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Voting peaceful, BJP faces 'tough fight' on all 5 seats in Karnal

Sanjay Kumar Karnal, Oct 6: With the completion of the voting process on Saturday, the fate of 55 candidates contesting across five Assembly segments was sealed in the electronic voting machines at 1,181 polling booths. As many as 12 candidates were in fray from the Karnal Assembly segment, 15 in Nilokheri, 14 in Assandh, eight in Gharanda and six in Indri. Around 62.5 per cent of the eligible voters cast their ballot across these five segments in the district. It was 64.6 per cent during the 2019 Assembly elections. Assandh Assembly segment witnessed a voter turnout of 63.9 per cent, Gharanda 68.5 per cent, Indri 68.3 per cent, Karnal 53.5 per cent and Nilokheri Assembly segment 59.9 per cent. In the 2019 Assembly elections, the voter turnout was 64 per cent in Nilokheri, 72.8 per cent in Indri, 52.6 per cent in Karnal, 67.1 per cent in Gharanda and 68.4 per cent in Assandh. In the recently held Lok Sabha elections, Gharanda Assembly segment had recorded 66 per cent voting, Assandh 59.5 per cent, Karnal 57.9 per cent, Indri 68.7 per cent and

Nilokheri 61.2 per cent. Karnal district holds significant political importance as it is the constituency from which former chief minister and Union Power Minister Manohar Lal Khattar was elected as Member of Parliament. Additionally, current caretaker Chief Minister Nayab Singh Saini was also elected as Member of Legislative Assembly from here in the recently held Assembly byelection on May 25 this year. Despite this, the reports from polling stations suggest that the BJP is facing a tough fight in all five constituencies. In Karnal, BJP candidate Jagmohan Anand is in a close contest with Congress candidate Sumita Singh, while in Indri, BJP's Ram Kumar Kashyap is in a neck-and-neck contest with Congress candidate Rakesh Kamboj. Gharanda is witnessing a very tough competition between BJP's Harvinder Kalyan and Congress candidate Virender Rathore. Assandh Assembly segment has witnessed a multi-cornered race, with Congress candidate Shamsher Singh Gogi in a close contest against BJP's Yoginder Rana, Independent candidate Zile Ram Sharma and INLD-BSP's Gopal Rana.

UN like 'old company', not entirely keeping up with market: Jaishankar

Simmi Kaur Babbar New Delhi, Oct. 6: External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar on Sunday took a critical view of the United Nations, saying it was "like an old company", not entirely keeping up with the market but occupying the space. During an interaction at the Kautilya Economic Conclave here, he also said that two very serious conflicts are going on in the world. "And where is the UN on them, essentially a bystander," the minister said. In response to a query on the possible outcome of the US elections, he said the US actually has "made a shift", geopolitically and in its economic outlook, and irrespective of the outcomes in November, many of these trends will "intensify" in the days to come. Jaishankar took part in the interactive session on 'India and the Globe' and spoke of India's role and challenges amid changing global dynamics. "So, we are both a lifting tide and a bit of paradoxical one, a ballast as well," Jaishankar said as he enumerated some of the steps India has taken to help other countries, including its neighbours such as Sri Lanka. Asked about his upcoming visit to Pakistan to attend a summit of the Shanghai Cooperation

Organisation (SCO), he again sought to rule out any bilateral talks with his Pakistani counterpart. "I am going there for a certain job, a certain responsibility.

his response to a query on the United Nations' role amid the changing global scenario, he took a rather critical view of the world body that was born in 1945 after the Second World War. Initially, it had 50 countries, which has grown over these years to nearly four times. "The UN is in a way like an old company, not entirely keeping up with the market, but occupying the space. And, when it's behind times, in this world you have start-ups and innovations, so different people start doing their own things," Jaishankar said. "So, what you have today is that you have a UN at the end, however suboptimal in functioning, it is still the only multilateral game in town," he added. "But, when it doesn't step up on key issues, countries figure out their own ways of doing it. For example, let's take the last five-10 years, probably the biggest thing that happened in our life was Covid. Now, what did the UN do on Covid? I think the answer is - not very much," the minister said. Jaishankar said, "Now, you have two conflicts going on in the world today, two very serious conflicts, where is the UN on them, essentially a bystander," he said. So, what is happening, as it did during Covid also, countries did their own thing such as the initiative like Covax that was done by a group of countries, the minister said.



And, I take my responsibilities seriously. So, I am going there to represent India at the SCO meeting, and that is what I am going to do," Jaishankar said. At an event on Saturday, the external affairs minister said that he was going to Islamabad for a "multilateral event" and not to discuss India-Pakistan relations. In

PM Modi's 'stale lectures' cannot gloss over 'failures' affecting every aspect of economy: Kharge

ST Correspondent New Delhi, Oct 6: Congress president Mallikarjun Kharge on Sunday attacked Prime Minister Narendra Modi over the state of the economy, saying his "stale lectures" repeating the same old spins cannot gloss over his "outright failures" affecting every aspect of the country's economy. "Modinomics is a curse to India's economy," he said on X, raising issues like household indebtedness, price rise and the manufacturing sector's woes, and claimed that "Make in India has spectacularly failed". "Narendra Modi ji, your stale lectures repeating the same old spins cannot gloss



over your outright failures affecting every aspect of India's economy!" he said. Kharge said household liabilities/indebtedness has grown by a whopping 241 per cent from 2013-14 to 2022-23 in actual terms. Kharge pointed out that household savings are at a 50-year low and that since the Covid pandemic, the consumption of Indian families is more than their income. "The cost of home-cooked Veg Thali increased by 11 per cent in September 2024 compared to last year. BJP imposed price rise and destruction of unorganised sector is responsible for this mess!" he said. "In 10 years, 'Make in India' has spectacularly failed as the gains of India's rising exports during Congress-UPA have been discarded by your policies," Kharge said. "No wonder, the average growth rate of the manufacturing sector between 2014-15 and 2023-24 is just 3.1 per cent (BJP-NDA) whereas between 2004-05 and 2013-14, the average growth rate was 7.85 per cent (Congress-UPA)," he said. This "disastrous policy" has reduced the share of workers employed in manufacturing to 11.4 per cent (2023-24) from 15.85 per cent (2017-18), Kharge said. Diamond workers in Surat are facing challenges as their salaries have been reduced up to 30 per cent and major diamond units are forced to operate only four days a week, the Congress president said. In the last six months, more than 60 diamond artisans have committed suicide, he claimed.

Suspicious boat spotted off coast in Maharashtra's Palghar, police issue advisory

Palghar, Oct 6: A suspicious boat was spotted off the coast in Maharashtra's Palghar district, prompting the police to issue an advisory, urging law enforcement agencies and the public to remain alert, and a search by the Coast Guard. Locals saw the boat around midnight on October 3 near Chikhle village in Dahanu taluka and reported the sighting to the police, said the advisory. The boat, which appeared larger and wider than typical vessels in the area, was near the shore. However, when locals used their mobile flashlights and two-wheeler headlights to guide it to the coast, it ventured deep into the Arabian Sea, said the advisory. The Coast Guard deployed helicopters to locate the suspicious green and white vessel, it said. The boat had a high front end and a large cabin at the rear, distinguishing it from local fishing vessels. The Palghar Superintendent of Police has ordered increased foot patrols in the Sagari and Khadi police station areas. Police officials have been told to communicate with local fishing societies to gather information. The authorities have urged the public to contact police if they spot any suspicious movements or boats matching the description, the advisory added.

Ministers flay Nadda, Hamirpur MP for not securing central aid for state

Navdeep Singh Sahni Shimla, Oct 6: Industries Minister Harshwardhan Chauhan and Public Works Department Minister Vikramaditya Singh here today condemned national BJP president JP Nadda and Hamirpur MP Anurag Thakur for their failure to secure 'rightful' financial support for Himachal Pradesh from the Central Government. The ministers, in a joint statement, questioned the BJP leaders when would the Central Government provide funds that it owed to the state. They said that since the state government restored the Old Pension Scheme (OPS) for its 1.36 lakh employees, the BJP leaders had been conspiring against it. Their "Operation Lotus" to grab power had failed miserably, they alleged. The duo asked Nadda to speak on facts rather than trying to create sensation. "The Central Government is withholding nearly Rs 10,000 crore of the employees' contribution

towards the National Pension Scheme (NPS). As the state government had implemented the OPS, it was the responsibility of



the Union Government to return the funds of the employees contributed towards the NPS but it was withholding the money deliberately," they added. The ministers pointed out various restrictions imposed by the Central Government on Himachal, limiting its ability to borrow funds. They criticised the lack of a Rs 1,780 crore grant for

the implementation of the OPS and questioned the BJP leaders on the measures taken to remove the constraints. They said that during the previous BJP government, freebies amounting to Rs 5,000 crore were provided in the last six months of Jai Ram Thakur's tenure, overburdening the state treasury. They criticised the BJP for neglecting the disaster relief fund and said that the Centre had not released the relief amount as per the Post Disaster Need Assessment claims submitted by the state. The ministers claimed, "The Congress government has taken proactive steps to address the rain disaster's impact by allocating Rs 4,500 crore from its own resources to rebuild over 23,000 damaged houses and give relief to the affected people. The BJP leaders walked out of the state Assembly rather than supporting the claim of disaster relief funds from the Central Government and getting the rain tragedy declared as a national disaster."

Had Centre cleared coal royalty dues, would have given Rs 3 lakh to Jharkhand's women: Soren

Tejinder Kaur Babbar Ranchi, Oct. 6: Asserting that coal royalty of Rs 1.36 lakh crore was pending with the Centre, Jharkhand Chief Minister Hemant Sorensaid had his government got that money, women of the state would have been given Rs 3 lakh. Addressing a rally at Baliguma in East Singhbhum district after inaugurating the new building of MGM Medical College and Hospital, Soren alleged the opposition BJP has tried to throw a spanner in every work undertaken by his government. "They had miserably failed to do any good for the women of the state when they were in power and now they are raising fingers at us over the Mainya Samman Yojana. They have even approached the judiciary to stop it. Why did the BJP not bring any scheme for women during their tenure," he questioned. Referring to the BJP's promise of Rs 2,100 per month for the women of the

state, Soren claimed that it was just a means to get mileage before the assembly



elections due later this year. "Jharkhand has an abundance of mineral reserve but the people are poor," he said, asking the Centre to clear Rs 1.36 lakh crore of coal royalty dues. "Had we got the amount, we would have been able to deposit Rs 3 lakh

in the bank accounts of the women. The state are now getting Rs 1,000 crore per month under the Mainya Samman Yojana," he added. Soren said that when his government framed an employment policy based on the 1932 land survey record, a case was filed against it as well. "An hour after our government came to power in 2019, BJP started playing all tricks to dethrone us," he claimed, alleging that the opposition party was now indulging in communal politics. "Identify the conspirators and teach them a lesson in the upcoming elections," he told the gathering. Soren also inaugurated the OPD at the new building of the state-run hospital, as well as a library and a convention centre. The new building was developed at Rs 376

crore and would increase the capacity of the hospital to 700 beds from the present 500, officials said. "We had witnessed horrific times during the COVID pandemic. It was a curse, particularly for a backward state like Jharkhand. Everything came to a standstill and people remained indoors. But our government had handled the situation properly and brought all the migrant labourers back home," he said. "The state's public health infrastructure was not adequate. There was a shortage of medicines and doctors. But, we not only tackled the situation successfully but also supplied oxygen to the rest of the country from Jamshepur and Bokaro." Soren said, adding that at that point in time, his government decided to improve the MGM Hospital. He announced that the foundation of another hospital would soon be laid in Ranchi. Among those present at the function was Health Minister Banna Gupta.

Himachal Pradesh govt can't survive without central aid even for 1 day: Nadda

Naresh Malhotra Solan, Oct 6: BJP national president JP Nadda today said that the Congress government in the state could not have survived even for a day without the central assistance. He said, "Employees are being paid salaries from Rs 500 crore granted by the Central Government as revenue deficit every month while pensioners are being paid pension from Rs 900 crore received as central taxes every month." Nadda was accorded a rousing welcome at Nahan in Sirmaur district. He inaugurated the BJP office there and later addressed party workers. He ridiculed the Chief Minister saying, "Beyond Kalka, Sukhu pleads for projects while in Himachal, he says the Central Government has not given anything to the state." "Gandhiji wanted the Congress to be disbanded after Independence but it did not happen due to the greed of its leaders to capture power. The Congress has been shifting its stand and now Rahul Gandhi is speaking the language of urban

Naxals and making anti-national utterances," he added. He alleged that the Congress had cheated the people of the state by giving false guarantees before the 2022 Assembly elections. He alleged that the state government had embez-



zled funds extended under the central schemes and given benefits to its favourites. He added, "The representation of women will increase to 33 per cent in both Lok Sabha and Vidhan Sabha. If people want development, they should opt for the BJP. The Congress government has shut more than 900 institutes opened by the

previous Jai Ram Thakur government, halting development in the state." About Nahan medical college, Nadda said that the Central Government had granted Rs 265 crore to this institution in one-go but the state government had not provided its share. He elaborated on various development initiatives of the Central Government and said no one had ever thought that premier institutes like AIIMS, medical devices park, Indian Institute of Management, PGI satellite centre, bulk drugs park, cancer care centre in Shimla, etc., would be opened in the state. Their foundation stones were laid in the first five years of the Narendra Modi government and completed in the next five years. BJP state president Rajeev Bindal, while addressing the Abhinandan rally, gave credit to Nadda for the new party office at Nahan. He said that earlier the office used to run from a rented room but now a grand office had been built. Leader of the Opposition Jai Ram Thakur, current and former MLAs were present on the occasion. Nadda said that the sister and brother duo of the Congress had been talking about unemployment while they themselves were unemployed.

Stop media trials in rape cases: Mamata Banerjee

Kolkata, Oct 6: Mamata Banerjee has ordered the Kultali rape-murder case to be registered under the POCSO Act, seeking capital punishment for the culprits within three months. West Bengal chief minister



Mamata Banerjee has directed the police to register the Kultali rape-murder case under the POCSO Act and ensure that the culprits receive capital punishment within three months. The case involves a 10-year-old girl who was found dead in a canal in South 24 Parganas Kultali on Saturday. Banerjee, while speaking at the Kolkata police body

guard lines after virtually inaugurating several Durga Pujas, said that crime has no colour, caste or religion. "I want the police to register the Kultali case under the POCSO Act and ensure that the culprits get capital punishment within three months... Crime is crime; there is no religion or caste. Strong action should be taken against the criminals," the chief minister said, PTI reported. Banerjee also said that media trials in rape cases should stop, as they could interfere with investigations. On Sunday, protests erupted in South 24 Parganas, with people demanding the harshest punishment for those responsible. The BJP also joined the protests. BJP state president Sukanta Mazumdar and leader Agnimitra Paul participated. Meanwhile, the West Bengal police detained a suspect in connection with the case. South 24 Parganas superintendent of police, Palash Chandra Dhalai, said that the girl had gone missing in evening while returning from tuition. Her family to lodge a complaint when she did not return home till 8pm. "Yesterday itself, we started the investigation. After investigation, today we detained a person; he said that he had killed the girl.



## Bonai forest division on edge as man-elephant conflict boils over

**ROURKELA:** With rise in man-animal conflicts, authorities of Bonai Forest Division (BFD) are finding it tough to douse the ire of locals. A host of preventive measures including radio collaring of rogue elephants and drone surveillance seem falling apart. Sources said for the last couple of years, BFD has been witnessing an unprecedented rise in elephant depredation incidents. The division from April till now has witnessed at least eight human deaths along with substantial damage to houses and crops. In 2023-24 the division had reported at least 12 human casualties and BFD had to pay around Rs 1.5 crore in compensation for the deaths and loss of property. Two marauding solitary tuskers staying in Koida and Bonai forest ranges, both fitted with radio collars recently, are the biggest trouble makers. In the latest incident, one of the radio-collared tuskers killed an elderly villager in the wee-hours of Friday. A day earlier two forest employees tracking an elephant herd in Kulposh range were injured in an attack by an elephant. Koida-B zilla parishad member Ashok Naik said resentment is growing against the frequent elephant raids and failure of the Forest department to ensure safety of the poor and vulnerable villagers. Villagers living in mud houses in forest are at higher risk with elephants attacking mud houses attracted by the smell of country liquor or in search of food.

## Orissa HC relief for 49 applicants barred from OPSSB posts

**CUTTACK:** The Orissa High Court on Friday directed the Odisha Police State Selection Board (OPSSB) to permit 49 candidates barred for upper age limit criteria to submit their application forms and participate in the recruitment process for 1,360 posts of sepoy/constables in 16 different battalions. The OPSSB had invited applications for the posts with minimum 18 years and maximum 23 years age limit through an advertisement issued on August 29, 2024 and October 22 is the last date for submission of application forms. All the 49 candidates had filed a petition challenging the advertisement on the ground that though recruitment for the posts of sepoy/constables in 16 different battalions was last held in 2018, no upper age relaxation was given for those who had crossed the 23 years age limit during these six years. Appearing on behalf of the petitioners, advocate Rajib Rath sought direction to the OPSSB to permit them to submit their application forms and allow them to appear in the open competitive recruitment examination 2024-25.

Granting relief, the single judge bench of Justice Sashikanta Mishra on Friday ordered, "The petitioners shall be permitted to apply in the online/offline mode pursuant to the advertisement dated 22.09.2024 and also participate in the recruitment process." Their results, however, shall not be declared without obtaining leave of this court, Justice Mishra said in the interim order and posted further hearing on the matter to November 22. The petitioners belong to General, SEBC, SC and ST categories. While issuing notices returnable within four weeks, Justice Mishra took on record submissions of the petitioner counsel for relaxation of the upper age limit by amending and modifying eligibility clause in the August 29, 2024 advertisement by taking into consideration Covid-19 pandemic, Odisha Civil Service (Fixation of Upper Age Limit) Rules 1989 and Order 21 of Odisha Battalion Service (Method of Recruitment and Conditions of Service of Sepoys, Constables, Havildars and ASI (Armed) Order 2022), which provide relaxation clause.

## NDA, YSRC getting ready for Guntur MLC poll

**GUNTUR:** With the voter enrolment for the Graduates Constituency of the erstwhile Guntur and Krishna Districts fast approaching, the TDP-led NDA and YSRC are eyeing to win the seat. The YSRC, with 11 seats in the Assembly of 175, has announced senior leader Punuru Gowtham Reddy as its candidate for the seat, while the ruling coalition is yet to announce the nominee though speculation about former Tenali MLA Alapati Rajendra Prasad is high. Alapati was reportedly promised MLC seat, after he was denied Tenali ticket in the general elections. Posters and banners of Alapati along with local TDP MLAs Nazeer and Galla Madhavi have been set up across the city by party cadres. The poll will be necessitated with the end of the term of MLC KS Lakshman Rao on March 29, 2025.

The district administration has issued a notice for voter enrolment. November 6 is the last date for submitting applications. The draft voter list will be released on November 23 and after addressing objections, the final draft will be published on November 30. Guntur District Collector S Naga Lakshmi recently held a review meeting with leaders of various political parties and officials on the MLC elections. She informed that people who graduated before November 1, 2021, and complete three years are eligible as voters for the graduate MLC election. Those who completed degree, and diploma after intermediate can also apply for their vote, she added. Voters should be residents of Guntur, Palnadu, NTR, Krishna, and selected mandals of Bapatla and Eluru districts and graduated from any institution in the country should submit Form-18 to register their vote.

# Andhra Pradesh government allocates Rs 100 crore for Akhanda Godavari project

There is a tremendous opportunity to develop East Godavari into a tourist hub. The Akhanda Godavari project has been allocated Rs 100 crore to enhance tourism, says East Godavari District Collector P Prasanthi in an exclusive interview with KV Saindra. She further mentioned plans for the upcoming Godavari Pushkarams in 2027.

## What are your plans for developing the riverside towns in East Godavari?

We are preparing for the upcoming Godavari Pushkarams in 2027. We are holding a series of meetings with various departments. Our focus is on setting up Pushkar Nagar, which will be connected to railway stations and bus stands. With Kovvur now part of East Godavari after the district reorganisation, both towns, Rajamahendravaram and Kovvur, are under one administration. These towns, located along the Akhanda Godavari, are expected to see an influx of 2-3 crore people during Pushkarams. We plan to widen roads according to the master plan. We will enhance both old and new ghats.

