as she and other workers crouched behind a counter. Alissa did not testify in his own defense.

Erika Mahoney, whose father Kevin was killed in the shooting, told the court during victim impact statements on Monday that shortly after learning of her father's murder she envisioned standing in court and facing the gunman. "I wish the young man behind the gun had received more love in his life, because then maybe none of this would have happened," Mahoney said. She recounted other high-profile shootings that have plagued the United States in recent decades, and told the court ahead of Alissa's sentencing: "To me, justice is putting an end to mass shootings in America."

Pope asks for liberation of Myanmar's detained ex-leader Aung San Suu Kyi, offers Vatican as safe haven

Rome. Pope Francis has called for the liberation of Myanmar's detained former leader and Nobel laureate Aung San Suu Kyi and offered the Vatican as a safe haven, the pontiff said in a recent conversation with Jesuits in Asia.

"I asked for the Ms Aung San Suu Kyi's release and received her son in Rome. I offered the Vatican to receive her in our territory," he said in a private conversation during a recent 12-day tour across Southeast Asia. The 87-year old pontiff visited Myanmar in December 2017. Suu Kyi has been detained by the military since it overthrew her government in a 2021 coup. It is unclear where the hugely popular 78-year-old is being held or if she has been allowed any visitors. Italian daily Corriere della Sera published the comments on Tuesday in an article by Father Antonio Spadaro, a Rome-based Jesuit priest who attends the meetings and writes about them afterwards with the pope's permission. "The future of the (Myanmar) must be peace based on respect for the dignity and rights of all, on respect for a democratic order that allows everyone to contribute to the common good," Pope Francis added. Suu Kyi, the British-educated daughter of Myanmar independence hero Aung San, has been jailed for a total of 27 years for crimes ranging from treason and bribery to violations of telecommunications and disaster management laws, which she denies. Her supporters say the cases were politically motivated to keep her out of the spotlight and stifle pro-democracy forces. The military maintains Suu Kyi was given due process. On Tuesday, a source familiar with Suu Kyi's previous legal cases, who declined to be identified due to the sensitivity of the issue, said her lawyers had no access to her to relay any messages.

Russia says Ukraine's incursion into Kursk region killed 56 civilians

Kyiv began the cross-border attack on August 6, more than two years after Moscow sent tens of thousands of troops into Ukraine, and Ukrainian forces remain in the Kursk region.

Moscow At least 56 civilians have been killed and 266 wounded during Ukraine's seven-week-old incursion into Russia's western Kursk region, the Russian Foreign Ministry

said on Monday. Kyiv began the cross-border attack on August 6, more than two years after Moscow sent tens of thousands of troops into Ukraine, and Ukrainian forces remain in the Kursk region. The Russian Foreign Ministry had earlier put the death toll at 31 in the period to September 5. The new toll covered the period up to Sept. 20. It said 131,000 civilians had left the most dangerous areas of the region but accused Ukrainian forces of holding some civilians against their will, including 70-120 people in the town of Sudzha. Asked by Reuters about the statement, Ukrainian Foreign Ministry spokesman Heorhiy Tykhyi said Ukraine abides by international humanitarian law and does not target civilians, and that it was unable to verify the assertions. "Given Russia's long history of false numbers and



propaganda, there is simply no way of verifying their claims. If Russia wants to show the real situation on the ground it can grant such access to the UN and ICRC," he said. Reuters was unable to immediately verify battlefield reports from either side. Both sides have denied targeting civilians and making false claims for propaganda

purposes during the 31-month-old conflict. The Kremlin has previously made clear it regards Ukraine's invitation to the United Nations and International Committee of the Red Cross to the Kursk region as "provocative", and that Moscow expects the UN and ICRC not to accept the invitation.

Kyiv has said its incursion, the biggest foreign attack on Russia since World War Two, is intended partly to prevent Russian forces in the area launching their own incursion across the border into Ukraine. Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelenskyy said earlier this month that his forces controlled 100 settlements in Kursk region over an area of more than 1,300 sq km (500 sq miles). Russian sources disputed this figure and Russia says it has since taken back some villages in a counter-attack.

What to know about the growing conflict between Israel and Lebanon's Hezbollah

CAIRO. The past week has seen a rapid escalation in the nearly yearlong conflict between Israel and Lebanon's Hezbollah. First came two days of exploding pagers and walkie-talkies used by Hezbollah in deadly attacks pinned on Israel that also maimed civilians across Lebanon. Hezbollah's leader vowed to retaliate, and on Friday the militant group launched a wave of rockets into northern Israel. Later in the day, the commander of Hezbollah's most elite unit was killed in a strike in Beirut that killed dozens more people. The cross-border attacks ramped up early Sunday, with Hezbollah, an Iranian-backed Shiite group that is Lebanon's most powerful armed force, launching more than 100 rockets deeper into northern Israel, with some landing near the city of Haifa. Israel launched hundreds of strikes on Lebanon. Then, on Monday, Israel launched a series of strikes that killed more than 490 Lebanese, the deadliest attack since the 2006 Israel-Hezbollah war. Israel warned residents in southern and eastern Lebanon to leave their homes ahead of a spreading air campaign against Hezbollah. Many fear the escalating violence could lead to an all-out war between Israel and Hezbollah, which would further destabilise a region already shaken by the fighting in Gaza. Both sides have said they don't want that to happen,

even as they have defiantly warned of heavier attacks. Israel and Hezbollah have launched repeated strikes against each other since the Gaza war began, but both sides have pulled back when the spiral of reprisals appeared on the verge of getting out of control, under heavy pressure from the U.S. and its allies. But in recent weeks, Israeli leaders have warned of a possible bigger military operation to stop attacks from Lebanon to allow hundreds of thousands of Israelis displaced by the fighting to return to homes near the border.

Here are some things to know about the situation: More than 1,600 Lebanese were injured in Monday's deadly strikes and thousands more fled southern Lebanon. Israel said it was targeting Hezbollah weapons sites, and had hit some 1,600 targets. Lebanon's health minister said hospitals, medical centres and ambulances had been struck. The Israeli military warned residents to immediately leave areas where Hezbollah is storing weapons. The Lebanese media said the evacuation warning was repeated in text messages. Hezbollah said it had fired dozens of rockets toward Israel, including at military bases, and officials said a series of air-raids were ringing out in northern Israel warning of rocket attacks. On Friday, an

Israeli airstrike brought down a high-rise building in Beirut's southern suburbs, killing Ibrahim Akil, the commander of Hezbollah's elite Radwan unit, and other top unit leaders. Israel said Akil led the group's campaign of rocket, drone and other fire into northern Israel. At least 45 people were killed in that attack and more than 60 were wounded. That strike came after the shock of the electronic device bombings, in which thousands of pagers and walkie-talkies used by Hezbollah detonated on Tuesday and Wednesday. At least 37 people were killed, including two children, and around 3,000 were wounded. Israel has neither confirmed nor denied its involvement. Analysts say that attack had little effect on Hezbollah's manpower, but could disrupt its communications and force it to take tighter security measures.

What is the situation on the border?

The Israel-Lebanon border has seen almost daily exchanges since the Israel-Hamas war began on Oct. 7. Before Monday, the exchanges had killed around 600 people in Lebanon - mostly fighters but also about 100 civilians and about 50 soldiers and civilians in Israel. It has also forced hundreds of thousands of people to evacuate homes near the border in both Israel and Lebanon. Hezbollah leader Hassan Nasrallah promised

to retaliate for the electronic device bombings. But Hezbollah also has proved wary of further stoking the crisis. The group faces a difficult balance of stretching the rules of engagement by hitting deeper into Israel in response to its brazen attacks, while at the same time trying to avoid the kind of large scale attacks on civilian areas that can trigger a full-scale war that it could be blamed for. Hezbollah says its attacks against Israel are in support of Hamas. Last week, Nasrallah said the barrages won't end and Israelis won't be able to return to homes in the north until Israel's campaign in Gaza ends.

What is Israel planning?

Israeli officials say they haven't yet made an official decision to expand military operations against Hezbollah and haven't said publicly what those operations might be. Last week, though, the head of Israel's Northern Command was quoted in local media as advocating for a ground invasion of Lebanon. Meanwhile, as fighting in Gaza has slowed, Israel has increased its forces along the Lebanese border, including the arrival of a powerful army division believed to include thousands of troops. Israeli Defense Minister Yoav Gallant last week declared the start of a "new phase" of the war as Israel turns its focus toward Hezbollah.

News box

Road accidents in Chennai city outskirts claim three lives

CHENNAI. Three persons died in two road accidents on the outskirts of the city within just 12 hours. In the first incident, two men, both aged 22, residing in the western suburbs of Thirumazhisai died after their two-wheeler crashed into a stationary truck near Pudukhathiram around 10 pm on Sunday. They were on their way to Poonamallee when the incident occurred. The deceased were identified as Dinesh, an engineering student, and Balaji, a private firm employee. While Dinesh died on the spot, Balaji succumbed to his injuries at a hospital later. Poonamallee traffic investigation wing has registered a case and begun investigation. On Monday morning, two cars travelling in opposite directions collided head-on near Kalpakkam on the East Coast Road (ECR), about 40km south of Chennai. Venkatesan (60), who was driving towards Kalpakkam along with his daughter-in-law Monisha and granddaughter Monika, died in the accident. Police said that the other car was travelling from Chennai to Pondicherry. Venkatesan's car was allegedly in the wrong path and crashed into the other car. He suffered fatal injuries as the front portion of his car got crushed. Personnel from Sathurangapattinam police station in Chengalpattu district rushed the grievously injured Monisha and Monika to Chengalpattu government hospital. Travellers in the other car escaped with minor injuries, the police said.

Rains lash various parts of Telangana



HYDERABAD. Various parts of the state experienced light to moderate rains and thunderstorms on Monday. Hyderabad also experienced intermittent heavy rainfall from early morning. According to the Telangana Development Planning Society (TGDPs), the highest rainfall in the state was recorded in Nalgonda (61.5 mm), followed by Rangareddy (52.3 mm). In Hyderabad, the highest rainfall was observed in Saroomagar (40.3 mm). The India Meteorological Department (IMD) observed that two cyclonic circulations — one over the west-central Bay of Bengal and the other over south-coastal Myanmar and neighbouring areas — merged into a single cyclonic circulation over the central Bay of Bengal, extending up to 5.8 km above mean sea level and tilting southwestward with height. Under its influence, a low-pressure area is expected to form over the west-central Bay of Bengal and surrounding areas within the next 24 hours. The state will continue to experience light to moderate rains and thundershowers until September 29. The IMD has issued a yellow warning for heavy rains and thunderstorms accompanied by gusty winds of 30-40 kmph until September 26 for the entire state.

Over the next 48 hours, Hyderabad will experience light to moderate rain or thundershowers accompanied by gusty winds (30-40 kmph). Maximum and minimum temperatures are likely to hover around 31°C and 23°C, respectively. Surface winds are expected to be from the north or north-east, with speeds ranging from 6 to 10 kmph.

Kerala schools clinch top spots at EducationWorld rankings

THIRUVANANTHAPURAM. Five schools from Kerala figured in the all-India top 10 ranks in various categories in the 18th edition of EducationWorld India School Rankings (EWISR) 2024-25 released on Monday. Government Vocational Higher Secondary School for Girls, Nadakkavu, Kozhikode, was ranked second best in the country in the 'State Government Day Schools' category. In the last two years, the school was placed in the all-India third position in this category. Kendriya Vidyalaya, Pattom, Thiruvananthapuram bagged the all-India seventh rank among 'Central Govt Day Schools'. Last year, the school was placed in the sixth spot. Jawahar Navodaya Vidyalaya, Chennithala, Alappuzha was ranked sixth in the 'Government Boarding Schools' category. In last year's ranking, the school had won the second spot. In the 'Day-Cum-Boarding Schools' category, Pallikoodam School, Kottayam retained its third rank at the national level. Sadbhavana World School, Kozhikode improved its position among 'International Day-Cum-Boarding Schools' by bagging the ninth position. It denoted a slight improvement from the 10th rank last year in the category.

30 truckloads of gunny bags stranded as millers refuse to accept consignment

"We the rice millers of Odisha do hereby decide not to keep the new gunny bags for procurement of paddy for KMS 2024-25 at millers godown."



BHUBANESWAR. Around 30 trucks laden with gunny bags purchased by Odisha government for paddy procurement in the upcoming kharif marketing season are stranded across the state as rice millers are refusing to accept the consignment due to storage space constraints.

