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Maha Kumbh: Akhilesh Yadav takes holy dip in Sangam

Sanjay Kumar
Mahakumbh Nagar, Jan. 27: Yadav reached here in the afternoon and took the holy dip, the party said, sharing his photographs. Attacking the BJP, he advised it to bathe with patience, saying that people come here for virtue and charity and not



for water sports. Recently Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath and his Cabinet colleagues were seen splashing water on each other after bathing in the Sangam after Cabinet meet. "For the BJP people, I have to say that if you come to Kumbh, then bathe with patience. People come here for virtue and charity, not for water sports," Yadav said. "I got the opportunity to take 11 dips in the Sangam as per the tradition. This Maha Kumbh is being witnessed after 144 years. Today, we take a pledge and pray to god that there should be harmony, goodwill and everyone should keep moving forward with tolerance. We take pledge for people's welfare," Yadav said while talking to reporters after taking the dip. He said, "This is a big event. I remember that during the SP government's tenure, we had the opportunity to organise the Kumbh Mela. Despite having limited resources, we successfully held the

event. Various studies, including those by the Harvard University, have acknowledged that while Kumbh is deeply rooted in tradition, its documented history can be traced back to the time of Emperor Harshavardhan. "The unique beauty of Kumbh lies in the confluence of three rivers and its spiritual significance. People are drawn to this sacred event purely out of faith, without the need for advertisements or promotions," he said. Reacting on Yadav's dip in the Kumbh Mela, BJP spokesperson Rakesh Tripathi said, "It is hoped that Akhilesh Yadav's mind will calm down after the Sangam bath." Yadav, who was making "negative and baseless" comments on Kumbh, will now perhaps say something positive on its grandeur and divinity, Tripathi said. On the occasion of Makar Sankranti, Yadav had taken a dip in the Ganga river in Haridwar. Asked whether he would be visiting Maha Kumbh in Prayagraj, Yadav earlier this month said he had always visited the religious congregation.

BJP-led NDA amendments accepted, Opposition's defeated in Waqf committee

Tejinder Kaur Babbar
New Delhi, Jan. 27: The Joint Parliamentary Committee scrutinising the Waqf (Amendment) Bill on Monday adopted all amendments proposed by the ruling BJP-led NDA members and negated every change moved by opposition members. The committee chairman Jagdambika Pal told reporters after the meeting that amendments adopted by the committee will make the law better and more effective. However, opposition MPs decried the meeting's proceedings and accused Pal of "subverting" the democratic process. "It was a farcical exercise. We were not heard. Pal has acted in a dictatorial manner," TMC MP Kalyan Banerjee told reporters. Pal rejected the charge, and said the entire exercise was democratic, and the majority view prevailed. One of the more significant amendments proposed by the committee is that the existing Waqf properties cannot be questioned on the grounds of 'Waqf by user', which existed in the current law but will be omitted in the new version, if the properties are being used for religious purposes.

Kejriwal announces 15 guarantees in AAP manifesto for Delhi polls

Simmi Kaur Babbar
New Delhi, Jan. 27: AAP national convenor Arvind Kejriwal on Monday released the party's manifesto, titled "Kejriwal ki Guarantee," ahead of the February 5 Delhi Assembly elections. Speaking at the manifesto launch, Kejriwal took a swipe at the BJP, accusing it of copying AAP's promise-based governance. "We coined the term 'guarantee' first in the country. After us, the BJP stole it, but the difference is, we fulfil our guarantees, and they do not," he said. The manifesto outlines 15 guarantees, with Kejriwal promising "robust" job creation for Delhi residents as his first guarantee. The second guarantee, under the Mahila Samman Yojana, assures monthly financial support of Rs 2,100 for women. For senior citizens, the Sanjeevani Yojana will provide free healthcare facilities. The fourth guarantee promises to waive outstanding "hiked" water bills, while the fifth guarantee is of round-the-clock supply of clean drinking water to every household in the national capital. Among other key promises is a commitment to clean the polluted Yamuna River and make Delhi's roads world-class. Under the Babasaheb

Ambedkar Scholarship Yojana, the AAP has pledged scholarships for SC and ST students to study abroad. Male students will also benefit, with

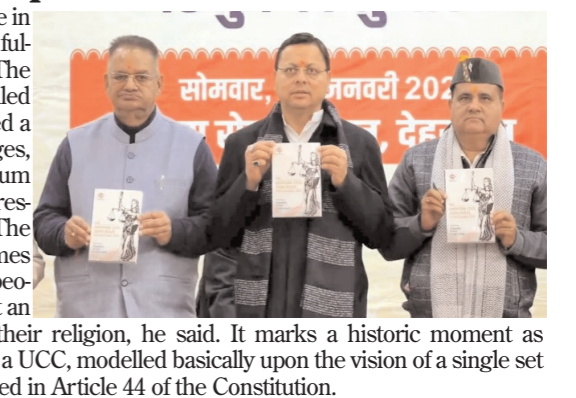


free bus rides and a 50 per cent discount on metro fares. The manifesto further promises Rs 18,000 monthly financial aid to priests and Gurudwara Granthis and the extension of free electricity and water benefits to tenants. Additionally, AAP has committed to improving Delhi's sewage system,

issuing ration cards to those left out of the system, and offering financial support to auto and cab drivers. The party has also promised Rs one lakh for their daughters' weddings and Rs 10 lakh insurance coverage. Resident Welfare Associations (RWAs) will also receive funds to hire security guards and address local safety concerns. Kejriwal emphasised that the AAP's existing free welfare schemes, which provide benefits worth approximately Rs 25,000 per month to Delhi residents, would continue if the party retains power. "The BJP has already made it clear that they will stop all these schemes if they come to power. I want to ask the people of Delhi - will you be able to bear the cost if the BJP stops these benefits?" he asked. The manifesto is being pitched as a reaffirmation of AAP's governance philosophy, which prioritises welfare and infrastructure improvements. With the BJP threatening to disrupt the status quo, the upcoming polls are expected to be a high-stakes battle between the two parties. The results of the elections will be announced on February 8. These elections are being viewed as a referendum on the AAP government's governance model, which has relied heavily on free welfare schemes.

Uttarakhand becomes first state to implement Uniform Civil Code

Dehradun, Jan. 27: Uttarakhand on Monday became the first state in the country to implement the Uniform Civil Code with the ruling BJP fulfilling a major commitment made ahead of the 2022 Assembly polls. The UCC came into force as Chief Minister Pushkar Singh Dhami unveiled its notification, released the rules for its implementation and launched a portal created for the mandatory online registration of marriages, divorce and live-in relationships. The event took place in the auditorium at Dhami's official residence called "Mukhya Sevak Sadan" in the presence of his ministerial colleagues and a host of senior officials. "The UCC, creating equal laws for every citizen across all religions, comes fully into effect at this moment. The credit for it goes entirely to the people of the state," Dhami said at the function. It is an instrument to put an end to all discriminatory practices against women regardless of their religion, he said. It marks a historic moment as Uttarakhand is the first state in independent India to bring into effect a UCC, modelled basically upon the vision of a single set of laws applying to all citizens, regardless of their religion as enshrined in Article 44 of the Constitution.



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Republic Day Parade Tableaux ♦ State Tourism Theme Pavilions ♦ Cultural Programs ♦ Crafts Bazaar
Studio Kitchen ♦ Cuisines of India ♦ Armed Forces Band Performances ♦ DIY (Do It Yourself) Activities ♦ Selfie Points

NEWS BOX

Smooth-coated otter spotted at Anekal lake in Bengaluru

BENGALURU. Birdwatchers and conservationists were surprised to spot a smooth-coated otter swim out of Anekal Lake, on the outskirts of Bengaluru city on Sunday morning.

Cops shot at Karnataka's Honnavar cow slaughter accused in leg in self defence

HONNAVAR. The Honnavar police on Saturday arrested a suspect, Faisal (19), in connection with the incident in which a pregnant cow was brutally slaughtered a week ago.

Ex-submariner's scuba team unfurls tricolour underwater at Rushikonda

VISAKHAPATNAM. On the occasion of the 76th Republic Day, Balam Naidu, an ex-submariner of the Indian Navy and director of Livein Adventures, and a certified scuba instructor, along with his team of four divers — Anand, Satish, Naresh and Raju — took part in a unique and patriotic celebration of India's sovereignty.



celebration underwater. Having served in the Indian Navy, I have a deep connection to the sea, and scuba diving allows me to continue that bond.

Nagari-Tindivanam railway link faces funding hurdles

CHENNAI. Two months ago, Railway Minister Ashwini Vaishnaw informed Parliament that delays in new line projects in Tamil Nadu were primarily due to land acquisition issues.



The railway line will traverse the Cheyyar and Palar rivers, multiple national highways, and four-lane highways. The project includes 20 new stations, including Vellimedupettai, Teller, Vandavasi, Erumai Vetti, and others.

at an estimated cost of ₹231.38 crore. Of the 725.7 hectares needed for the project, 699.37 hectares have already been acquired.

As of December 31, 2024, ₹825 crore has been spent on the project, which has a total estimated cost of ₹3,631.34 crore.

Human faeces in drinking water tank: Dalits in Tamil Nadu's Vengaiyaval vow to continue protest

PUDUKKOTTAI. The protest by Dalit residents of Vengaiyaval continued for the second day on Sunday. Villagers stated the protest will continue until the government orders a CBI investigation into the December 2022 incident.



The CB-CID police filed a final investigation report in court last Monday, accusing three youths from the same village. K Kannadasan, a

resident of the village said, "The report by CB-CID has tarnished our reputation by blaming us for the act which we didn't commit.

audio clips circulating in the media have been manipulated to make it seem as if we are confessing to a crime we did not commit, painting us as culprits.

Even now, our statements regarding police coercion to accept this crime are available in the public domain.