## What are your plans to develop East Godavari as a tourist hub?



We see a tremendous opportunity to develop East Godavari into a tourist hub, especially since Minister Kandula Durgesh hails from this area. Our plans include promoting river tourism, temple tourism, and spiritual tourism. Several star hotels are being planned under a public-private partnership model. Projects such as developing Bridge

Island and Havelock Bridge as tourist spots are underway. The officials are also working on a boat tourism initiative along the canal to Kadiyapulanka, which is famous for its nursery gardens. Resorts are being set up in these areas, and the Akhanda Godavari project has been allocated Rs 100 crore for further development.

## What is the current status of the sand policy in the district?

The district has seen significant pressure due to the large number of sand ramps on the Godavari River. We have established a task force to prevent illegal sand smuggling and regulate authorised sand transport. So far, we have registered 64 cases for violations. The sand policy is reviewed daily to address issues and improve enforcement.

## What are your observations on the river Godavari floods and the rescue operations in the region?

When the Godavari River swells to a flow of 10 lakh cusecs, we issue the first flood warning and relocate villagers from three Lanka areas to relief centres. The threat of flooding often poses challenges for smooth drainage into

the river, especially in Rajamahendravaram. Both State and Central governments have funded the construction of a sewage treatment plant to divert drainage away from the river and prevent pollution. In West Godavari, island villages are particularly vulnerable during floods. Last year, we saw 16 lakh cusecs of water released into the sea, and in 2022, it was as high as 25 lakh cusecs. We are constantly battling nature, and our official machinery remains on alert to protect lives and property from floodwaters.

## What measures have you taken on preventing child marriages?

I am fully committed to eradicating this social evil. Every Saturday, the Women and Child Welfare Department conducts awareness programmes across 1,563 Anganwadi centres. We've mobilised all departments to campaign against child marriages and enforce the Protection of Children from Sexual Offences (POCSO) Act. Special attention is given to the welfare of women and children, including ensuring that high-risk pregnant women receive proper medical care.

## Girl dies in bike crash, male friend kills self in Chennai

**← Sabrina, who was thrown off the bike in the impact of the collision fell on the road, suffered injuries to her head, and bled profusely.**



afternoon. According to police, the friends were on their way to Mamallapuram on Yogeswaran's motorcycle when a Pudukkottai Road Transport Corporation bus rammied the vehicle from behind near Pooncheri Junction. Sabrina, who was thrown off the bike in the impact of the collision fell on the road, suffered injuries to her head, and bled profusely. She was not wearing a helmet, police said. Sabrina was rushed to a nearby hospital where she died. Overcome by grief, Yogeswaran ran out of the hospital and allegedly jumped in

front of another PRTC bus which was on its way to Pudukkottai. He died on the spot. The Chengalpattu district police registered two separate cases and arrested the drivers of the two buses — Paramasivan and Arumugam. Four more people, including a three-year-old boy, were killed in three separate road accidents in Chennai and its neighbouring districts late on Friday and Saturday. On Friday evening, Gagan Sai (3) was run over by an autorickshaw in front of his mother on a busy road in Thiruvallur district. The police said the boy, recognising his relative on the opposite side, attempted to cross the road. When the incident happened, his mother was speaking over the phone after the two had alighted from a bus. The Kangamma Chathiram police registered a case and arrested the autorickshaw driver.

On Saturday near Gummidipoondi, two employees of a Royapettah audit firm died when a lorry hit their two-wheeler.

## PR row: Critical voices emerge at CPM state committee meet

**THIRUVANANTHAPURAM:** Contrary to CPM state secretary M V Govindan's claim that the party has expressed its full confidence in Chief Minister Pinarayi Vijayan in the PR agency row, the CPM state committee witnessed severe criticism against the CM over the whole episode. Some leaders who spoke at the state committee meeting on Friday remarked that 'the allegation pointing to a PR agency's involvement in the chief minister interview has put both the government and party in a tight spot.' A few leaders who spoke at the meeting also questioned the credibility of CPM leader T K Devakumar's son Subrahmanian and his



## HC restrains illegal sand quarrying on waterbody in Muthoor, grants interim injunction

**MADURAI:** Taking into account that sand was being quarried beyond the permissible limit from a land located near a waterbody in Muthoor village in Sivaganga district, the Madurai Bench of the Madras High Court granted an interim injunction on further quarrying operations. A division bench of Justices R Subramanian and L Victoria Gowri was hearing a public interest litigation (PIL) petition, filed by one C Perumal of Sivaganga district, seeking a direction to cancel the permission granted for sand quarrying in Kannakulam kanmoi in the village. According to the petitioner, residents of Muthoor village depend upon agriculture for their livelihoods, and a person, who owns land near the waterbody, has been carrying

out illegal sand quarrying activities. Though permission has been granted for quarrying activities in



Muthoor, the alleged person has been

involved in quarrying beyond the permissible limit, and sand was being removed from up to 10 feet in depth. If such quarrying activities are permitted to continue, it will adversely affect the waterbody, said the petitioner, who moved the high court seeking direction to revoke the permission granted for sand quarrying activities. Hearing the petition, the court observed that the documents and photographs produced, and prima facie found that the said person had quarried sand beyond the permissible limit. A 10-foot deep pit has been created due to the quarrying operations, said the court, and granted an interim injunction restraining further quarrying operations in the region. The case has been adjourned by four weeks.

# Wild animal menace sparks reverse migration of farmers to the plains in Kerala

**KOCHI:** Shelju Subramaniam, 40, whose grandfather migrated from Adimali to Kanthalloor, considered the vegetable bowl of Kerala, some 40 years back, has relocated from Idukki's high ranges to the plains of Muvattupuzha in Ernakulam. Reason: The wild elephants that have been destroying his farm for the past couple of years. "I own 2.5 acres of land there (Kanthalloor), but I used to cultivate 20-25 acres after taking more land on lease. I have now decided to quit farming in Kanthalloor as animals have started venturing into human settlements and are destroying our crops. Everyone seems to be leaving," says Shelju, two-time recipient of the state government's 'best farmer' award. He has purchased about an acre near Muvattupuzha, where he has cut down rubber trees to grow crops suited to the area. Another farmer Sebastian, 57, says a big problem in Kanthalloor is the unhindered growth of eucalyptus grandis trees on the land purchased by outsiders who do not live there. "They come here once every three or five years to cut down and sell the trees. These trees near human habitations are where elephants take shelter during the day and enter the farms at night," says Sebastian, adding that wild elephants destroyed his sabarjilli (pear) farms and motorcycle



recently. "I have stopped farming now, and am going to a resort nearby to earn my livelihood," says Sebastian, who owns about 67 cents in Kanthalloor. Fr Stanley Pulprayil, the vicar of St Mary's Forane Church, Karimannoor near Thodupuzha, says his church has had 20-25 new families in the last five years or so, all of whom have vacated their properties on the hills due to wild animal attacks. "The high ranges are getting vacant, slowly. The people are leaving, but without selling their properties. They go there once in a while to look after the property," Fr Stanley says. Alex Ozhukayil, chairman of Kerala Independent Farmers Association (KIFA), says wild animal attacks and the government's

indifferent attitude to deal with the issue are forcing people in the Malabar region too to leave their farms in the hills. "Settlers of Koorachundu and Chakkittapara in Kozhikode, and Kottiyoor in Kannur, are looking to quit farming as wild animals, including elephants, wild boars and monkeys, continue to wreck their crops," Alex says. o, in a slow but obvious reverse migration trend in Kerala, families are returning to the plains more than 100 years after their forefathers from Central Travancore cleared the forests and tilled the soil in the hills of Idukki and Malabar to grow a range of crops from paddy to tapioca, coconut to rubber, and pepper to cardamom.

While the first set of internal migration took place from 1829 when Travancore rulers encouraged farmers to settle in the high ranges of Idukki and cultivate cardamom, it accelerated during World War II (1939-1945), with food scarcity acting as the catalyst. This led the Travancore king to announce the 'Grow more food scheme' promoting migration. It is reckoned over 1 lakh people migrated to Malabar between 1945 and 1960, as their settlements helped in the establishment of roads, schools and hospitals in the high ranges. The trend may

accelerate if the government continues to remain aloof, says M M Abbas, who has been carrying out organic farming on a 1-acre plot in Kanthalloor for the past 20 years. "I will be forced to end cultivation in Kanthalloor due to wild animal menace."

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**Advocate Pooja Bhaskar Sharma**



News box

106 & counting: Malaria cases in Noida highest in 3 years

Noida. Malaria cases have reached an all-time high in the city since 2022, with 106 people infected so far. Twenty-one cases were recorded over the last 10 days alone. Dengue cases, meanwhile, have also touched 128. The health department has initiated extensive screening and door-to-door surveys to identify hotspots and areas reporting waterlogging. Till date, over 150 notices have been issued to residential societies and households where mosquito larvae were detected, district malaria officer Sruti Kirti Verma said. In 2023, Noida recorded 44 malaria cases, while 104 were reported in the preceding year. Ghaziabad has reported 21 malaria cases so far. The city has also seen 38 dengue patients this season, of them six are currently admitted to various hospitals. In Sept, one suspected dengue death case was reported from the city. Across the two NCR cities, hospitals have



flagged a rise in the number of patients visiting outpatient departments (OPDs) with flu-like symptoms, including high fever, cough, and runny nose. Doctors told TOI earlier that they are treating over 350 patients at OPDs, many presenting with low platelet counts — a common symptom associated with dengue — alongside gastrointestinal infections. Health officials are urging residents to remain vigilant, take preventive measures, and report any stagnant water sources that could facilitate mosquito breeding.

Master plans approved by 3 boards, now await govt nod

Noida. UP's industrial development minister, Nand Gopal Gupta Nandi, reviewed the proposed Master Plan 2041 for Noida, Greater Noida, and Yamuna authorities in Lucknow. The master plans have been approved by their respective boards and await govt approval. "These regions are set to become the most developed in the country over the next 50 years, with seamless connectivity between them," said Nandi. Officials said the Jewar Airport will spur regional growth, and the plan includes mixed-use developments for hotels, restaurants, and workspaces. Shailesh Bhatia, OSD Yamuna Authority, informed the minister about the Authority's Master Plan 2041 proposal. "The plan now includes 226 villages with a total area of 769 square kilometres," he said. The Master Plan 2041 expands the airport and aviation hub area to 6,286.73 hectares and plans 98 sectors. New land-use categories for hospitality and industrial purposes have been introduced. In Mathura, the UP Braj Teerth Vikas Parishad proposed development plans. Meanwhile, Noida's strategy focuses on developing 30 villages in Gautam Budh Nagar and 60 in Bulandshahr, with 40% industrial, 18% green, and 18% residential zones.

At 55.5%, Faridabad sees its lowest turnout since 2009

Faridabad. The six assembly constituencies of Faridabad recorded its lowest turnout since 2009. According to data handed out by the local election office, Faridabad had recorded a turnout of 55.5% till 8pm on Saturday, down from 57.3% in 2019. The previous assembly poll — in 2014 — saw a turnout of 65.7% while it was 62.1% in 2009. Among 22 districts of Haryana, Faridabad had the lowest turnout till Saturday evening. Neighbouring Gurgaon fared a little better — registering 57.2%. The day started on a slow note. Till 9am, the six constituencies — Prithla, NIT Faridabad, Badkhal, Ballabhgarh, Faridabad and Tigaon — had seen turnouts in single digits. Around an hour later, voting percentage improved somewhat. So, it was 8.3% in Badkhal, 10% in Ballabhgarh, 8.7% in Faridabad, 11.2% in NIT Faridabad, 13.5% in Prithla, and 9% in Tigaon. By evening, most of these seats had seen a dip in turnout from the last time. The turnout in Prithla dipped from 76.7% to 70.6%, while that in NIT came down from 61.4% to 60.1%. In Badkhal, it was 49.2% in 2019, but 48% this time. In Tigaon, it came down from 55.8% to 53.2%. The numbers, however, increased in Faridabad and Ballabhgarh.

Nuh women: 'No other demand, just give us water'

Nuh. Living in Ghsera, about 14km northeast of Nuh's main town, with two young daughters and her daily wagger husband, Asma Khan (25) said life in the village was still a struggle for the basics, like water. On Saturday, she was among the first few to reach the polling booth to make sure that her vote counted. "We don't have high aspirations. We are just asking for water. It is a basic requirement. My husband is a labourer, and our family cannot afford water tankers that usually charge over Rs 1,500," she said. One of the remotest villages of Nuh, more than 15,000 residents here are yet to get a piped water supply and are still dependent on two watering troughs that are also used by cattle. Haseena (60), who also cast her vote early in the day, said access to water is a fundamental right everywhere, but in Ghsera it came at a cost. "We are forced to allocate a portion of our already limited resources to meet our daily water needs. The lack of free and readily available water for the poor highlights the stark inequalities present in society," she said. Across Nuh, the situation is no different. Gyanwati, who cast her vote from Rewasan, said for most women in the district, who spend a significant portion of their day arranging for water, it was also a key poll issue in this assembly election. Nuh has witnessed no significant progress in terms of development. But one can only think.

Jobs, inflation & safety: Key concerns that brought women voters to booths

Gurgaon. Job opportunities and economic empowerment, accompanied by "transparency and responsiveness", were among the main concerns of women voters while exercising their franchise as Haryana went to polls on Saturday. Many women voters also highlighted issues such as safety, inflation, transportation, lack of communication by govt and employment as "key factors" influencing their decision-making process. Twenty-two-year-old Monika Gulati, who maintained "there is a dearth of job opportunities," said her vote would go to the party that "will ensure financial independence for women". Monika, who is seeking employment having recently completed a course in computer science, said, "We keep hearing about schemes to empower women such as BJP's promise to give Rs 2,100 to women every month. But I don't know which of these promises will actually be fulfilled." For many others, "effective communication" between the govt and citizens was another paramount concern. "There needs to be more efficient channels of communication to ensure our voices are

heard," Ritu Singh, a young voter said as she cast her vote at a South City-1 polling booth. "Transparency and responsiveness from our leaders are the need of the hour," said Manju Nath at Shri Ram School polling booth in DLF Phase 4 area. Women voters maintained economic independence is crucial to improving "our quality of life and contributing to the community". "We need better employment prospects and support for entrepreneurship," Geeta Verma, a recent graduate from Rohtak Maharshi Dayanand University, said. The desire for economic self-sufficiency is strong among women voters, who see employment as a pathway to "greater autonomy and societal contribution". A significant number of women expressed apprehensions about their safety, both in public spaces and within their communities. "We need more robust steps to protect women and ensure our security," Tara Bai, a resident of Wazirpur in Badshapur constituency, said. "Feeling safe is paramount for our overall well-being and freedom," Tara said. This sentiment was echoed by many others

who believe that enhanced safety measures are indispensable for their daily lives and overall sense of security. Some also pointed out that the rising cost of living as a pressing issue, particularly those managing households. "Prices of essential goods have skyrocketed, making it arduous to make ends meet," a voter at booth number 25, Bimla Daultabad, said. The lack of reliable transportation was also an oft-voiced concern. "Without proper transportation, it's challenging to commute to work or even run daily errands. It takes more than two hours to reach Gurgaon from Delhi," Savita Anand from Palam Vihar said. "Improving public transport would make a tremendous difference in our lives," said another voter, Kavita Kakkar. Gurgaon: Job opportunities and economic empowerment, accompanied by "transparency and responsiveness", were among the main concerns of women voters while exercising their franchise as Haryana went to polls on Saturday. Many women voters also highlighted issues such as safety, inflation, transportation, lack of communication by govt and

employment as "key factors" influencing their decision-making process. Twenty-two-year-old Monika Gulati, who maintained "there is a dearth of job opportunities," said her vote would go to the party that "will ensure financial independence for women". Monika, who is seeking employment having recently completed a course in computer science, said, "We keep hearing about schemes to empower women such as BJP's promise to give Rs 2,100 to women every month. But I don't know which of these promises will actually be fulfilled." For many others, "effective communication" between the govt and citizens was another paramount concern. "There needs to be more efficient channels of communication to ensure our voices are heard," Ritu Singh, a young voter said as she cast her vote at a South City-1 polling booth. "Transparency and responsiveness from our leaders are the need of the hour," said Manju Nath at Shri Ram School polling booth in DLF Phase 4 area. Women voters maintained economic independence is crucial to improving "our quality of life and

Over 50 fall ill in Ghaziabad after having buckwheat flour bought from local store

Ghaziabad. More than 50 residents, most of them women who were fasting for Navratri, of Nandgram Sector C fell ill allegedly after consuming food made from buckwheat flour bought from a shop in the area on Thursday night. At least 27 of them were admitted to hospitals — 17 to Mariyam Hospital and 10 to MMG Hospital — after they complained of severe stomach ache and vomiting, health department officials said. Neelam, a resident of the sector who consumed puris made of buckwheat flour on Thursday night, said her head started reeling soon after she consumed the food. "I went to bed, but at 1.30 am on Friday, I started vomiting and had to be taken to a hospital," she said. Suvidha Sharma, another patient, said she had bought the flour from a local store, Amit Atta Chakki. "I consumed the buckwheat flour on Thursday and within an hour



afternoon. Assistant commissioner (food safety) Arvind Kumar Yadav said a team from the food and drug safety department seized the entire stock of buckwheat flour from Amit Atta Chakki. "The shop had allegedly

Prohibitory orders in Gzb after protest against Dasna priest

Ghaziabad. Police imposed prohibitory orders under BNS Section 163 restricting the assembly of five or more people across Ghaziabad on Saturday. The action comes after a large crowd gathered outside the Dasna Devi temple to protest against head priest Yati Narsinghband on Friday night as videos of his controversial and inflammatory remarks at Hindi Bhawan in Lohia Nagar on Sept 29 appeared online.

Police commissioner Ajay Kumar Mishra said security was stepped up around the temple. Six PAC companies and police personnel were deployed to prevent the escalation of tension. Senior officers, including additional CP Dinesh P, also visited the area. Around 300 quick response teams have been also deployed across the district. Police conducted flag marches and also activated the local intelligence unit.