In a memorandum to principal secretary, Food Supplies and Consumer Welfare Vir Vikram Yadav, the All Odisha Rice Millers' Association (AORMA) said they are not obligated to keep the gunny bags as there is no agreement with the department

for custom milling of paddy for kharif marketing season (KMS) 2024-25. "We the rice millers of Odisha do hereby decide not to keep the new gunny bags for procurement of paddy for KMS 2024-25 at millers godown. We have neither executed the agreement for the coming KMS nor any specific guideline for storage of gunny bags and its usages are received from the department," said the memorandum jointly issued by AORMA president Mahesh Kumar Bansal and general secretary Deepak Ranjan Das.

Citing storage space constraint as the major reason for their refusal to keep the gunny bags, the association said it's not the responsibility of millers to unload and store the jute bags as it violates the standard operating procedure (SOP) defined by the Odisha State Civil Supplies Corporation.

As per the SOP, it is the job of the corporation to supply gunny bags to its procurement agencies like primary agriculture cooperative societies (PACS), women self-help groups and pani panchayats for packing paddy. Registered rice millers lift the paddy stocks from the paddy purchase centres (PCCs) for custom milling purpose.

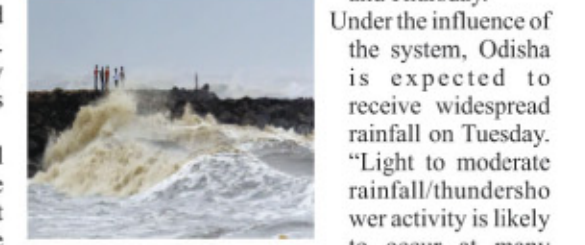
The millers' body said the operational guidelines issued by the state government for KMS 2023-24 stated that two new and as many old gunny bags are to be used for packing paddy required for one quintal of rice. The old gunny bags will be supplied by millers to PACS in advance while the corporation will supply new gunny bags to PACS in advance.

The paddy procured at PACS will be packed at 37.5 kg per bag. This way, the complain of PCCs of not getting gunny bags in time will be solved and storage of paddy at mill point as per the SOP will also be adhered to, the memorandum added.

Fresh low pressure to trigger rain

BHUBANESWAR. A fresh low pressure area is likely to form over west-central Bay of Bengal and the neighbourhood within next 24 hours, triggering heavy rainfall in parts of Odisha for three days, said the India Meteorological Department (IMD) on Monday.

The regional met office forecast thunderstorm and heavy rainfall at isolated places in Ganjam, Gajapati, Kandhamal, Kalahandi, Rayagada, Koraput, Malkangiri, Nabarangpur, Nuapada, Mayurbhanj, Keonjhar, Balasore, Bhadrak, Kendrapara and Jajpur districts on Tuesday. One or two places in southern and western districts are likely to experience heavy rainfall on Wednesday and Thursday.



Under the influence of the system, Odisha is expected to receive widespread rainfall on Tuesday. "Light to moderate rainfall/thundershowers activity is likely to occur at many places in the state in next 24 hours. Widespread rainfall activity is expected to reduce from Wednesday onwards," said director of Bhubaneswar Meteorological Centre Manorama Mohanty.

Experts said the anticipated low pressure area may not intensify further but they are closely monitoring the weather system. As the monsoon season nears its end, Odisha has recorded only nine per cent deficit rains between June 1 and September 23. At least 10 districts recorded deficit rains, 19 witnessed normal rains and one received excess rains during the period.

Government to implement SC ruling on child porn

BHUBANESWAR. THE state government announced to make watching and downloading child pornography a criminal offence soon after the Supreme Court's ruling in this regard on Monday. In a release, the Women and Child Development department said the Supreme Court ruling reinforces the responsibility of each citizen to protect children, ensuring their safety and well-being. The state firmly asserts that ignorance of the law will



no longer serve as a defence for those who exploit or endanger minors. The government plans to enhance coordination with law enforcement agencies to combat dissemination and consumption of child pornography. This includes establishment of task forces to

investigate and prosecute such crimes. In line with the Supreme Court's recommendations, the state will invest in comprehensive support services for victims of child abuse, providing them with the care and resources they need for recovery. Stating that the government has a zero-tolerance policy towards child sexual exploitation, the department urged citizens to report any suspicious activity to authorities to protect vulnerable children.

New IIC performs 'homa' ritual in Bharatpur police station

BHUBANESWAR. Amid the nationwide outrage over the alleged assault of an army officer and sexual harassment of his fiancée in Bharatpur police station, its new inspector-in-charge (IIC) Deepak Kumar Khandayatray performed a 'homa' (fire ritual) on Monday to invoke blessings of the deities.

Khandayatray, who joined the service as a sub-inspector (SI) in 2010, was transferred from Commissionerate Police headquarters and posted in Bharatpur on September 18, the same day when former IIC Dinakrushna Mishra and four other cops were suspended for allegedly assaulting the army officer and his fiancée.

"I am a religious person and hence, perform homa at every new place of my

posting. I was promoted to the rank of inspector in 2021 and posted in Nayagarh Sadar police station. Subsequently, I was posted as IIC of Itamati and Pipili police stations," Khandayatray told the newspaper.

A cop posted in Bharatpur police station said their morale had taken a hit after five police personnel were suspended in connection with the incident. "The homa performed by IIC Khandayatray has infused a sense of optimism and this will help us get back to normalcy and provide best possible services to the people," he said.

Meanwhile, installation of 18 CCTV cameras at all the vital places like entry point, near the lock-up and malkhana in the new police station commenced on the day.

Kerala recorded 205 electrocution deaths in 2023-24; Palakkad on top

THIRUVANANTHAPURAM. With the highest number of electrocutions recorded in the past four years, Palakkad has emerged as the electrical accident capital of Kerala. In 2023-24, the district saw 54 electrical accidents and 27 deaths, both highest in the state, according to the statistics with the department of electrical inspectorate (DEI).

As many as 205 humans and 48 animals in the state were killed by electric shock over the past year, with the total number of accidents being 362. Palakkad recorded the highest number of accidents, 72, and deaths, 35, in the preceding 2022-23 as well. The number of deaths in the district in 2021-22 and 2020-21 were 27 and 38 respectively.

Thiruvananthapuram is the second district with a high prevalence of electrical accidents. In 2023-24, Thiruvananthapuram recorded 49 accidents. In terms of death, Thiruvananthapuram stood second with 22. In 2022-23, Thiruvananthapuram was second in both accidents (47) and deaths (28). Unauthorised electric fencing is among the major reasons for the unusually



high number of accidents in Palakkad, says Santhosh K T, DEI's electrical inspector in the district. The use of iron rods or ladders near power lines to pluck fruits and the absence of the Residual Current Circuit Breaker (RCCB) at houses are other reasons. The electrical inspectorate, the government department responsible for the safety of electrical installations, is

taking steps to bring down the accident rate in the district, according to Santhosh. "We conduct several awareness programmes, mostly mass media campaigns. The number of accidents and deaths in the district saw a significant decline in 2023-24 compared to the previous year. Accidents came down from 72 to 54 and deaths from 35 to 27," the inspector said.

Several old houses, especially in rural areas, lack RCCB and are susceptible to accidents. RCCB is an electrical safety device that cuts off electricity supply in case of electric leakage that causes accidents. The department had asked the Kerala State Electricity Board to create awareness on RCCB among consumers.

In 2023-24, there were nine deaths in the district due to electrocution from illegal fencing. "The menace is not confined to agricultural lands. Recently, we came across a case in which a woman was killed by a fence put around a poultry farm. The owner installed it to save birds from stray dogs," Santhosh said.

Pizhala-Moolampilly bridge in Kochi awaiting approach road for past two years



KOCHI. Residents of Pizhala are infuriated with the lackadaisical attitude of the Goshree Island Development Authority (GIDA) in completing the approach road of the Pizhala-Moolampilly bridge. They have threatened to lay siege to the GIDA office if the work is not completed as early as possible.

"It has taken more than two years to complete the connecting road which is just 350 metres in length. What is the use of such a government office if it cannot complete a small road on time? Taking more than two years for it makes GIDA redundant," said Goban T G, a resident of Pizhala.

The bridge had been a longtime dream of the residents of the island.

"And it became a reality after it was commissioned in 2020. But due to the unfinished connectivity road, the travel to the bridge has become akin to taking a ride on a track designed for dirt racing!" said Goban.

"It is a test of people's patience that it takes more than two years to build a small road that is essential for the entire population of Pizhala, who were excited by the commissioning of the infrastructure development project," said Biju Kannanganattu, another resident.

According to Goban, the road has been built over marshy land and hence needs proper reinforcement to last long.

"But the way things are going on seems to point otherwise. Even though work started on Monday after the agitation and sit-in that was staged by the residents, the pace seems to be towards the slower side. On Monday, some workers could be seen levelling the road. The residents are keeping their fingers crossed," he added.

SRR pupils face classroom shortage

VIJAYAWADA. For 11 years, students at SRR Government Degree College have struggled with a severe shortage of classrooms, compounded by the ongoing presence of the Social Welfare Residential Government Degree College (SWRGDC) for Girls, which remains on SRR's premises instead of relocating to its intended site in Kanchikacherla. Established in 2013, SWRGDC has yet to move 42 kilometres away from its designated location, resulting in overcrowded classrooms and insufficient hostel facilities for both institutions.

"The college requires nine classrooms to accommodate all three groups offered at SWRGDC, but we only have three. Nearly 175 girls are crammed into just three hostel rooms," said Thelagatu Praneetha, Girls' Convener of the Students' Federation of India (SFI) at SRR College. She expressed frustration over the government's failure to allocate the necessary funds for the past decade, despite substantial budgets announced annually for education. The overcrowding has significantly affected



the academic experience for SWRGDC students and added strain on SRR College.

SRR and CVR College Principal Dr K Bhagya Lakshmi highlighted the severe space constraints caused by the classroom shortage. "Our college operates two sessions and we offer 28-degree programmes and require 84 classrooms to accommodate students, but currently, we only have 25," she explained to.

She emphasised that moving SWRGDC to Kanchikacherla, where land has already been allocated, would alleviate overcrowding at SRR College. "We have

communicated our concerns to the officials, and higher authorities are actively pursuing the issue," Dr Bhagya Lakshmi added.

Currently, SRR College has allocated eight rooms to SWRGDC, but two are designated for the principal and staff, leaving only six rooms for classes and hostel. "We are managing with what we have, but we still need at least three more rooms," said SWRGDC Principal Dr Neeraja V. Neeraja shared, "Ten acres of land have already been allocated in Kanchikacherla for the new campus. We urged Nandigama MLA Tangirala Sowmya to provide at least a temporary structure until the main building is constructed, and she assured us she would bring this to the attention of IT Minister N. Lokesh."

Commissioner of Collegiate Education, Pola Bhaskar told TNIE, "The land for the College is ready, but funds need to be sanctioned for the permanent building, which is under the government's purview. We are also working to address the issue of dual colleges by identifying a temporary structure for SWRGDC."

Playing for country, for money

Rio de Janeiro 2016. The Olympics mixed doubles semifinal is on, and an Indian tennis legend is getting a bit anxious, for there looms the real possibility that Sania Mirza and Rohan Bopanna would beat Venus Williams and Rajeev Ram.

Sania and Bopanna won the first set 6-2, and we — fans, sports writers, coaches, Indian sportspersons — were hoping for an encore in the second... All except the anxious legend. He didn't want Sania and Bopanna to win a silver — or any medal! — because he had not been picked to partner Sania in the Olympics. Sania-Bopanna were, also, foes to him, for they were members of the camp of his former male doubles partner. Thus, he was willing hard, with all his heart, for Sania-Bopanna to fail, to lose in the semifinals, to not win a medal — the Indian medal count be damned. In the event, Sania and Bopanna lost the second set 2-6 and the third 3-10 to Venus-Ram; they still had the opportunity of winning a medal, a bronze, but they lost the third-place playoff 1-6, 5-7 to Radek Stepanek and Lucie Hradecka. It was a heartbreaking loss for Sania-Bopanna, for the Indian media pack, for the Indian fans — but not so for the aforementioned legend.

the anxiousness of this great player at the possibility of a medal for Sania-Bopanna, and then the glee at them missing it — came to one's mind when controversy broke out over India No. 1 Sumit Nagal demanding \$50,000 from the All India Tennis Association to play for India in the Davis Cup tie against Sweden. India, missing top singles stars Nagal, Sasikumar Mukund and Yuki Bhambri, got a 0-4 hammering from Sweden.