Closed portion of Kamaraj Road in Bengaluru may open by July-end

BENGALURU. The pending portion of Kamaraj Road, from Cubbon Road towards MG Road (near Cauvery Arts and Crafts Junction), is set to open only by July-end.

Andhra Pradesh's Etikoppaka tableau steals the show

The tableau underwent six rigorous selection stages before gracing the Republic Day parade in New Delhi



VIJAYAWADA. At the Republic Day celebrations on Kartavya Path in New Delhi on Sunday, Andhra Pradesh's tableau dazzled spectators with its vibrant depiction of the iconic Etikoppaka toys.

toys are safe for children, even if chewed, and serve as educational tools and decorative items.

underwent six rigorous selection stages before gracing the Republic Day parade. Kiran Kumar, who has designed Andhra Pradesh's national tableaux for 23 years, expressed confidence in its impact.

Telangana's peak power demand to rise to 24K MW by 2030

HYDERABAD. The Central Electricity Authority (CEA) has projected that the peak power demand of the state will increase from 15,623 MW in 2023-24 to 24,215 MW by 2029-30.



Addressing a meeting after unfurling the national flag as part of Republic Day celebrations here on Sunday, he said the power sector achieved tremendous success during the last year and crossed many major milestones like approval of the Telangana Clean and Green Energy Policy.

manufacturing," Sandeep Kumar said. He added that the new RE policy of Telangana had an ambitious target of achieving the capacity addition of 20,000 MW of

renewable energy by 2030. The senior official said all the units of the Yadadri Thermal Power Station (5x800MW) would be commissioned by June 2025.

Breakfast scheme: Preparation to be outsourced, GCC calls bids

CHENNAI. The Greater Chennai Corporation (GCC) has floated three tenders to outsource the meal preparation and distribution for the Chief Minister's Breakfast Scheme.

Currently, women's self-help groups prepare and distribute the food to schools from cluster kitchens including centres like Amma Unavagams.

Any delay or compromise in the quality or quantity in the food supplied will attract fines ranging from Rs 1,000 to Rs 3,000, according to the tender conditions.

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News box

GMDA builds new options to redress public grievances

Gurgaon. Gurugram The Gurugram Metropolitan Development Authority (GMDA) has created multiple options for residents to reach out to the civic agency and get their grievances addressed. Residents can now lodge civic and other complaints using My Gurugram application developed by the authority, and on a whatsapp number. The complaints related to the GMDA and the Municipal Corporation of Gurugram (MCG) are sent to respective departments, and tracked till resolution, said a senior GMDA official requesting anonymity. Complaints to the authority can also be lodged through the IVRS number 18001801817, WhatsApp numbers 9873352224, 7840001817; emailed -- services.gmda@gmail.com, or be shared on the GMDA's social media handles on Facebook -- gmdaauthority, Twitter -- @officialgmda, and Instagram -- @officialgmda.

"The complaints are identified through a ticket number, sent to respective departments and teams and tracked till these are resolved. A separate team has been created for complaint handling and resolution, which tracks and responds immediately to these complaints," said PK Agarwal, head, Smart City division, GMDA. The authority said that they have been improving the complaint handling system since last July, and now they have created a robust and responsive backend. "Residents can send photos, identify issues and problems related to both GMDA and MCG through this system. We will ensure that these issues reach the right authorities and get resolved. The available technology has made it easier to lodge complaints and for us to track these, and solve the problems," said Agarwal. According to authority's official stats, it received 5,575 complaints through email from July 2024 to December 2024, while it received 3,547 complaints on Facebook, 6,055 on "X" and 1,859 complaints via Instagram. This is apart from direct complaints over the phone.

Woman alleges workplace harassment at Noida mall



Noida. A 25-year-old woman working at a Noida mall has filed a police complaint against her male colleague, alleging mental harassment, verbal abuse, and racial slurs, officers said on Sunday. In her complaint to the Sector 39 Women's Police Station, the woman, a Noida resident, has alleged that he routinely harassed her and made derogatory remarks about her appearance, ethnicity, and regional background.

"The complainant has expressed fears for her safety and said the accused made comments questioning her character and repeatedly tried to delay her at work, forcing her to return home late at night," said an officer requesting anonymity. "A probe is underway, and appropriate legal action will be taken to ensure justice and her safety," said Manish Kumar Mishra, ADCP, Noida, adding that a case has been registered under Sections 79 (word, gesture or act intended to insult the modesty of a woman), 351(2) (criminal intimidation) and 352 (intentional insult with intent to provoke breach of peace) of the BNS.

Greater Noida plans to illuminate city gateways

The work will cover five key entry points including the Char Murti Roundabout, Hindon Bridge (Sector 1), and Kulesra, and the Tigr Gate (Chipyana Khurd) and the Eastern Peripheral Expressway



Noida. The Greater Noida authority has decided to enhance the city's entry and exit points through a major beautification project focused on decorative lighting, officials said on Sunday. The work will cover five key entry points including the Char Murti Roundabout, Hindon Bridge (Sector 1), and Kulesra, and the Tigr Gate (Chipyana Khurd) and the Eastern Peripheral Expressway.

"These gates will undergo transformations similar to the prominent gates seen at the Noida-Delhi border and other locations, with each entry point receiving a modern, distinctive design crafted by expert architects and designers," said Prema Singh, additional chief executive officer of the Greater Noida authority. A senior official from the Greater Noida authority said that the project is expected to cost more than ₹10 crore. Officials said that representatives from at least 10 companies have presented ideas and design concepts about the entry and exit points of which three to four concepts have been finalised by the authority. The application deadline for interested companies has been extended to February 4, they added. The authority has already taken steps to spruce up several landmarks and gateways, with decorative lighting being installed at the Surajpur Ghantaghar Chowk. The fountain at the chowk has also been repaired and is now operational.

'Rs 400cr dues not paid': 600 Haryana pvt hospitals set to suspend Ayushman Bharat services

GURGAON. IMA's Haryana unit announced on Sunday that 600 private hospitals across the state will stop treating patients who rely on Centre's Ayushman Bharat scheme from Feb 3 as the govt is yet to clear reimbursements worth Rs 400 crore.

Around 1,300 hospitals in Haryana are empaneled with Ayushman Bharat, and 600 of them are private facilities. Around 1.2 crore people in the state are registered under the scheme, which was introduced by the Narendra Modi-led govt in 2018 to provide free healthcare up to Rs 5 lakh per family in a year. The scheme, which covers anything between routine tests to surgeries, can be availed by families with annual incomes of less



expenses due to delayed payments by the state govt in months.

"It has become impossible to run our hospitals without the necessary funds. The speed of reimbursements is sluggish, and new bills keep accumulating. Our payments should be released

released immediately as it is exceedingly difficult for doctors to operate hospitals without funds. Around Rs 400 crore is pending. These medical bills are already discounted by the hospitals. How will they survive if they do not receive the bare minimum," Dr Jain said.

IMA officials said every empaneled private hospital in Haryana had received just 10-15% of the reimbursement bills raised with the govt. Typically, every hospital raises a request for reimbursement after treating a patient covered under the scheme. The request is made on an online portal and is supposed to be cleared by the state govt, which then reimburses the hospitals.

"It is most unfortunate that even after 15 days, our members have not received any significant amount, and the amounts received have substantial unwarranted deductions," said Dharendra K Soni, secretary of IMA-Haryana.

Asked about the announcement, joint CEO of Ayushman Bharat (Haryana) Ankita Adhikari told it was "not informed" about suspension of services.

"We have already initiated the fund release. We are optimistic that within a week, the issue will be resolved and there will be no requirement for such a drastic step," she said. In Gurgaon, 60 hospitals are empaneled under the scheme, including Park Hospital, Centre For Sight (Gurgaon), Pushpanjali hospital, Muskaan Dentals, Kamla Hospital and others. "We will support IMA and shut

Six-year wait ends, new water station in Gurgaon Sector 72 set to go live this summer

Gurgaon. After six years of delay, the boosting station project in Sector 72 is expected to be ready by this summer. MCG has granted its approval for laying a 650m pipeline needed for launch-

ing the project that originally was planned to be ready in 2019 but due to the Covid pandemic and annual construction bans during winter, the project was delayed. The work on the installation of machinery and equipment started in Feb 2022, but progress stalled due to a 500-meter land parcel, which

wasn't acquired for laying the inlet and outlet pipeline between Chandu Budhera WTP and the boosting station. An alternate route was identified by GMDA for the pipeline along the internal

road near CD School

NAME CHANGE
I, Hitherto known as VEENA alias VEENA KHURANA W/O SUBHASH KHURANA, R/O H.No. G-274, Near Shiv Mandir, Preet Vihar, Shakarpur, East Delhi, Delhi-110092, have changed my name and shall hereafter be known as VEENA KHURANA, for all future purposes.

NAME CHANGE
I, RENU YADAV W/O RAJENDER R/O-115 BHAGAT PANI SURHERA VILLAGE NAJAFGARH DELHI-110043 HAVE CHANGED MY NAME TO RENU.

NAME CHANGE
It is for general information that I, HEERA W/O MAHESH SAHU R/O Plot No.-7, Block-B, Pocket-9, Sector-19, Rohini, Rohini Sector-15, North West Delhi-110089 declare that name of mine and my husband have been wrongly written as HEERA DEVI and MAHESH KUMAR in my minor daughter namely BHARTI aged 14 year in her school record. The actual name of mine and my husband are HEERA and MAHESH SAHU respectively which may be amended accordingly.

NAME CHANGE
I, Nazia Khan W/O Mohd Mubejeb R/O 1662-A Gali Sayyadan, Pahani Bhojla, Chitli Qabar, Delhi 110006 have changed my name to Nazia Khan permanently

NAME CHANGE
I hitherto known as Gulshan alias Renu D/O Bir Singh, W/O Ravi R/O 315, karkardooma gaon, Karkardooma, East Delhi, Delhi -110092, have changed my name and shall hereafter be known as Renu.