On Friday, an FIR was registered against Narsinghband and at Sihani Gate police station under BNS Section 302 (uttering words, etc., with deliberate intent to wound the religious feelings of any person). Tensions escalated on Saturday after several protestors, among them expelled

Tank water under scanner after 400 fall ill at condo, 10 kids in hosp

Noida. More than 400 residents of Supertech Ecovillage 2 in Greater Noida West, many of them children, fell ill allegedly after consuming contaminated water since Monday morning with many complaining of nausea, vomiting and diarrhoea. Residents claim the society's tanks were cleaned recently but suspect that chemicals may not have been flushed out properly, leading to widespread illness across the 12 towers of the society. There are around 3,500 residents in Ecovillage 2. The health department chipped in on Monday evening and set up a medical camp at the condominium after nearby pharmacies fell short of necessary medicines. Abhishek Singh, a resident of Tower C4, said his two-year-old son was admitted to intensive care at Yatharth Hospital after his health worsened on Tuesday morning. The child was taken to the hospital's OPD with a high-grade fever and nausea. "But his health deteriorated, and he began having seizures. So, the doctors at the hospital admitted him to ICU for special care," Singh said. Abhishek's son is not alone. Currently, more than 10 children are admitted to various hospitals. Abhiram Singh, who lives in Tower C3, said his three-year-old son has been suffering from diarrhoea, fever and nausea since Monday and has been admitted to Surbhi Hospital since. Surbhi Rawat, a resident of Tower C2, whose two-year-old son is in ICU, said the toddler was in extreme pain. "He was crying all day. What if something bad happens to him? Who will take the responsibility? How can these people be so irresponsible?" she asked. Dr Jetayya Kushwah, a paediatrician who runs a clinic at the society's marketplace, told TOI that since Monday evening a significant number of children had come in for a consultation with a similar set of symptoms — loose motion and vomiting. A few also had high-grade fever. "All the children were from Ecovillage 2. By Tuesday morning, the symptoms were also visible among adults. I am told many have visited local pharmacies and hospitals for consultation today," he said. Alok Singh, a resident of Tower C7, said his family of four endured discomfort throughout Monday night. "We usually don't eat anything from outside. On Monday too, dinner was homecooked and simple. But we all experienced a severe stomach ache and nausea. We consulted a doctor on Tuesday," he said. Initially, most families thought these were isolated cases of dysentery or other stomach ailments, but as messages started circulating on the society's WhatsApp group, they realised the source of the contamination could be common — water. YG Estate, a private firm that is responsible for the society's maintenance for the last four years, told TOI that their team inspected the water tanks in all the towers soon after residents' complaints started to pour in. "The health department has collected water samples and sent them for testing. If any deficiency is found, it will be rectified. Action will also be taken against staffers if found negligent," Azeem, the society's maintenance manager, said. GNIDA provides water to Ecovillage 2. With hundreds of residents switching to packaged water, many local shops and grocery delivery apps on Tuesday said they had run out of stock. "As the water might be the source of contamination, I ordered two bottles of packaged water yesterday. But since this morning, due to heavy demand, the delivery apps have gone out of stock. We have no idea how to deal with this situation. It is so traumatising," Mallika, a resident of B4 tower, told TOI. The homemaker said her eight-year-old daughter could not attend school for the last two days due to severe stomach ache. "Whatever I feed her, she is vomiting and crying. Since Monday, she has been on ORS and medicines,"

**NAME CHANGE** I SP CHRISTINA D/O ANAND SHING SHIMPHRIU R/O F3 SECOND FLOOR, SAI VADRA APARTMENT, C-1489, KISHANGARH WAZIRPUR, NEW DELHI-110078 HAVE CHANGE MY NAME TO CHRISTINA SHIMPHRIU FOR ALL PURPOSE.  
**NAME CHANGE** I PARMAR INDUKUMARI HARGOVIND DAS W/O SOM NATH SINGH RAI R/O A-277, MOTI BAGH-I, CHANAKYA PURI, SOUTH WEST DELHI, DELHI-110021 HAVE CHANGED MY NAME TO INDU RAI FOR ALL PURPOSE.  
**NAME CHANGE** It is for general information that I, SABARJEET S/O RAM LACHMAN R/O Jhuggi No. C-154, Suraj Park, Sector-18, Badli, North West Delhi, Delhi-110042, declare that name of mine and my wife have been wrongly written as SARUJIT and SADHINA in my minor son's name ANANT KUMAR aged 13 years, in his Birth Certificate Registration No. MCDOLIR-0111-04083263. The actual name of mine and my wife are SABARJEET and SADHANA DEVI respectively.  
**NAME CHANGE** It is for general information that I, SABARJEET S/O RAM LACHMAN R/O Jhuggi No. C-154, Suraj Park, Sector-18, Badli, North West Delhi, Delhi-110042, declare that name of mine and my wife have been wrongly written as SARVJEET MAURYA and SADHINA MAURYA in my minor daughter ANSHIKA MAURYA aged 15 years, in her School Records and Birth Certificate Registration No. MCDOLIR09115217. The actual name of mine and my wife are SABARJEET and SADHANA DEVI respectively.  
**NAME CHANGE** I hitherto known as INDERJEET KAUR alias INDERJIT KAUR D/O AVTAR SINGH CHOPRA and W/O AMARJEET SINGH R/O W-22A, Gali No. 06, Krishna Park, Tikka Nagar, West Delhi, Delhi-110018, have changed my name and shall hereafter be known as INDERJIT KAUR. It is certified that I have complied with other legal requirements in this connection.  
**NAME CHANGE** I hitherto known as Bhagwati Devi W/O Anand Singh, R/O Permanent Dwarka, Thapanya, Thapanya, Almorat, Uttarakhnad, 263636, Present address F-1993, Sector-15, Rohini, Delhi-110089 have changed my name and shall hereafter be known as Bhagwati Amiya.  
**NAME CHANGE** I, AMRIN D/O MOHAMMAD FARMAN residing at C-385, 2nd FLOOR, MAIN ROAD, MALLA COLONY, NEAR BADA MASJID, GHAROLI EXTENSION, DELHI-110096 have changed my name to AMRIN ANSARI for all future purposes.  
**NAME CHANGE** It is for general information that I, Suresh chand Kashup S/O: Madan Lal, 14 Servant Quarter, Rajpur Road, Near MCD Office, Civil Lines, PO: Jyoti Ram R/O W-22, Sector-12, Metro hospital Sector-12 noida, Gautam Buddha Nagar, Uttar Pradesh-201301, declare that name of my minor son Pranshu Sharma has been wrongly written as Pranshu Sharma aged 17 years in his 10th class educational document. The actual name of my minor son is PRANSHU SHARMA, which may be amended accordingly.  
**NAME CHANGE** I, SARMILO DEVI W/O NO-14664977F Rank-NK Name-KRISHAN KUMAR VILL-SULTANPURA, PO-NIVALI, TEH-NAWALGARH, DIST-JHUNJHUNJU, RAJASTHAN-333305 have changed my name from SARMILO DEVI to SARMILO KUMARI NITAR for all future purposes vide affidavit dated 05/10/2024 before Notary Public, Delhi.  
**NAME CHANGE** It is for general information that I, Farnaz Bano W/o Imran Khan R/O 468, Gali Bahar Wali, Chhatta Lal Meer, Delhi Gate, Darya Gari, Central Delhi, Delhi-110002, declare that name of my minor daughter has been wrongly written as Aiysha Khan in my minor daughter Aiysha Khan aged 14 years in her school records. The actual name of my minor daughter is Aiysha Khan respectively, which may be amended accordingly. It is certified that I have complied with other legal requirements in this connection.

**NAME CHANGE** I SP ANAND S/O DAVID SHIMPHRIU R/O VILLAGE, KOMLACHING SENAPATI, MANIPUR-795149 HAVE CHANGE MY NAME TO ANAND SHING SHIMPHRIU FOR ALL PURPOSE.

**NAME CHANGE** It is for general information that I, MAHENDER SINGH S/O MANAK SINGH R/O J-3, B-BLOCK, LAJPAT NAGAR-2, LAJPAT NAGAR, DEFENCE COLONY, SOUTH DELHI, DELHI-110024, declare that name of mine has been wrongly written as MAHINDER SINGH in my minor son AMARJEET SINGH aged 17 years in his 10th class educational documents. The actual name of mine is MAHENDRA SINGH, which may be amended accordingly.

**NAME CHANGE** I, hitherto known as STHANAPATI alias DEBARSHI STHANAPATI S/O DEBARBATA STHANAPATI Permanent resident; FLAT NO-JJ-02/1104, SUKHUBRISTY SAPORJI, PALLONJI, RAJARHAT, ACTION AREA-III, RAJARHAT, PO: RAJARHAT, DIST: NORTH 24 PARANAS, WEST BENGAL Presently residing at FLAT NO. C-263, MALAYAN APPPTS, PLOT NO.10, DWARKA SEC-TOR-22, NEW DELHI-110077 have changed my name and shall hereafter be known as DEBARSHI STHANAPATI.

**NAME CHANGE** It is for general information that I, MANDEEP KAU R/O HARBHAIJAN SINGH, Ex. W/O AMANDEEP SINGH KUKREJA, R/O AC-5, TARGORE GARDEN, NEW DELHI-110027 declare that I got divorce from my Husband KAMALJIT LAL S/O VARINDER SINGH KUKREJA, vide court decree H.M.A. Petition No. 646/2024 dated 12/03/2024. Further, I have changed the name of my minor daughter REHMAT KUKREJA aged 12 years and she shall hereafter be known as REHMAT KAUR in future for all purposes.

**PUBLIC NOTICE** It is for general information that I, Ravi Kalia mahaseeth, S/O Jimdhar Mahaseeth, R/O 3122, GALLI NO-04, RAGHUVAR PURA NO-02, Gaudhi Nagar, East Delhi, Delhi-110031. Declare that the name of mine and my father has been wrongly written as sagar and DEEN Dayal in my Pan card no. JUPSS1084P. The actual name of mine and my father is Ram Kabilia Mahaseeth and Jimdhar Mahaseeth, which may be amended accordingly.

**NAME CHANGE** I hitherto known as Sanjay Manchanda alias Sanjay Kumar S/O Hansraj Manchanda, R/O -361, DOOGAR MOHALLA, FARSH BAZAAR, Shahdara S.O. East Delhi, Delhi-110032 have changed my name and shall hereafter be known SANJAY MANCHANDA.

**PUBLIC NOTICE** It is for general information that I, MANDEEP KAUR D/o HARBHAIJAN SINGH, Ex. W/O AMANDEEP SINGH KUKREJA, R/O AC-5, TARGORE GARDEN, NEW DELHI-110027 declare that I got divorce from my Husband KAMALJIT LAL S/O VARINDER SINGH KUKREJA, vide court decree H.M.A. Petition No. 646/2024 dated 12/03/2024. Further, I have changed the name of my minor daughter REHMAT KUKREJA aged 12 years and she shall hereafter be known as REHMAT KAUR in future for all purposes.

**PUBLIC NOTICE** It is for general information that I, NAREEN KHATOON D/O MOHD NOORAIN R/O E-224 3rd FLOOR, SHAHEEN BAGH, ABUL FAZAL ENCLAVE, PART-2, OKHLA MORDAN PUBLIC SCHOOL, JAMIA NAGAR, OKHLA, DIST: SOUTH EAST DELHI, DELHI-110025, declare that name of my father and mother has been wrongly written as MOHD NOORULAIN and AHMADI KHATOON respectively, in my Secondary School Marksheet-cum-Certificate and Senior School Marksheet and Certificate. The actual name of my father and mother are MOHD NOORAIN and AHMADI BAGUM respectively, which may be amended accordingly.

**NAME CHANGE** I, ANKIT KUMAR PASSI S/O VIVEK KUMAR PASSI R/O 2155 GURU ARJUN NAGAR WEST PATEL NAGAR DELHI-110008 HAVE CHANGE MY NAME TO ANKIT PASSI FOR ALL PURPOSE.

**NAME CHANGE** I, Anup Kumar S/O Unesh Kumar R/o-Flat No. F-1101 Pioneer Park, Sector-61, Gurgaon Haryana-122001, have changed my Anup Singh for all purpose.

**NAME CHANGE** It is for general information that I, MAHENDER SINGH in my minor son AMARJEET SINGH aged 17 years in his 10th class educational documents. The actual name of mine is MAHENDRA SINGH, which may be amended accordingly.

**PUBLIC NOTICE** It is for general information that I, NAREEN KHATOON D/O MOHD NOORAIN R/O E-224 3rd FLOOR, SHAHEEN BAGH, ABUL FAZAL ENCLAVE, PART-2, OKHLA MORDAN PUBLIC SCHOOL, JAMIA NAGAR, OKHLA, DIST: SOUTH EAST DELHI, DELHI-110025, declare that name of my father and mother has been wrongly written as MOHD NOORULAIN and AHMADI KHATOON respectively, in my Secondary School Marksheet-cum-Certificate and Senior School Marksheet and Certificate. The actual name of my father and mother are MOHD NOORAIN and AHMADI BAGUM respectively, which may be amended accordingly.

**NAME CHANGE** I, DEEPAK KUMAR S/O KESHAV KUMAR R/O 31390A, TULSI NAGAR, GB.S.S. SCHOOL, INDER LOK, ONKAR NAGAR, NORTH WEST DELHI, DELHI-110035, have changed the name of my minor daughter JAGRITI aged 14 years and she shall hereafter be known as JAGRITI KOLI.

**NAME CHANGE** I hitherto known as Sanjay Manchanda alias Sanjay Kumar S/O Hansraj Manchanda, R/O -361, DOOGAR MOHALLA, FARSH BAZAAR, Shahdara S.O. East Delhi, Delhi-110032 have changed my name and shall hereafter be known SANJAY MANCHANDA.

**NAME CHANGE** I, hitherto known as STHANAPATI alias DEBARSHI STHANAPATI S/O DEBARBATA STHANAPATI Permanent resident; FLAT NO-JJ-02/1104, SUKHUBRISTY SAPORJI, PALLONJI, RAJARHAT, ACTION AREA-III, RAJARHAT, PO: RAJARHAT, DIST: NORTH 24 PARANAS, WEST BENGAL Presently residing at FLAT NO. C-263, MALAYAN APPPTS, PLOT NO.10, DWARKA SEC-TOR-22, NEW DELHI-110077 have changed my name and shall hereafter be known as DEBARSHI STHANAPATI.

**PUBLIC NOTICE** It is for general information that I, Suresh chand Kashup S/O: Madan Lal, 14 Servant Quarter, Rajpur Road, Near MCD Office, Civil Lines, PO: Jyoti Ram R/O W-22, Sector-12, Metro hospital Sector-12 noida, Gautam Buddha Nagar, Uttar Pradesh-201301, declare that name of my minor son Pranshu Sharma has been wrongly written as Pranshu Sharma aged 17 years in his 10th class educational document. The actual name of my minor son is PRANSHU SHARMA, which may be amended accordingly.

**NAME CHANGE** I, ANKIT KUMAR PASSI S/O VIVEK KUMAR PASSI R/O 2155 GURU ARJUN NAGAR WEST PATEL NAGAR DELHI-110008 HAVE CHANGE MY NAME TO ANKIT PASSI FOR ALL PURPOSE.

**NAME CHANGE** I, Anup Kumar S/O Unesh Kumar R/o-Flat No. F-1101 Pioneer Park, Sector-61, Gurgaon Haryana-122001, have changed my Anup Singh for all purpose.

**NAME CHANGE** It is for general information that I, MANDEEP KAUR D/o HARBHAIJAN SINGH, Ex. W/O AMANDEEP SINGH KUKREJA, R/O AC-5, TARGORE GARDEN, NEW DELHI-110027 declare that I got divorce from my Husband KAMALJIT LAL S/O VARINDER SINGH KUKREJA, vide court decree H.M.A. Petition No. 646/2024 dated 12/03/2024. Further, I have changed the name of my minor daughter REHMAT KUKREJA aged 12 years and she shall hereafter be known as REHMAT KAUR in future for all purposes.

**PUBLIC NOTICE** It is for general information that I, NAREEN KHATOON D/O MOHD NOORAIN R/O E-224 3rd FLOOR, SHAHEEN BAGH, ABUL FAZAL ENCLAVE, PART-2, OKHLA MORDAN PUBLIC SCHOOL, JAMIA NAGAR, OKHLA, DIST: SOUTH EAST DELHI, DELHI-110025, declare that name of my father and mother has been wrongly written as MOHD NOORULAIN and AHMADI KHATOON respectively, in my Secondary School Marksheet-cum-Certificate and Senior School Marksheet and Certificate. The actual name of my father and mother are MOHD NOORAIN and AHMADI BAGUM respectively, which may be amended accordingly.

**NAME CHANGE** I, SARMILO DEVI W/O NO-14664977F Rank-NK Name-KRISHAN KUMAR VILL-SULTANPURA, PO-NIVALI, TEH-NAWALGARH, DIST-JHUNJHUNJU, RAJASTHAN-333305 have changed my name from SARMILO DEVI to SARMILO KUMARI NITAR for all future purposes vide affidavit dated 05/10/2024 before Notary Public, Delhi.

**PUBLIC NOTICE** Our clients Sh. Gopi Chand S/o Sh. Hari Chand and Smt. Radha W/o Sh. Gopi Chand R/O D-363, Sanjay Colony, Bhatti Mines, New Delhi-110074, hereby severed all its relation with their son namely Ashish @ Ashu S/o Sh. Gopi Chand and daughter-in-law namely Sonia W/o Sh. Ashish @ Ashu, debar/disown from his all movable and immovable properties. Our clients were not control over their, any-body dealing with them in any manner will do so at their own risk and consequences. The matter is publish in the News Paper by our Counsel. **Parinder Tanwar Advocate CHAMBER NO. 355, LAWYERS CHAMBER BLOCK, SAKET COURT NEW DELHI-110017**



News box

### Islamabad in lockdown after Imran Khan's supporters clash with cops, internet cut

**Islamabad.** Pakistan's capital was locked down on Saturday, swarmed by security forces with mobile internet cut as supporters of jailed ex-prime minister Imran Khan attempted to seize the streets in protest. Sidelined by dozens of legal cases, Khan was barred from standing in the February elections that were marred by allegations of rigging. But his Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) party has defied a crackdown to needle the government with regular demonstrations. PTI activists began driving to Islamabad on Friday from his powerbase in northwestern Khyber Pakhtunkhwa province, but were met with shipping container roadblocks and volleys of tear gas.

On Saturday, small and scattered convoys pressed in on Islamabad in defiance of the government, which approved troops for deployment on the streets -- citing the need to guarantee security ahead of a Shanghai Cooperation Organisation (SCO) summit due to open on October 15. Interior Minister Mohsin Naqvi later told local media that more than 550 people were arrested.

Protests were also due Saturday in Lahore, however the main motorway linking the eastern megacity to the capital was blocked.

"I am so proud of all our people," said a message from Khan posted on social media site X on Saturday afternoon. "You showed unfaltering resilience and courage as you came out yesterday and overcame unbelievable obstacles." Amnesty International said the communications cuts and road blockades "infringe on people's right to freedom of expression, access to information, peaceful assembly and movement". "These restrictions are part of a worrying clampdown on the right to protest in Pakistan," the rights group said. The social media site X -- formerly Twitter -- has also been blocked across Pakistan since after the election, when the mobile internet was likewise cut on polling day and PTI alleged

### Trump returns to rally at site of assassination attempt in Pennsylvania

**Butler, Pennsylvania.** Republican presidential candidate Donald Trump on Saturday returned to the rural Pennsylvania site where he was nearly assassinated, rallying a large crowd in the critical battleground state one month before the November 5 election. "As I was saying," Trump said as he appeared on stage, pretending he was resuming the speech that was interrupted when he was grazed in the ear by a bullet on July 13. Trump saluted firefighter Corey Comperatore, who was shot and killed by the shooter, and two other people who were wounded. At 6.11 pm, the exact time when gunfire erupted on July 13, Trump called for a moment of silence. A bell then tolled four times, once for each of the four victims, including Trump.

"He did not stop our movement, he did not break our spirit," Trump said of the attempted assassin, who was shot and killed by security sharpshooters. Trump ally Elon Musk, CEO of Tesla and owner of social media platform X, was scheduled to appear on stage at the rally, his first time at a Trump campaign event since he endorsed the former president after the July 13 assassination attempt. The crowd appeared to be in the tens of thousands, many wearing Trump regalia. Some chanted the "fight, fight, fight" slogan Trump used to rally his followers moments after he was shot.

"We're here to say, we can't be intimidated, we can't be stopped," Ohio Republican Senator JD Vance, Trump's vice presidential running mate, told the crowd. Vance rejected the argument from Vice President Kamala Harris and other Democrats that Trump represents a threat to democracy.

### Several migrants die while trying to cross English Channel: French minister

**Paris** Several people, including a child, died trying to cross the Channel from France to England, French Interior Minister Bruno Retailleau said on Saturday. Attempts to cross the Channel in small, overloaded boats are frequent despite strong currents in what is one of the world's busiest shipping



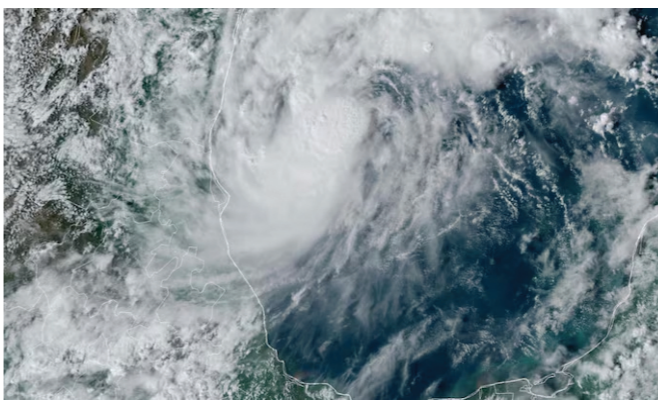
lanes. "Smugglers have the blood of these people on their hands and our government will step up the fight against these mafias that organise these deadly crossings," Retailleau said on X. A total of 14 people were on the boat. One was flown by helicopter to a hospital after a search and rescue operation was conducted on Saturday morning, local maritime authorities said. The incident was the latest in a series this year, including one last month in which 12 migrants died when their boat capsized in the Channel.

# Tropical storm Milton forms in Gulf of Mexico, may hit Florida as hurricane

**Miami.** A storm system that was brewing in the Gulf of Mexico strengthened into Tropical Storm Milton on Saturday, and forecasters warned that it could intensify into a hurricane and slam into the west coast of Florida next week.