Sportspersons are human, not exemplars of morality, rectitude, patriotism. They're just like us — and possibly we're a bit better, because we're never exposed to the temptations that some sportspersons, especially cricketers, face every day of their lives. And if they do give in to temptation, those watching from the sidelines start booing. Sportspersons turn cynics when quite young, for their experience, of fellow players and coaches, tells them that the sports administrator is venal and undependable — often a politician or bureaucrat or businessman who joins up for clout in his city, then country, then the world. Once they have the vote in, say, the global governing body of a sport, or in the Olympics, such men are like kings — feted and lionised at the biggest sports events in the world. Power can be difficult to digest for the petty — they turn autocrats, treating athletes like menials.

Some of these men turn up at, say, the tennis event at the Olympics, sozzled silly, courtesy complimentary alcoholic beverages. We in the media have seen them countless times, as have athletes. Sportspersons have utter contempt for such freeloaders. Somdev Devvarman, the former India No. 1 who had a highest global ranking of No. 61, said in 2017 about certain AITA officebearers who had missed the fourth and fifth sets of his Davis Cup match in 2014: "They were getting late for their single malt party down at the club as they thought my match was done and I had no chance of coming back. This information certainly didn't come as a surprise to me. I expect them to be unpolished. I also got a solid whiff of their single malt Scotch as they poured over me with congratulations after the match." Nagal, facing criticism for asking for money to play for India, clarified: "It is standard practice in professional sports for athletes to be compensated for their participation in events, even when representing their country."

Nagal also said he was undergoing rehab after an injury, and had informed "AITA well in advance about my inability to participate" in the Davis Cup. It must be stated that playing tennis as a pro — with the need for a team of coach, physio, trainer, doctor, etc — is a very expensive proposition, and players do need to focus on their bread and butter, the ATP tournaments. AITA officials did not reveal that the association does get money from the International Tennis Federation with which to compensate Nagal — that players do get paid for playing in the Davis Cup.

Don't let the State trample over the law of the land

While courts can be expected to perform their assigned tasks, it would be unfair to impose a disproportionate burden on the judiciary.

THE Supreme Court's interim order of September 17, staying the demolition of properties of persons accused in criminal cases, is premised on the unexceptionable principle of constitutional governance, that the exercise of State power is accountable to the discipline of the Constitution. It is a reminder to the executive authorities that in a State governed by the rule of law, mere lip service to procedural niceties is not a sufficient assurance of substantive compliance with the mandatory requirements of legal due process. The court's order, rooted in 'the ethos of the Constitution', echoes the outraged conscience of the nation against the State's exercise of brute force in meting out retributive justice. That the order was resisted in court by the government in a matter seen as a frontal assault on constitutional conscience and an indelible scar on the soul of the nation speaks for itself. The court's intervention in a petition filed by the Jamiat Ulama-i-Hind in the wake of widely reported demolitions across the country was sought on the touchstone of Article 21 of the Constitution that guarantees to all individuals the right to life with dignity, which includes the right to shelter, privacy and reputation. Though belated, the court's order interdicts what is now infamously known as 'bulldozer justice', a punitive mode wholly incompatible with the first principles of constitutional justice. In a purposive judicial intervention, the court proposed a set of guidelines on a 'pan-India basis' to prevent unlawful demolitions anywhere in the country and has thus exercised its plenary jurisdiction to fill a legal vacuum. In a perfect harmonising of equities, it has ruled that the injunction regarding demolitions would not apply in cases of encroachment of public spaces such as "road, footpath, abutting railway line or any river body or water bodies and also to cases where there is an order for demolition made by the court..." It is worrisome that the apex court's intervention came after several residential and commercial premises were unlawfully razed in what is prima facie a legally indefensible action across several states, such as Uttar Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh, Haryana, Maharashtra and Delhi. Even as attempts to justify 'bulldozer justice' persist, the unlawful use of brutal force by executive authorities to deprive citizens of their homes and places of work has shamed the nation. We are compelled to ask ourselves if there is "fair play for poor as well as for rich, for private persons as well as government officials" and whether "the right of the individual, subject to his duties to the State, be maintained, asserted and exalted" (from Winston Churchill's 1938 speech, expounding the necessary conditions of democracy). Clearly, as long as the sanctity of our homes is not secure against unjust State intrusion, the cherished ideal of Gandhi's Swaraj and a vision of a libertarian democracy in which, "...the poorest man may



in his cottage bid defiance to all the force of the crown..." will remain a distant dream. Discriminatory, disproportionate, arbitrary and violative of the rule of law, 'bulldozer justice' is an anathema to any civilised society, especially in a country whose political and social consciousness has been shaped in the crucible of a long and arduous struggle for freedom against the oppressive colonial rule.

In the cause that is yet to be argued, the court is expected to respond to the constitutional command in an unapologetic assertion of its remit. Summoned to defend fundamental freedoms, it must revalidate its role as the nation's impartial judicial arbiter by scripting a credible remedy that will minimise, if not eliminate, the excesses of the State against its citizens. But the issue at hand raises larger questions: Must citizens be compelled to approach the highest court for relief against recurring high-handedness of the executive branch? Can a constitutional State sanction retribution through processes unknown to law and extend the consequences to the innocent family members of the accused, including women, children and the elderly, depriving them of a roof over their heads and the means of subsistence? Implicit in the interrogatory is a perceived perversion of constitutional governance at different levels that compels an urgent review of the nation's governing processes to ensure that administrative justice meets the test of fairness. While courts can be expected to perform their assigned tasks, it would be unfair to impose a

disproportionate burden on the judiciary, considering the institutional limitations. The defence of democracy and the rule of law is, after all, the collective burden of the three wings of the Indian State and, in the ultimate analysis, of the people as a whole, who must write their own story through peaceful democratic assertion against unjust actions of the State. As a repository of the people's power, the government is expected to exercise its authority in demonstrable compliance with the established legal procedures so that justice is not only done but is also seen to be done. We must confront a broader question: is the smallness of our politics conducive to the establishment of a just society? Indeed, it is necessary to state the obvious and ask difficult questions, lest we forget who we are. No apologies are owed for condemning the unacceptable, particularly, the inhuman acts that have wounded national sensitivities and have left behind an unhealable pain in an unending 'daze of grief'. By a robust refusal to countenance injustice and abuse of power, Justices BR Gavai and KV Viswanathan have once again vindicated the oath of their high office. In their path-breaking judgments on bail and 'bulldozer justice', the judges have validated the view of distinguished historian Arnold Toynbee that the history of the human civilisation is the history of how civilisations respond to challenges that shape the world. The tragedy of 'bulldozer justice' and the court's action will doubtless define the future course of India's democracy.

Lankan mandate

Onus on Dissanayake to bolster economy



Lanka's economy make a tentative recovery, with inflation falling to 0.5 per cent from an alarming high of

70 per cent. The major challenges for Dissanayake are to enable the country to repay its debt, regain investors' confidence and pull one-fourth of its population out of poverty. He can't afford to let down the masses, whose anger and discontent had fuelled the 2022 protests that led to the ignominious ouster of then President Gotabaya Rajapaksa. Those nightmarish scenes of food and fuel shortages are fresh in the people's minds.

Playing its cards well, the Modi government had hosted Dissanayake in February, notwithstanding the anti-India rhetoric the JVP was once infamous for. Going by Delhi's diplomatic success in making pro-China Maldives President Muizzu see reason, India will hope to sway Dissanayake in case he starts cosy up to Beijing. A balancing act by the new President will stand his country in good stead geopolitically as well as economically.

'One nation, one poll' faces trust deficit

Altering an established democratic system and the Constitution raises serious concerns

DESPITE opposition from political parties and civil society, the Union Government, on September 18, decided to move forward with simultaneous elections, accepting recommendations from a high-level committee led by former President Ram Nath Kovind. The committee proposed that Lok Sabha and Assembly elections be held together, with municipal and panchayat elections following within the next 100 days. To implement this plan, the government will need to secure constitutional amendments in both Parliament and the Assemblies. The issue of simultaneous elections has been raging for decades. In 2013, before becoming the Prime Minister, Narendra Modi had emphasised the need for simultaneous elections, citing high costs and disruptions to development activities. Since then, various committees have examined the issue but failed to reach a viable solution. It was in this context that the Kovind-led committee was formed, with a clear mandate to propose concrete methods for holding simultaneous elections rather than debating the merits of the proposal.

The committee delivered a comprehensive report within the mandated time frame. Established on September 2, 2023, it worked for 191 days and submitted an 18,626-page report on March 14, 2024. Its members included distinguished individuals from various fields. It sought inputs from political parties and legal experts, including former chief justices, former chief election commissioners and state election commissioners. Suggestions from the public were welcomed, with organisations like the Bar Council of India, the Confederation of Indian Industry and the Federation of Indian Chambers of



anti-democratic and anti-federal. Opposing parties raised concerns that the move could marginalise regional parties, promote national party dominance and lead to a presidential-style government. Based on these contributions and thorough research, the committee conducted an in-depth analysis.

Supporters of simultaneous elections argue that separate polls waste resources and lead to policy paralysis. While a majority of the experts agree that constitutional amendments are necessary, they contend that these changes would not be anti-democratic or anti-federal, nor would they undermine

the Constitution's basic structure or lead to a presidential form of government. A significant strength of the report is its comprehensiveness, consisting of 21 volumes of annexures, as it faithfully reproduces all past and present opinions, making it a valuable document. The committee unanimously recommended that simultaneous elections be implemented nationwide. It proposed necessary amendments to the Constitution and laws, including a new Article, 82A, stating that "notwithstanding anything contained in Articles 83 and 172, all the legislative assemblies constituted in any general election held after the appointed date shall come to an end on the expiry of the full term of the House of the people." It clarified that "simultaneous elections" refers to elections for the Lok Sabha and all Vidhan Sabhas, excluding panchayat elections, which are proposed to be held "within 100 days".

However, this does not amount to simultaneous elections. In fact, the proposed remedy may be worse than the current situation. First, it leaves out over three million elected representatives compared to the 5,000 included. Moreover, an election held three months later is not a simultaneous election but constitutes an absolutely new one, necessitating all logistical preparations again — setting up polling stations, selecting and training polling parties and redeploying security. All this has to be done within three months, when the 15-million staff would have barely recovered from what is officially described as the largest management exercise in the world. Importantly, voters would have to return to the polls and millions of them will not be able to do so as they are poor daily-wage workers, losing their important constitutional right. The report

also states that "where any state legislative assembly is dissolved on account of a no-confidence motion, a hung House, or any other event, fresh elections will be held for such a new House with the tenure ending with that of the House of the people." This provision does not eliminate the possibility of midterm polls. Candidates could end up spending crores on an election for a truncated term — potentially as short as one to two years. This certainly does not constitute simultaneous elections. The committee has commendably emphasised the need for a single electoral roll by proposing an amendment to Article 325, recognising that the voters for all three tiers of elections are the same. This essentially shifts the responsibility for local bodies' electoral rolls to the Election Commission of India (ECI) "in consultation with State Election Commissioners", a task that is far from simple. It has also acknowledged the ECI's "detailed requirements for equipment such as EVMs, VVPATs, polling personnel, security forces, and election materials", along with expenditure estimates. Although the specific costs are not mentioned, it is clear that we will require at least three times the current number of EVMs and VVPATs, which would entail humongous expenses on nearly 40 lakh EVMs and VVPATs each, that should have been explicitly outlined, especially since cost reduction is one of the main reasons for this proposal. With such significant compromises, the moral authority of the simultaneous poll proposal has been undermined. Altering an established democratic system and the Constitution raises serious concerns. If the proposal were sincere, why have all elections been extended over the past decade? Why have the Himachal and Gujarat elections.

5 Decor secrets of happy Couples



Married couples and live-in partners can increase their togetherness quotient with the way they decorate their living space.

softer, and creates a cosy ambience. White light is too harsh and unromantic, so go for dim yellow lights in your bedroom." Says interior designer Raseel Gujral, "Do fun things with your bedroom that raises the romance quotient."

A fun corner to play

Delhi-based couple Rakesh and Tanya Sehgal play table tennis on their dining table. "It's a great way to let out stress. Every couple needs to have a game corner. It's a great way to laugh and bust stress in your relationship." Says marriage counsellor Gitanjali Sharma, "You could be doing anything... practising yoga as a couple, playing chess or cards; these activities are a great way to spend time together."

Be creative with space

Whether decorative or functional, be specific with the utilisation of space in your house. Place ashtrays close to where your spouse likes to unwind, keep the keys on a table at the entrance, for instance. Try to keep the objects that you like within eye view. Says Sharma, "Most couples fight over small things in the kitchen or in the wardrobe; try to systematically place objects of everyday use."