NAME CHANGE
I, SURESH KUMAR S/O SHV JI R/O W/16A482 T HUTS HIMSEEP CAMP NO-4 PASCHIM VIHAR JVAJLA PURI WEST DELHI 110067 DECLARE THAT I HAVE CHANGED NAME OF MY SON FROM VANSH TO VANSH KUMAR.

NAME CHANGE
I, RAJEEV KUMAR S/O CHANDRA PRAKASH R/O R Z- C-70/C, Nangli Vihar Extn Part-1 Near Shiv Mandir, Najafgarh, Najafgarh PO, Najafgarh DIST: South West Delhi, Delhi - 110043 have changed the name of my minor son YESH aged 10 years and he shall hereafter be known as YASH

PUBLIC NOTICE
It is for general information that I, Karuna Sagar S/O Raghunath Ram R/O P-3/122, P-3 Block, Mangol Puri, Mangol Puri, N Block, Noida, West Delhi-110083 declare that name of mine, my minor son and my wife have been wrongly written as Karuna Sagar Raghunath Ram, Shivam and Kavita Karuna Sagar Ram in my minor son namely Shivam Gautam aged 16 year in his 10th class educational documents. The actual name of mine, my minor son and my wife are Karuna Sagar, Shivam Gautam and Kavita K Sagar.

NAME CHANGE
I, JC-286573P, Rank-SUB (GNR) Name-RAM MOORAT Presently residing at VILLAGE& POST-HARDOLI, TEHRAJAPUR, PS-RAJAPUR, DISTT-CHITRAKOOT, UTTAR PRADESH-210206, have changed my daughter's name from KUMARI PRIYANKA to PRIYANKA YADAV for all future purposes vide Affidavit dated 27/01/2025 before Notary Public, Delhi.

NAME CHANGE
I, JC-286573P, Rank-SUB (GNR) Name-RAM MOORAT Presently residing at VILLAGE& POST-HARDOLI, TEHRAJAPUR, PS-RAJAPUR, DISTT-CHITRAKOOT, UTTAR PRADESH-210206, have changed my daughter's name from SEEMA to SEEMA YADAV for all future purposes vide Affidavit dated 27/01/2025 before Notary Public, Delhi.

NAME CHANGE
I, JC-286573P, Rank-SUB (GNR) Name-RAM MOORAT Presently residing at VILLAGE& POST-HARDOLI, TEHRAJAPUR, PS-RAJAPUR, DISTT-CHITRAKOOT, UTTAR PRADESH-210206, have changed my wife's name from BHANMATI to BHANMATI YADAV for all future purposes vide Affidavit dated 27/01/2025 before Notary Public, Delhi.

NAME CHANGE
It is for general information that I, KHAZAN SINGH S/O FATEH SINGH R/O Mohalla Mallapura, VTC Kosli (172), PO Kosli, Distt. Rewari, Haryana-123302, declare that name of my daughter has been wrongly written as ARCHANA in my Discharge Book. The actual name of my daughter is ARCHANA KUMARI which may be amended accordingly.

NAME CHANGE
It is for general information that I, KHAZAN SINGH S/O FATEH SINGH R/O Mohalla Mallapura, VTC Kosli (172), PO Kosli, Distt. Rewari, Haryana-123302, declare that name of my daughter has been wrongly written as ARCHANA in my Discharge Book. The actual name of my daughter is ARCHANA KUMARI which may be amended accordingly.

NAME CHANGE
It is for general information that I, KHAZAN SINGH S/O FATEH SINGH R/O Mohalla Mallapura, VTC Kosli (172), PO Kosli, Distt. Rewari, Haryana-123302, declare that name of my daughter has been wrongly written as ARCHANA in my Discharge Book. The actual name of my daughter is ARCHANA KUMARI which may be amended accordingly.

NAME CHANGE
I, Huzefa s/o Mohd Zulfiqar R/O A-10, DDA Colony, New Jafraabad, Delhi-110032. Have change my name to Huzefa Zulfiqar permanently

NAME CHANGE
I, NAZMA W/O NAYEEM AHMED ABBASI residing at HOUSE NO-D-10, SECOND FLOOR, JANGPURA-B, DELHI-110014 have changed my name to NAZMA AHMED ABBASI for all future purpose.

NAME CHANGE
I, NAYEEM AHMED S/O ABDUL AHMED ABBASI residing at HOUSE NO-D-10, SECOND FLOOR, JANGPURA-B, DELHI-110014 have changed my name to NAYEEM AHMED ABBASI for all future purpose.

NAME CHANGE
I, ZUBAIR AHMED S/O NAYEEM AHMED ABBASI residing at HOUSE NO-D-10, SECOND FLOOR, JANGPURA-B, DELHI-110014 have changed my name to ZUBAIR AHMED ABBASI for all future purpose.

NAME CHANGE
I, DARSHNA DEVI Mother of JC-294366X RANK-NBSUB (RST) Name-VIKRAM SINGH Residing at VILL: SHEKHUPUR PALOUTA, PO-RAMGARH, TEHSIL-RAMGARH, DIST-SAMBHA, J&K-181141, have changed my name from DARSHNA DEVI to DARSHNA DEVI for all future purposes vide Affidavit dated 27/01/2025 before Notary Public, Delhi.

Format C-1 (For candidate to publish in Newspapers, TV) Declaration about criminal cases

(As per the judgment dated 25th September, 2018, of the Hon'ble Supreme Court in WP (Civil) no.536 of 2011 (Public Interest Foundation & Ors. Vs. Union Of India & Anr.) Name and address of the candidate : Satpal R/o H.NO. 27 Zalim Mohalla tughlakabad villagae Delhi-36 Name Of the Political party : INDEPENDENT Name of election: DELHI ASSEMBLY ELECTION, 2025 Name of the Constituency: AC-49 SANGAM VIHAR I, Satpal, a candidate for the abovementioned election, declare for public information.

The following details about my criminal antecedents:

Table with columns: Sl. No., Name of Court, Case No. and dated, Status of case(s), Section(s) of Acts concerned and brief description of offence(s). Row 1: SAKET DISTRICT COURT, Case No. 5551/2020 FIR No. 54/2020, ARGUMENT ON CHARGE, FIR No.54/2020 PS GOVIND PURI, Case Titled State v STAPAL @ SATTE, Offence U/S 452,323,34 IPC

Table with columns: Sl. No., Name of Court & dates(s) of order(s), Description of offence(s) & punishment imposed, Maximum punishment imposed. Row 1: NA, NA, NA, NA

*In the case of election to Council of States or election to Legislative Council by MLAs, mention the election concerned in place of Constituency.

NAME CHANGE
I, Hitesh Verma S/O D C Verma R/O E-20, Auryugyan Nagar, Andrewsganj, South Delhi 110049, Have changed the name of my minor daughter Advita aged about 10 years to Advita verma for all future purposes.

PUBLIC NOTICE
NOTICE is hereby given to public at large that my client Smt. Neelam Sharma is the owner of Property area measuring 150 sq. yards, Carved out of Khewat No. 16, Khatoni No. 33 Khasra No. 1626,1627 & 1629, situated at Mauja Faridabad, New Bhud Colony, Tehsil & Distt. Faridabad, Haryana vide Sale deed dated 20.05.2024 as doc no. 1629 and intend to mortgage the said property with Truhome Finance Limited (formally known as Shriram Housing Finance Limited) If any person(s)/Institution has/have any objection(s) or claim(s) with respect to the right, title or interest in the said property please contact us within 07 days from the date of this notice on the address mentioned herein below, failing which my client(s) shall not be held responsible in any manner whatsoever.

PUBLIC NOTICE
NOTICE is hereby given to public at large that my client Mrs. Sumit is the owner of Property/Plot Bearing No.S-1 & S-2, area measuring 91 sq yards i.e.76.08 sq. meters, carved out of Khasra No.917, Situated at Village-Tilgata Karanwa, Pargana & Tehsil-Dadri, District-Gautam Budh Nagar, U.P. vide Sale Deed dated 16.11.2016 as doc No. 17888 and intend to mortgage the said property with Utkarsh Small Finance Bank Limited. If any person(s)/Institution has/have any objection(s) or claim(s) with respect to the right, title or interest in the said property please contact us within 07 days from the date of this notice on the address mentioned herein below, failing which my client(s) shall not be held responsible in any manner whatsoever. Khaitan & Khaitan A-38 Kailash Colony, New Delhi-110048, Contact no.- 49774545

NAME CHANGE
I, No-17004462H Rank-NK (AUTO TECH B VEH) Name-NARENDRA KUMAR Residing at VPO-SIKAN-DIAJAJA KARAN, TEHSIL JUNA, DIST-UNNAO, UTTAR PRADESH-208601 have change my father's name from SONELAL AWASTHI to SONE LAL for all future purposes vide Affidavit dated 25/01/2025 before Notary Public, Delhi.

NAME CHANGE
I, Mohd Razi S/O Mohd Nabi R/ H.No.1564 Dargha Chisti Comp opp Redission BLU Connaught Place New Delhi -110001 HAVE CHANGED NAME TO MOHAMMAD RAZI.

NAME CHANGE
I, BONTU MANGAMMA Wife of No.-15785747M Rank-HA(DMT) Name-RAMBABU RANKURU Presently residing at PEDDA VEEDHI VILL: SEETHADEVIPURAM, PO-MARUVA-DA, VANGARA MANDALAM, DIST-SRIKAKULAM, ANDHRA PRADESH-535657, have changed my name from BONTU MANGAMMA to BANKURU MANGAMMA for all future purposes vide Affidavit dated 27/01/2025 before Notary Public, Delhi.