Tropical Storm Milton was about 245 miles (395 kilometers) north of Veracruz, Mexico, the National Hurricane Center in Miami said in an afternoon advisory. It had maximum sustained winds of 40 mph (65 kph) and was heading toward the north-northeast at 3 mph (6 kph). Florida Governor Ron DeSantis declared a state of emergency in 35 counties ahead of the storm's potential landfall. Since many of those counties are still recovering from Hurricane Helene, DeSantis asked the Florida Division of Emergency Management and the Florida Department of Transportation to coordinate all available resources and personnel to supplement local communities as they expedite debris removal. Though no coastal watches or warnings were in effect, the hurricane center said the Florida Peninsula, the Florida Keys,

Mexico's Yucatan peninsula and the northwestern Bahamas should monitor the system's progress. The storm is forecast to strengthen and bring the risk of life-threatening impacts to parts of Florida, with hurricane and storm-surge watches likely in effect from Sunday. Parts of the state are expected to have heavy rainfall beginning that day, threatening flash, urban, and areal flooding, along with some river flooding. "There is an increasing risk of life-threatening storm surge and wind impacts for portions of the west coast of the Florida Peninsula beginning late Tuesday or Wednesday. Residents in these areas should ensure they have their hurricane plan in place, follow any advice given by local officials, and check back for updates to the forecast," the center said. Farther east, Hurricane Leslie was moving over the open Atlantic and was posing not a threat to land, forecasters said.



The storm was located about 810 miles (1,305 kilometers) west-southwest of the southernmost Cabo Verde Islands and had maximum sustained winds of 80 mph (130 kph). There were no coastal watches or warnings in effect. Meanwhile, Hurricane Kirk remained a Category 4 major hurricane, and waves from the system were affecting the Leeward Islands, Bermuda, and the

Greater Antilles, forecasters said. The storm's swells were expected to spread to the East Coast of the United States, the Atlantic Coast of Canada and the Bahamas on Saturday night and Sunday. Forecasters warned the waves could cause life-threatening surf and rip current conditions. Kirk was expected to weaken starting Saturday, the center said. Though there were no coastal warnings or watches in effect for Kirk, the center said those in the Azores, where swells could hit Monday, should monitor the storm's progress. Kirk was about 1,140 (1,835 kilometers) northeast of the northern Leeward Islands with maximum sustained winds of 120 mph (195 kph). The storms churned as rescuers in the US Southeast searched for people unaccounted for after Hurricane Helene struck last week, leaving behind a trail of death and catastrophic damage.

## Kamala Harris vows support for hurricane-hit North Carolina, surveys destruction

**Charlotte** Democratic presidential nominee Kamala Harris pledged ongoing federal support and praised the "heroes among us" as she visited North Carolina on Saturday in the aftermath of Hurricane Helene, her second trip in four days to the disaster zone. The vice president was in Charlotte one day after a visit to the state by Republican Donald Trump, who is spreading false claims about the federal response to the disaster. Harris opened her visit by attending a briefing with state and local officials, where she thanked "those who are in the room and those who are out there right now working around the clock." She promised federal assistance would continue to flow and added praise for the "strangers who are helping each other out, giving people shelter and food and friendship and fellowship." Despite Trump's claims that the federal response



in the state has been "lousy," Democratic Governor Roy Cooper said the state was "deeply grateful for the federal resources that we have. FEMA has been on the ground with us since the very beginning," he said, referring to the Federal Emergency Management Agency. After her briefing, Harris helped pack toiletries into aid kits at a distribution center, where she met Angelica Wind from hard-hit Asheville, who was there to

volunteer with her daughter and a friend even though Wind said her own family was still without power and people were "just surviving." "There's a lot of resilience," Wind told Harris, adding that, "We want to make sure people don't forget about us." Harris assured her the federal government was "here for the long haul."

Melissa Funderbunk told Harris about driving a truck carrying assistance to people in remote Morganton, "where people weren't coming." Earlier in the week, Harris was in Georgia, where she helped distribute meals, toured the damage and consoled families hard-hit by the storm. President Joe Biden, too, visited the disaster zone. During stops over two days in the Carolinas, Florida and Georgia, Biden surveyed the damage and met with farmers whose crops have been destroyed.

## How Israel's plan to booby-trap Hezbollah pagers took 9 years: Report

**World** Thousands of pagers and walkie-talkies used by Hezbollah, the Iran-backed militant group in Lebanon, exploded on September 17 and 18, killing over 30 and injuring thousands. New details have emerged revealing that this was part of a long-coordinated operation by Israel spanning years. For nearly a decade, Israel discreetly booby-trapped the devices, using them for eavesdropping while maintaining the capability to remotely detonate them. According to a Washington Post report, the first phase of the plan was initiated by Israeli spy agency Mossad in 2015, with the devices being covertly introduced into Lebanon. "For nine years, the Israelis contented themselves with eavesdropping on Hezbollah, while reserving the option to turn the walkie-talkies into bombs in a future crisis. But then came a new opportunity and a glitzy new product: a small pager equipped with a powerful explosive," The Post reported, citing officials. The plan for the pager explosion operation emerged in 2022, more than a year before Hamas's October 7 attack, the report further said. The initial sale pitches of the Apollo AR924 pagers to Hezbollah were also sent two years ago.

The slightly bulky pagers and oversized battery that could offer long operational days were convenient for the Israeli experts to place the explosives. The "pagers' most sinister feature" was a two-step de-encryption procedure that required the user's hands. "That ensured most users would be holding the pager with both hands," when Mossad triggered the devices remotely on September 17, The Post reports. "You had to push two buttons to read the message", and in the ensuing explosion, the users would almost certainly "wound both their hands," and thus "would be incapable to fight," an official was quoted as saying. Mossad, which had spent years trying to penetrate Hezbollah through electronic monitoring and human informants, learned that one of the group's key concerns was having a surveillance-free communication method that Israel could not track.

## Israel hits Beirut with 'very violent' strikes, claims Lebanese media

**Beirut.** Official Lebanese media said Israeli strikes hit south Beirut Saturday night into Sunday, some of them "very violent", with AFP correspondents hearing explosions for over two hours in one of the most intense barrages yet. "Israeli enemy warplanes carried out four very violent strikes on (Beirut's) southern suburbs, and one strike on the Chweifat" area, with ambulances rushing to the site, Lebanon's National News Agency said. AFP correspondents heard explosions in south Beirut and its outskirts for more than two hours following the NNA's statement. AFP footage showed plumes of smoke rising from the targeted areas. In one south Beirut location a ball of flame rose into the air while flares shot up amid thick

smoke for about an hour. An AFP correspondent in the Sabra area close to Beirut's southern suburbs saw dozens of people on the streets, some carrying bags fleeing on foot or on motorbikes as explosions echoed in the background. The NNA said air traffic at Lebanon's only airport in Beirut, close to the targeted areas, was "ongoing despite the Israeli enemy's aggression on the southern suburbs. Several Middle East Airlines planes have just landed." The Israeli army said it was "currently striking terror targets belonging to the Hezbollah terrorist organisation in the area of Beirut" in a statement on its Telegram channel. Earlier Saturday night, the Israeli army announced a new call for residents to evacuate from

Beirut's southern suburbs, as it continued to target Hezbollah positions in the Lebanese capital. "For your safety and that of your family members, you must immediately evacuate the designated buildings and those adjacent to them and move away from them at least 500 meters," said spokesperson Avichay Adrae on social media, alongside satellite images highlighting areas in the Burj el-Barajneh, Haret Hreik and Chweifat al-Amrussiya neighbourhoods. Lebanon's Hezbollah movement and its foe Israel have been exchanging near-daily cross-border fire for nearly a year in fallout from the Gaza war. But since September 23, Israel has launched devastating air strikes on targets in Lebanon that have killed.

## Fight, fight, fight. Vote, vote, vote: Elon Musk puts on a show at Trump rally

**Elon Musk displayed his staunch support for Donald Trump as he shared a stage with the Republican presidential nominee, declaring that "nothing is more important" than voting for him.**



**World** In a spirited display of support, billionaire tech magnate Elon Musk rallied behind Republican presidential nominee Donald Trump in Butler, Pennsylvania, the same venue where the former US President survived an assassination attempt in July.

Musk, donning a black 'Make America Great Again' (MAGA) hat, jumped up and down as he took the stage to a cheering crowd of Trump supporters on Saturday. The two warmly shook hands before Musk addressed the rally, telling them that "nothing is more important" than voting for Trump. The

wealthiest man in the world warned that "this will be the last election" if Trump doesn't win, peddling a false claim that Democrats aim to infringe upon Americans' rights, including free speech and the right to bear arms. "I think this election is the most important election of our lifetime. This is no ordinary election," Musk said. "President Trump must win to preserve the Constitution. He must win to preserve

democracy in America. This is a must-win situation, must win." In a jab at US President Joe Biden, Musk remarked that Biden is a man who "couldn't climb a flight of stairs," contrasting him with Trump, whom he praised for his resilience after narrowly escaping a shooting on the same stage on July 13. The true test of someone's character is how they behave under fire, and we had one president who couldn't climb a flight of

stairs and another who was fist pumping after getting shot," he remarked.

Invoking Trump's words from the moments after the shooting, Musk chanted, "Vote, vote, vote. Fight, fight, fight."

This appearance marked the first time Musk attended one of Trump's campaign rallies, highlighting the growing alliance between the two men as the presidential election approaches. Musk, who heads Tesla, SpaceX, and X (formerly Twitter), endorsed Trump on the day of the assassination attempt, posting a video of the 78-year-old Republican's raised fist on his official X handle with the caption, "I fully endorse President Trump and hope for his rapid recovery."

Throughout the election cycle, Musk has consistently shown his support for Trump, establishing a super PAC to bolster the Republican nominee's campaign through extensive get-out-the-vote efforts in the crucial final months. The admiration seems mutual; Trump has mentioned plans to appoint Musk to a task force aimed at implementing "drastic" cuts to government spending if he's back in the White House.

## Netanyahu's video message for Macron over call for arms embargo: Shame on them

**Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu denounced French President Emmanuel Macron's proposal for an arms embargo on Israel, and questioned whether Iran had restricted weapons deliveries to its proxies.**

**World** French President Emmanuel Macron's call to halt arms deliveries to Israel for use in Gaza was sharply condemned by Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu, who called the proposal a "disgrace". In a video statement on Saturday, Netanyahu

denounced Macron's stance, stating that Israel was fighting a multi-front war against armed groups backed by Iran. "As Israel fights the forces of barbarism led by Iran, all civilised countries should be standing firmly by Israel's side," Netanyahu said. "Yet President Macron and other Western leaders are now calling for arms embargoes against Israel. Shame on them." He pointed to Israel's battles on several fronts, including against Hamas in Gaza, Hezbollah in Lebanon, the Houthis in Yemen, Shiite militias in Iraq and Syria, and terrorists in the West Bank. Netanyahu sought to highlight the hypocrisy in the calls for a pause on arms shipments to Israel, asking whether Iran had restricted weapons to its allies. "Of course not," the Israeli leader said. "This axis of terror stands together. But countries who supposedly oppose this terror axis call for arms embargo on Israel. What a disgrace! Despite the international pressure,



Netanyahu remained defiant, stating, "Israel will win with or without their support. But their shame will continue long after the war is won." Macron had earlier suggested in an interview that shipments of arms to Israel used in the conflict in Gaza should be suspended to facilitate a political solution and avoid further escalation. "I think we are

not being heard," Macron said. "It is a mistake, including for the security of Israel," he added, expressing concerns that the war was breeding "hatred". He also noted that avoiding escalation in Lebanon was a priority, even as Israel pummeled Hezbollah targets in Beirut. "Lebanon cannot become a new Gaza," the French leader stated. Following Netanyahu's strong rebuttal, Macron's office issued a statement describing France as a "steadfast friend of Israel", while terming Netanyahu's remarks as "excessive and detached from the friendship" between the two nations. Qatar, a mediator in ongoing Gaza ceasefire talks, praised Macron's statement as an "important and appreciated step towards stopping the war." Jordan also welcomed the French president's comments, calling for a "complete ban on the export of weapons to Israel" and stressing the need for "real consequences" for Israel's actions.



**'Fighting for women's rights assured under Constitution'**

**KOCHI:** The 'Forum for Gender Equality Among Muslims' (FORGEM), a group of Muslim activists who wanted timely reforms in Muslim Personal Law, is not in any way opposing communal beliefs but merely demanding that the rights of women are guaranteed under the Constitution, the members said at the 'Equality Conference' held in Kochi on Saturday. In fact, the community has adopted many changes to the Muslim Personal Law (Shariat) Application Act, 1937, but certain areas, especially gender justice, failed to reflect the same, they pointed out.

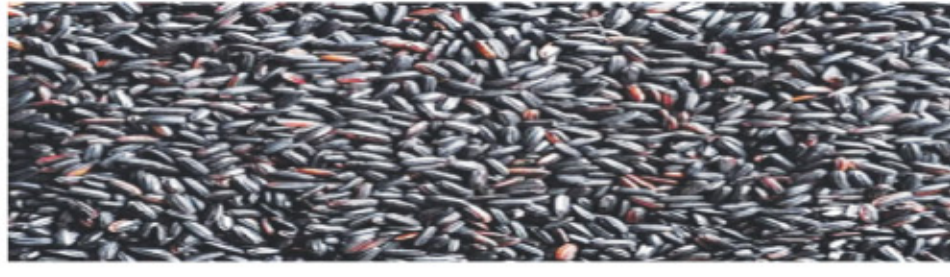
"What we are fighting is the fact that there is no reform happening with respect to certain things in the religion that we deeply believe in, despite many changes being adopted (in the Muslim personal law) over the years. The provisions include those regarding marriage, divorce, maintenance, inheritance and adoption," said Dr Sheena Shukoor. "Except for those governing inheritance, the changes happened in all others. What we're doing is asking for the rights. No one should be afraid of doing that because the Constitution gives you certain rights, that you can live with dignity and you will be treated equally. We'll highlight and fight for that equality right," Dr Sheena Shukoor added.

Interestingly, Dr Sheena's husband Advocate Shukoor, who had acted in the hit film Nna Thaana Case Kodu remarried his wife under the Special Marriage Act. The couple did this to make sure that their three daughters could inherit his properties, which was not guaranteed under the Muslim law of succession. The FORGEM was formed two years back to address the issues faced by women in the community. It held similar conferences in Kozhikode and Kollam in the previous years.

**Sambalpur varsity researchers find supplement to combat malnutrition**

**Odisha.** Researchers of the Department of Food Science Technology and Nutrition of Sambalpur University have developed a nutritional supplement comprising traditional and rare super food which can combat malnutrition, particularly among infants and children. The supplement 'Nutri Nest' is centred around Kalabati rice (black rice), a nutrient-rich variety of rice native to Odisha. It also comprises other ingredients including peanuts, ragi, soybean, jaggery and milk powder, creating a comprehensive dietary solution. The breakthrough formulation, developed over a period of one year, received patent in February. It was part of research scholar Payal Sharma's master's dissertation work under supervision of associate professor Aparajita Priyadarshini.

Most of the research was conducted at the Centre of Excellence - Natural Products and Therapeutics (COE-NPT), Department of Biotechnology and Bio-informatics of Sambalpur University under supervision of its coordinator Prof Pradeep Kumar Naik. The not-so-common Kalabati rice is known for its high content of Anthocyanin - an antioxidant, essential vitamins and minerals. For the particular formulation, the rice is being sourced specifically from tribal dominated Jujumura block in Sambalpur. The research demonstrated significant health benefits of the rice variety, showing improved health and weight gain in laboratory tests on mouse pups. "The successful patenting of 'Nutri Nest' marks a milestone, ensuring the formulation can be produced and distributed on a larger scale, potentially reaching thousands of children in



need," Priyadarshini said and emphasised augmenting cultivation of Kalabati rice which is on the verge of extinction. Explaining the formulation, Sharma said, the process involved meticulous selection and combination of ingredients to ensure maximum nutritional value. "Each

component was chosen for its unique benefits like peanuts for protein and healthy fats, ragi for calcium and fibre, soybean for additional protein, jaggery for natural sweetness and iron and milk powder for essential vitamins and minerals," she informed. By using locally available

resources and traditional knowledge, they said, the formulation has potential to provide a sustainable and culturally appropriate solution to a pressing public health issue. Introduction of 'Nutri Nest' in the market could lead to increased demand for Kalabati rice, encouraging more farmers to cultivate the nutritious crop. This supplement has potential to play a crucial role in improving health and well-being of countless children ensuring a healthier future for the next generation. However, the researchers have no plans to launch the supplement for sale in the market. "We are not yet planning commercialisation but if the government implements it in NRCs or health centres or in schools and anganwadis, it will help the society," Priyadarshini said.

**In 30 years, Tamil Nadu got just one-third of Krishna water**

**CHENNAI:** Tamil Nadu has not received its full share of 12 Tmcft of Krishna water from Andhra Pradesh for the past three decades. Despite the neighbouring state's willingness to release water, TN has struggled to release its share due to a lack of storage facilities in and around Chennai, and alleged illegal water tapping from the open canal before it even reaches the state. According to Water Resources Department's (WRD) data accessed by TNIE, since 1996, the total water received (112 Tmcft) by TN is only one-third of its total entitlement (340 Tmcft). Under the inter-state agreement

signed on April 18, 1983, AP has to release 12 Tmcft of water to Tamil Nadu annually, excluding evaporation losses of 3 Tmcft. The agreement stipulates that 8 Tmcft should be released from July to October, and 4 Tmcft from January to April. Krishna water first reached Tamil Nadu at Uthukottai in Tiruvallur district in September 1996. Illegal tapping of water from the open canal is the main reason for Tamil Nadu unable to realise its share. "Water is released from the Kandaleru dam in Andhra Pradesh through an open canal. Due to illegal tapping, Tamil Nadu faces difficulties in receiving the full

supply. We have informed the Andhra Pradesh government several times, but no action has been taken yet," an official said. The official also mentioned that the state government, under the late CM J Jayalalitha, had planned to lay pipelines in 2014 to prevent such issues. The project was dropped owing to financial constraints. Stressing on the need to increase storage capacity to meet future water demands, he pointed out that during the North-East monsoon, Chennai's reservoirs often fill up naturally, making it hard to store Krishna water, and gets diverted to the sea.

**Aspirants in fix as TRB fails to conduct PG teacher exam for last two years**

**MADURAI:** With the Teachers Recruitment Board (TRB) not conducting the Post Graduate-TRB Examination for the past two years, thousands of teacher aspirants continue to remain in a fix and their dreams in uncertainty. Though the TRB had released an annual planner for the past two years, it did not conduct the examination leaving the aspirants in limbo. Speaking to TNIE, P Bala (35), an aspirant (M.Sc and B.Ed holder) who currently works as a private school teacher, said the TRB had last called for filling up PG teachers' vacancies during the AIADMK rule in 2021, and after a long wait for 10 months, the DMK government conducted the examination in February 2022. "I cleared the examination and went for certificate verification, but missed the opportunity due to a few marks' difference. At present, I am preparing for the PG-TRB exam again, however, no announcement has yet been made regarding the exam," she said, while pointing

out that the TNPSC examination was conducted five times in the last two years. Another aspirant, Bhargavi, an M.Com and B.Ed holder, said that she was unable to clear the exam the previous time, owing to a



difference of two marks, but continues ahead with the preparation, even while working in a private school. "In a recent press meet, Minister for School Education Anbil Mahesh Poyyamozhi had cited the financial situation of the government for not conducting the exam. While over 1,000

teacher vacancies are yet to be filled, the TRB's annual planner only mentioned 200 vacant posts," he said, urging the chief minister to intervene and take appropriate steps to fill the vacancies. "When J Jayalalitha was the chief minister, she had appointed teachers for consolidated salaries for five years. Can the state government apply the same formula for filling PG teachers vacancies?" he asked. He contacted, Tamil Nadu Post Graduate Teachers Association District President P Pandi told TNIE that a total of 4,000 PG teachers vacancies lie unfilled across the state. "Out of 4,000 vacancies, 80% vacancies are in the northern districts of the state, and 60% vacancies are in the Kallar Reclamation schools," he said, adding that few district chief educational officers had made efforts to appoint teachers with a consolidated salary of Rs 18,000. Stating that the non-filling of the vacancies of PG teacher posts hinders the quality of higher education, Pandi urged the authorities concerned to realise the ground realities and take measures to fill the vacancies soon.