Have a garden spot



A great outdoor spot with flowers and greenery is pure therapy. Says interior design expert Sanviri Alagh Nair, "Floral plants bring freshness to your home." Meera Patel, 35, marketing professional, says, "I think it's essential for a couple to surround themselves with herbs and vibrant flowers around the house. If they spend time in a mini garden together, they will bond deeply."

This season is perfect for growing phlox, helichrysum, gazania, salvia, cineraria and verbena. These winter flowers will come to full bloom in your homes. You can also have small chairs where you can relax after a hectic day."

Don'ts

Don't fight over that lamp, mug or rug Don't remove or move any furniture without asking your partner Ask your partner specifically what colours or prints they like before doing anything drastic Try to keep away from bronze sculptures of leopards, cheetahs or anything too flashy and over the top Don't over-decorate your room, it's distracting and unnerving Your home is not a museum, try not to keep anything you can't touch



He likes clutter. She wants simplicity combined with luxury. So, how does a modern couple create a space for a happy marriage?

After the wedding, a couple should do up the decor of their home reflecting their combined tastes. For instance, they should display small takeaways from their travels in their living room. Don't let your

home have furniture that's designated as 'his' or 'hers' or 'yours' or 'mine'. In her book, Luxurious Minimalism, author Karen Howes writes, newlyweds can find ways to combine their two styles. "Strong-willed couples should learn to make room for the other's visual style." Here are some home decor solutions for couples:

Get a cosy coffee table for two

It's a place where you begin your day, discuss your goals and dreams. And it's a place where you come to have your evening coffee after a tiring day. Make sure the coffee table is big

enough for both of you to put your feet up. Says Jonathan Adler, home furnishings designer and author of the book, 100 Ways to Happy Chic Your Life, "A coffee table is more than just a piece of furniture, it's a place where intimate, everyday emotional bonding takes place." Furniture designer Chandini Nath Israni agrees, "A coffee table has emotional appeal for a couple, it can be the centrepiece of their lives."

Dim that light

Get a romantic look by using lighting that gives a soft glow to the bedroom through overhead lights and table lamps. Adds Israni, "Warm lighting makes the other person look

Add magic to your home decor



Bring in the change in your decor.

Proper lighting: Lighting can make or break a room: Mood lighting is very essential part of decor. Invest in a nice table lamp. Even hanging lamps will add much magic to your room.

A little bit of greenery: The sure shot way to add life to your room is to have an element of greenery in the room. Having plants in a room also has a soothing effect on one's mind. You can also have fresh flowers in the

vase. The fragrance of jasmine in a room really uplifts the soul. In your kitchen, add a small herb garden to your windowsill to add life to the room. Plus, they taste great!

Framed memories: Photographs are wonderful ways to add warmth and a sense of vibrancy to your home decor. Photographs that recall fond memories also can give a personal touch to your home. It brings in loads of happy memories. If you have old family photographs, then have these framed and hang them on the wall. Choose your frames carefully. A frame adds much life to photographs.

Fabric magic: Fabric is an easy and inexpensive way to combine all the elements of your room. Break in the monotony and play with your imagination. Think beyond only the ready-made fabric. Have fun by combining patterns, styles and different textures of fabric in accessories and furniture.

Bring a glow to your life with LEDs

People are also installing the power-saving lamp in their homes. Let's take a look at a few other stylish and interesting ways in which one can use the LEDs...

LIGHT UP STAIRWAYS

Using stairways as an optimal storage space is the in thing now. The latest trend is to install in-built racks under each stair in the house. How about lighting up the stairways in LEDs to throw some bright light? 3LED spotlights can light up the storage space enough to help you find whatever you are looking for.

JEWELLERY LED

Bracelets, neckpieces, rings and anklets are some options that you can gift your girl friend.

CLOCKS

Watches with radium dials and fluorescent watches have always been available. Now, time pieces that have LEDs to emit light are also flooding the market.

DRESSES

Katy Perry impressed everyone with her lights-embedded dress a few years ago.

Now, you can flaunt LED dresses in style, too.

PARTY SUPPLIES LED

sticks, showlights and other party supplies like sunglasses, hats and magic wand can up the fun quotient in your bash.

ACCESSORIES

Having LEDs embossed in bags, clutches and purses can be a good option. Especially if you are out late in the night and need to desperately fish into your bag for cash and

The civic authorities across the country have taken PM Narendra Modi's 'Prakash Path' campaign seriously and are replacing High Pressure Sodium Vapour Lamps on the streets with LED ones.



FLASHY INTERIORS

Feel like throwing a house party and want to give a makeover to your home? A line of colourful LEDs will do the trick.

CUSHIONS AND PILLOWS

Glow-in-the-night pillows and cushions in various colours and shapes can add a zing to your bedroom.

WHAT IS LED

A Light Emitting Diode (LED) is a semi conductor device that

converts electricity into light. These are extremely efficient and use almost 80% less energy than other forms of light sources, like halogen, sodium vapour or incandescent bulb.

BENEFITS OF LED

Lamps consume less power and energy compared to other conventional forms of lighting. Since the power conception is less, it translates to lesser amounts in electricity page. These can significantly reduce global warming because reportedly, only less than 70% of power consumed converts into heat and escapes into the atmosphere, unlike a sodium vapour lamp that emits more than 80%. These are resistant to

vibrations and temperatures, are free of hazardous materials like mercury and can operate in low DC voltage as well. LED bulbs can reportedly last for up to 100,000 hours. These can be made in any shape and colour.

DRAWBACKS
LEDs are costlier than conventional forms of lighting. These emit only about 80% of luminescence as compared to other forms of lighting. However, that can be altered by adding extra diodes.

Karnataka High Court bars using, uploading videos of hearings amid Pak remark row

The court has also ordered social media platforms, including YouTube, Facebook, X to takedown the videos taken, and uploaded from the High Court's official live-streaming footage.

New Delhi: The Karnataka High Court on Tuesday prohibited the public from using or uploading videos of court proceedings, the Bar and Bench reported. This development comes after two video clips featuring Karnataka High Court judge Justice V Srishananda, making controversial remarks, went viral. The court has also ordered social media platforms, including YouTube, Facebook, X to takedown the videos taken, and uploaded from the High Court's official live-streaming footage. Justice Hemant Chandangoudar also directed certain social media users to delete the videos of court proceedings from their social media handles. "Till next date, respondents 6 to 8



[social media platforms] and 9 to 14 [private respondents] are restrained from displaying the videos on their channels. Any video already uploaded in violation of Rules must be deleted," the court's interim order was quoted by the Bar and Bench in its report. The court, while issuing a notice on a petition filed by the Advocates' Association in Bengaluru, addressed concerns over the public use of live-streamed court

proceedings, particularly on social media platforms. The petition was filed after two video clips featuring Karnataka High Court judge Justice V Srishananda, making controversial remarks, went viral. Despite the association's request to stop live-streaming, the court made it clear that stopping the broadcasts was not the answer to the misuse of such videos. Justice Chandangoudar emphasised that while the morale of lawyers could be impacted, judges and lawyers alike must develop resilience. "You have to be thick-skinned. Even judges have to be thick-skinned. I agree that lawyers' morale can be affected, but the solution is not to stop live-streaming. If any offence is

committed, bring it to the judge's notice," he remarked. The Advocates' Association of Bengaluru has filed a petition in the Karnataka High Court, seeking measures to prevent the public from editing, morphing, or illegally using live-streamed court proceedings. The plea also asked for a directive to social media platforms like YouTube, Facebook, and X (formerly Twitter) to remove any videos or reels created using footage from the court's live-streams. This legal move followed widespread criticism of two video clips featuring Justice V Srishananda. In one video, the judge referred to a Muslim-majority neighbourhood in West Bengaluru as "Pakistan." In another, he made a gender-insensitive comment while addressing a woman lawyer. These remarks ignited public outrage,

prompting the Advocates' Association to request that live-streaming be paused until clear guidelines on courtroom conduct are established. The controversy caught the attention of the Supreme Court, which asked the Karnataka High Court Registrar General for a report on the matter. Justice Srishananda later expressed regret for his comments. During the hearing of the Association's petition, Additional Solicitor General Arvind Kamath highlighted that the High Court already has mechanisms in place to address complaints about video misuse. He stated, "If an offence comes to someone's notice, only a complaint has to be made, and action will be taken." Kamath also defended the live-streaming of court proceedings, calling it a "boon" for transparency in the judicial process.

Arrest Warrant Against Actor Siddique In Rape Case, Cops Begin Search

The charges stem from a complaint filed by an actress who alleged that Siddique raped her at a state-owned hotel in Thiruvananthapuram in 2016.

New Delhi: Kerala Police are reportedly gearing up to arrest actor Siddique following the Kerala High Court's decision to deny him anticipatory bail in the Malayalam cinema #MeToo case, sources said. The court rejected Siddique's bail plea in a rape case lodged against him by a former actress. A lookout circular has been issued as police intensify efforts to trace Siddique's whereabouts. The charges stem from a complaint filed by an actress who alleged that Siddique raped her at a state-owned hotel in Thiruvananthapuram in 2016. According to sources, the victim had initially refrained from reporting the incident but came forward after the explosive Hema Committee report was released last month. The report highlighted the systemic abuse and harassment faced by women in the Malayalam film industry, encouraging several former actresses to share their stories of exploitation. The actress, in her complaint, claims that Siddique coerced her into providing sexual favours in exchange for a role in a Tamil movie. When she refused, he allegedly raped her. Siddique, who was recently elected general secretary of the Association of Malayalam Movie Artists (AMMA), resigned from his post soon after the allegations surfaced, prompting the entire committee, chaired by actor Mohanlal, to step down as well. Siddique has denied the allegations, accusing the complainant of harassing him since 2019 by repeatedly making baseless claims on social media. According to Siddique, the actress had previously accused him of misbehaving with her at a theatre in 2016, but only after the Hema Committee report did she escalate her allegations to rape.

"What Are We Doing To Education System?" Chief Justice On Punjab NRI Quota

New Delhi: The NRI quota system in college admissions was nothing but a fraud, the Supreme Court said today as it dismissed the Punjab government's appeal against a high court order that junked amended rules to avail admission to MBBS courses through this quota. The Punjab government had, in a notification dated August 20, widened the definition of an NRI candidate and made relatives of Non-Resident Indians (NRI) eligible to seek admission to the MBBS course under this quota. The Punjab and Haryana High Court shot down this notification, observing that this "opens the door for potential misuse". In the Supreme Court today, the Punjab government's counsel said that Himachal Pradesh and Uttar Pradesh were following a broad definition for NRI quota admissions. "HP, UP, Chandigarh, everyone is following the definition which I am saying... so only I am under (a) narrow definition," he said. Chief Justice of India DY Chandrachud replied, "You are saying the nearest relation of NRI will also be considered. What is this? just a money-spinning tactic by the state." The bench, also comprising Justice JB Pardiwala, backed the high court order. "We must stop this NRI quota business now! This is a complete fraud. This is what we are doing to our education system," the Chief Justice said. "Look at the result. Those who got marks three times high won't get admission," he added. Justice Pardiwala said all the applicants are from India. "They are just relatives, tai (aunt), taau (uncle), chacha, chachi." The Chief Justice said, "What is a ward? you just have to say I am looking after X." He said the court cannot back something that is "blatantly illegal".



Gujarat school principal kills girl for resisting rape, dumps body; arrested

The principal said that when he tried to rape the girl, she started screaming. He put his hands on her mouth tightly to stop her screaming. However, the girl died, following which he hid her in the back of the car. He took her body and left it inside the school compound in the evening, after the classes were over.

New Delhi: The principal of a primary school in Pipaliya in Gujarat's Dohad district was arrested for allegedly killing a 6-year-old girl of the school after she resisted his rape attempts. The body of the girl, who studied in Class 1 in the school, was found in the school compound on September 19. The postmortem report of the victim showed that she had been suffocated to death. Dohad Superintendent of Police Rajdeep Singh Jhala said that a total of 10 teams were formed to investigate the case.

to school with the school principal, Govind Nat, in his car. When she didn't return from school, the girl's parents asked Nat about her whereabouts, and



he said that he had dropped her at school. Following an investigation, the police took Govind Nat into custody and questioned him. During the

During the investigation, the police found that the parents had sent the girl

to school with the school principal, Govind Nat, in his car. When she didn't return from school, the girl's parents asked Nat about her whereabouts, and interrogation, Nat confessed to killing the girl as she resisted his attempts to rape her. Nat further said that when he tried to rape the girl, she started screaming. He put his hands on her mouth tightly to stop her screaming. However, the girl died, following which he hid her in the back of the car. After that, Govind Nat went to school as usual and taught the students. After the classes ended, he returned to the car, dumped her belongings near the school gate and left the girl's body behind the classroom. When the girl's parents along with locals reached the school in the evening of September 19, they found her belongings near the gate and they found her body in the school compound.