PUBLIC NOTICE
It is for general information that I, Ankit D/O Vijender Kumar R/O H. No.600,Gali No.-2, Balmini Mohalla, Banker Lane, North West Delhi, Delhi-110040, declare that name of my father and Mother has been wrongly written as Vijender and Kusum in my 10th and 12th class educational documents, the actual name of my father and mother are Vijender Kumar and Kusum Lata

PUBLIC NOTICE
It is hereby informed that, my clients Satyavati Anhal w/o Subhash Chauhan R/O H. No 14 jaslota village new friends colony south delhi delhi-110025with her son shamsher Singh and disowned him from all moveable and immovable assets due to his misconduct and inappropriate behaviour and bad habits and have broken all her relations with him. Anybody dealing with him in present and future shall be liable on their own risk and my clients will not be responsible for any act or deed. Gagan Gupta (Advocate) Chamber No. 535 Saket Courts New Delhi-110017

PUBLIC NOTICE
Declaration about criminal case (As per the judgments dated 25th September, 2018 of Hon'ble Supreme court in WPC (Civil) No.536 of 2011 (Public interest Foundation & Ors Vs Union of India & Anr) Name and address of candidate, JITENDER S/o. Mohan Lal, 378, BLOCK C-3, SULTANPURI, DELHI-110086 Name of political party, Jai Maha Bharath Party Name of Election: GENERAL ELECTION TO DELHI LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF NCT OF DEL 2025 Name of Constituency SULTAN PUR MAJRA I, JITENDER (name of candidate), a candidate for the abovementioned election, declare for public information the following details about my criminal antecedents

Table with columns: Sr. No., Name of Court, Case No. and dated, Status of Case(s), Section Concerned and brief description of offence(s). Row 1: Case Not Yet Registered CENTRAL TIS HAZARI District COURT, 196/2023 PS, Daryaganj, Delhi, Pending Trial, U/S 21/25/29 NDPS ACT. Row 2: ROHINI COURT NO. 112, Ms. Sanya Dalal, 1115/2023 PS, Sultanpuri, Delhi, Pending Trial, U/S 21A, NDPS ACT. Row 3: Case Not Yet Registered ROHINI District COURT, 1320/2020 PS, Sultanpuri, Delhi., Pending Trial, Not Applicable

Table with columns: Sr. NO., Name of Court & dates(s) of order(s), Description of offence (S) & punishment imposed, Maximum Punishment imposed. Row 1: NOT APPLICABLE, NOT APPLICABLE, NOT APPLICABLE

JITENDER

PUBLIC NOTICE
It is for general information that I, Diwari Lal S/O Khimaj, R/O 63, 64 1st FLOOR, BLK P-1, SULTANPURI, Sultampur C Block, North West Delhi, Delhi-110086, declare that name of mine, my wife and my minor son has been wrongly written as Diwari Lal, Sunita and Anjul in my minor son namely Anjul Kumar aged 14 years in his school record. The actual name of mine, my wife and my minor son are Diwari Lal, Sunita Devi and Anjul Kumar, which may be amended accordingly.

NAME CHANGE
I, ANKIT CHAUDHARY S/O BRAJ VEER SINGH R/O MUBARIKPUR MAWANA MEERUT UTTAR PRADESH 250401 declares that I have changed my name from ANKIT CHAUDHRY TO ANKIT CHAUDHARY for all in further purpose.

NAME CHANGE
I, SURESH DEVI W/O PRATAP SINGH R/O H.No.-A-376/1021, Saraswati Gali, Mandawali, Shakar Pur Baramand, Po Shakarpur, Dist East Delhi, Delhi-110092 declare that name of mine has been wrongly written as SURESHO WATI in my husband PPO No. 23295. The actual name of mine is SURESHO DEVI which may be amended accordingly.

NAME CHANGE
I, MOHAMMAD RAFIK Father No 15581460N, Rank-LINK, Name-VAHORA SALMANBHAI Residing at VPO-BHALEJ, TEHSIL-UMRETH, DISTT-ANAND, GUJARAT-382605, have changed my name from MOHAMMAD RAFIK to VAHORA SALMANBHAI Residing at VPO-BHALEJ, TEHSIL-UMRETH, DISTT-ANAND, GUJARAT-382605, for all future purposes vide Affidavit dated 27/01/2025 before Notary Public, Delhi.

NAME CHANGE
I, Mohd Adebek Khan S/o Mohd Mubejeb R/O 1662-A Gali Sayyadan, Pahani Bhojla, Chitli Qabar, Delhi 110006 have changed my name to Adebek Khan permanently

NAME CHANGE
I, POOJA MEWATI W/O PRAMOD KUMAR R/O House no -87, Rama Park Road, Mohan Garden, Gautam Chowk, Uttam Nagar PO: D.K Mohan Garden, Distt: West Delhi, Delhi - 110059 have changed the name of my minor daughter HEZAL MEWATI aged 17 years and she shall hereafter be known as HAZEL MEWATI

NAME CHANGE
I, RENU BALA W/O SANJAY RAJAN R/O HOUSE NO-304, HUDDA PLOT, OPP. PRIVADRSHAN APT., SECTOR-56, GURGAON, HARYANA-122011 HAVE CHANGED MY NAME TO RENU BALA RAJAN FOR ALL FUTURE PURPOSE.

NAME CHANGE
I, Himanshu Rai Singhani S/O Sadhu Singh Raisinghany R/O B-146/B, Near Rajan Gas Service Sector 26 Noida, Gurgaon R/O H.No. 110055, have changed my name to Himanshu Raisinghany for all future purposes.

NAME CHANGE
I, V JARINA BEN, Mother of No 15581460N, Rank-LINK, Name-VAHORA SALMANBHAI Residing at VPO-BHALEJ, TEHSIL-UMRETH, DISTT-ANAND, GUJARAT-382605, have changed my name from V JARINA BEN to ZARINABEN VAHORA for all future purposes vide Affidavit dated 27/01/2025 before Notary Public, Delhi.

NORTHERN RAILWAY
File No. 752-E/Re-engagement/ Retired Staff/CH/2024 Applications are invited from Retired Para Medical Staff upto 09.02.2025 for re-engagement on 04 posts of Dialysis Technician at N Rly Central Hospital, Basant Lane, New Delhi-110055. Detailed advertisement with vacancy status, terms & conditions, format of application form is available on Northern Railway website www.nr.indianrailways.gov.in 28/9/2025 SERVING CUSTOMERS WITH A SMILE

PUBLIC NOTICE
Declaration about criminal case (As per the judgments dated 25th September, 2018 of Hon'ble Supreme court in WPC (Civil) No.536 of 2011 (Public interest Foundation & Ors Vs Union of India & Anr) Name and address of candidate, JITENDER S/o. Mohan Lal, 378, BLOCK C-3, SULTANPURI, DELHI-110086 Name of political party, Jai Maha Bharath Party Name of Election: GENERAL ELECTION TO DELHI LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF NCT OF DEL 2025 Name of Constituency SULTAN PUR MAJRA I, JITENDER (name of candidate), a candidate for the abovementioned election, declare for public information the following details about my criminal antecedents

Table with columns: Sr. No., Name of Court, Case No. and dated, Status of Case(s), Section Concerned and brief description of offence(s). Row 1: Case Not Yet Registered CENTRAL TIS HAZARI District COURT, 196/2023 PS, Daryaganj, Delhi, Pending Trial, U/S 21/25/29 NDPS ACT. Row 2: ROHINI COURT NO. 112, Ms. Sanya Dalal, 1115/2023 PS, Sultanpuri, Delhi, Pending Trial, U/S 21A, NDPS ACT. Row 3: Case Not Yet Registered ROHINI District COURT, 1320/2020 PS, Sultanpuri, Delhi., Pending Trial, Not Applicable

Table with columns: Sr. NO., Name of Court & dates(s) of order(s), Description of offence (S) & punishment imposed, Maximum Punishment imposed. Row 1: NOT APPLICABLE, NOT APPLICABLE, NOT APPLICABLE

JITENDER

NEWS BOX

World marks 80th anniversary of Auschwitz liberation

OSWIECIM. The world marks the 80th anniversary of the liberation of Auschwitz on Monday, with some of the few remaining survivors set to attend ceremonies at the site of the notorious Nazi death camp. Auschwitz was the largest of the extermination camps and has become a symbol of Nazi Germany's genocide of six million European Jews, one million of whom died at the site between 1940 and 1945, along with more than 100,000 non-Jews. On Monday former inmates, along with Polish President Andrzej Duda, are expected to lay flowers at the sprawling camp's Wall of Death in the morning. Around 50 survivors are then expected at a commemoration from 1500 GMT outside the gates of Auschwitz II-Birkenau alongside dozens of leaders, including Britain's King Charles III and French President Emmanuel Macron. German President Frank-Walter Steinmeier and Chancellor Olaf Scholz are both expected, as well as Israeli Education Minister Yoav Kisch. "This year we will focus on the survivors and their message," Auschwitz Museum spokesman Pawel Sawicki told AFP. "There will not be any speeches by politicians." Speaking to AFP ahead of the anniversary, survivors around the world spoke about the need to preserve the memory of what happened when there will no longer be living witnesses. They also warned about rising hatred and anti-Semitism around the world and spoke of their fears about history repeating itself. Organisers said it could be the last major anniversary with such a large group of survivors. "We all know that in 10 years it will not be possible to have a large group for the 90th anniversary," Sawicki said. Organisers said it could be the last major anniversary with such a large group of survivors. "We all know that in 10 years it will not be possible to have a large group for the 90th anniversary," Sawicki said.

700 survivors

Auschwitz was created in 1940 using barracks in Oswiecim, southern Poland. Its name was Germanised into Auschwitz by the Nazis. The first 728 Polish political prisoners arrived on June 14 of that year. On January 17, 1945, as Soviet troops advanced, the SS forced 60,000 emaciated prisoners to walk west in what became known as the "Death March".