**Body handover row: CPM leader Lawrence's daughter files police complaint**

**KOCHI:** The daughter of late CPM leader M M Lawrence has filed a police complaint against her brother, and the principal of Ernakulam Government Medical College over donating the body of her father. The complaint was filed by Asha Lawrence at Kalamassery police station on Friday against her brother M L Sajeewan and principal Dr Prathap Somanath. Asha alleged that Sajeewan falsely presented the consent for the donation of Lawrence's body to the medical college for studies. Prathap manipulated the statutory hearing and aided Sajeewan in establishing false consent of her deceased father, Asha stated in the complaint. Lawrence passed away in Kochi on September 21. Asha claimed that her father expressed the desire to have a religious burial. However, Sajeewan maintained that Lawrence wanted his body to be donated to the medical college. The row between siblings over the donation of Lawrence's body had reached the Kerala High Court which ordered the Medical College principal to take a decision after hearing all persons concerned. According to Asha, Prathap kept her in the dark and denied her a

chance to rebut the contention raised by Sajeewan and sister Sujatha during the hearing. After Sujatha withdrew her consent for



donating the body, Sajeewan was given time to prepare a new affidavit and establish new witnesses to validate false consent. Later, the decision was taken to donate the body to the medical college. Asha alleged that the decision was taken violating a provision of the Kerala Anatomy Act with the intention to help Sajeewan and CPM under political influence. Asha demanded a probe into the false consent provided by Sajeewan and the failure of Prathap to follow due legal procedures stated in the Kerala Anatomy Act.

**Lambasingi FPO ensures direct market access to tribal farmers**

**VISAKHAPATNAM:** The Lambasingi Tribal Products Farmer Producer Company Limited (LTPFPCL), based at Raj Pakala village in Chintapalle mandal of Alluri Sitarama Raju district, is revolutionising the lives of tribal farmers by enabling them to sell products directly to consumers, bypassing intermediaries. Promoted by the Indian Institute of Millets Research (IIMR) and supported by the National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD), the initiative fosters self-sufficiency and better income for tribal farmers. Under the leadership of ICAR-IIMR Senior Scientist K Srinivasa Babu, the organisation has grown to include over 750 members. Tribal India Chamber of Commerce president Malli Bhaskara Rao has played a pivotal role in extending the reach of the farmers' products to both national and international markets,

eliminating the exploitation by middlemen that previously plagued these farmers. "Earlier, we used to sell our products at very low prices. Now, we are receiving fair prices, and our income has improved," said Pampana Kannababu, a farmer from Pedabarada village. Formed three years ago, LTPFPCL allows farmers to directly market products such as turmeric, coffee, honey, black pepper, millet, and home care items. The Farmers Producers Organisation (FPO) is operated entirely by the tribal community and managed by five directors and five promoters. The Bhagavatula Charitable Trust's Krishi Vigyan Kendra provides training on value addition techniques. Kuda Saroja, a tribal farmer from Siripuram village, highlighted the positive transformation, noting that their products are now reaching international markets. "We no longer depend on middlemen," she

added. The FPO, which has achieved a turnover of more than Rs 1 crore, has secured partnerships with the International Marketing Agency in Bengaluru and MST Exports in Chirala. Discussions with APEDA and NVision are underway to expand into markets in Vietnam, Thailand, Australia, and Europe. Haskara Rao said, "I have seen the struggles of tribal people firsthand. There are many government schemes, but due to illiteracy and lack of knowledge, these communities often miss out. My goal, through the Tribal India Chamber of Commerce, is to empower them to become entrepreneurs and reach global markets for long-term stability." Srinivasa Babu stressed the importance of consumer demand in the FPO's success. "Initially, with fewer members, marketing was simple, but with growth, we needed expert help to expand," he said.



**People need support to cope with sea erosion: Study**

**BHUBANESWAR:** With over 33 per cent of the Indian coastline vulnerable to erosion, people living in coastal areas must be given the tools and knowledge to cope with rising sea levels, suggested a study of two researchers from National Institute of Science Education and Research (NISER), Bhubaneswar. In their paper 'Navigating the sea level rise: Exploring the interplay of climate change, sea level rise, and coastal communities in India' published in Environmental Monitoring and Assessment, researchers Ansuman Das and Pranaya Swain of NISER said the coastal population must be involved in the decision-making process, preparation for disasters and creating strategies to adapt to changes. Citing the 2023 report of the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change, the researchers said coastal erosion in India due to rising sea levels has resulted in loss of land, affecting

valuable agricultural areas and coastal communities. Around 33.6 per cent of the Indian coastline is vulnerable to erosion, while another 26.9 per cent is under



accretion. Between 1990 and 2016, India lost 235 sq km land to coastal erosion which is alarming. Citing another data, the researchers stated that the highest erosion rate is occurring in coastal areas of West

Bengal, affecting 70 per cent of the coastline. It is followed by Kerala coast with 65 per cent erosion, Gujarat (60 per cent) and Odisha (50 per cent). "This loss threatens people's livelihoods and homes, leading many to relocate voluntarily or in extreme cases, with government intervention. Immediate action is vital to ensure protection of these coastal areas and safety of communities," they said.

The researchers also suggested that India should invest in protecting its coasts by building sea walls, dams and coastal plantation which will help reduce the risks of erosion and flooding, especially in more vulnerable areas. On sustainable coastal management, the researchers said the country needs to plan how it uses the coastal areas by balancing development with environment protection. This includes getting input from the people who live there, monitoring how the coast is changing, and ensuring that land use practices are sustainable.

**Tirupati priest inspires youth with diverse innovations, hands-on learning**

**TIRUPATI:** Shanmugha Sundhar, 37, pradhana archaka (chief priest) of Subramanya Swamy temple at Thanapalli in Tirupati district, has become an inspiration for many through his remarkable talent and innovations across various fields, despite leaving formal education after Class 7. Sundhar, who is also a dedicated spiritual seeker, set up SS Arts and Crafts (Sri Skanda) to provide employment opportunities by utilising his innovations. He excels in multiple disciplines, including painting, electronics, mechanism, handicrafts, yoga, wooden carvings, interior design, pottery, decoration, and astrology. Driven by his passion for hands-on learning, Sundhar overcame financial constraints by working as a yoga and drawing instructor for eight years, which helped known support his innovations. "I wasn't interested in academics. Instead, I focused on hands-on learning," he told TNIE. He firmly believes in the mantra, Sadhanath Sadyathe Sarvam - (Everything is possible with hard work.) Inspired by his father,

Sundhar began experimenting at a young age, collecting discarded materials from mechanic shops to pursue his passion. In 2006, at just 19 years old, he developed groundbreaking innovations. Many of these technologies are now commonly available in the market. Sundhar, a graduate from Chandrashekara Saraswati Viswamahavidyalayam in Kanchi, is regarded as a visionary ahead of his time. His ability to master diverse skills has amazed individuals and companies alike. He often shares his knowledge through motivational speaking, encouraging youth to persevere and trust in themselves. Sundhar's journey, from a middle-class family to a pioneer in various fields, serves as an example of how passion, curiosity, can lead to success without the need for formal education. His message to the younger generation is clear: "Trust yourself and give importance to your work. When disturbances arise, perseverance will lead you to success."



## Iran-Israel war takes a dangerous turn

AFTER Israel killed Hezbollah leader Hassan Nasrallah and other leaders in Beirut on September 27, Iran fired around 200 missiles at Israel on October 1 without warning the USA. While most missiles were stopped by US and Israeli defence systems, a few hit Israel's Nevatim air base, damaging about 30 F-35 fighter jets. No one was killed, but a few people had minor injuries. Not to escalate the conflict further, the Biden administration is trying to belittle the success of the Iranian attack, urging Israel to be proportionate in its response. Israel, on the other hand, is angry that Iran had the audacity to lob missiles at its nuclear plant in Dimona (producing nuclear weapons) and three critical air bases. It is mulling a tough response.

Iran's attack came after a series of killings by Israel of the senior leadership of Hezbollah, other cadres in pager explosions, the bombing of Yemeni ports, power plants and Hamas leader Ismail Haniyeh in Tehran in recent months. Iran realised that its lack of response had whetted the Israeli aggressiveness in killing its proxies in Lebanon, Gaza, Yemen and Syria and it had to act this time.

The Iran-Israel war has taken a dangerous turn as the two countries are now readying themselves for a direct fight, which they have avoided in the past. Iran reportedly looted an Israeli oil tanker in the Persian Gulf recently and Israel is contemplating an attack on its oil installations.

Iran has made it known that it does not want to attack Israel any further, but if the latter destroyed its oil facility, it would destroy oil wells of the pro-American Gulf states and US military bases in Middle East. Most US allies want a ceasefire and no further escalation of hostilities. Several Gulf states, including Saudi Arabia, the UAE, Bahrain, Kuwait and Qatar, have declared their neutrality in the war and assured Iran that they would not allow the USA to use military bases on their soil against her.

Israel does not have the capability to take on Iran and its proxies together on its own. Even the attacks on Hezbollah leaders in Lebanon and targets in Yemen and Syria were undertaken mostly by American fighters, with Israeli pilots playing a symbolic role.

The US can't allow Israel to lose and does not want a full-scale regional war at this time when it is readying for the presidential elections next month. Any Israeli loss will affect the support for Democratic candidate Kamala Harris as Republican candidate Donald Trump has promised to solidly rally behind Israel. Also, the US does not want to get involved in a major war in Middle East as it would affect its ability to prepare for a war against China in East Asia.

Israel can't allow Iran to walk away with a victory nor allow its "strategic superiority" against Iran to be weakened as it considers that crucial for the maintenance of peace and stability in the region. Iran has already suffered a huge fall in its prestige and military capabilities with the decimation of the top leadership of its proxies. Israel was keen to destroy Iran's nuclear facility, but that looks difficult as Iran has secured Russia's S-400 air defence system. However, Israel thinks that it has a golden opportunity now to weaken Iran by destroying its proxies and it must not let it go.

Russia is sympathetic to Iran, with the latter having supplied drones and missiles to her, but has its hands full with the Ukraine war. Russia and China will assist Iran to ensure that the USA gets bogged down in West Asia and damage its military capabilities. Russia is considering supplying long-range Onyx anti-ship missiles to Houthi rebels to attack western shipping in the Red Sea. Prime Minister Modi has been in touch with PM Netanyahu and has supported him in taking strong measures against the terrorist groups. But External Affairs Minister Jaishankar has cautioned Israel against taking any actions which could precipitate large-scale casualties, particularly of civilians. India favours a two-state solution to the Palestinian problem, which even the USA and other countries want, but Netanyahu does not favour ceding any land to them.

## Looming air pollution crisis beckons urgent attention

Air pollution in north-west India is expected to exacerbate this year. Establishing a centralised body for collaboration and data integration is crucial for sustainable solutions and improved air quality.

AS winter approaches, air pollution is expected to worsen in north-western India, likely arriving earlier and with a stronger impact. This is made worse by bad weather, like low rainfall and weak winds. This situation is similar to the pandemic period when pollution decreased across most of India due to less economic activity, but pollution levels still rose in the north and central-west regions. Investigations spearheaded by the Aryabhata Research Institute of Observational Sciences highlighted increased ozone, nitrogen dioxide and carbon monoxide levels in these areas. Notably, when trapped near the earth's surface, these pollutants can exacerbate respiratory conditions. The looming issue of air pollution in north-west India can be traced significantly to farm practices, with the burning of crop residue at the forefront. Punjab and Haryana, crucial contributors to India's agricultural output, commonly burn the leftover stubble after paddy harvests. Although it is efficient for farmers to quickly clear their fields for the next crop, this method has severe repercussions on the regional air quality. Crop residue burning releases harmful pollutants into the atmosphere, including particulate matter (PM2.5 and PM10), carbon monoxide, volatile organic compounds and traces of heavy metals. These pollutants contribute to smog formation, degrading visibility and posing serious health risks to millions of residents in the Indo-Gangetic Plains. The particles can penetrate the lungs, exacerbating respiratory diseases and other conditions. The plains are characterised by their flatness and high population density, which facilitate the trapping of air pollutants. The meteorological conditions prevalent in the winter, such as low wind speeds, temperature inversions and reduced vertical mixing, intensify the problem. Temperature inversion is when a layer of cooler air is trapped near the surface by a layer of warmer air above, effectively acting as a lid that prevents pollutants from dispersing vertically. As wind speeds drop during the colder months, the dispersal of pollutants is further curtailed, allowing them to accumulate in the lower atmosphere. This phenomenon is particularly noticeable in Delhi, which sits close to the source regions and is often blanketed in thick smog during the winter. The city, already grappling with vehicular emissions, industrial pollutants and construction dust, sees a dramatic increase in pollution levels due to these external agricultural activities.

The economic constraints that farmers face play a role in perpetuating this practice. Alternatives to burning, such as mechanical stubble removal and conversion into

bioenergy, are either too costly or insufficiently incentivised, leaving many farmers with little choice but to continue with burning. Government initiatives and technological interventions to provide affordable and sustainable alternatives are crucial to mitigating this issue. The interplay between agricultural practices and geographical and meteorological factors creates a challenging environment for controlling air pollution.



Addressing this requires concerted efforts involving policy reforms, technological advancements and community awareness to transition towards more sustainable farm practices while considering the socio-economic realities of the farmers.

Sophisticated satellite technology has transformed our ability to more precisely understand and analyse air pollution patterns. Researchers can now monitor air pollution with enhanced accuracy and granularity by leveraging data from the NASA and EUMETSAT satellites, complemented by ground-based measurements from instruments like the Compact and Useful PM2.5 Instruments with Gas Sensors (CUPI-Gs). These tools provide a comprehensive overview of the pollution metrics, capturing real-time fluctuations and pinpointing hotspots. In recent studies, extensive data collection efforts have focused on the NCR, where pollution levels have been notably severe. The analyses reveal that a significant portion of the air quality issues in this area originates from agricultural residue burning in the neighbouring states. By integrating satellite observations with local sensor data, scientists have been able to map out pollution sources and trace their

contributions to the regional air quality. These advances underscore the critical necessity for monitoring and robust data collection to understand the dynamics of pollution dispersion. Such insights are essential for developing targeted interventions and policy measures. Continued investment in both satellite and ground-based observation technology is crucial for devising effective strategies to mitigate air pollution and protect public health in vulnerable regions. Delhi and its vicinity endure severe particulate matter (PM2.5) pollution levels, recording significantly higher metrics than other regions. Data from 2023 highlights that the NCR saw PM2.5 levels frequently surpassing the safe limits, with some measurements peaking at 218.4 µg/m³. This emphasises the influence of crop stubble burning and stagnant weather conditions in escalating the pollution levels. Meanwhile, regions like Bihar and Rajasthan have emerged as unexpected pollution hubs, indicating that smaller cities can rival metropolitan pollution challenges. The findings and patterns emerging from latest air quality studies necessitate a holistic approach to combating air pollution. Various national and international projects, such as the National Clean Air Programme and the RIHN project, AAKASH, have made strides in mitigating pollution. However, an urgent call remains for immediate, coordinated efforts towards sustainable solutions. Recommendations include stricter enforcement of stubble burning regulations, enhancement of green energy alternatives and increase in public awareness about the health implications of pollution. Establishing a regional air pollution coordination body is vital for addressing air quality challenges. This entity would serve as a centralised authority to synchronise efforts across states, ensuring comprehensive policy implementation and resource-sharing. It should have representatives from government agencies, NGOs, scientists and community leaders. Its functions would include integrating data from various monitoring networks, facilitating cross-border dialogue on pollution sources and developing unified action plans. The body would also oversee public awareness campaigns and provide funds for innovative pollution reduction technologies. By fostering collaboration and accountability, it would be pivotal in improving the regional air quality.

## Caste bias in jails

How many more deaths before safety is ensured

THE Supreme Court's recent ruling, which bans caste-based discrimination in prisons, is a monumental step toward dismantling entrenched social inequities. The order rightly underscores that even prisoners have the right to live with dignity. The SC called for the immediate revision of prison manuals across states, quashing outdated provisions that enforced caste-based segregation in labour assignments and housing arrangements. Caste-based discrimination within prisons often reflected broader societal biases. Historically, lower castes were forced into menial tasks like cleaning toilets while upper castes were assigned roles such as cooking. The court emphatically declared that no social group is born as a 'scavenger class,' and that the notion of certain occupations being degrading is an aspect of untouchability, explicitly prohibited under Article 17 of the Constitution.

The judgment identified practices in prison manuals that mirrored untouchability. For example, in states like Uttar



Pradesh, Tamil Nadu and West Bengal, prison manuals explicitly directed that food be prepared by "suitable

castes" and that certain marginalised groups handle cleaning tasks. The SC rightly condemned these provisions, calling them unconstitutional and a violation of the fundamental rights to equality and dignity. The ruling also condemned the categorisation of denotified tribes as habitual offenders, reinforcing harmful stereotypes that further marginalised these communities. Such practices have long been criticised by human rights organisations for reinforcing caste hierarchies and stripping marginalised prisoners of their dignity.

As states revise their prison manuals within the mandated three months, this judgment represents a crucial shift toward dismantling the oppressive systems that continue to harm the most vulnerable. The decision reminds us that justice and equality must extend to all, including those behind prison walls, bringing India closer to the constitutional promise of dignity for all its citizens.

## When the dice rolls in Haryana

Big battle: Stakes are high for outgoing CM Nayab Singh Saini (left) and Congress veteran Bhupinder Singh Hooda

UNDER a hot, afternoon sun on Thursday in Haryana's Shahbad constituency, with mere hours to go before the campaigning for the Assembly polls formally drew to a close, BJP workers seemed somewhat downcast as they emerged from a meeting where Yogi Adityanath had just held forth for 20 minutes. But the applause for the UP chief minister had been weak and scattered, as if the fire in his belly had been missing and the response to it bewildered. "Yeh to phir bhi baazi paltega," said one BJP worker, insisting that the party strongman would reverse the throw of the dice, which seemed insensibly stacked against the BJP. That despite the disarray in party ranks, even in this last moment, the party would be able to showcase all its splendid works — the roads, the subsidies, the schemes for men, women and farmers. But, the BJP worker and his friends also conceded that it was not going to be easy. For example, they said, the jealous rival to the official party candidate in Shahbad had openly undermined the latter's candidature. "Woh uske gale main mara hua saamp daal ke bhag gaya hai," one said. (He has thrown a dead snake around the BJP candidate's neck and fled.) A third man, explaining the lack of a crowd at Yogi's meeting, pointed out that the citizenry were so angry with the outgoing BJP MLA's arrogance that they were determined to punish the current candidate for it.

"Uski gardan mein se sariya nikalna toh hai hi," a fourth man said. We have to remove the iron rod from the neck and spine of the BJP candidate.

If Shahbad is the model, then small wonder that the stakes for Haryana's 90 Assembly seats in Haryana are so high. Almost as if when the EVMs are switched on this bright Saturday morning, the equivalent of the fourth battle of Panipat will be

joined — this time between the Congress party's Bhupinder Singh Hooda and outgoing chief minister Nayab Singh Saini, an affable enough man who should have replaced his guide and mentor Manohar Lal Khattar much earlier than the six months he was given in March. That's because, for nine-and-a-half years, no one could touch Khattar.

He ruled Haryana with an iron, arrogant hand, ever since PM Narendra Modi first waved the magic wand in 2014, because he and Modi went back a long way. As Modi recounted at a rally earlier this year, back in the 1980s, both he and Khattar often slept on the same durree and rode on the same bike all over Haryana as RSS pracharakas trying to spread the message. The story goes that Saini worked in the BJP office at the time, typing out notes and press releases, and ever since has owed his rise and rise to Khattar. The problem with Haryana is that the echo of history is so loud that it tends to drown the noise of the present. Saini is Khattar's protégé, who, in turn, is close to Modi — all best friends, determined to battle on the same side. And then you hear the dice roll. The sound of the EVMs ping and the finger being softly pressed on the button. The people of Haryana have decided. It's no longer about Saini or Khattar or Hooda — or even, Modi.

It's about removing the 'sariya' from the neck of the arrogant man. It is to punish the arrogance of their leaders that Haryanvis will vote today.

For Modi, the stakes can't be higher. The fact is, tiny Haryana, with only 90 seats, is where it all began, where the blueprint of power was first imprinted on

the collective subconscious of the people of the Indo-Gangetic plains. Loyalty, friendship, love, betrayal, violence, hatred — the ebb and flow of every emotion was first tested here, in Haryana, in the run-up to the battle of Kurukshetra, during and after. Delhi was always the jewel in the intended crown of the Afghan tribals and the potential



Mughal rulers — but the sack, rape and pillage of Delhi could only take place if Haryana allowed the strongman to have his way. The Haryanvi understood that his power lay in assessing the strongman's power. Should he allow him to have his way? And if yes, then at what price? Modi understands this better than any other politician in India today. If the BJP loses Haryana, Modi knows that one more excruciatingly important domino will

fall. Sandwiched between the Aam Aadmi Party in Delhi and Punjab, a defeat or victory in Haryana has already acquired the psychological importance of a silver bullet.