3 rail staffers arrested in Surat over 'sabotage' plot to get felicitated

New Delhi: Three railway employees were arrested in Gujarat's Surat district on Monday for allegedly tampering with tracks and then alerting officials about a "sabotage" in a bid to take credit for averting a possible train accident, police said. Surat Rural Superintendent of Police (SP) Hitesh Joysar said the three employees -- Subhash Poddar (39), Manish Mistry (28) and Shubham Jaiswal (26) -- are trackmen in the railways' maintenance department. He added that the accused indulged in such an act to get themselves felicitated. The Surat Police launched a probe after some unidentified people allegedly tampered with a railway track by removing fish plates and loosening several bolts in an attempt to derail trains on September 21. The SP said Poddar and others, while on inspection between Kosamba and Kim stations, had alerted authorities at 5:30 am on September 21 about "miscreants" removing elastic clips and two fishplates from one set of tracks and placing them on another to derail a train. According to the SP, the accused, who were on night duty, had sent a video of the compromised track to their seniors while alerting them. He also said the Railway officials had informed the police that a train had passed on the route just before the tampering was discovered. "The time interval of the tampering being discovered and the passing of the train was too less and it was not possible to remove the clips and plates in such a short time. We checked the mobile phones of the trio and found videos of tampered tracks shot at different intervals starting from 2:56 am to 4:57 am. Mistry had also deleted photos he had taken," SP Joysar said. The timings of the photos and videos shot were taken before the accused informed the officials about the incident around 5:30 am, the SP said, adding that the police became suspicious over the time interval. The three trackmen confessed to the crime after intense questioning and explained that they did such an act to ensure they would be felicitated and be deployed on night duty further, which would give them time to spend with the family during the day. "It was Poddar who came up with this idea because their night duty for the monsoon was about to come to an end," SP Joysar said. He stressed that the accused, for each night duty session, would get a day off the following day and wanted the process to continue. Police had earlier said that unidentified people removed two fish plates that joined the ends of two rails on the railway track and placed them on the parallel track and also loosened some 40-50 bolts that hinged the railway track with the concrete sleepers.

Madhya Pradesh woman gang-raped after humiliating accused for splashing mud

New Delhi: A woman was gang-raped after she humiliated a man who splashed mud on her while he was driving his motorcycle in Madhya Pradesh's Rewa. Two people were arrested in connection with the incident. The incident occurred on September 22 (Sunday) when the victim, a college student, was on her way to get her mobile repaired at a shop. She was kidnapped and taken to a desolate area where she was gang-raped. During questioning, the main accused, Kishan

Kol, said he was travelling on a road that had a lot of mud on his motorcycle. He said the mud splashed on the



woman who was walking on the roadside. The accused said he was

humiliated by the woman in front of a huge crowd, which embarrassed him. Angered by the humiliation, the accused decided to teach the victim a lesson. On September 22, Kishan Kol and his friend Santlal kidnapped the woman and took her behind the bushes, where they committed the crime. The woman informed her family about the incident, following which a complaint was filed. The victim's statement was recorded and her medical examination was conducted. Based on the woman's complaint and statement, the two accused were arrested.

Badlapur sex abuse accused killed in police encounter: A timeline of events

New Delhi: Akshay Shinde, the prime accused who sexually abused two kindergarten girls at a school in Badlapur in Maharashtra's Thane district in August, died on Monday in a retaliatory firing after he snatched a policeman's gun and opened fire. Shinde (23), a sweeper employed at the school, was arrested on August 17 for sexually abusing the two girls, aged four and five, in a school toilet, four days ago. The incident had triggered widespread protests with parents and other locals blocking railway lines at Badlapur railway station before the police removed them forcibly. On Monday, Shinde was being taken from Talaja jail to Badlapur in connection with a case of unnatural sex filed by his former wife. According to the police, the accused snatched a weapon from an officer and opened fire while he was being transported from jail in a police vehicle. He was critically injured in the firing and later died in hospital. The encounter triggered a war of words



between the Maharashtra government and the Opposition. Here is a timeline of when the incident unfolded to Shinde's death in the encounter: August 13: Two kindergarten girls were sexually abused in a school toilet by Shinde in Badlapur. Shinde was employed on a contractual basis on August 1. August 16: The incident came to light when one of

the victims narrated her ordeal to her parents. August 17: Shinde was arrested by the police after the incident came to light. August 20: 'Rail roko' protest at Badlapur railway station with hundreds of protesters blocking railway tracks hindering train operations. Police later removed the protesters from the site. August 20: The ruling Mahayuti alliance suspended policeman who refused to initially file an FIR in the sexual abuse case. Later, three police officers were also suspended. August 20: The Maharashtra government forms a Special Investigation Team (SIT) to probe the Badlapur incident. August 20: People call for bandh. Parents and others protest and vandalise the school where the two girls were sexually abused. They later protested at the Badlapur railway station for over 10 hours, demanding that the accused be hanged in public. August 21: The principal and two staffers working at Badlapur school were

suspended. August 22: The Bombay High Court took note of the case, questioning why no action was taken against the school. August 22: SIT begins a probe into the case. August 23: SIT adds Pcco sections against the school principal, secretary and chairman for not reporting the crime. September 3: The Bombay High Court urged the Maharashtra government to sensitise boys to be able to build a safe environment for girls to grow in society. It made the judgment while hearing a plea in the Badlapur sexual assault case. September 16: SIT filed its first chargesheet in the case, based on the complaint of one of the girls. September 19: SIT filed its second chargesheet in the case, based on the second girl's complaint. September 23: Shinde allegedly snatched a policeman's gun and started firing. He is killed by a police officer while being taken to Thane by a Crime Branch SIT in a police vehicle to probe another sexual assault case filed by his former wife.

6 post dinner family Activities

To get your family bond better, here are a few activities you can do at home after dinner. Dinner is probably one meal throughout the day that you eat at home with your entire family. And there's no better way than do some activities post dinner time to enhance your bond with your loved ones. Here are a few...

Appreciation time
You can call it the appreciation time or the acknowledgement time. This is when you sit down with everyone and recognise the work done by each person, be it your husband, wife, children, parents etc. You make each member of the family say something about the other person that they acknowledge and would like the person to know.

Family movie night
How many times have you sat down with your whole

family and watched your favourite movie? Here's your chance to do that. You can save this activity for the weekends when you have more time to spend with your loved ones. On weekdays, you can sit down and watch your favourite sitcom.

Indoor play time
There's nothing better than playing a game of cards or chess with your kids or your husband before going off to bed. Not only will it help you bond better but also ensure that you stay active enough. Playing games is also the best way to relax after a long, tiring day at work and relieve your stress.

Fun craft time
Encourage your kid to do his or her craft work post dinner, so that you and your husband can help your child with it. Sitting around the table cutting, rolling craft paper and artwork is a fun way of spending time with your family.

If you've decided to have one child or more than one, you'll find a lot of people giving you advice on various things. At the end of it all, it should be solely your decision. We give you a few pros and cons of having a single child.

You may see many people coming and asking your child whether he/she wants a brother or a sister regardless of whether you and your partner want another child.

Having one or two kids is solely a couple's



Pros and cons of having just one Child

If you've decided to have one child or more than one, you'll find a lot of people giving you advice on various things. At the end of it all, it should be solely your decision. We give you a few pros and cons of having a single child.



decision based on a lot of aspects. We tell you a few challenges and benefits of having one child.

Challenges
One of the major challenges most parents face is that the society pressurises them to have another child. The people who are trying to convince or pressurise the couple may not even know the financial

condition as well as other personal things about the couple. Their pressure tends to make the couple completely uncomfortable.

Another challenge you may face is that your child may feel lonely but even this isn't necessary. It actually depends on the way your child is brought up. If you can maintain a friendly relation with your kids, you can be their best friend, sibling and mean the world to

them.

Benefits
Rewards of having just one child are also immeasurable. You will have more money and more time and energy to devote to your kid. Your child will be well taken care of as all your attention will be on just one child and his upbringing.

What you as 'parent' should know

If you are planning to have just one child, make sure you give him/her the best you can. Also, while you do not like other giving you advice, even you should refrain from interfering in other people's family planning related issues. It is something very personal to the couple and no one has the right to intrude in one's personal matter.

Is home-schooling good for your Child?



Chennaiites say that home-schooling is definitely catching up in the city as many homes are turning into learning spaces. TOI catches up with a few parents and academicians to know more about the trend.

Padmashree Tadepalli, an education consultant, has decided to home-school her kids after she realized that every child is unique and therefore, comprehends things differently. "There are three different types of learning — visual, oratory and kinesthetic learning. While visual and oratory takes place by watching demonstrations and listening to lectures, a student carries out a physical activity in kinesthetic learning to understand things," states Padmashree.

So, doesn't our school education cater to the needs of every child? Padmashree responds, "For instance, in a class of 30 students, a teacher can't be expected to teach according to the need of each one of them. She can only follow a single method of teaching within the stipulated time given to her. So, it's obvious that

While quite a few schools in Chennai rank among the best ones in the country, it comes as a bit of a surprise that many urban parents are doubling up as teachers of their own kids.

every child doesn't get individual attention."

According to Priya Desikan, a former special educator and a homemaker, her eight-year-old son is more of a self-learner and therefore likes to explore things by himself. "I just facilitate him in whatever he does, and he learns all by himself. And, I don't set benchmarks for him. Now, he explores more on space, astronomy and cars. Since he does it by himself and out of his own interest, he internalizes it well. Though homeschooling students can either take NIOS (National Institute of Open Schooling) or IGCSE (International General Certificate of Secondary Education), which is equivalent to board exams, I am not planning to make him sit for any exams as of now," she says.

Home-schooling also allows blossoming of a child's creative side, say many parents. On

condition of anonymity, a mother of an eleven-year-old girl claims, "Our daughter underwent regular schooling, but it didn't work well for her. She has keen interest in music, art and craft. Now, she has a regular timetable that she follows at home, and also finds time to pursue her passion."

Some parents, who don't make any travel plans without kids, say children learn while they travel, by exploring new places and cultures. Shyamala Sathiaselvan is one such parent. Though she has got English, Science and Mathematics books according to the ICSE syllabus for her six-year-old son, she doesn't restrict him from learning things outside the text books.

"Regular schooling hampers a child's interest to know more on something discussed in textbooks or acquire knowledge outside given syllabus. Though the child might be mentally prepared to have a deeper understanding of the subject, they are restrained from doing so, with teachers saying they will know more about it at a later stage of school education," explains Shyamala, and adds her son is now passionate about hypersonic and supersonic planes.

But, do the children taught only at home develop the qualities of a good social being? "Definitely. They get to meet a lot of people from different walks of life. Since I take them out wherever I go, they see how I deal with different situations outside home and thus, they also learn to behave well with others," says Shyamala. On the other hand, a few academicians like Madhuvanthy Arun believe that an ideal environment both at school and home helps a child develop a wholesome personality. She says, "Both the teachers at school and parents play an important role in a child's life."

When teachers become facilitators, every child gets the attention and assistance the way each one of them needs. And as they get equal care and support from parents too at home, they will be able to explore things beyond school text books. Kids also need to be with their peers at least till the age of 16, as they influence the child positively at many instances."

5 point guide to get noticed at work

A step-by-step to cut promotion lines and be noticed at work



Forget spouting the 'right phrases' and walking the boss's dog. There are more solid ways to be noticed at work. And no, you don't have to stoop to sycophancy and late hours. If you really want to stand out at work, here are the things you should do:

1 Don't wait to be asked

Take the initiative and do little things that impact the team, without being asked. Preparing progress reports, putting back-ups in place or setting up reminders — it's a sure way to be noticed in a hurry. Very often, we only do as we are told and this turns the boss into a task-master. If you can see the logical conclusion of steps A and B, go ahead and do before being told to. You are acting like an

adult, paying attention and displaying foresight. All good things.

2 Don't shut up

Meetings are black holes that gulp time, attention and energy. Very little gets done in them and the average drone is dozing off or checking up on Twitter during them. First off, don't sit in a corner or near the door which indicates you are anxious to buzz off or remain unseen. Sit up front and pay attention. Ask questions and voice opinions — but not too much. You don't want to be the person that extends meetings pointlessly and makes everyone groan. Don't be afraid to disagree, just do it in a way that address the issue and does not make it personal. And keep it short. You don't want to get into an argument.