US officials conduct raids in gurdwaras in New York, New Jersey to check for illegal immigrants

World. Immigration enforcement officials from the US Department of Homeland Security (DHS) visited gurdwaras in New York and New Jersey on Sunday to check for the presence of "illegal" immigrants, drawing a sharp reaction from some Sikh organisations which see such actions as a threat to the sanctity of their faith. "This action empowers the brave men and women in CBP and ICE to enforce our immigration laws and catch criminal aliens—including murderers and rapists—who have illegally come into our country," a DHS spokesperson said. "Criminals will no longer be able to hide in America's schools and churches to avoid arrest. The Trump administration will not tie the hands of our brave law enforcement, and instead trusts them to use common sense," the spokesperson added. US President Donald Trump's administration has begun targeted action against immigrants seen as "illegal" by the administration.

The Republican administration had retracted the Biden administration guidelines that prevented enforcement actions near areas deemed "sensitive". These included places of worship like gurdwara and churches. Earlier, Vice-president JD Vance refused to rule out the possibility of immigration raids targeting religious buildings and said such measures are "not unique" to immigration. "If you have a person who is convicted of a violent crime, whether they are an illegal immigrant or not, you have to go and get that person to protect the public safety," Vance said.

Bird feathers and bloodstains found in Jeju jet engines: Report

SEOUL. Bird feathers and bloodstains were found in both engines of the Jeju Air plane that crashed in December, killing 179 people, according to a preliminary investigation released Monday.

The Boeing 737-800 was flying from Thailand to Muan in southwest South Korea on December 29, carrying 181 passengers and crew, when it belly-landed and exploded into a fireball after slamming into a concrete barrier. It was the worst aviation disaster on South Korean soil. South Korean and American investigators are still probing the cause of the crash, with a bird strike, faulty landing gear and the runway barrier being examined as possible issues.

Both engines recovered from the crash site were inspected, and bird bloodstains and feathers were "found on each", the report said. "The pilots identified a group of birds while approaching runway 01, and a security camera filmed HL8088 coming close to a group of birds during a go-around," the report added, referring to the jet's registration number. It did not specify whether the engines had stopped working in the moments leading up to the crash.

DNA analysis identified the feathers and blood as coming from Baikal teals, migratory birds which fly to Korea in winter from their breeding grounds in Siberia. The report also confirmed that both the cockpit voice recorder and flight data recorder had stopped working four minutes before the disaster, leaving a gap in the data. It did not suggest a cause for the malfunction. The captain had over 6,800 flight hours, while the first officer had 1,650 hours, the report said. Both were killed in the crash, which was survived only by two flight attendants.

Trump's celebration of American greatness puts a spotlight on a little-known panel of experts

World Within hours of taking office, President Donald Trump outlined in one of his many executive orders a mission to celebrate American greatness and to recognize those who have made contributions throughout history. He jumpstarted the effort by ordering the name of North America's tallest peak to be changed from Denali back to Mount McKinley in honor of the nation's 25th president, William McKinley. He also called on the US Interior Department to work with Alaska Natives and others to adopt names for other landmarks that would honor their history and culture.

The US Board on Geographic Names will play a role. The little known panel made up of officials from several federal agencies has been in existence since 1890.

How did the board get its start?

As more settlers and prospectors headed west following the American Civil War, it became apparent the federal government needed some kind of consistency for referencing landmarks on maps and in

official documents. In comes President Benjamin Harrison. He issued an executive order establishing the board in hopes of resolving some of the confusion. President Theodore Roosevelt took it further in 1906, making the board responsible for standardizing geographic names for use across the federal government. That included changing names for some spots and identifying unnamed features. It was President Franklin Roosevelt who dissolved the board in 1934, opting instead to transfer duties to the Interior Department. After World War II, Congress changed course and reestablished the panel. The board under the Trump administration will have new members, but the makeup will be the same with representatives from several agencies ranging from the Interior and Commerce departments to the Post Office and the Library of Congress. Even the CIA plays a role when the board considers place names beyond US borders. The members are appointed for two-year terms by the



respective heads of the agencies they represent. The committee that deals with names on US soil meets monthly.

What's in a name?

The board is quite aware of the importance of a name, noting in its guiding principles, policies and procedures that the names of geographic features throughout the US reflect the nation's history and its changing face. The board points out that names of Native American origin are found

sprinkled throughout the land and there are traces of the languages spoken by early explorers. "It is in these ways and many others that geographic naming gives us a clear, exciting profile of the United States that is unmatched in any other medium," the board states. In the case of Mount McKinley, original inhabitants had unique names for the mountain long before prospectors showed up. For the Koyukon Athabaskans, it's always been "deenaalee," roughly translated as "the high one."

Despite never having visited Alaska, McKinley's name became attached to the mountain in 1896, labeled by a gold prospector after the Republican was nominated as a presidential candidate. McKinley, who signed legislation in 1900 making gold the sole standard for US currency, was assassinated just six months into his second term and the name Mount McKinley stuck.

LPG tanker explodes in Pakistan, killing six people

LAHORE. A tanker filled with liquefied petroleum gas exploded in an industrial area in Pakistan's Punjab province, killing at least six people, including a minor girl, and injuring 31, authorities said on Monday. The incident took place at the Industrial Estate in Multan's Hamid Pur Kanora area, according to rescue authorities.

The explosion in the LPG tanker that occurred on Monday triggered a massive fire, with debris from the shattered vehicle landing on nearby residential areas, causing significant destruction, Geo News reported.

Rescue officials said that the fire was extinguished after hours of effort, involving over ten firefighting vehicles and foam-based fire suppression. A total of five people were initially reported to have lost their lives in the deadly blast. However, the death toll rose to six after rescue officials recovered another body from a house damaged by the explosion. The deceased include a minor girl and two women, the report added. The police reported that at least 20 houses surrounding the explosion site were

completely reduced to rubble, while 70 were partially damaged.

Multan's City Police Officer (CPO) Sadiq Ali told Geo News that several houses were destroyed, and livestock perished in the blaze. He said that gas had been leaking from one of the valves



of the tanker truck parked in the Industrial Estate. Some of the people present in the area had already evacuated after smelling the gas before the tanker exploded, he added. Ali further stated that gas leakage from the tanker persists, prompting authorities to evacuate the area. Among the injured, 13 are reported to be in critical

condition. The District Emergency Officer confirmed that an emergency hospital has been declared at Nishtar Hospital, where the injured are receiving treatment. Search operations are ongoing in the adjacent localities to ensure safety. Electricity and gas supply in the area has been suspended as a precautionary measure, though Multan-Muzaffargarh Road has now been reopened for traffic.

Meanwhile, locals have been advised to stay away from the site of the blast as the gas from the exploded tanker is in the air. Later, the police revealed that the location of the incident was identified as an illegal LPG refilling warehouse and the explosion occurred during refilling operations. They said the LPG was being transferred from a large gas bowser to smaller bowzers and commercial cylinders at the site. The police further stated that the large gas bowser allegedly carried smuggled LPG. Five small and large gas bowzers present in the warehouse were destroyed in the explosion, they added.

Displaced Palestinians start returning to north Gaza for the first time in over a year as truce holds

GAZA. Israel on Monday began allowing Palestinians to return to the heavily destroyed north of the Gaza Strip for the first time since the early weeks of the 15-month war, in accordance with a fragile ceasefire. Thousands of Palestinians headed north after waiting for days to cross. Journalists saw people crossing the so-called Netzarim corridor shortly after 7 a.m. when the checkpoints were scheduled to open. The passage of displaced Palestinians has begun along the Al-Rashid Road via the western part of the Netzarim checkpoint towards Gaza City and the northern part of the Gaza Strip, an official at the territory's Hamas-run Interior Ministry confirmed. The opening was delayed for two days over a dispute between Hamas and Israel, which said the militant group had changed the order of the hostages it released in exchange for hundreds of Palestinian prisoners. Mediators resolved the dispute overnight. Israel ordered the wholesale evacuation of the north in the opening days of the war and sealed it off shortly after ground troops moved in. Around a

million people fled to the south in October 2023 and have not been allowed to return. Hundreds of thousands remained in the north, which had some of the heaviest fighting and the worst destruction of the war. Israel had delayed the opening of the crossing,



which was supposed to happen over the weekend, saying it would not allow Palestinians north until a female civilian hostage, Arbel Yehoud, was released. It also accused Hamas of failing to provide information on whether the remaining hostages set to be freed in the first phase are alive or dead. Hamas in turn accused Israel of violating the agreement by not opening

the crossing. The Gulf nation of Qatar, a key mediator with Hamas, announced early Monday that an agreement had been reached to release Yehoud along with two other hostages before Friday.

Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu said in a statement that the hostage release — which will include female soldier Agam Berger — will take place on Thursday. That release will be in addition to the one already set for next Saturday, when three hostages should be released. Hamas also handed over a list of required information about the hostages to be released in the ceasefire's six-week first phase. A second and more difficult phase awaits. Under the first phase of the ceasefire, which runs until early March, Hamas is to free a total of 33 hostages in exchange for the release of nearly 2,000 Palestinians imprisoned by Israel. The militants have released seven hostages, including four female soldiers, in the current ceasefire, in exchange for more than 300 prisoners, including many serving life sentences for deadly attacks on Israelis.

Rwanda-backed M23 rebels claim Goma, Congo calls it a 'declaration of war'

GOMA. Rwanda-backed rebels claimed they captured eastern Congo's largest city, Goma, early Monday, as the United Nations described a "mass panic" among its 2 million people and Congo's government said the rebel advance was a "declaration of war." The M23 rebels announced the city's capture in a statement minutes before a 48-hour deadline expired that had been imposed by the group for the Congolese army to surrender their weapons. Early Monday morning, gunfire was heard throughout the city, according to two aid workers sheltering there who were not authorized to speak to the media.