Then there's Jammu & Kashmir. And Maharashtra, in November. Haryana is no longer just 90 Assembly seats — depending on how you see it, it is either the foreword to Uttar Pradesh, or its extension. That loss of 29 seats in UP this past summer, which punctured the BJP's majesty in the Lok Sabha, still hurts. What Haryana does this morning will either turn that pain into agony or a moderated ecstasy.

For Hooda and the Congress, Haryana offers the idea of the alternative. That the BJP is not invincible, that it can be defeated at its own game, on its own turf, by employing some of the same methods. Kautilya comes in handy as it does for every wily, potential ruler. Saam. Daam. Dand. Bhed. That's how it has always been in this part of the country.

At his last rally of the campaign in Panipat on Thursday evening, Hooda exited the meeting with a cloud of dust raised by every one of the enormous 22 SUVs in his cavalcade. "Aa rahi hai, Congress," screamed the banners and the hoardings. Hooda's men were behaving like he was already installed upon the 'gaddi' in Chandigarh.

Perhaps, there's something about Panipat that tolerates this kind of behaviour. Perhaps Haryana knows that even if it isn't as prized as Delhi, it holds the key to how to win the shiny prize. That without it, Delhi is bound to lose half its shine.





# Slim Vada Pav

begin to splutter, add chopped garlic, chopped green chilies and curry leaves in it. Saute these until the mixture turns aromatic and add the diced potatoes, turmeric powder and salt. Mix these well and make sure that the potatoes are soft. Transfer the mixture to a large plate and let it cool.

**Step 3**  
Crumble the home-made paneer and combine with the potato mix. Now, add the chopped coriander leaves and remaining lemon juice to this mixture. Mash the mixture properly and make sure that there are no lumps in it. Now, place a pan over medium flame and, once it is hot, roast the bread slices in it.

**Step 4**  
Spread the potato-paneer mixture on the roasted bread slices. Bake these slices in preheated oven for about 4-5 minutes. Once



they turn crispy, remove them from the oven and transfer them onto a plate. Serve these hot with chutney or a dip, enjoy!

Looking for something tasty yet healthy? This Slim Vada Pav is a perfect dish for all those who want to satiate their hunger without compromising on taste. Made with mashed potatoes and home made paneer, tossed in a melange of spices, this Maharashtrian recipe is a sheer delight for foodies. This easy recipe can be made using a few ingredients and does not require much effort from your side. Served with a tangy chutney, this snack recipe can be enjoyed by people of all age groups and is quite delicious. Occasions like kitty parties, potlucks, picnics or game nights are apt to indulge in this vegetarian recipe

and is sure to wreak major havoc on your taste buds. So try out this simple recipe at home and devour in its zesty flavours!

**Ingredients of Slim Vada Pav**

- 8 slices bread-white
- 4 medium boiled potato
- 10 curry leaves
- 1/2 teaspoon mustard seeds
- 4 tablespoon lemon juice
- salt as required
- 1 litre low fat milk
- 2 cloves garlic
- 2 tablespoon coriander leaves
- 1/4 teaspoon powdered turmeric
- 1 tablespoon refined oil

How to make Slim Vada Pav

**Step 1**  
Place a saucepan over medium flame and add milk in it. Bring it to boil and then remove from heat. Immediately add 2 tablespoons of lemon juice in the hot milk and stir it until the milk curdles. Let it stand for 10 minutes, then strain through a muslin cloth, making sure all the whey is removed. The excess milk is drained and the paneer is left behind in the cloth. Meanwhile, preheat the oven at 160 degrees for about 8-10 minutes.

**Step 2**  
Now, heat oil in a pan over medium flame and add mustard seeds in it. Once the seeds



## Recipe: Bengali Fish Fingers



Apopular and easy to make Bengali style appetizer/snack. These fish fingers are well suited for any occasion, party or can also be served as an evening snack.

**Ingredients**

- White Fish Fillets - 300 gms, skinless, boneless
- Eggs - 2
- Fennel Seeds - 1 tsp
- Cumin Seeds - 1 tsp
- Mustard Seeds - 1 tsp
- Nigella Seeds - 1 tsp
- Fenugreek Seeds (Methi) - 1/2 tsp
- Maida - 1 1/2 tbslp
- Besan Flour - 1/2 tbslp
- Red Chilli Powder - 1 tsp
- Garlic - 3 cloves, crushed
- Ginger - 1 inch piece, grated
- Oil as required
- Breadcrumbs - 1 to 2 cups
- Coriander Leaves - handful, chopped
- Salt as per taste

**Method**

- Combine the cumin seeds, fennel

seeds, mustard seeds, nigella seeds and methi in a mixer jar.

- Grind them together and transfer to a bowl.
- Add the maida, besan, red chilli powder, garlic, coriander leaves, ginger and enough salt.
- Mix well.
- Beat the eggs in a bowl and add to the flour.



- Gently whisk until combined.

Chop the fish fillets into small bite-sized pieces or strips.

- Heat oil in a deep frying pan.
- Dip the fish fillets into the batter and remove.
- Allow any excess

to drip off and dredge it in the breadcrumbs, coating it fully. Gently slide them into the hot oil and fry until cooked through or crisp and golden brown.

- Remove and drain excess oil.
- Serve with chutney or sauce of choice.

Chef Manu Chandra suggests 17 homegrown ingredients that can up the quotient of any plate

I think as one matures as a chef, intrinsically it becomes easier to look around oneself to be inspired and innovate rather than looking too far. Something similar has been happening with me despite my years working abroad and at some stellar restaurants at that. The depth and variety of what is available in our country is often overlooked by the restaurating ethos and instead most embrace hard-to-find western ingredients in the development of their menus and offerings.

While it would be unfair to say that some chefs haven't already attempted and been trying to champion Indian ingredients, I still feel that we have a very long way to go and being able to develop our brand of adopted cuisines (much like France, America, Australia have done).

Here's a list of 17 of perhaps hundreds of relatively unseen or underestimated ingredients, which I feel would add a lot of spunk to any menu, cuisine notwithstanding. Bon appetite.

**1. Bathua:** A seemingly wild growing green always found in certain parts of North India. Bathua is a fantastic replacement for spinach, which has always been associated with contamination. It's delicious, earthy and lends itself to many applications.

**2. Kachampoli:** Almost never heard of outside of Coorg, this is India's answer to Balsamic Vinegar even though it's neither sweet nor made with grapes. Watch it transform a non-vegetarian dish with it's deep dark colour and lip-smacking tang.

**3. Singhara:** This absolutely delicious water vegetable is barely seen on any menu. Peeled and sliced, it would make the most wonderful salad.

**4. Makhana:** Lotus seeds that have been dried are an incredible way to thicken sauces and gravies after frying and powdering. It's a great snack too, albeit a little heavy.

**5. Bhetki:** Despite the battle between the sea fish vs the fresh water fish lovers, the glorious Bhetki stands out as an outstanding fish. Its suppleness is a close second to the phenomenally expensive and imported varieties of bass. I would pass up a John Dory for a good Bhetki any day.

**6. Melon seeds:** So used are we to seeing pine nuts on menus, that we often forget how delicious roasted melon seeds can be. I've found them equally enticing on pastas, salads and even desserts. A must try.

**7. Bhut Jhalokia:** Also known as the Naga chili, I find myself reading more about this in foreign media than seeing it in our own restaurants. It's got a kick that will make

## 17 unexplored, exotic Indian

# Ingredients



mustard still remains within the confines of Bengali cuisine. Try it in dressings, as a condiment on steaks and fish, or even a sandwich spread and English mustard may not seem so attractive after all.

**12. Jaggery:** For a country that almost knew no refined sugar, the jump to white sugar and caramel-coloured refined sugar seem odd. Jaggery in its many forms still makes for an excellent sweetener for confections and puddings. Some practice will get you stunning results.

**13. Mustard and sesame oils:** So here we are, a nation with a rich enough history of our own oils with arguably as many health benefits as some other oils; yet we look at the olive for gourmet reasons. Not true. Both sesame and mustard oils have amazing flavour characteristics and make some great dressings, sautes, marinades etc. Pick up a bottle of each for your kitchens today.

**14. Aam Ada:** This ginger root which has the most keen palates confused owing to its distinctively green mango flavour can be an amazing addition to soups, broths and relishes. It's again seen in very isolated cuisines, but I'm sure can gain a following as much as lemongrass if marketed well.

**15. Indian Vanilla Bean:** Many people will be unaware that some excellent Vanilla grows in the hills of Chikmagalur and Coorg and any place with coffee plantations. Substitute the sub par artificial essence with some caviar from a vanilla bean and watch a dessert move a step closer to Nirvana.

**16. Golden Apple:** As children one almost looked forward to apple season (yes, we ate seasonally as early as 20 years ago) for those incredibly juicy and sweet Golden Apples from Himachal. Today I'm hard pressed to find them. Instead I can easily settle for pretty, waxy and tasteless imported green and red apples. Eat an apple pie made from golden apples, and a whole generation may rethink the apple (edible) completely.

**17. Gulkand:** A stalwart of the pan shop, gulkand in all its rosy and sweet avatar can be an amazing ingredient. It's mellow yet lucid on the palate. Try it with cheesecake or with nuts and honey on warm almond cookies.

most people chuck out the imported bottles of hot sauce.

**8. Gondhoraj lemon:** By far one of my favorite citrus flavours, the perfumey fragrance from this north-eastern lemon can convert the simplest dish into a stunner. Infuse it in a little vodka, or try a sorbet with it. A lemon tart with some zest and juice from the gondhoraj can give key lime pies a run for its money.

**9. Kalimpong Cheese:** Almost Gouda like, this cheese from Sikkim probably has a very small production, but can fool the finest of gourmets. Watch it transform the most humble bake or a simple chili cheese toast, if you can get your hands on it, that is.

**10. Rhododendron:** Literally the rose tree, these beautiful flowers from the hills of Nainital and around, make for the most amazing drinks and coolers. Instead of lapping up artificial green apple syrups in martinis, it would be fabulous to see bartenders adapt to this refreshingly different ingredient.

**11. Kashundhi:** Bengali cuisine would be unimaginable Bengali cuisine. Try it in dressings, as a condiment on steaks and fish, or even a sandwich spread and English mustard may not seem so attractive after all. without this. This sharp and well- rounded



# No Discussion On Agenda, Resolutions Passed At MCD

**New Delhi:** The Municipal Corporation of Delhi House met on Saturday but ended the sitting without any discussion on the agenda items amid commotion over the election of the mayor in the third year of the body's term which is reserved for a Scheduled Caste candidate. However, leader of the House Mukesh Goyal did manage to have a few proposals approved, among them the engagement of a concessionaire for the collection of toll tax and environment compensation charges (ECC) from 154 toll points. The absence of MCD's highest approving arm, the Standing Committee, had held these up for over seven months. This, the first prominent proposal passed by the House without a Standing Committee in place, comes with the condition that "the matter will be ex-post facto placed before the Standing Committee as done in the past". The toll tax proposal said, "In view of the aforesaid extraordinary prevailing situation, it is proposed that approval may be accorded towards entering into a contract with the highest one bidder (already finalised) for engagement of a contractor by MCD for toll and ECC collection at border points from specified commercial vehicles entering Delhi at an annual payment of Rs 864.2 crore per annum (or Rs 16.6 crore per week) only."

While MCD collected Rs 825.9 crore from the now-expired contract as the remittance amount for the last financial year, the Rs 864.2 crore decided for the new contract will be enhanced by 5% after two years from the date of the award of the contract and with the condition to remit the weekly ECC collection on an actual basis to MCD. The new toll contract will increase MCD revenue by Rs 38.2 crores per annum. While the three-year contract of the present toll contractor got over on April 10, the decision on hiring a new contractor had got delayed, leading to financial losses for MCD, said an official. "At the beginning of this year, a committee was formed to estimate the contract amount for the toll system," the official said. "But when no Standing Committee was formed till April 10, it was decided to extend the contract for six months. Now that the extension period is getting over, a new proposal had to be urgently approved." Delhi govt notified the current toll charges in 2007. For taxis, the charge is Rs 100 per trip (without MCD tag) or Rs 3,000 per month (with MCD tag). It's higher for commercial trucks. There were 154 toll points in the city, of which 11 have radio frequency ID entry

systems while the rest employ handheld devices for toll collection. Data shows that 1,05,989 commercial vehicles enter the capital every day, around 70,000 of them being taxis or cabs. The House also approved the purchase of larvicide for controlling vector-borne

Saturday, the mayor arrived for the sitting around 50 minutes late. Immediately after the condolences were read, she pointed out that the last Standing Committee member election had been held in an illegal manner and that the matter was now in the Supreme Court. Her announcement triggered chaos in the chamber. New Delhi: The Municipal Corporation of Delhi House met on Saturday but ended the sitting without any discussion on the agenda items amid commotion over the election of the mayor in the third year of the body's term which is reserved for a Scheduled Caste candidate. However, leader of the House Mukesh Goyal did manage to have a few proposals approved, among them the engagement of a concessionaire for the collection of toll tax and environment compensation charges (ECC) from 154 toll points. The absence of MCD's highest approving arm, the Standing Committee, had held these up for over seven months. This, the first prominent proposal passed by the House without a Standing Committee in place, comes with the condition that "the matter will be ex-post facto placed before the Standing Committee as done in the past". The toll tax proposal said, "In view of the aforesaid extraordinary prevailing situation,

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diseases. The officials had already placed a demand for 20,000kg of larvicide at an estimated cost of Rs 7.6 crore for 2024-25. "Considering the process for procuring the larvicide is lengthy and needs a technical expert committee's approval, we initiated the exercise early," said an official. "The committee recommended the use of diflubenzuron 25%." He explained that the larvicides are meant for use next year. On

## Sleeping labourer attacked in Delhi, concerns over lack of police presence

**New Delhi:** A labourer sleeping outside a shop in Delhi's Model Town was brutally beaten up by a miscreant on the morning of October 4. The incident, which occurred around 9 am, was captured on CCTV and has since gone viral, raising concerns about the lack of police presence in the area. The video footage shows a man arriving on a motorbike. He dismounts, approaches the labourer sleeping



outside the closed shop, inspects his face, and then begins striking him with a stick. The attack continued for several seconds, while bystanders in a nearby park watched without intervening. The assault only stopped when a car approached the scene, prompting the attacker to flee. The incident took place just steps away from a police booth, yet the miscreant carried out the attack without any fear of police intervention. The absence of prompt action from the authorities has led to public outrage. Despite orders from senior officials for officers to patrol the area on foot, such violent incidents continue to occur, raising serious concerns about the effectiveness of local police.

## Probe agency arrests jaish operative in conspiracy case

**NEW DELHI:** The National Investigation Agency (NIA) has arrested Pakistan-based terror group Jaish-e-Mohammed (JeM) operative, Sheikh Sultan Salah Uddin Ayubi, also known as Ayubi, in a major conspiracy case. This arrest marks a significant breakthrough in the ongoing JeM investigation. The NIA conducted extensive searches across 26 locations in five states—Assam, Maharashtra, Uttar Pradesh, Delhi, and Jammu & Kashmir. The raids targeted



areas in Goalpara (Assam), Aurangabad, Jalna, Malegaon (Maharashtra), Meerut, Saharanpur (UP), Baramulla, Pulwama, Ramban (J&K), and Delhi. During the searches, investigators seized incriminating documents, electronic devices, pamphlets, and magazines. The suspects were found to be involved in radicalising individuals, spreading JeM propaganda, and recruiting young people for violent terror activities. The investigation revealed plans to carry out terror attacks across India. Further investigations are underway. Earlier in July, the Jammu and Kashmir Police arrested two underground workers of JeM. According to the details, the two were arrested from Kathua in the Union Territory. Police said the arrested accused were linked to the terror attack on Indian Army vehicles in Kathua on July 8, which claimed the lives of five soldiers and injured five others.

## Villagers in UP's Bahraich kill sixth and final wolf ending months-long terror

**New Delhi:** The months-long reign of terror caused by a six-member wolf pack in the Mahsi region of Uttar Pradesh's Bahraich has come to an end after the final wolf, responsible for attacking livestock and endangering villagers, was killed by villagers on Saturday. The animal was beaten to death while attempting to hunt a goat after failing to prey on a child. For months, the wolves had spread fear across the area, attacking villagers and livestock. This particular wolf, the last of the pack, had evaded capture for over 24 days despite the forest department's continuous efforts. On September 10,



The death of the sixth wolf has finally brought relief to the villagers, who had been living in constant fear. The pack had killed nine children and one woman, leaving more than 50 people injured.

Ajit Singh, the Divisional Forest Officer (DFO) of Bahraich, stated that they were alerted to the incident at around 8.30 pm on Saturday. By the time they reached the site, both the goat and the wolf lay dead. According to Singh, the sixth wolf cannot be confirmed as man-eating, as no attacks had occurred after the capture of the fifth wolf. However, it is believed to be a member of the same group that had terrorised the region. The forest department is conducting a thorough investigation and plans to file an FIR related to the incident. Though the sixth wolf was likely separated from its pack after the capture of the others, its death marks the end of the wolves' threat in the area.

## UP Villagers Clash With Police After Boy, 6, Killed By Leopard

**New Delhi:** Villagers in Uttar Pradesh's Lakhimpur Kheri clashed with the police today after a leopard allegedly killed a 6-year-old boy, the second such incident this week. The incident took place in the Shardanagar forest range of the South Kheri forest division when the victim had gone to a farm with his father. A leopard, which was hiding in a sugarcane field, came out and dragged him to the tree and killed him. The villagers arrived at the spot after his father shouted for help, but the animal had already killed the boy and fled. Earlier this week, a 50-year-old farmer was mauled to death by a



neighbouring Muda Assi village. Angry over the latest incident, the villagers clashed with police and

threw stones at their vehicles. They alleged that these incidents were happening due to the negligence of the forest department. **Wolf Attack In Uttar Pradesh** Some 130 kilometres from Lakhimpur Kheri, a pack of six wolves had terrorised a village in the Bahraich district. The last one of the pack, that have killed eight people and injured more than 20 others since mid-July in Bahraich's Mahsi, was killed by the locals on Saturday. A campaign, 'Operation Bhediya', was launched by Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath-led Uttar Pradesh government to capture them.

## Namo Bharat enters Delhi as trial runs begin

**The train was operated manually to check the civil structure compatibility in the trials.**

**NEW DELHI:** In a step towards connecting Delhi to India's first Regional Rapid Transit System (RRTS), NCRTC commenced trial runs on the Sahibabad-New Ashok Nagar section of the Delhi-Ghaziabad-Meerut RRTS corridor on Saturday. This marked a milestone, as the Nammo Bharat train service is now entering Delhi, linking the corridor's city section to the already operational section from Sahibabad to Meerut South. NCRTC MD, Shalabh Goel was present on the occasion with senior officers to witness this moment. The train was



operated manually to check the civil structure compatibility in the trials. As testing advances, NCRTC will carry out comprehensive evaluations to assess the train's integrated performance and its coordination with various subsystems such as tracks, signalling, Platform Screen Doors (PSDs), and overhead power supply systems. Extensive trial runs, including high-speed tests, are planned over the next few months. This

12 km stretch of the corridor is going to connect Sahibabad RRTS station in Uttar Pradesh to New Ashok Nagar and Anand Vihar stations in Delhi. Once operational, it will offer commuters a fast and efficient travel option between New Ashok Nagar and Meerut, reducing the travel time to less than 40 minutes. Anand Vihar RRTS station is expected to become one of the busiest commuter transit hubs, with significant daily

footfall due to its proximity to the Anand Vihar Metro Station, which serves two Metro lines, a railway station, and two ISBTs one on the Delhi side and the other at Kaushambi, Uttar Pradesh. The NCRTC ensures the seamless integration of these various transit modes to provide commuters with effortless convenience and accessibility, making Anand Vihar RRTS station a model for multi-modal integration. The New Ashok Nagar RRTS station is located less than 100 meters from the New Ashok Nagar Metro Station. To integrate these two transport modes, the NCRTC will provide a footbridge (FOB) connecting the concourse level of the Metro station to the concourse of the RRTS station. Additionally, two more FOBs will enhance accessibility at the New Ashok Nagar RRTS station: one will connect Chilla Village and Mayur Vihar Extension, while the other will be located near the Ancient Shiv Temple, facilitating easy access for New Ashok Nagar residents. These measures will provide convenient access for the residents of New Ashok Nagar.