3 Jot it down

It's a boring job, but the rewards make up for it. The reputation for being reliable is slowly built and start with small steps. Keeping all the visiting cards you collect handy, phone numbers in a file, pens in a stand, a calendar on your desk — and you become the goto guy for everything. Jot down every little deliverable, task, errand so that you can remember or bring it up when everyone else has forgotten.

4 Keep books around

Sure, you can find everything on the Internet, but books give you an air of intellect. They also indicate that you keep yourself updated, cross-check your knowledge and believe in reference. Keep reference books, dictionary, thesaurus and journals pertaining to your profession at hand in your cubicle or desk. People may laugh at first, but then they'll

head your way to look-up a thing or two; then you can laugh back. A word to the wise: Keep bathroom reading at home.

5 Know the staff

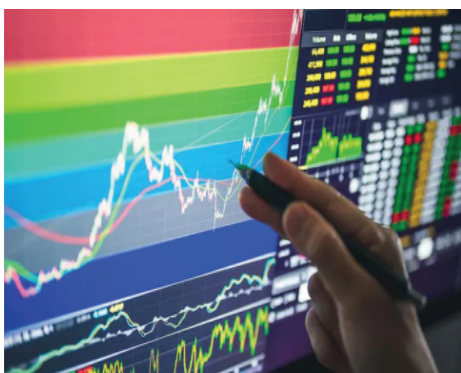
Be kind and respectful to the staff you don't have to 'work' with — janitors, liftman, peons and watchmen. But don't be condescending. Know their names like you would your colleagues' and address them by it. Don't forget 'please' and 'thank yous' and never raise your voice at them. Treating people, from whom you have nothing to gain materialistically, with respect immediately gives you exemplary character traits. While you are at it, also know the names and a little information about your colleagues' spouses and children.

NEWS BOX

Western Carriers makes weak D-Street debut, lists at 1% discount

NEW DELHI. Western Carriers had a lackluster debut on Dalal Street, listing at a slight discount on Tuesday. The company's shares opened at Rs 170 on the BSE, 1.16% below its issue price of Rs 171. On the NSE, the stock listed at Rs 171, down by Rs 1 or 0.6%. Despite the weak listing, the IPO received strong investor interest, being oversubscribed nearly 31 times, primarily driven by non-institutional investors. The proceeds from the IPO will be used to repay debt, finance capital expenditures for the purchase of commercial vehicles, containers, and reach stackers, with the remaining funds allocated for general corporate purposes. Western Carriers operates a vast logistics network across India, with over 50 branch offices and four zonal offices in 23 states.

The company also manages 16 warehouses across 12 states and operates at more than 55 major public rake handling points, providing first-mile and last-mile connectivity for clients in diverse industries such as metals, FMCG,



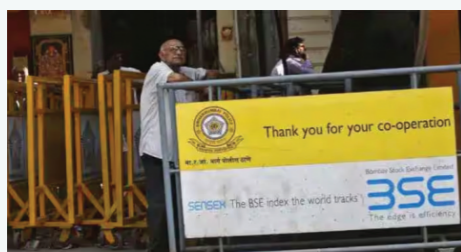
pharmaceuticals, chemicals, and oil & gas.

As of March 31, 2024, Western Carriers had 1,647 clients, including notable names like Tata Steel, Hindalco Industries, HUL, and DHL. Its consolidated revenue from operations rose 4% in FY24 to Rs 1,686 crore, while profit after tax increased by 12% to Rs 80.3 crore. The company maintains a high customer retention rate, with 80% of its FY24 revenues coming from clients who have been with the company for over three years. The retention rate for its top 10 customers was a perfect 100%.

JM Financial and Kotak Mahindra Capital Company served as the lead managers for the IPO.

Retail Investors Lost Rs 1.8 Lakh Cr In FY22-FY24 In Equity Futures And Options: Sebi Study

Mumbai. The aggregate losses of individual traders in the equity futures and options (F&O) segment exceeded Rs 1.8 lakh crore over the three-year period between FY22 and FY24, a new study by the Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI) showed on Monday. Over nine out of 10 individual traders in the equity futures and options segment continue to incur significant losses, revealed the study, adding that despite consecutive years of losses, more than 75 per cent of loss-making traders continued trading in F&O. The proportion of young traders (below 30 years) in the F&O segment rose from 31 per cent in FY23 to 43 per cent in FY24. Moreover, individuals from beyond top 30 (B30) cities made up over 72 per cent of the total F&O trader base, a higher proportion compared to mutual fund investors, 62 per cent of whom are from B30 cities. About 93 per cent of over 1 crore individual F&O traders incurred



average losses of around Rs 2 lakh per trader (inclusive of transaction costs) during the study period. Top 3.5 per cent of loss-makers, approximately 4 lakh traders, faced an average loss of Rs 28 lakh per person over the same period, inclusive of transaction costs. Only 1 per cent of individual traders managed to earn profits exceeding Rs 1 lakh, after adjusting for transaction costs, the findings showed. The SEBI study found that in contrast to individual traders, proprietary traders and Foreign Portfolio Investors (FPIs) as a class booked gross trading profits of Rs 33,000 crore and Rs 28,000 crore, respectively in FY24 (before accounting for transaction costs). Against this, Individuals and others incurred a loss of over Rs 61,000 crore in FY24 (before accounting for transaction costs). Most of the profits were generated by larger entities that used trading algorithms, with 97 per cent of FPI profits and 96 per cent of proprietary trader profits coming from algorithmic trading, said the study. On an average, individual traders spent Rs 26,000 per person on F&O transaction costs in FY24. Over the three-year period from FY22 to FY24, individuals collectively spent about Rs 50,000 crore on transaction costs.

Festive sale: Amazon hikes content creator commission

BENGALURU. Ahead of the festive sale, ecommerce company Amazon has announced an increase in its standard commission income rates for key categories within its network of more than 50,000 influencers engaged with it.

The platform said the revised commission structure offers influencers a substantial increase ranging from 1.5x to 2x across a wide range of product categories, including fashion, beauty & personal care appliances for active creators working with Amazon. "By significantly increasing commission rates across key categories and offering additional resources via programs like Creator University and Creator Connect, we're providing creators with tools and incentives they need to thrive during festive season and beyond," said Zahid Khan, director of shopping initiatives for India and emerging markets, Amazon.

In addition to fee changes, as part of Amazon Live program, hundreds of creators will run over a 1,500 live streams across categories including mobiles, home appliances, home



décor, fashion and beauty among many others for Amazon Great Indian Festival (AGIF). Meanwhile, Flipkart is gearing up for the festive season by offering a diverse mix of petrol and electric two-wheelers from leading brands including Hero, TVS and Bajaj, among others. Demand for two-wheelers on Flipkart has soared by 6x in August 2024 over last year.

Production at Tamil Nadu plant returning to normalcy: Samsung

NEW DELHI. Samsung on Monday said production at its Sriperumbudur plant in Tamil Nadu has returned to normal capacity despite the ongoing employee strike. Employees at the plant, which manufactures consumer goods like televisions, refrigerators, and washing machines, have been protesting for better pay and reduced working hours for the past 15 days. Initially, production was hit by nearly 50%, but the company has since hired contractual employees, and production is now nearly back to normal. "The strike at Chennai factory, now in its 15th day, hit the production of consumer goods such as televisions, refrigerators, and washing machines initially. However, the impact of the strike is minimal now, and the company expects production to be near normal

starting this week," said Samsung. Production at Tamil Nadu plant returning to normalcy: Samsung

Samsung workers in Sriperumbudur continue strike, call for recognition of union and self-respect

The plant is a crucial production unit, accounting for one-third of its annual revenue in India, about USD 12 billion. The strike, began on September 9, was driven by workers' demands for higher wages, a raise from Rs 25,000 to Rs 36,000 over the next three years, and official recognition of their union, backed by the Centre of Indian Trade Union (CITU). Samsung has taken legal action, approaching a district court to obtain a temporary injunction against the union to prevent protests near the factory.

Vodafone Idea shares fall 2% as ICICI Securities cuts target price

ICICI Securities has reduced Vodafone Idea's EV/EBITDA multiple to 13 times FY27 from 14 times and lowered its target price to Rs 11 from Rs 15.



New Delhi. Vodafone Idea shares declined over 2% after ICICI Securities slashed its target price, citing concerns over the company's financial outlook. At 11:36 am, shares of the telecom operator were down 2.03% at Rs 10.60 on the Bombay Stock Exchange (BSE). Following an analyst call with the management, ICICI Securities noted that Vodafone Idea remains hopeful of resolving an "arithmetical error" in the calculation of its Adjusted Gross Revenue (AGR) dues. The telecom operator is currently engaging with the government on the matter, despite the Supreme Court's rejection of its curative petition regarding these dues. According to ICICI Securities,

Vodafone Idea believes its case has strong merit, and discussions with the government have been encouraging. The company is factoring in the conversion of Rs 29,000 crore of government debt into equity at the end of the moratorium period under the recent telecom reform package.

While Vodafone Idea has not included AGR relief in its business recovery plan, ICICI Securities moved its estimate of AGR relief worth Rs 35,000 crore from FY25 to FY26. This shift, along with the delayed capex acceleration, resulted in revised net profit projections for FY25-27E, although its EBITDA estimate for the same period remains unchanged. Given the rising uncertainty surrounding the AGR resolution, ICICI Securities reduced

Vodafone Idea's EV/EBITDA multiple to 13 times FY27 from 14 times and lowered its target price to Rs 11 from Rs 15. The brokerage maintained a 'Hold' rating on the stock. Meanwhile, Motilal Oswal Financial Services (MOFSL) has a target price of Rs 12 and a 'Neutral' rating.

ICICI Securities also noted that Vodafone Idea is close to finalising Rs 25,000 crore in debt funding, with an additional Rs 10,000 crore for non-fund facilities, which should bolster its capex efforts.

The telecom firm has signed agreements with major equipment suppliers for Rs 30,000 crore worth of radios, set to be delivered over the next three years. Capex is expected to begin in November 2024, alongside a potential tariff hike of 15-20% over the next 15 months. Meanwhile, Motilal Oswal Financial Services (MOFSL) highlighted that despite the company's high operating leverage, the significant cash required to service its debt limits the upside potential for equity holders. The conversion of unpaid installments into equity post-moratorium could start by FY26/FY27, further affecting the company's financial structure.

Manba Finance IPO Day 2: Check latest subscription, expected listing gains

New Delhi. The initial public offering (IPO) of Manba Finance has seen strong interest from investors as it was fully subscribed on the day it opened for bidding. Manba Finance Limited, founded in 1998, offers a variety of financial services, including loans for new two-wheelers (2Ws), three-wheelers (3Ws), electric two-wheelers (EV2Ws), electric three-wheelers (EV3Ws), used cars, along with small business and personal loans. The IPO of Manba Finance is a fresh issue of 1.26 crore shares and closes for subscription on September 25, 2024. Manba Finance IPO was subscribed 39.56 times overall by 11:39 AM on September 24, 2024. The retail category saw a subscription of 44.10 times, while the QIB category was subscribed 3.05 times, and the NII category reached 77.65 times. The price range for Manba Finance's IPO has been set between Rs 114 and Rs 120 per share. Investors are required to apply for a minimum of 125 shares. For retail investors, the minimum investment amount is Rs 15,000. Latest grey market premium (GMP) for Manba Finance IPO

The latest grey market premium (GMP) for the



Manba Finance IPO stands at Rs 64, as of 11:01 AM on September 24, 2024. With a price band set at Rs 120, the estimated listing price for Manba Finance shares is expected to be around Rs 184 (calculated by adding the cap price to the current GMP). This suggests a potential gain per share of 53.33%. While the projected 53.33% gain looks attractive for investors seeking quick returns, it's important to remember that grey market premiums can fluctuate, and actual listing prices may vary due to market conditions on the day of listing.

Should you subscribe?

An IPO report from Anan Rathi said that Manba Finance Bank Ltd has established relationships with more than 1100 dealers with the ability to expand to new underpenetrated geographies (currently present in 66 locations spread across six states in western, central and north India) and a Technology drive and scalable operating model with quick Turn Around Time (TAT) for loan processing (5.30 days as of March 31, 2024).

Telecom sector is robust, should have four service providers, says Scindia

The minister noted that very few countries have four major players in their telecom markets, with India being one of them.



NEW DELHI. Communications Minister Jyotiraditya Scindia on Monday advocated for at least four telecom operators in the country, emphasizing that the telecom sector is very robust. The minister noted that very few countries have four major players in their telecom markets, with India being one of them. Following the Supreme Court's rejection of a curative petition filed by telecom service providers seeking a re-computation of their Adjusted Gross Revenue (AGR) dues, Scindia mentioned that Supreme Court orders need to be executed.