In a statement, the rebels urged residents of Goma to remain calm and for members of the Congolese military to assemble at the central stadium. The M23 rebels' offensive in the heart of the mineral-rich region threatens to dramatically worsen one of Africa's longest wars and further displace civilians. According to a United Nations report, over a third of the population of North Kivu province where Goma is located are currently displaced and the

capture of Goma will likely exacerbate the situation. Late Sunday night, UN peacekeepers began to process members of the military who had begun to surrender on the outskirts of the city. Congolese government spokesman Patrick Muyaya made a statement in a video posted on X calling for the protection of civilians and saying that the country is "in a war situation where the news is changing." Late Sunday, the U.N.'s special representative for Congo told an emergency meeting of the U.N. Security Council that with the airport shut down and roads blocked in the vast region's humanitarian and security hub, "we are trapped." Congo late Saturday broke off relations with Rwanda, which has denied backing the M23 despite evidence collected by U.N. experts and others. The surge of violence has killed at least 13 peacekeepers over the past week. And Congolese were again on the run. The M23 has made significant territorial gains along Congo's border with Rwanda in recent weeks, after months of regional attempts to make peace failed. On Sunday night, the



rebels called on Congo's army to surrender their arms and present themselves at a local stadium by 3 a.m. or they would take the city. The Uruguayan army, who are in Goma serving with the U.N. peacekeeping mission, said in a statement on X late Sunday that some Congolese soldiers have laid down their weapons. "More than a hundred FARDC soldiers are sheltered in the facilities of the 'Simpere Presente' base awaiting the (Disarmament, Demobilization and Reintegration) process," the statement said. In photos shared with the statement, armed men are

seen registering with the peacekeepers in a mix of military uniforms and civilian clothing. The U.N. special representative, Bintou Keita, told the Security Council that despite U.N. peacekeepers' support for the Congolese armed forces, M23 and Rwandan forces entered the Munigi neighborhood on Goma's outskirts, "causing mass panic." Munigi is 9 kilometers (5 miles) from the city. Keita said M23 fighters were advancing and using residents "as human shields" as others fled for their lives. "M23 has declared the airspace over Goma closed," she added. "In other words, we are trapped." She said the U.N. was temporarily relocating nonessential personnel from the city. Congo's foreign minister, Thérèse Kayikwamba Wagner, told the Security Council that Rwanda was committing "a frontal aggression, a declaration of war which no longer hides itself behind diplomatic maneuvers." Rwanda's ambassador to the U.N., Ernest Rwamucyo, did not confirm or deny Congo's claims.

NEWS BOX

Tricolour unfurled at govt offices in Chennai

CHENNAI. Various state and central government department offices in the city unfurled the national flag on Republic Day on Sunday. At the Ripon building, Mayor R Priya unfurled the national flag and handed over 1,320 modern digital wireless walkie-talkies worth Rs 9.93 crore to corporation officials including the GCC commissioner J Kumaragurubaran. He may also presented appreciation letters to the highest and prompt property taxpayers in the city. Around 140 civic body staff were awarded certificates and medals for their exemplary service, while health officials received recognition for their contributions to family welfare schemes. Speaking after unfurling the National Flag and inspecting the Guard of Honour, Paliwal said Chennai Port has registered an overall growth of 5.5%, and 12.5% increase in container handling for the period April to December 2024 when compared to the corresponding period of the previous year. Kamarajar Port Limited MD JP Irene Cynthia said the port has handled 35.33 million tonnes of cargo (April-December 2024), a 5.63% growth from 33.44 MT in the same period last year. Income Tax chief commissioner (TDS) Rajasekhar Reddy Lakkadi unfurled the National Flag at the Income Tax office campus here and said that Tamil Nadu and Puducherry region has been ranked the fourth largest contributor to the nation's direct tax collections and during this financial year the target is '1.38 thousand crore, which accounts for 6.2% of the national target. He added that in the current financial year, the Income Tax department has issued '21,000 crore as tax refunds, which is 20% more than previous years.

Three arrested in 12 shutter lifting cases in Hyderabad

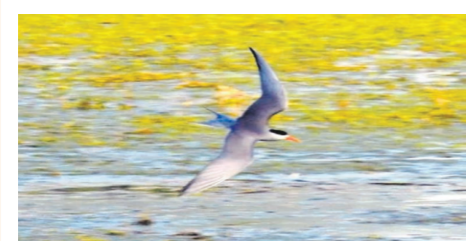
HYDERABAD. Hyderabad police on Sunday apprehended three persons, including a juvenile allegedly involved in 12 shutter lifting cases in the city. A sharp-edged weapon, shutter-lifting rods, and a cell phone were seized from the accused. The two main accused were identified as Junior Rajender Singh (38), a resident of Nizamabad, and Banda Singh, a native of Banswada. According to the police, they have a previous history of shutter lifting and other property crimes. A total of 23 cases have been filed against Junior Rajender Singh across the state in Cyberabad, Karimnagar, Medak, Rangareddy,



Sangareddy, Secunderabad, and Hyderabad. The police said that the stolen items have not been recovered as the offenders are yet to reveal the hiding place. A special team has been formed to track the progress of the case. The modus operandi of the accused includes identifying locked shutters on main roads and breaking the shutter lock open by using specialised rods and other equipment, said police.

Endangered bird seen in Kawal Tiger Reserve

ADILABAD. An endangered bird, black-bellied tern, was spotted flying in Kawal Tiger Reserve during a routine avian survey in Jannaram division. The International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN) has classified the species as endangered on the Red List. The black-bellied tern (*Sterna acuticauda*) is a small bird yet a striking member of the tern family, primarily distributed across the Indian subcontinent. Though its population has witnessed a significant decline in recent decades, the bird's range extends from Pakistan, Nepal and India to Myanmar. Globally there are only 800 to 1,600 black-bellied terns left, highlighting the need to protect and conserve the species. It thrives in freshwater habitats, including large rivers, lakes and



wetlands, which are increasingly under threat due to human-induced disturbances and climate change. North Telangana coordinator of the Hyderabad Conservation Society Venkat Angandhula told that the bird was spotted near the Kistapur lake in Jannaram forest division. "Closer observation through binoculars confirmed it to be a black-bellied tern, primarily identified by its darker belly and distinctive flight pattern," he said.

Maha Kumbh mela boosts air travel demand: Special flights, skyrocketing fares; all you need to know

MUMBAI. February is typically considered a lean period for air travel, but this year, a planetary alignment has made it a season of high yields for the four domestic carriers that have launched special flights to transport pilgrims for the Maha Kumbh Mela in Prayagraj.

The ongoing mela, which attracts millions of pilgrims and visitors from around the world, has skewed the demand-supply dynamics to such an extent that the cheapest fare for a round-trip weekend visit on February 15-16 non-stop flights from Bengaluru and Kolkata to Prayagraj was priced at Rs 58,000 on Saturday. From Mumbai, the return fares began at Rs 42,000, while the geographically closer Delhi offered the best bet, with return fares starting at Rs 31,000. However, booking for travel during a weekend in March—Maha Kumbh ends on February 26—reveals that fares have dropped to Rs 14,000 for a return ticket from Mumbai and Rs 18,000 for a return from Bengaluru. Weekday travel for February is cheaper.

For instance, a return trip from Bengaluru for February 18-20 is priced at Rs 38,000. However, prices spike when dates with



religious significance fall on weekdays, such as February 3, 12, and 26. Four airlines—Air India, IndiGo, SpiceJet, and Akasa Air—are operating special flights for the mela.

Travel portal Skyscanner said its data showed peak travel demand for January 28, indicating a higher interest due to the Second Shahi Snan (royal bath). "January 28 recorded a staggering 675% increase in booking volume compared to a typical day. Compared to the same time last year, when no event was held in Prayagraj, the volume of bookings surged by 1,776%," it stated.

The top five international cities that searched for travel to Prayagraj around these dates were Dubai, London, Abu Dhabi, Singapore,

and Doha, it added. The data also revealed significant week-on-week growth (January 20 week compared to January 13 week) in searches for travel in February for routes such as Hyderabad-Prayagraj (2,815%), Pune-Prayagraj (1,345%), and Prayagraj-Mumbai (870%).

Later in the evening, the Directorate General of Civil Aviation (DGCA) tweeted that it had approved 81 additional flights in January to meet increased demand for air travel to Prayagraj during the Maha Kumbh.

That raised Prayagraj connectivity to 132 flights from across India, the regulator said.

The move came after the DGCA held a meeting with airlines on January 23 and urged them to further increase capacity by adding flights and rationalising fares. Domestic passenger traffic in India has been on the rise in the past three years, following a decline during the Covid pandemic.

Last year, domestic airlines transported 1,613.31 lakh passengers from January to December 2024, compared to 1,520.32 lakh passengers during the corresponding period of the previous year, thereby registering an annual growth of 6.12% and monthly growth of 8.19%.

Maharashtra traffic cop seen hitting people with lathi on NH-48

VASAI. A Traffic cop from Virar traffic division of the Mira Bhayandar Vasai Virar (MBVV) commissionerate was seen assaulting people on Friday morning around 10:30. He was recorded while hitting a couple of people with his lathi. The location of this video was said to be near Khaniwade Toll Plaza on the Mumbai Ahmedabad National Highway (NH48).

Later it was confirmed by the Virar traffic branch that their constable was involved in a scuffle with a tour bus driver and its cleaner/assistant. On Friday morning there was a terrible traffic jam on the national highway in Virar, around the Khaniwade toll plaza.