## Cocaine worth Rs 10 crore seized in Amritsar linked to Delhi drug bust

**New Delhi:** The Delhi Police team probing the Rs 5,000-crore drug haul has seized cocaine worth Rs 10 crore from Amritsar, Punjab, after a raid, officials said on Sunday. The raid was based on information received from Jitendra Pal Singh, a UK resident arrested in Amritsar on October 4 in connection with the Delhi drug bust, according to sources. A Toyota Fortuner car was also seized during the raid, which was conducted in a village near Amritsar, close to the Nepal border. On October 2, the Delhi Police made one of the biggest drug busts ever seen in the city, seizing over 560 kilograms of cocaine and 40 kilograms of hydroponic marijuana, estimated to be worth around Rs 5,620 crore, from Mahipalpur in South Delhi. The marijuana is suspected to have originated from Phuket, Thailand, and was brought to India via the air route. The cocaine is believed to have been sourced from West Asian countries and various Indian states. Officials added that the accused mostly paid in cryptocurrency to acquire the drugs and later sold them. Five people—Tushar Goyal (40), Jitendra Pal Singh, alias Jassi (40), Himanshu Kumar (27), Aurangzeb Siddiqui (23), and Bharat Kumar Jain (48)—were arrested, with Goyal identified as the mastermind. The investigation revealed that the gang was planning to sell large quantities of drugs at concerts, rave parties, and upscale localities in Delhi and other metropolitan cities. Goyal was found to have international links. Goyal's connection with the Congress party has sparked a major political row, with BJP leaders, including Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Union Home Minister Amit Shah, criticising the opposition party. The mastermind's purported Facebook account features a profile picture with a tiger, and his bio mentions that he is the "Chairman of Delhi Pradesh RTI Cell of DYPC, Indian Youth Congress." However, the Indian Youth Congress stated that he was expelled from the organisation in October 2022 for indulging in anti-party activities. On Saturday, PM Modi took a dig at the Congress, saying the party wants to push the youth of the country toward drug use and use that money to win elections. Amit Shah accused Congress of turning all of North India into a hotspot for illegal drug trade when it was in power before 2014.





# Homemade Face packs



# for glowing Skin

We all know that certain fruits are rich in vitamin and potassium. At times, we even pay huge sums of money just to get fruit facials.

But why do that when you can get glowing skin at home? Try these homemade face packs for beautiful skin now.

### Banana face pack

Banana helps in making the skin dewy and fresh. Try this face pack for supple skin. Directions Mash some banana and apply on your face and neck. If you're suffering from skin disorders such as acne and pigmentation, add some honey to it. Wash your face after 15 minutes.

### Papaya face pack

This is extremely beneficial for tanning. Try this one out if you're tired of dark spots and tanned skin. Directions Take a ripe papaya and massage on your skin. Leave it on for 15 minutes and

wash it off.

### Cucumber face pack

Best for dry skin, cucumber acts as a cooling agent.

Directions Grate cucumber and apply the juice on your face. You may also refrigerate the pulp and once it cools, use as an eye mask to treat dark circles.

### Kiwi face pack

Kiwi is especially good if you want a natural glow on your face.

Directions Puree the kiwi and add some yoghurt to it. Massage onto your skin for a bit. Wash it off in 15 minutes.

### Tomato face pack

Tomatoes help in skin whitening, tightening and curing pimples.

Directions Squeeze 2 teaspoons of juice from a ripe tomato. Add 3 teaspoons of butter milk to it and mix thoroughly. Leave it on for 30 minutes

and wash it off. We all know that certain fruits are rich in vitamin and potassium. At times, we even pay huge sums of money just to get fruit facials. But why do that when you can get glowing skin at home? Try these homemade face packs for beautiful skin now.

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# Hair packs for Winter

Your hair tends to suffer as well during the winter as much as your skin does. Here's how you can take care of it...

Apart from your skin, your hair also goes through its own set of problems during the colder months. If you are looking at keeping your mane healthy and strong, there are couple of hair packs that you must use during this season.

### Aloe vera hair pack

Evenly apply aloe vera all over your hair at least once in a week. Keep this pack on for at least half an hour or so before you wash it off with lukewarm water. Aloe makes your hair soft and also makes it shiny.

### Reetha hair pack

Reetha is not only known for reducing hair loss, but also protects your hair from losing its texture during the winter. Make a thick paste of reetha and apply this all over your hair. You can apply this pack at least twice a week depending on how damaged your hair gets during winter. Do not use shampoo while washing off reetha.

### Henna hair pack

Mix henna along with curd and coffee or tea strain and keep it overnight in a copper bowl. Apply it before you wash your hair in the morning and keep this for approximately an hour or so. Once it dries off, wash off the paste off your hair.



## Homemade cures for puffy eyes



Waking up with puffy eyes every morning? Here are some homemade cures for irritable eyes.

Potato Potato is extremely beneficial for puffy eyes. It has anti-inflammatory properties and helps cure irritation around the eyes. Grate a potato, place the pulp into a poultice. Keep this on your eyelids for about 15 minutes.

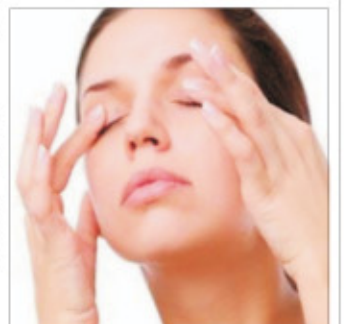
This must be done almost every day without fail.

### Cucumbers

Cucumbers are cooling agents and their astringent properties are meant to cure puffy eyes. Rest a slice of cucumber on each eye and relax for 5-10 minutes.

### Green tea

Green tea is known to be a soothing agent for puffy eyes. It reduces swelling of the eyes. Dip 2 bags of your choice of tea in hot water for 3-5 minutes. Let it cool until the bags are comfortably warm. Close your eyes and place a tea bag over each eye.





## Household debt up 26 per cent CAGR since '20

**NEW DELHI.** Financial liabilities/indebtedness of the households, which nearly doubled to 5.6 per cent of GDP in FY23, have grown at a compounded annual growth rate of 26 per cent between FY20 and FY23 as against 17 per cent in the pre-pandemic decade, while their savings grew at a much lower 9 per cent, down from 11 per cent, shows an analysis.

Households' share of savings in physical assets rose to 54 per cent in FY23 from 50 per cent pre-pandemic, while the share of savings in the form of precious metals remained relatively stable and minimal at 0.2 per cent of GDP. Major rise in financial liabilities was primarily driven by personal loans, particularly housing and unsecured loans. Personal loans from scheduled commercial banks grew at an annualised rise of 18.2 per cent since FY20, up 15.1 per cent in the pre-pandemic decade, as per a Care Ratings' weekend analysis.

While gross financial savings peaked at 15.4 per cent in FY21 due to the pandemic, net household financial savings have been on a southward-ho mainly due to a rise in financial liabilities.

## RBI Deputy Governor Rajeshwar Rao's tenure extended



**NEW DELHI.** The government has extended the term of Reserve Bank of India Deputy Governor M Rajeshwar Rao for a period of one year, as per a report.

As per a PTI report citing sources, the Appointments Committee of the Cabinet (ACC) has approved the re-appointment of Rao for a period of one year with effect from October 9, 2024, or until further orders, sources said quoting a government order dated October 4.

The ACC is headed by Prime Minister Narendra Modi. Rao was appointed as RBI Deputy Governor in October 2020 for a period of three years. Rao was elevated as RBI executive director in November 2016.

An economics graduate and a Master of Business Administration from the University of Cochin, Rao joined the central bank in 1984. As a career central banker, he has exposure to various aspects of the RBI's functioning.

## AMUL Expands Global Footprint, Eyes European Market After US Entry



**New Delhi** Managing Director of AMUL and Gujarat Co-operative Milk Marketing Federation Ltd (GCMMF) Jayen Mehta said AMUL's recently launched milk in US has been "highly successful" and they are now ready to enter the European market, which would mark a historic moment for the brand. Delivering the 11th Dr Verghese Kurien Memorial Oration on "AMUL Model: Transforming Lives of Million" organised by a private business management institute here on Saturday, Mehta said, "India is now the largest milk producer in the world and is set to produce one-third of the world's total milk in the coming years", XLRI in a statement said. "Dairy isn't just a business—it's a lifeline for rural India," he said. Talking about Amul's recent launch of milk in the US, Mehta said it has been "highly successful", and they are now ready to enter the European market for the first time. To stay relevant, Amul focuses on offering protein-rich, organic, and chemical-free products that customers trust, while continuously expanding their capacity and infrastructure, he said while praising the ecosystem developed by Dr Kurien, founder of AMUL.

Mehta said "If India could offer a gift to the world, it would be the cooperative working system—a gift Dr Kurien gave us. His belief in cooperation has sparked a new revolution in India." Amul collects over 310 lakh litres of milk daily, with 107 dairy plants across India and over 50 products, Mehta said, adding that 22 billion packs are sold annually. Amul has a turnover of Rs 80,000 crore and is now ranked as the strongest dairy and food brand globally, owned by 36 lakh farmers, he claimed. Addressing the gathering, Nirmala Kurien – daughter of Dr Verghese Kurien, said more than half a century ago her father dared to dream that a milk-deficient country could one day become self-sufficient. Today, India stands as the world's largest producer of milk, she added.

Director of XLRI Jamshedpur Fr S George said Dr Verghese Kurien's life was characterized by a commitment to making a difference.

# Abhinandan Lodha floats 'plots-only' realty model

**NEW DELHI.** In the old days, especially in the smaller cities and towns, a 'developer' meant the chap who had the pluck to convert some agricultural land to 'residential use'. He would then divide it up, provide water and electricity connections and sell plots to families to build their own houses.

What came up was a bit of a mess, but that's how residential communities flourished. Over time, the definition of a 'developer' changed. By building row houses, or flats in multistorey buildings, the 'developer' added more value and increased his profit margin. For a buyer, it was a neater home without the hassle of putting brick and mortar together.

Now meet someone who has gone on reverse gear, moving from developing buildings and flats to selling plots in residential layouts. Abhinandan Lodha, a young 42-year old entrepreneur, son of the famous builder-politician Mangal Prabhat Lodha, has extricated himself from the shadows of his father and brother, Abhishek Lodha, to build scale with 'plots-only' realty projects.

### Family break-up

I first met the young Abhinandan over a decade ago, when the Lodha Group had acquired Mumbai's Shrinivas Mills and

had launched the now famous 'World One' tower in Parel. It was a chance meeting at the office of a senior HDFC Realty officer. The Lodha scion was then negotiating a crucial Rs 500 crore loan for the Shrinivas project.

"We couldn't go ahead without the HDFC loan. Though it was sanctioned by the realty team, HDFC chairman Deepak Parekh said 'no'. It was the post-Lehman Brothers period of tight finance, and though I tried my best, Deepak Parekh refused," recounted Abhinandan in a recent interview. For three days the young realtor sat outside Mr Parekh's Churchgate office. Abhinandan Lodha recounted his experience: "By the second day, the chairman asked me: You are still here? I said – Yes! Where will I go? I need the loan, sir. Deepak Parekh nodded and went inside his office, but then again found me where he left me when he was leaving in the evening. This went on. By the end of the third day, the chairman relented. He called his team and told them to draw up the papers!" In the early days when the Lodha Group, later rechristened Macrotech Developers, grew at a heady



pace, the younger Lodha remained in the background leaving his brother Abhishek to be the front face of the company. However, he cut his teeth early negotiating a record FDI deal of USD 410 million with Deutsche Bank when he was just 25. A few years later he drove the Rs 5,700-crore land purchase of the Wadala container terminal that today is a sprawling 30-acre gated community called 'New Cuffe Parade'. In-charge of sales, marketing and finance, Abhinandan seemed to be doing well. So why did he split from the family company? "I did not want to be someone's shadow," he said. To the question, whether father Mangal

Prabhat Lodha mediated to set things right with his brother Abhishek, Abhinandan was diffident. He said the father was occupied with politics as an MLA and a major BJP functionary, and chose to stay away from the snarl. Was the separation bitter? "Let's say the separation was non-consensual; but it is not litigious either," responded Abhinandan.

### New realty model

It was quite a struggle differentiating himself from the Lodha group and starting from scratch. He used the rather pompous title 'House of Abhinandan Lodha' or HoABL. He initially set up Lodha Ventures to incubate creative tech start-ups and also launched a private equity firm 'Capital Tomorrow'. But after all his first calling was that of a realtor. It all started with a fluke joint venture with his legal attorney, Bergis Desai, a senior partner in the solicitors firm, J Sagar Associates. A 100-acre property in Dapoli, in Maharashtra's coastal Konkan belt was acquired and developed in 2021 as a getaway resort called 'Isle of Bliss'. "With focused marketing, the majority of the plots – ranging from 450 to 20,000 sq ft – were picked up in 3 weeks.

## How will China stimulus impact India

**NEW DELHI.** China's effort to revive its economy via a financial and monetary stimulus package is perceived to have a strong impact on India – positive as well as negative. While the initial impact is being felt on Dalal Street as the foreign institutional investors (FIIs) are seen "selling India and buying China", the success of the package might prove to be beneficial for India. Experts feel it may result in flight of higher foreign funds to India via emerging market route, negligible impact on "China + 1" and control of excessive dumping of finished Chinese products.

"The package is a bold set of interventions by the government. It will allay fears among foreign investors who were becoming sceptical about the Chinese government's ability to make big-bang reforms. The last time they conducted major reforms was in 2008, which ushered China into a new league of development backed by large foreign investor participation," said Debopam Chaudhuri, chief economist of Piramal Group. "I expect the Chinese investment instruments will gradually start to gain some of their lost sheen, starting with its equities followed by real estate," Chaudhuri

added. As per him, this is piece of good news for India as well. "China serves as a lighthouse for emerging market (EM) opportunities. Reduction in uncertainties within China will attract higher capital allocation to EMs, and



India with its growth potential can attract a large share of that pie.

While India may attract higher funds via the EM basket in future, so far the local market, which saw its biggest weekly slump this week in more than two years, has seen an exodus of FIIs. This week alone, FIIs sold shares worth Rs 40,000 crore in the Indian market as they find the valuation of Chinese stock much more attractive. V K Vijayakumar, chief investment strategist, Geojit Financial Services, on Saturday said geopolitical

tensions in the Middle-East have become a worry for global equity markets. But the markets have, so far, shrugged off these tensions. The US market is resilient with 21 per cent returns year to date.

Even as crude has risen in recent days, there is no sharp spike so far. The situation will change if Israel attacks oil installations in Iran, he added. "FIIs turned sellers in the Indian market in October... The selling has been triggered by outperformance of Chinese stocks. Hang Seng index shot up by 26% in last one month and this bullishness is expected to continue since valuations of Chinese stocks are very low and the Chinese economy is expected to do well in response to the monetary and fiscal stimulus," Vijayakumar said. "If the momentum in Chinese stocks continues, FIIs may continue to sell in India where valuations are elevated. It remains to be seen how long the optimism lasts. FII selling in financials, especially frontline banking stocks have made their valuations attractive. Long-term domestic investors may utilise this opportunity to buy banking stocks."

## 8 Essential Money-Saving Tips for Solo Female Travellers

**NEW DELHI.** Solo travel is an exhilarating and unique experience. According to Airbnb data, around 30% of Indian female travellers hit the road solo, exploring both international and domestic destinations. To make your journey smooth and stress-free, mastering money management is crucial. Here are some top tips to help you stay savvy, secure, and completely in control as you explore the world. Plan Your Budget Before You Go. Start your trip with a solid plan. Estimate your daily expenses—accommodation, food, transportation, activities, and a little extra for those spontaneous splurges and souvenirs. Don't forget to budget for travel insurance to cover any surprises. A well-thought-out budget helps you manage your finances effectively and enjoy your trip stress-

free. Embrace the "Less is More" Approach

Travel smart by embracing the 'less is more' mindset with your cash. As a traveller, minimising vulnerability is key. To stay secure on the go, carry only what you need for the day and store it in different safe spots. Some options worth considering:

### Build a Financial Safety Net

Have a trusted person as your go-to for emergency funds. For international transfers, the use of dedicated platforms is a great option – they're fast, low-cost, and use the mid-market exchange rate. This allows you to access money quickly and affordably when needed. Plus, if you're visiting friends abroad, you can transfer money to them, and they can withdraw cash in the local currency for you, helping you dodge expensive ATM fees and poor

exchange rates. It's also a convenient way to repay friends for any expenses.

### Dodge the Drain of Hidden Fees

Before you swipe, get wise about your bank card fees. Scout out cards with crystal-clear foreign transaction charges and straightforward exchange rates. Hidden fees can sneak in when dealing with different currencies, whether you're making a purchase or pulling cash from an ATM. So, take a moment to read the fine print and avoid any nasty surprises. And watch out for dynamic currency conversion (DCC). That's when merchants offer to charge you in your home currency instead of the local one. It might seem convenient, but DCC usually comes with steep fees and a lousy exchange rate. The smart move? Refuse DCC and always pay in the local currency when you're travelling.

# Succession Wars: Sibling rivalry that led to the birth of Adidas and Puma

**New Delhi** Imagine a rivalry so intense that it not only tore apart a family but also divided an entire town, creating two iconic sports brands that are loved by many across the globe. In the quiet Bavarian town of Herzogenaurach, Germany, an unassuming laundry room became the birthplace of two of the world's most iconic sports brands: Adidas and Puma. Two brothers went from sharing childhood dreams to sparking one of the greatest corporate wars of all time. If you've ever sported Adidas or Puma, you've unknowingly taken a side in this bitter feud. Let's go through the story of how a feud between brothers sparked a corporate war that shaped the modern sports industry and left a lasting impact on a community.

### Humble beginnings to Olympic glory

The Dassler brothers were born into modest beginnings. Adolf, known as Adi, was born in 1900, and his older brother Rudolf followed two years later, in 1898.

Raised in Herzogenaurach, a small town of cobblers, the brothers grew up surrounded by shoe-making, a trade their father practised in a local factory. After World War I, the two brothers returned home with a desire to create a business. In

1924, they established the Dassler Brothers Shoe Factory, making shoes for athletes. Adi, the more introverted of the two, was obsessed with functionality and design. His focus was on creating shoes that improved athletic performance. Rudolf, on the other hand, was outgoing and business-savvy, handling the sales and marketing side of the business. Their complementary skills helped the factory thrive, with one of their shoes gaining international attention at the 1936 Berlin Olympics, when American sprinter Jesse Owens won four gold medals wearing Dassler shoes. The success brought the Dassler brothers' company into the international spotlight, but while their brand was growing, so was the tension between the siblings.

### The Breakup: Rift turns into a feud

The fissures in the Dassler relationship started during World War II. There are several stories about what caused the ultimate rift between Adi and Rudolf, but one of the most famous revolves around a misunderstanding during an air raid.

As the two families took shelter, Adi allegedly muttered, "Here come the bastards again," referring to Allied



bombers. Rudolf, however, believed the comment was directed at him and his family, sparking animosity that never truly dissipated. The brothers' differences extended beyond personal slights. Their contrasting personalities—Adi's focus on innovation and Rudolf's emphasis on bold marketing—led to disagreements about the direction of the company. Post-war tensions and personal grievances eventually boiled over, and in 1948, the brothers decided to split the company, marking the end of their partnership. Adi, remaining at the original factory, rebranded his company as Adidas, a combination of his nickname and surname. Thus began one of the most famous business rivalries in history. Rudolf moved to the other side of the Aarach River, and established his own

shoe company, which he initially named Ruda before naming it Puma.

### Adidas vs Puma

The Dassler brothers' feud went beyond family—it created a competitive fire that would drive both companies to global prominence. Herzogenaurach became a divided town, with residents aligning themselves either with Adidas or Puma.

The division was so entrenched that the town earned the nickname 'the town of bent necks', because locals would glance down at someone's shoes to see whether they were from Adidas or Puma, effectively determining their loyalty.

The rivalry also spilled into local businesses, with restaurants, shops, and even schools taking sides. Families were torn apart as employees of Adidas wouldn't associate with those working for Puma, and vice versa. The Dasslers' feud turned what was once a close-knit community into a town of stark divisions. From a business perspective, the competition spurred both companies to innovate rapidly. Adidas revolutionised football with the introduction of screw-in studs on its boots, a game-changing development for players.



## NEWS BOX

## IND vs BAN: Candid Suryakumar Yadav teases Washington Sundar in practice

New Delhi. India captain Suryakumar Yadav was in a candid mood ahead of the team's 1st T20I match against Bangladesh in Gwalior. In a video released by the Board of Control for Cricket in India (BCCI), Suryakumar can be seen teasing Washington Sundar.