The minister stated that the government is currently examining the implications and repercussions of the court's order and acknowledged that it must be executed. "So, the Supreme Court's judgment has just come out. Whatever its order may be, it must be executed. We are still in the process of examining it and assessing its potential

repercussions. But let me say this: our telecom sector is extremely robust. It's a sector where we have four players. There are very few countries in the world that can boast of having four players within their telecom sector. India is one of those," said Scindia. Scindia highlighted India's fastest 5G rollout, with 4.5 lakh base tower stations installed and 97% of cities covered with 5G. The telecom sector's robustness enabled this achievement, with Rs 4.26 lakh crore invested in capex over two years.

Regarding 4G coverage in uncovered villages, a total of 7,101 4G mobile towers have been commissioned by the telecom service providers including Reliance Jio, Bharti Airtel, and BSNL, under various Digital Bharat Nidhi-funded 4G schemes, including the 4G saturation scheme. Out of these, 2,618 towers have been made operational since June 2024.

GoM to discuss rate rationalisation on September 25

NEW DELHI. The Group of Ministers responsible for Goods and Services Tax (GST) rate rationalisation is set to convene on September 25 in Goa to deliberate on potential adjustments to tax slabs and rates. The six-member Group of Ministers (GoM), led by Bihar Deputy Chief Minister Samrat Chaudhary, last convened on August 22.

They submitted a status report to the GST Council on September 9. The government aims to finalise the process of GST rate rationalisation by the end of the year, as per sources. According to sources, the panel is likely to deliberate on the possibility of merging 12% and 18% goods and services tax slabs into a single unified rate, though no formal proposal has been put forward yet. Meanwhile, the Centre is also concerned about the revenue generation -- the average GST rate at about 12% is below the revenue-neutral rate of 15.3%.

"The revenue-neutral rate is crucial as it represents the level at which government revenue remains stable following the implementation of GST. The lower-than-

anticipated average rate has raised concerns about the government's ability to generate adequate revenue, leading the Group of Ministers (GoM) to initiate discussions on possible adjustments to the existing tax rates. However, not all states are in agreement with the idea of altering the goods and services tax structure," a top source told TNIE.

Notably, both West Bengal and Karnataka have voiced their concerns and are hesitant to support any immediate changes to the tax slabs. Following the August meeting, West Bengal finance minister Chandrima Bhattacharya expressed her opposition to changing the current goods and services tax rates, advocating for the preservation of the existing structure.

In a similar vein, Karnataka Revenue Minister Krishna Byre Gowda remarked that the GST system has largely stabilized over the past few years, warning that any alterations could upset this equilibrium. He also mentioned that the Group of Ministers (GoM) would revisit this topic in their next meeting.



The six-member Group of Ministers (GoM), led by Bihar Deputy Chief Minister Samrat Chaudhary, last convened on August 22.

NEWS BOX

England captain Heather Knight handed suspended fine over 2012 racist photo

New Delhi, England women's cricket captain Heather Knight has received a reprimand and a suspended fine of 1,000 pounds after admitting to a charge related to a 2012 social media post, according to England's Cricket Regulator on Monday.

The post in question featured Knight in blackface at a fancy dress party held at a cricket club in Kent. The image in question had recently resurfaced on social media and was considered offensive and a violation of the ECB's directive 3.3, which covers "acts or omissions prejudicial to the interests of cricket or likely to bring cricket or cricketers into disrepute." Despite the breach, the Cricket Discipline Commission (CDC) clarified that Knight's actions were without "racist or discriminatory intent." "The independent Cricket Discipline Commission (CDC) has issued its sanctions



decision in relation to Heather Knight after she was charged over a non-recent photograph which appeared on social media." Ms Knight admitted a breach of ECB Directive 3.3 which stated at the time of the offence in 2012: "No such person may conduct himself in a manner or do any act or omission which may be prejudicial to the interests of cricket or which may bring the game of cricket or any Cricketer or group of Cricketers into disrepute." read the statement from the CDC.

What did Knight say about fine?

At the time of the incident, Heather Knight was 21 years old and has since apologised, acknowledging her naivety. She emphasised that there was no malicious intent behind her actions and expressed regret for any offense caused. "I'm truly sorry for the mistake I made in 2012. It was wrong, and I have long regretted it. Back then, I simply was not as educated as to the implications and consequences of my actions as I have become since. There was no ill-intent meant. Whilst I can't change the past.

Vishy's children are all grown up: Garry Kasparov praises India's Olympiad win

New Delhi, Chess legend Garry Kasparov heaped praise on the Indian contingent after their historic double gold at the 2024 Chess Olympiad. India made history in Budapest on Sunday, September 22, by winning gold in both the men's and women's events at the Chess Olympiad. Following the men's team's groundbreaking triumph, the women's team, consisting of Harika Dronavalli, Vaishali Rameshbabu, Divya Deshmukh, Vantika Agrawal, Tania Sachdev, and Abhijit Kunte, secured gold, marking a historic double victory for India. In the final round, India overcame Azerbaijan with a 3.5-0.5 win. Harika, Divya, and Vantika secured victories in their respective matches, while Vaishali held a draw. Despite this emphatic result, India's gold in the women's open section was not guaranteed. Their title hopes hinged on the USA holding Kazakhstan.

India were crowned champions when the USA



managed to secure a 2-2 draw against Kazakhstan on Sunday. Had Kazakhstan won, the competition would have gone to tie-breaks. Earlier, key victories from D Gukesh and Arjun Erigaisi propelled India to their first-ever Chess Olympiad title on Sunday, September 22. Competing in Budapest, India triumphed over Slovenia in the final round, surpassing China to claim the title in the open section. Taking to X, Kasparov praised the Indian contingent for their win. The chess legend claimed that "Vishy's children" had all grown up and the game is coming home. "A very impressive double gold achievement by India. 'Vishy's children' are all grown up and chess is coming home! Two American flags on the podiums as well, worthy of note. Add Uzbekistan and Kazakhstan, with no European flags," said Kasparov. Viswanathan Anand was happy to see the Indian contingent's performance and also claimed that Gukesh is a contender to win the World Championship title against Ding Liren.

Thought Ding would sit out, wanted to give Pragg, Gukesh a rest and asked them to mute notifications: The inside story

India captain Srinath explains behind-the-scenes ups and downs at the chess Olympiad

SHARJAH, South Africa denied Afghanistan a series sweep with a seven-wicket win in the third and final cricket ODI on Sunday.

Aiden Markram's unbeaten 69 led South Africa to 170-3 with 17 overs to spare in the one-day international after Afghanistan collapsed for the first time in the series and was bowled out for 169 in 34 overs.

Afghanistan won the series 2-1.

An inexperienced South Africa was dismissed for 106 and 134 in the first two games, but Markram paced the chase well on yet another slow wicket at Sharjah Cricket Stadium with a gritty 67-ball innings. "Feeling very happy with the series win," Afghanistan captain Hashmatullah Shahidi said. "I would be more happy if we would have won this match." He called the three runouts of his team's batters "a big reason why we didn't

finish on top." Afghanistan was missing its ace leg-spinner Rashid Khan because of a hamstring injury.

Earlier, Rahmanullah Gurbaz, who made a century in the last game, held the innings together by contributing 89 runs in 94 balls after Afghanistan chose to bat first. But none of the other top eight Afghan batters could score more than 10 with three of them run out. No. 9 batter AM Ghazanfar made a whirlwind 31 not out off 15 but South Africa always looked in control through the disciplined bowling of Lungi Ngidi, Nqabayomzi Peter and Andile Phehlukwayo, who all picked up two wickets each. South Africa finally got used to the conditions in the United Arab Emirates as their pace bowlers Ngidi and Phehlukwayo were well supported by some superb fielding. Ngidi tested the batters upfront through his cutters and slow balls and pinned debutant opener Abdul Malik leg before wicket inside the power play. Ngidi then had Rahmat Shah



run out when Gurbaz's drive clipped his fingers in the follow through and hit the stumps at the non-striker's end. Shahidi was run out while going for a second run and Ikram Alikhil met a similar fate when he went too far down the wicket before Gurbaz sent him back as Afghanistan slipped to 113-5 in the 22nd over. South Africa should have dismissed Mohammad Nabi on 5 but captain Temba Bavuma didn't go for the television referral against Bjorn Fortuin's arm ball before the spinner

had Nabi caught behind in his next over. Gurbaz tried to accelerate in search of his second successive century before he holed out to Reeza Hendricks at extra cover but Ghazanfar's late flurry ensured Afghanistan crossed the 160-run mark. Bavuma (22) and Tony de Zorzi (26) provided South Africa with a solid start of 40 and controlled the power play before Bavuma was undone by off-spinner Ghazanfar and clean bowled.

De Zorzi was twice dropped off Nabi's successive deliveries

before Nabi had him trapped lbw and Hendricks' run of poor form continued when he mistimed a pull shot and was caught after scoring 18.

Markram and Tristan Stubbs controlled the chase with their match-winning 90-run stand with Stubbs 26 not out.

"We were quite clinical with the bat," Bavuma said. "In terms of series, not what we planned for, (but) the guys will take a lot of experience and learning from it."

Chess Olympiad: Susan Polgar meets 'amazing Chess Mom' after India's double

At the 2024 Chess Olympiad in Hungary, chess legend Susan Polgar had the opportunity to meet and greet Nagalakshmi, the mother of Indian chess stars Praggnanandhaa and Vaishali. Polgar expressed her excitement at meeting the 'amazing chess mom' and posed for a memorable photograph with the family.



winning gold medals in both the Open and Women's sections in Budapest, the home of the renowned Polgar sisters. Praggnanandhaa played a crucial role in the men's team's commanding performance, while Vaishali was instrumental in helping the women's team secure its first-ever gold medal at the Olympiad.

"I had to meet this amazing Chess Mom, who devoted her life to raising two super Chess Stars!" Polgar wrote, sharing photos with Nagalakshmi, Praggnanandhaa, and Vaishali. The brother-sister duo from Chennai has been making waves in the chess world, becoming the first siblings to both achieve Grandmaster titles and qualify for the Candidates Tournament.

Nagalakshmi has been ensuring that her children maintain a healthy lifestyle, providing them with homemade food and

encouraging them to stay focused on their game. Both Praggnanandhaa and Vaishali have spoken at length about their mother's support in helping them adjust to tough conditions, especially in overseas tournaments. The chess stars' father, Rameshbabu, works as a branch manager at a bank in Chennai. Also Read: India's dominant Chess Olympiad win reminds Viswanathan Anand of Soviet teams

In Hungary, Indian chess stars grabbed the spotlight over the weekend after their unprecedented success in the Olympiad. Susan Polgar had shared a video of the chess players celebrating like Indian men's cricketer team captain, Rohit Sharma, during the trophy presentation ceremony. As expected, the clip went viral.

The men's team, led by Grandmasters D Gukesh, Arjun Erigaisi, and R Praggnanandhaa, secured the top spot with a dominant 3.5-0.5 victory over Slovenia in the final round, finishing with 21 points. The women's team, featuring D Harika, R Vaishali, Divya Deshmukh, and Vantika Agrawal, also won 3.5-0.5 against Azerbaijan, claiming the gold with 19 points.

Manchester City's Rodri set to miss rest of season with ACL tear: Reports

New Delhi, Manchester City midfielder Rodri is expected to miss the remainder of the season after tests on Monday indicated he suffered an anterior cruciate ligament (ACL) tear in his right knee during Sunday's 2-2 draw with Arsenal, according to a report from ESPN. Further tests are planned, but the signs point toward a serious injury, with Rodri likely to undergo surgery in Barcelona. This means that Rodri could be out of action for up to 9 months.

City salvaged a last-minute equalizer through John Stones to secure the draw at the Etihad Stadium, keeping them at the top of the Premier League table with 13 points from five games. However, the biggest low point for them was when Rodri had to be taken off the field after sustaining an injury to his right leg during a corner sequence for the defending Premier League champions. The Spanish midfielder would immediately go down early in the first half, clutching his leg and in visible distress. Rodri would then have to be

taken away from the field with the help of the City medical staff and was replaced by Mateo Kovacic. Rodri, who was named the



player of the tournament at Euro 2024 after helping Spain to victory, is amongst the frontrunners for the Ballon d'Or. The 28-year-old had recently voiced concerns about player workloads, hinting that players were "close" to striking. Rodri played 63 matches for club and country last season, with his campaign extending until the Euro 2024

final on July 14. "I think we are close to that; it is easy to understand. I think it's something general. I think if you ask any player, he will say the same -- it is not the opinion of Rodri or whatever. I think it's the general opinion of the players. And if it keeps this way, there will be a moment where we have no other option. I really think, but let's see. I don't know what's going to happen, but it's something that worries us because we are the guys that suffer."