The moment there is traffic, vehicles start moving on the wrong side for faster travel. This bus (mp 44 zc 6688) which had come from Gujarat end, was moving towards

Mumbai in the wrong side direction, meaning, on the palghar bound lane, along with several other vehicles, which created additional traffic as the bus was too big to be on the wrong side. "The bus driver and his assistant had a scuffle with our traffic cop during which they allegedly assaulted him", confirmed Virar traffic senior police inspector Mahesh Shetye.

Post this, to make sure the situation doesn't escalate the traffic cop, identified as Dnyaneshwar Maruti Ghuge, used his lathi, he added. He also confirmed that the bus driver and his assistant were told to move his bus to the Mumbai bound lane, to which they refused and hence the argument started. We are investigating this matter and shall soon report the findings to our seniors,



confirmed Shetye. In the video the traffic cop was also seen hurling abuses and using his lathi with full force, but the people who were hit are yet to be identified.

Telangana Grameena bankers protest in front of defaulter's house

JANGAON. Staff members of the Telangana Grameena Bank staged a novel Vanta Varpu (cooking on roads) protest in front of a defaulter's residence for not repaying the loan amount. The incident occurred in Pedda tandra in Devarupula mandal on Thursday and came to light after videos surfaced on social media platforms on Sunday.

It is reported that the bank provided a Rs 61,000 loan to a woman named G Lakshmi. However, she did not repay the instalments to the bank for the last 10 months, prompting the bank officials to stage the protest in front of her residence. Sources said that Lakshmi, as a member of Thara Mahila Sangham, was given a share of Rs 61,000



from the total loan of Rs 6,10,000 acquired by the group. Upon learning that the bank staff had staged a Vanta Varpu, the villagers rushed to Lakshmi's residence and gave Rs 10,000 to her to pay the bank. The bank staff was convinced and left after demanding she clear the remaining instalments.

14 sub-registrars logged out by Stamps and Registration Dept in Karnataka

BENGALURU. For the past three weeks, a bizarre situation has unfolded across 10 sub-registrar offices in Bengaluru and one in Mangaluru. Fourteen sub-registrars from the Stamps and Registration Department report to work daily, only to sit the entire day idle before returning home. The reason—despite a High Court order cancelling their transfers and ordering their reinstatement, the department refuses to give them login access to their systems, leaving them without any work.

These officials continue to report to duty at their offices at Kengeri, Gandhi Nagar, Indiranagar, Banashankari, Srirampura, Byatarayanapura, Srirampura, Jigni, Devanahalli and Basavanagudi in Bengaluru, and one in Mangaluru. Highly-placed department sources conceded that this situation has been going on for quite some time. "The affected sub-registrars also repeatedly visit the head office at Kandaya Bhavan requesting their reinstatement. There are two sub-registrars for each post now with just one of them working. However, public work has not been impacted as those transferred in their place from different districts are carrying out their duties," he



said. "Though the posts of those transferred from the district remain vacant as these 14 people have not joined their new places, clerical staff like the Second Division Assistant and First Division Assistant have taken over the duties of the sub-registrar in these districts," the sources explained. Speaking on behalf of the impacted officers, a sub-registrar told "The department is completely misinterpreting orders of the high court. Twenty four of us were transferred out of Bengaluru to different districts on December 10, 2024. While ten of us opted to move out and joined the new postings, 13 of us spread across different offices in the city and one in Mangaluru are unable to leave and shift suddenly as numerous arrangements

need to be made for our families. We filed a petition in the high court and the court has issued an interim order staying our transfers." The court on December 16 ordered those transferred out of Bengaluru be reinstated. "However, the department has not done so.

Meanwhile, sub-registrars from other districts, including offices in Jewargi, Channarayapatna, Haveri

and Srirangapatna, have been posted here and they have joined duty too. They are doing our work. We approached the HC again and on December 21 and 23 last year, it pulled up the Inspector General of Registration and Commissioner of Stamps, KA Dayananda, and told him he was indulging in contempt of court. On January 15, the HC asked him why we were denied login access and we be allowed to work. He sought two days to submit a report.

It has been eight days and nothing has happened," he explained. The Inspector General did not respond to multiple calls in this connection. The High Court, meanwhile, will have another hearing on Friday over the issue.

Tricolour flag falls from tallest pole in Karnataka's Hosapete, probe ordered

The flag fell as the cables attached to it and operated with a remote control snapped midway.

HOSAPETE. The Tricolour fell off the country's tallest flagpole at Hosapete, the headquarters of Vijayanagara district, during the Republic Day celebrations on

Sunday. The problem occurred because of lack of maintenance of the 405 ft flagpole and district incharge minister Zameer Ahmad Khan ordered a probe and instructed the deputy commissioner to submit a report within two days.

The flag fell as the cables attached to it and operated with a remote control snapped midway. Also, the flagpole had not been tested before the flag was hoisted on the important day. A technical team rushed to the spot and investigated why the flag malfunctioned.

The flag has not been hoisted on the flagpole over the last few months and it was not in



regular use and that might have caused the problem. The video of the malfunctioning flag went viral on social media

sites. Zameer Ahmad, who is also the housing minister, said it is unfortunate that the national flag malfunctioned on Republic Day.

"It made me personally unhappy about the flagpole management. I have told officials concerned to conduct an inquiry and submit the report to the deputy commissioner.

As a district incharge minister, I had hoisted the flag at Puneeth Rajkumar ground. Never such an incident has occurred. Once the report is submitted, necessary action will be taken against officials responsible," he added.

Closed portion of Kamaraj Road in Bengaluru may open by July-end

BENGALURU. The pending portion of Kamaraj Road, from Cubbon Road towards MG Road (near Cauvery Arts and Crafts Junction), is set to open only by July-end. Though the original deadline was April 2024, it has been put off several times due to the delay in arrival of equipment from abroad and technical delays on the part of the BMRCL. Meanwhile, the 220-metre stretch opened last year (June 14) in the reverse direction has helped ease traffic considerably in this area and



surrounding places, said the police. The road was closed for the construction of MG Road underground Metro station that is on the Gottigere-Kalena Agrahara line (Pink Line). The MG Road Metro station will have an integration of the Pink Line with the Purple Line, bringing citizens from remote corners of the city to the Central Business District (CBD). Anitha B Haddannavar, Deputy Commissioner of Police, Traffic West, told TNIE, "The opening of traffic from MG Road towards Cubbon Road has caused a significant reduction in traffic on MG Road and near Anil Kumble Circle, which used to be congested. It helped manage traffic during the recent New Year eve rush too."

Opening it both ways will further help relieve traffic congestion, she said and added that it might take six more months. Multiple BMRCL officials said that the equipment awaited from European countries to carry out multiple works at the station suffered a delay in reaching the contractors of BMRCL. "They have just arrived and these equipment will be lowered 62 feet down in the ground by a vertical shaft to create crucial infrastructure at the underground station," said a senior Metro official.

In memory of our Amrita, the legend

Hungary and India have two common icons. First, someone who is noted in academic circles though somewhat little known outside: the scholar Korosi Csoma Sandor, better known as Csoma de Koros. His connection with the Himalaya was strong and intimate. He travelled and lived in Ladakh and was perhaps the first European to visit and write about Zaskar. In 1827, he moved to the secluded monastic village of Kanum, in today's district of Kinnaur, where he lived for more than three years. A tradition, though unverifiable, maintains that while going through the ancient manuscripts at Kanum, his hands would freeze in winter's bitter cold and often had to be prised open. Among his many accomplishments was the first Tibetan-English dictionary. The second person is someone many of us know about: Amrita Sher-Gil, whose Hungarian mother, Marie Antoinette Gottesmann, was an opera singer. The father was Umraro Singh Sher-Gil of Majitha — who apart from an aristocratic lineage, was one of the pioneers of photography in India, especially portraits.

We all like our little place in the sun. Even if this comes from an all-too distant and a rather wobbly hook to hang one's claim to fame. For the moment, it comes from the flimsy fact that the venerable Amrita Sher-Gil and I share the same date of birth, in late January. That priceless nugget was pointed out a couple of years back when the Liszt Institute of the Hungarian Embassy to India was holding a celebration of the artist's work. During the course of conversation with the institute's director, one learnt that they did not have access to an absolutely wonderful copy of the long-gone art magazine, The Usha. In undivided Punjab, this was published by the Panjab Literary League from Lahore. Brilliant, but short-lived, the magazine was edited by HL Prasher and DR Chaudhri. The issue of August 1942 was devoted to the remarkable Amrita Sher-Gil who, in her short life, was to impact the art of India and even overhaul some of it. As I have the treasure, one was only too happy to make a copy and send it to the institute, which I'm sure must have put it to better use than it loitering on my bookshelves. On December 5, 1942, Amrita passed away at the age of 28. Barely three days before this, she and one of the editors of The Usha, HL Prasher, had met. She was full of laughter and 'was talking merrily'. She discussed her forthcoming exhibition. Someone suggested that if she really wanted to enjoy the remarks made by visitors to her exhibitions, she should come in disguise and remain incognito. Amrita liked the idea, but the problem was: "What disguise should she choose?" Prasher, tongue in cheek, suggested that she should come dressed as a young Sikh, complete with a turban, moustache and a beard. A pair of spectacles could be thrown in for good measure. That did not happen.

Amrita's parents were in Shimla when a telegram arrived saying that their daughter was very ill. Umraro Singh and Antoinette rushed up to the Summer Hill post office, which was a bare couple of hundred yards from their house, and set up a trunk call to Lahore. At night, another telegram was delivered saying that Amrita had passed away. A heartbroken Umraro Singh Sher-Gil wrote on the death of his daughter: "During those 10 days (after Amrita's death), I often gazed on a watercolour miniature of the Kangra School which Amrita had left on the mantelpiece. It represented a young woman, walking gaily with head averted, oblivious of two deadly snakes lying right in the pathway in front of her. It seemed to me that it symbolised the last phase of her own life in coming to Lahore with buoyant hopes, not aware of death which lurked for her there." After completing the first draft of this piece, one put it aside and started looking for something more on The Usha. Instead, one ended up going down one of the Internet's wormholes to arrive at a crater on the planet Mercury. In 2016, the International Astronomical Union named it in honour of Amrita Sher-Gil. This piece of information led to a revision of what one had written and then, one could not but help continuing along a road that had found a bifurcation. Whenever I am in Delhi, among the few things one tries to do, is visit the National Museum of Modern Art.