The Indian captain caught the spin-bowling all-rounder practising in the nets. Yadav, known to bring fun energy to the field, started teasing Washington about his Gabba Test heroics back in 2021. Sundar had played a heroic role in the historic Gabba Test match in 2021. In the first innings of the match, Sundar had hit 62 runs and added over 100 runs in a partnership with Shardul Thakur. After from scoring runs, Sundar had picked up a total of 4 wickets in the match. Since his Gabba heroics, Sundar has been injury-prone and has never quite enjoyed a consistent run in the Indian national team or his Indian Premier League franchise. The spin-bowling all-rounder would hope to settle his spot in the team after the retirement of Ravindra Jadeja.

Sundar recently turned 25. The all-rounder



celebrated his birthday on October 5, just a day ahead of the 1st T20I match against Bangladesh. The cricketer is expected to play the first match against the Bangladesh side. Washington Sundar recently played in the Zimbabwe and Sri Lanka series. While he played in the T20Is vs Zimbabwe, the new management under Gautam Gambhir gave Sundar a chance in the ODI format vs Sri Lanka. The spinner also featured in the Duleep Trophy recently and picked up a total of 3 wickets and scored 150+ score in 5 innings.

India Predicted Playing XI

Sanju Samson (wicketkeeper), Abhishek Sharma, Suryakumar Yadav (captain), Hardik Pandya, Riyan Parag, Rinku Singh, Washington Sundar, Mayank Yadav, Arshdeep Singh, Varun Chakravarthy, Ravi Bishnoi.

## Suresh Raina rewinds clock, smashes quickfire fifty in National Cricket League

Suresh Raina, the former Indian batter who retired from international cricket on August 15, 2020, has been making his presence felt in the United States. Currently playing in the Sixty Strikes tournament, organised by the National Cricket League (NCL), Raina turned back the clock with a brilliant performance for the New York Lions against the Los Angeles Waves on October 5. Raina hammered the opposition captain and Bangladeshi all-rounder Shakib Al Hasan for two sixes and a four in a single over, collecting 18 runs in total. Several videos of his aggressive batting have gone viral on social media, showcasing Raina's trademark ability to dominate spinners. The 37-year-old looked in fine form, displaying his skill and power hitting despite being away from professional cricket for a few years. His innings guided the New York Lions to a solid 19-run victory. Put into bat by the Los Angeles Waves, New York lost opener Asad Shafiq early for just 3 runs. However, Raina,



along with former Sri Lankan opener Upul Tharanga, formed a crucial 89-run partnership to stabilize the innings. Tharanga contributed 40 runs off 23 balls, while Raina's unbeaten 53 off just 28 deliveries included six boundaries and three sixes. Their partnership helped New York post an imposing total of 126/4 in their 10 overs.

Raina guides New York Lions to win

In response, Los Angeles struggled to chase down the target. They suffered an early blow when opener Stevie Eskinazi was dismissed for a golden duck on the first ball. Although Adam Rossington (31 off 15 balls), Tim David (19 off 10 balls), and Joe Burns (17 off 9 balls) made significant contributions, it wasn't enough to secure a win. Shakib Al Hasan also failed to make an impact, scoring only 13 runs off 16 balls and conceding 18 runs in his only over. New York's bowlers stepped up at the right time, with young USA pacer Shourya Gaur taking three wickets.

# Jammu set to host first-ever Legends League Cricket match at Bakshi Stadium

**Jammu will make its debut as a host in the Legends League Cricket, marking a new chapter in the region's cricketing history. With international legends set to take the field, the city is poised to become a key destination for top-level cricket events.**

New Delhi. Jammu is set to host a match in the Legends League Cricket (LLC) for the very first time, marking a major milestone in its growing sports culture. This inclusion as a venue is a significant step, highlighting the importance of bringing international-level sporting events to new regions. It's a big moment for Jammu's cricket history, as local fans get the chance to watch cricket legends compete right in their backyard. The 3rd



season of LLC continues to excite cricket fans across India, and now, the Konark Suryas Odisha (KSO) team, led by the well-known cricketer Irfan Pathan, is set to bring the action to the scenic region of Jammu. Sponsored by the Sanpriya Group and managed by COO Ms. Enakshi Priyam, KSO is looking forward to making a mark in this landmark event for Jammu's cricket

scene. Expressing his excitement, Irfan Pathan, captain of KSO, said, "Playing in Jammu is special for me and the team. This region has so much untapped cricketing talent, and bringing high-level cricket here is a proud moment. We hope to inspire young players and create great memories for the fans." Ms. Enakshi Priyam, COO of Konark Suryas Odisha, shared, "We are

thrilled to be part of this historic moment. Bringing international cricket to Jammu isn't just about the game; it's about inspiring every child in the region who dreams of becoming a cricketer. We aim to build a lasting connection between cricket and the local community." Events like LLC have a powerful impact on regions like Jammu. The presence of top-level cricket will not only boost local sports culture but also motivate young talent. Additionally, such events bring in tourism, with teams, officials, and fans flocking to the area. This increased attention can benefit Jammu's hospitality sector and showcase its natural beauty and rich cultural heritage.

Ms. Priyam added, "This is a win-win situation for the region. While we come to play cricket, Jammu stands to gain from the visibility and footfall of fans and tourists who will experience the charm and warmth of the region." As KSO prepares to take the field, the excitement in Jammu is high. This event will be remembered for years to come as Jammu begins its journey as an emerging sports destination.

## Women's T20 World Cup, IND vs PAK: Sanjay Manjrekar makes bold prediction on Richa

**Women's T20 World Cup 2024: Sanjay Manjrekar made a bold prediction ahead of India's mouth-watering and must win clash against Pakistan. He predicted Richa Ghosh to win the Player of the Match award.**

New Delhi. Former India cricketer Sanjay Manjrekar made some bold predictions ahead of India's much anticipated clash against arch-rivals Pakistan in Women's T20 World Cup 2024. India will be aiming to get back to winning ways during the Group A clash against Pakistan at Dubai International Stadium in Dubai on October 6, Sunday. Manjrekar predicted that Richa Ghosh would come out as the top player for the Indian team and would take the Player of the Match award for her explosive batting and wicketkeeping. He also named Indian captain Harmanpreet Kaur and spinner Asha



Sobhana as the other two players to watch out for. "Three players to watch out for. No. 1 Richa Ghosh, number two would be Harmanpreet Kaur. She failed in the first match and this doesn't happen quite often. It almost feels impossible. The third player to watch out for would be Asha Sobhana. 2 Predictions would be that its been years since India beat Pakistan in an afternoon game. So, that will happen. 2nd is that Richa

Ghosh would be the Player of the Match. 2 stumpings and a quickfire forty. By doing this she will be the Player of the Match," Manjrekar said in a video posted by Star Sports on X.

**IND vs PAK: What to expect**

India suffered a 58-run loss in their opening match against New Zealand which pushed them to a tight corner in their race to make it to the semi-final of Women's T20 World Cup 2024. Meanwhile, Fatima Sana-ud-Din led Pakistan will be spirited as they take confidence from their opening match victory against Asia Cup 2024 champions Sri Lanka. Manjrekar also advised the Indian team to not try big shots on a slow pitch like that of Dubai.

"One advice for India against Pakistan would be that we have witnessed that Dubai's pitch is still very slow and fresh. What they did with New Zealand, playing big shots down the pitch. Avoid this and play sensibly. Like Virat Kohli takes ones and twos and if you want to hit a six, don't hit it straight," he added.

## IPL's fast bowling stars set for India audition vs Bangladesh

New Delhi. On 30 March 2024, Shikhar Dhawan was batting in his vintage style, well in control of a chase against Lucknow in the Indian Premier League 2024. Dhawan, an old workhorse of Indian cricket was out to prove his critics wrong that he was finished in the T20 format. Chasing 200 runs against LSG, all was going well for Dhawan till the 10th over of the game when KL Rahul introduced Mayank Yadav into the attack. The unknown pacer, fast-tracked from New Delhi, was brought to LSG by Gautam Gambhir in 2023. However, due to consistent injuries, Mayank had not been able to make his debut in the IPL till 2024. When Mayank came out to bowl against Dhawan, the batter had already hit his fifty in 33 balls, well in control of the chase. In fact, Dhawan clipped Mayank's first ball for four through the leg side, marking his territory against the pacer. The story, however, was set to change. After giving away 10 runs in his first over, Mayank



made a thundering comeback. The LSG pacer consistently hit the 155 KMPH mark in the match, terrorising the Punjab Kings batters. Mayank's pace mixed with the support of Mohsin Khan forced an epic downfall in the PBKS side, and they were restricted to 178/5, losing the match by 22 runs.

**IPL 2024, LSG vs PBKS: Match Report**

And what of Dhawan? Since hitting that boundary, Dhawan looked uncomfortable against the pace of Mayank Yadav, which

increased with every ball. Dhawan, a seasoned batter tried to back away from Mayank's thunderbolts but was consistently beaten by pace. The legendary left-hander played only 2 matches in the IPL after that and announced his retirement from international cricket after the conclusion of the tournament.

**India's Rising Pacers**

The story of Mayank vs Dhawan is perhaps the best anecdote of what India is bringing to the table in the 3-match T20I series against Bangladesh. Fiery pacers who are not afraid to get face-to-face against any batters in the world. Alongside Mayank, there is another Delhi pacer - Harshit Rana, who scalped 19 wickets for KKR in IPL 2024. Rana, who consistently bowls above 145kms, has been praised for his intelligence with the ball. On the other hand, Rana has also been rapped for his attitude on the field by the IPL officials, who cut off his 100 per cent match fees for aggressively celebrating his wickets against opposition players.



doubts about his fitness level. Last week, Stokes hinted that he might not be able to bowl at the beginning of the series. Though there was optimism about his participation, it became evident that he hadn't yet reached full match fitness, prompting the decision to rest him for the first Test. Stokes originally injured his hamstring on August 11 while playing in The Hundred for Northern Superchargers, where he was forced to leave the field and later ruled out for the rest of the English summer. His absence is a significant blow for England, as his experience and leadership and the combination with head coach Brendon McCullum has been instrumental in their recent successes.

## LLC 2024: Ian Bell feels lucky to have played international cricket for so long

**Ian Bell said that he felt lucky to have played international cricket for so long and to take part in the Legends Cricket League 2024.**

New Delhi. Ian Bell, former England cricketer, believes tournaments like the Legends League Cricket (LLC) remind retired players of their playing days and how fortunate they were to have been professional cricketers. Several former players, including India's Shikhar Dhawan and Dinesh Karthik, have featured in the LLC this year. The

tournament is being held across four venues in Jodhpur, Surat, Jammu, and Srinagar. Bell, who is now focused on coaching, shared his thoughts during an interaction. Bell is part of the India Capitals team in the Legends League Cricket 2024. "To come back and play some more cricket, even though I suppose the playing days are finished and coaching is what I do now, it's been brilliant," he said. Bell noted that playing alongside iconic names from international cricket brings back the thrill and nostalgia of the sport's peak moments. "When you retire from playing, you don't get these opportunities to come out in front of good crowds and have that chance. It does remind you of how lucky you were to be a professional cricketer for such a long period of time," he told PTI.

**Former players take part in LLC**  
For Dhawan, who announced his retirement in



August, returning to the field after a break has been a unique experience. "It was a great

feeling to be back on the ground, and it was a tough wicket to bat on. It was turning a lot, and it's nice to middle the ball and score some runs." Dhawan said after scoring a fifty for Gujarat Greats against Southern Super Stars. He admitted feeling a bit rusty initially. "But I felt good, I was tired as well, because I played matches after 4-5 months, which is quite normal," he added.

Similarly, Bangladesh's Abdur Razzak, who last played international cricket a decade ago, is now balancing his role as a selector with his appearances in the tournament. "I'm working as a selector, that's also a tough job," Razzak said. Despite the time away from professional cricket, he praised the atmosphere of the tournament. "The feelings and the atmosphere are pretty similar because there is lots of crowd and the atmosphere they create is outstanding," he concluded.





# Katrina Kaif

## 'Shubh Navratri' Post Has Our Attention, Fans Say 'Beauty In Saree'

After being away from the limelight for some time, Katrina Kaif was recently spotted at a private airport on Friday. Her beautiful saree and elegant look led people to stop and stare at her. Katrina and other popular faces in Bollywood jetted off to Kochi, Kerala, to attend the grand Navratri party hosted by the Kalyanaram family, owners of the jewellery brand Kalyan Jewellers. On Saturday, Katrina delighted her fans by giving a closer look at her beautiful outfit from yesterday's festivities. The actress wore a multi-coloured silk saree from Tarun Tahiliani's collection, which featured heavy embroidery and embellishments. She ditched heavy jewellery and opted for golden jhumkas to finalise her look. Sharing a series of pictures of herself from various angles, Katrina wrote, "गुरु नवरात्री...." wishing her more than 80 million followers on the occasion of the auspicious nine-day festival.

Soon enough, her fans reciprocated her message and took to the comment section of the post to react to her beautiful post. One of her fans said, "Prettiest woman in the world." Another said, "This beauty never fails to impress her fans with her immense stylish outfits. She is one of those who really knows how a girl should wear a saree like a saree only. So minimalistic and yet so graceful." Someone else noted, "Beauty In Saree." Meanwhile, director Zoya Akhtar and Huda Beauty's official IG page also took notice of Katrina's post, and they reacted to it.

Just days ago, Katrina, the founder of Kay Beauty, had a one-on-one conversation with Huda Beauty's founder, Huda Kattan. They discussed their respective experiences in the beauty industry and also spoke about society's unrealistic beauty standards. The Bollywood actress shared an excerpt of her conversation with the beauty mogul on her Instagram post. In a note accompanying the video, Katrina wrote, "When Kay met Huda. From contouring conversations to highlight moments, the iconic Huda & I discuss our experiences as beauty founders, the pressure to conform to unreal beauty standards, the social media pressure cooker and authentic expression..... who knew that Makeup would be the best therapy session ever!"

Katrina Kaif launched her beauty brand Kay Beauty in 2019 in partnership with beauty retailer Nykaa. Since then, the brand has built a loyal customer base and is going strong each day. On the other hand, Katrina was last seen in the film Merry Christmas, released in December last year.



# Shweta Tiwari

## Offers Glimpses From Her Grand Birthday Celebration In Dubai

Shweta Tiwari turned 44 on October 4. The actress, known for her performances in popular TV serials like Kasautii Zindagi Kay and Parvarish among others, jetted off to Dubai to celebrate her special day with her friends and loved ones. Taking to Instagram, she treated her Instafam with a few glimpses of her birthday celebration in the UAE. "Thank you guys for coming all the way to Dubai to celebrate my Birthday..I love you guys so very much," the post caption read.

In the snapshots, Shweta is seen dressed in a chic white top, a matching overshirt and blue denim jeans. Joining the celebration were actor Vikas Kalantri, known for her performance in films like Nayee Padosan, Naqaab and others, Payal Soni, celebrity stylist Victor Robinson and fashion stylist Sohail Mughal. In one of the posts, the Indian Police Force actress is seen exuding her happiness as she sees her birthday cake. As soon as Shweta dropped the post online, the comment section was flooded with reactions from fans and celebs alike. Her daughter Palak Tiwari dropped a playful comment indicating that her mother took inspiration from the Kisi Ka Bhai Kisi Ki Jaan actress' earlier pictures. She wrote, "I see u copying me in your second slide..."



Dancer and actress Mukti Mohan commented, "Happyyy Birthdayyyy." An Instagram user wrote, "Beauty at its purest form." Wishing her mother on her 44th birthday, Palak posted a series of unseen pictures with Shweta and wrote, "Happiest birthday to momo and my mummy. Thank you for always sheltering us from the world's problems, we are nothing without you." On the work front,

Shweta was last seen in director Rohit Shetty's web series Indian Police Force which premiered on the OTT platform Amazon Prime Video. The show also featured Siddharth Malhotra, Vivek Oberoi and Shilpa Shetty Kundra.

She will be next seen in Rohit Shetty's highly anticipated Singham Again which is all set to hit the big screens on the occasion of Diwali 2024. The film also stars Ajay Devgn, Kareena Kapoor Khan, Deepika Padukone, Arjun Kapoor, Tiger Shroff, Akshay Kumar, Ranveer Singh and Jackie Shroff in lead roles. Singham Again will face a big Bollywood clash with Kartik Aaryan-Triptii Dimri's horror comedy flick Bhool Bhulaiyaa 3.



## Bigg Boss Marathi Season 5: Know Finalist Nikki Tamboli's Rumoured Linkups



Actress Nikki Tamboli is currently in the headlines for her stint in the controversial reality show Bigg Boss Marathi season 5. One of the key highlights of this season was actor Arbaz Patel's romantic angle with co-contestant Nikki Tamboli, which grabbed many eyeballs. Many felt that this romantic relationship angle was scripted. Before Arbaz Patel, Nikki Tamboli made headlines for her rumoured linkups with some celebs. Let's take a look at them.

1. Manan Shah- Nikki Tamboli was reportedly linked to be dating businessman Manan Shah. Both used to share photos of each other on social media. These reports gained a lot of traction when Nikki confessed to their relationship calling him her lover and best friend.

2. Pratik Sehajpal- Nikki Tamboli was also shown to be in love with Bigg Boss 15 first-runner-up and actor Pratik Sehajpal. Their chemistry in the game show Khatra Khatra was evident to the audience. Pratik and Nikki were partners in the show and went on to confess their feelings during a task. Nikki Tamboli left Pratik blushing when asked if she wanted to go on a date with him. Nikki openly declared that she would rather get married to him.

Apart from these celebrities, Nikki Tamboli confessed during her stint in Bigg Boss Hindi that she had dated two men at the same time. She added that she happened to do this twice in her life. According to her, in the first double-dating phase, she wanted to break up with a guy but he didn't let her do that. Due to this reason, the 28-year-old actress started dating another guy. Nikki added that the same situation happened in her second double-dating phase as well. As of now, the top eight contestants of Bigg Boss Marathi 5 are Abhijeet Sawant, Nikki Tamboli, Suraj Chavan, Janhavi Killekar, Dhananjay Powar, Varsha Usgaonkar, Paddy Kamble and Ankit Walawalkar. The season's grand finale will reportedly premiere on October 6. With only a day left for the grand finale, excitement is building around who will claim the title. As per the reports, the winner of Bigg Boss Marathi Season 5 will be awarded a trophy and a cash prize of Rs 25 lakh.

## Sivakarthiseyan And Sai Pallavi's Chemistry Tops In New Song Hey Minnale From Amaran



Rajkumar Periasamy's Amaran is an upcoming Tamil film. Touted to be a biographical action drama film, it will star Sivakarthiseyan. The makers of the film recently dropped a new song increasing the hype. The lyrical clip of the song is named Hey Minnale and has grabbed the attention of the youth. The song, Hey Minnale, was unveiled by makers recently. It is composed by GV Prakash, penned by Karthik Netha and sung by Haricharan and Shweta Mohan. The romantic number is about the budding love between the lead actor and actress. The song features Sai Pallavi opposite Sivakarthiseyan and was shared on Friday, October 4.

The action drama is directed by Rajkumar Periasamy and backed by Raaj Kamal Films International with Sony Pictures Films India. The film stars Sivakarthiseyan in the role of Major Mukund Varadarajan and Sai Pallavi as Indhu Rebecca Varghese, a Malayalee belle. It will also star Bhuvan Arora, Rahul Bose, Lallu, Shreeekumar, Shyam Mohan, Ajaey Naga Raaman, Mir Salman and Gaurav Venkatesh in the supporting roles. The film is an adaptation of the book series India's Most Fearless: True Stories of Modern Military by Shiv Aroor and Rahul Singh, which is based on Mukund Varadarajan. The film is slated to hit the theatres on October 31 for Diwali. As per reports, Kamal Haasan might be making a guest appearance in the film. Reportedly, Sivakarthiseyan underwent rigorous physical training to portray the role of an Army officer. The film is being made in Tamil and Telugu language.

Amaran will show Major Mukund Varadarajan as a commissioned officer posted in the Indian Army's Rajput Regiment. He was posthumously awarded the Ashok Chakra for his act of bravery during a counter-terrorism operation, while he was posted deputed to the 44th Rashtriya Rifles Battalion in Jammu and Kashmir. Upon its release on October 31, Amaran will clash with Jayam Ravi's Brother, directed by M. Rajesh and Kavin's Bloody Beggar, helmed by Sivabalan Muthukumar.