Rodri's injury a serious setback for City

Rodri's injury is a major setback for City as they pursue their fifth consecutive Premier League title. Guardiola's side are yet to face the likes of Liverpool, Tottenham Hotspur and Manchester United this season and the midfielder will certainly leave a big void for the defending champions. City will be facing Watford in the 3rd round of the Carabao Cup on September 24, Tuesday, before taking on Newcastle United in the Premier League on Saturday, September 28.

R Ashwin responds to Bumrah's 'fittest' remark after social media storm

New Delhi, Off-spinner Ravichandran Ashwin downplayed the discussion surrounding Jasprit Bumrah's 'fittest cricketer' comment, which sparked debate among fans on social media. Ashwin mentioned that it's unreasonable to ask a cricketer a question and then expect his response to please everyone. The veteran also called Bumrah the 'Kohinoor' of Indian cricket, praising him as one of the standout fast bowlers of the modern era. Jasprit Bumrah's reply to 'India's fittest cricketer' question at a promotional event led to debates on social media. Some fans disagreed with Bumrah and even suggested he should have taken Virat Kohli's name. A section of them even targeted Bumrah for not naming Kohli in his reply.

Ashwin, however, highlighted the workload concerns for Jasprit Bumrah and said it has



been remarkable to see the fast bowler recover from his long-standing back injury concerns and return to his best, consistently clocking speeds of 145 kph and above. Ashwin likened a fast bowler to a 'tipper lorry', highlighting the wear and tear they go through, especially when bowling in hot and humid conditions. Why do you want to make this thing big? Jasprit Bumrah is a fast bowler who clocks 145 kph in the scorching heat, slogs so hard. He is the crowned jewel of Indian cricket. Bumrah is India's Kohinoor diamond. Let Jasprit Bumrah say whatever he wants to, just accept it," Ashwin said in his Hindi YouTube show. "Tell me one thing: Has any fast bowler after Kapil Dev become as big? Bumrah comes and wins you matches. Also, you asked Jasprit Bumrah the question, and then you also only wanted to answer it. You are saying, 'I am not satisfied with your answer'. How is this fair?"

'A FAST BOWLER IS A TIPPER LORRY'

Ashwin acknowledged that Virat Kohli is among the fittest cricketers going around and highlighted that it's not even fair to compare a fast bowler and a batter.

If I were Vinesh Phogat, I would apologise for Olympic disqualification: Yogeshwar

New Delhi, Olympic medalist Yogeshwar Dutt criticised Vinesh Phogat, stating that the wrestler did not take responsibility after the Paris Olympics, instead blaming others for her disqualification. Yogeshwar, who won a bronze medal at the London Olympics, said that if he had been disqualified, he would have apologised to the entire nation. He expressed disappointment with how Vinesh handled the highly-publicised ordeal.

Speaking at the Panchayat AajTak Haryana 2024 event, Yogeshwar said he was surprised when Vinesh started spreading conspiracy theories about her Olympic disqualification. He even claimed that Vinesh went as far as blaming Prime Minister Narendra Modi for the incident. "She was disqualified from the Olympic Games, she should have apologised in front of the entire nation, saying that she made mistakes. But instead, she termed it a conspiracy, even blaming the Prime Minister of the country. Everyone knows that the

disqualification was the right call. They disqualify athletes even if the weight is more by a gram," Yogeshwar said. Yogeshwar's comments came just days after Vinesh made serious allegations against the Indian Olympic Association (IOA) and its president, PT Usha. Phogat criticised the IOA for not providing adequate legal support during her appeal to the Court of Arbitration for Sport (CAS) for a joint silver medal. Despite her efforts, the CAS ruled against her. Vinesh argued that the Government of India and the IOA should have taken a more proactive role in filing and supporting her case, instead of joining the process only after she had initiated it on her own.

FALSE PERCEPTION WAS CREATED: VINESH

Yogeshwar accused Vinesh Phogat of even manipulating wrestlers during the much-



publicised wrestlers' protest against former Wrestling Federation of India officials, including Brij Bhushan Sharan Singh.

"She created a wrong atmosphere in the country. Even during the protests, people were asked to gather in the wrong way.

"If we speak just about the Olympics, despite costing India a medal, a false perception was

created that something wrong happened to her. If I was in Vinesh's place, I would've apologised to the country," he added. Vinesh was disqualified for being 100 grams overweight during the weigh-in on the day of her final. Vinesh made a sensational run to the final of the women's 50 kg category at the Paris Olympics and was on the cusp of glory before the disqualification. Senior lawyer Harish Salve, who represented Phogat in the CAS hearing, countered some of her allegations by stating that there was a lack of coordination between the different legal teams involved, and that Phogat herself chose not to pursue further legal action after the CAS verdict. Following her disqualification and the rejection of her appeal, Phogat announced her retirement from wrestling and has since entered politics, joining the Indian National Congress.

Sapthami Gowda

Blends Comfort And Style In Chic White Tee Look



Sapthami Gowda is one of the most popular names in the film industry. Apart from her outstanding performances, Sapthami is also known for her active social media presence. The actress always keeps her fans updated on both her personal and professional lives. In her recent visit to the Yosemite National Park, Sapthami Gowda grabbed her fans' attention, not just with the stunning backdrop but also with her effortlessly stylish look. The young actress, known for her roles in Kannada cinema, took to Instagram to share moments from her trip, showcasing her fashion sense that perfectly blends comfort with style.

Sapthami Gowda pulled off a simple yet elegant white t-shirt, a go-to choice for a day out in nature. Her minimalistic approach to dressing was enhanced by her choice of accessories like a subtle yet stylish necklace and a classic ring that added just the right amount of sparkle without dominating her natural beauty. Her hair was left loose in natural waves, framing her face beautifully as she basked in the golden-hour sunlight, which highlighted her features. The actress opted for a light makeup look, flexing her clear skin and bright smile. Her photos went viral in no time, while fans showered compliments in the comment section.

Sapthami Gowda works primarily in Kannada cinema. She made her acting debut in 2020 with the film Popcorn Monkey Tiger, directed by Duniya Suri. The film was produced by KM Sudhir and serves as a sequel to the 2015 film Kendasampige. The film features Dhananjaya, Amrutha Iyengar, Nivedhitha, Sapthami Gowda, Sparsha Rekha and Prashanth Siddi in pivotal roles. The actress got the limelight for her role of Leela in Kantara, directed by Rishab Shetty, in 2022. She is a recipient of a Filmfare Award South and two SIIMA Awards.



Natasa Stankovic 'Likes' Aly Goni's Cozy Photo With Jasmin Bhasin After Her Divorce With Hardik Pandya



Aly Goni and Jasmin Bhasin are one of the most adorable celebrity couples and there is no doubt about it. The two often share their love-filled pictures online and leave their fans in complete awe. On Monday too, Aly took to his Instagram handle and dropped a romantic picture with his ladylove Jasmin. In the photo, they were all smiles as Jasmin rested her head on Aly's shoulder as he took a mirror selfie. However, what grabbed everyone's attention was something else. Soon after the photo was shared online, netizens noticed that among others, Natasa Stankovic also liked it. Before Jasmin, Aly was in a romantic relationship with Natasa Stankovic. They even appeared together on the 9th season of Nach Baliye but broke up soon after the show ended.

Interestingly, this comes days after Aly Goni dropped a big hint about his breakup with Natasa. He appeared on Bharti Singh and Haersh Limbachiya's podcast when he talked about his past relationship. Even though the actor did not name Natasa, he mentioned that they broke up because she wanted to not live with his family. "Jo mera isse pahle bhi relation tha, woh bahut hi serious tha. Uska reason hi yahi tha ke usne mujhe bola ke 'yaar jab hum shaadi kareinge future mein hum alag raheinge'. Voh cheez mujhe nahi jami (My previous relationship was very serious. The reason we broke up was that she told me that we would live separately. I did not agree to it)," Aly said. Goni, who is currently seen in Laughter Chefs, further mentioned that he is a family man and does not want to live separately. "Main apne family ko saath leke chalunge jahab bhi jaunga. Main family ko alag nahi kar sakte. Main nahi chod sakta, chahe duniya ki koi bhi taakat aa jaaye (I will take my family along wherever I go. I cannot separate from my family. I can't leave them, come what may)," he added. Meanwhile, Natasa Stankovic recently parted ways from her cricketer husband Hardik Pandya. The two, who tied the knot in May 2020 and renewed their wedding vows according to the Hindu and Christian rituals in February 2023, confirmed their separation in July 2024.

Justin Bieber And Hailey Bieber Are Even 'More In Love' Since The Arrival Of Baby Boy: Report



Canadian singer Justin Bieber and his wife Hailey Bieber recently became parents. They welcomed a baby boy, Jack Blues Bieber, sometime in August. Since the birth of their first child, the couple has been more focused on raising their baby and embracing their parental duties. Recently, a source disclosed that the couple seemed "more in love" just after a month of their baby boy's arrival. People quoted a source who shared that the Bieber couple had a quiet celebration for their sixth anniversary. Justin and Hailey got married in a courthouse wedding in September 2018 in New York City. The insider said, "They had a quiet wedding anniversary celebration. They seem even more in love since the baby arrived." The source added that the Rhode founder has been "feeling great" after becoming a mother, whereas the Stay singer has been encouraging his wife to catch up with her friends. And keeping up with her husband's request, Hailey was recently spotted with her good friend Kylie Jenner in L.A.

The source continued, "(Justin has) been in a happy bubble since baby Jack was born. He wants to focus on being a great dad and husband." For those who don't know, Justin shared a post on his Instagram on August 23 announcing the arrival of his baby boy. He posted a picture featuring a tiny foot and a well-manicured hand of Hailey. Captioning the post, the singer wrote, "WELCOME HOME JACK BLUES BIEBER." The couple has named their first kid after Justin's father Jeremy Bieber, whose middle name is Jack.

Just days after Justin and Hailey's son's birth, a source disclosed to People that their baby is everything that they ever wished for. "The pregnancy was something that they very much wished and prayed for.

The day they found out that Hailey was pregnant was the best ever for Justin. He was over the moon with excitement. It was a big celebration for them," read the report. Ever since the couple got married, there were frequent rumours about their pregnancy. The Canadian singer surprised his millions of fans when he dropped an ethereal video from his vow renewal ceremony on May 10.

Pragya Jaiswal's

Glammed Up Black Bodysuit Look Will Drive Your Monday Blues Away



Pragya Jaiswal is a true blue fashionista and you can't deny it. When it comes to making a bold fashion statement, the diva doesn't hold back and effortlessly showcases her captivating style with sheer elegance. Once again, the actress set the internet ablaze with her stunning look in an all-black bold outfit that she opted for a recent photoshoot. She dolled up in a stunning one-piece black bodysuit. Needless to say, she looked extremely hot and sizzling. Her outfit featured full sleeves and a deep V-neckline. For the glam quotient, Pragya opted for a dewy base with defined brows, smoky eyeshadow, mascara-coated lashes and a dark brown lip shade that complemented her overall look. She styled her hair in a nearly drenched open look

as though she had just walked out of the pool minutes ago. In the photo, Pragya Jaiswal could be seen striking a sexy pose on top of what seems like the handle of a sofa set. "So far, so good," she wrote in the caption.

As soon as the actress dropped the picture, the comment section was flooded with reactions from her fans and admirers. An Instagram user wrote, "Looking radiant." Another one commented, "Koi itna khoobsurat kaise ho sakta hai (how can someone be so beautiful)." One of them wrote, "You are pure beauty."

Pragya Jaiswal was recently seen in the comedy-drama film Khel Khel Mein. Directed by Mudassar Aziz, the film also featured Akshay Kumar, Taapsee Pannu, Vaani Kapoor, Fardeen Khan, Ammy Virk and Aditya Seal in the lead roles. Khel Khel Mein, despite getting positive reviews from critics and fans, didn't perform well at the box office. The film is an official Hindi remake of the 2016 Italian flick Perfetti Sconosciuti (Perfect Strangers). Pragya is a popular name in the South film industry and has appeared in several films like Virattu, Kanche, Akhanda and many more. She made her Bollywood debut with the film Titoo MBA in 2014. She will reportedly be next seen in south star Nandamuri Balakrishna's upcoming film tentatively titled NBK109. It also stars Bobby Deol, Jagapathi Babu and Siddhi Aggarwal in the leads.