Better to jaw-jaw than to war-war

THE GREAT GAME: The bigger message to everyone is that Naya America has no problems talking to anyone

IN the merry-go-round world of global politics, here's how the cookie is crumbling this week. US President Donald Trump has told Fox News that he spoke to Chinese President Xi Jinping last week, just before his inaugural, on "TikTok, trade and Taiwan" and that the conversation was friendly. Now we know that Trump had invited Xi to his inaugural too, but Xi sent Vice-President Han Zheng instead. Moreover, Trump has since both called off his proposed ban on TikTok as well as his campaign harrumph on imposing tariffs (as high as 60 per cent) on China. We also know that Indian officials in the embassy in Washington DC had requested the Trump transition team, on the eve of the inaugural, for an invite for Prime Minister Modi to attend. But Trump's men remonstrated, saying there was too much happening and not enough time — some such excuse. Instead, they gave External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar a front-row seat to all the goings-on that afternoon. (No one knows where Han Zheng sat.) The Americans, keenly aware that perception is half of any foreign policy success, also organised a Quad meeting the day after — it sent a message to the Chinese that you may be snapping at our heels, but hey, we have India, Australia and Japan in our pack.

The bigger message to everyone, especially India, is that Naya America has no problems talking to anyone — it's enough to look around you and notice how nations are changing friends faster than the flow of the Ganga at the Maha Kumbh. One month ago, Trump was threatening hell or high water with Xi — he is now purring like a Siamese cat. And earlier this week, a team from Pakistan's ISI establishment flew to Bangladesh, for the first time since 2009 — mere days after a Bangladeshi military delegation led by Lt Gen SM Kamrul Hassan, the Principal Staff Officer of the Armed Forces Division, flew to Islamabad. In the middle of this churning, the only bond that has remained steadfast is the one that both sides define as being "higher than the mountains, deeper than the seas and sweeter than honey" — the one between Pakistan and China. So dear Reader, as you watch the earth turn on its axis, watch also the shrivelling of old allegiances and the thrill that comes with building new ones. In Punjab, you cast off the old and the unwanted at Lohri, because at Makar Sankranti, when the month of Magh unveils itself, a new world awaits. See what Magh has heralded for

the world so far: New friendships between the US and China, an underlining of old ties between China and Pakistan as well as an unusual intimacy between Pakistan and Bangladesh — they were part of one country, after all, once upon a time, until the world shifted in 1971 and a new nation was born. Now the world is shifting again. It's clear that the ISI is in charge of Bangladesh. Chief Adviser Muhammad Yunus has turned out to be a 'mukhauta' who has played his role as saviour to the hilt — it doesn't matter if and when he moves on, Pakistan has won the latest round in the great game unfolding once again in South Asia. India may be on the back foot in

That's a good thing. Much better to jaw-jaw than to war-war, especially if you consider the enormous military disparity between India and China. So while the agreement allows Indian troops to return to patrolling areas they could not since April 2020, it is still unclear where the buffer zones lie and whether both sides are returning to a pre-April 2020 position. Meanwhile, it's a good thing too that PM Modi is seeking an early meeting with Trump — he will understand the extent of the US-China tango that is currently unfolding, with Elon Musk in attendance as Chief Liaison Officer. Clearly both Trump and Musk want to rebalance the highly unequal trade that



is currently in China's favour, but they have no problem talking to the enemy. It's what Putin is also currently doing — circling, fencing, jousting with Trump. Let's talk, he's saying, what is it exactly that you want? Even as Putin rained destruction on his blood brothers in Ukraine these last two years, it is clear he has prepared for a conversation with Joe Biden's successor. The problem with New Delhi is that it allows emotion to come in the way of the games big nations play. Unlike Trump and Putin and Xi — who are always willing to negotiate with their enemies because the first rule of thumb in all politics is to keep your friends close and your enemies closer — PM Modi won't talk to

Bangladesh — which is why it's a good thing it is standing by its old friend, Sheikh Hasina. And since the ISI is back in Dhaka, you can bet your last taka that the attempt to destabilise India's North-east will be the new game in town. Remember, dear Reader, that Manipur continues to burn, after almost two years, that Assam is sitting on a powder-keg, that Mizoram is so unsettled — that Bangladesh is next door. So as Foreign Secretary Vikram Misri flies to Beijing on Republic Day — and the symbolism on that one will wait to be explained another day — the fact remains that the recent Modi-Xi embrace in Kazan, Russia, no doubt brokered by Russian President Vladimir Putin, allowed both India and China to return a series of conversations on their long-standing territorial dispute.

Pakistan for a number of reasons. Cross-border terrorism, anyone? But then again the news is that Delhi is unhappy with Nepal PM KP Oli because he dared to first travel to Beijing instead of coming to Delhi, and so an Oli visit to Delhi is being forever postponed. It's another matter that the prime benefactors of both Pakistan and Nepal are China — so the mystifying question, why is India punishing the peoples of these countries even if it doesn't agree with their governments? Ever wondered what prevents this incredibly diverse, ancient nation that has always followed its own rhythms from achieving greatness? In this month of Magh, the answers beckon, you just have to know where to look for them.

Dog bite crisis

Punjab needs proactive steps, not band-aids

Punjab's stray dog crisis is spiralling out of control, with over two lakh dog bite cases reported in 2024. Ludhiana, Patiala and Mohali are leading the pack, with Mohali alone recording 16,047 cases. Yet, despite the alarming statistics and public outcry, Punjab is dragging its feet on providing financial compensation to victims, as mandated by the Punjab and Haryana High Court.

The tragic mauling of a nine-year-old boy in Nabha is a grim reminder of the growing menace. The problem is rooted in unregulated garbage dumps and sites like "hadda rodi", where animal remains are carelessly discarded, creating a haven for feral dogs. Urban eateries dumping bones and meat waste add fuel to the fire, making the problem even worse. The authorities appear more reactive than proactive. While the Nabha SDM has



ordered vaccinations and awaits reports, this piecemeal approach won't solve a crisis of this magnitude. Punjab needs a comprehensive action plan involving sterilisation

drives, waste management reforms and education campaigns. Without this, incidents like Nabha will only multiply.

Adding insult to injury, the state has failed to honour the high court's directive to compensate victims adequately — Rs 10,000 per tooth mark and Rs 20,000 for severe wounds. For victims, this lapse is a double blow: suffering both physical trauma and bureaucratic indifference. The State Rabies Control Programme offers free vaccines, but lax enforcement of vaccination schedules could worsen health outcomes. As rising numbers of canine fury point to a silent emergency of epidemic proportions, Punjab must act decisively. It must collaborate with municipal bodies, health authorities and animal welfare groups to make cities safer for people and animals alike.

Tackling dog bites needs proactive measures, not band-aids.

How our betis are faring, 10 years on

More attention needs to be paid to enforcing the legal age of marriage and incentivising births after 20 years.

As the Beti Bachao, Beti Padhao (BBBP) initiative becomes 10 years old, an evaluation of the programme leading to the ideal child sex ratio and promoting the empowerment and education of the girl child is fitting. According to the government press note issued on the 10th anniversary of the BBBP, the sex ratio at birth (SRB) has improved from 918 in 2014-15 to 930 in 2023-24. Also, the girls' enrolment in secondary education has improved from 75.5 per cent to 78 per cent during the same period. Additionally, women have been empowered through skilling, economic initiatives and widespread community engagement. While saluting these achievements, one must step beyond to understand how much women's lives have changed, for the better or worse. Comparisons need data and India relies on different surveys and data bases. They include the civil registration system, the sample registration system (annual) and the National Family Health Surveys (NFHS). The NFHS surveys (2015-16 and 2019-21) are the most reliable sources to compare and comment on wider issues as they provide a rich source of information. Because, after all the numbers are crunched and digested, ultimately, the true barometer of women's progress is their status in society. While measuring this, some things matter more than the others. One of the important determinants is her age at the time of marriage. This is because it is her health and her understanding of both childbearing and child-rearing that has an impact on generational health. The first questions that should stem from BBBP is whether the age of marriage of girls has gone up and whether teenage pregnancies have come down. This is because girls who marry young remain socially isolated and are denied the fruits of education. Despite the Prohibition of Child Marriage

Act (2006), the practice of child marriage remains widespread. Though the NFHS data reveals a decline in child marriages, their number remains high. Child marriages have reduced from 47 per cent (in 2005-06) to (26 per cent) in 10 years and in the next five years, to around 23 per cent. Given the size of our country, 23 per cent is still unacceptably high.

While more girls may have been saved from being aborted, the benefits of poshan (nutrition) and padhai (education) would have eluded most girls who were married before 18. Because, among other factors, it is in the teenage years that anaemia is at its peak and has cascading effects on the patient's health.

The second important goal that BBBP has rightly focused on is curbing the practice of female foeticide. What is the status on that? The ideal child sex ratio, according to the WHO, is 950 girls to 1,000 boys. As per the latest NFHS-5 data, the ratio has gone up from 919 girls to 929 girls for every 1,000 boys born. This is good progress, but the data for many states remains far from satisfactory. According to figures released by the Government of Haryana, the sex ratio was recorded at 905 girls for 1,000 boys in the first 10 months of 2024. The districts of Gurugram (859), Rewari (868), Charkhi Dabri (873), Rohtak (880), Panipat (890) and Mahendragarh (896) were the worst performers, all recording a below-900 sex ratio. Despite economic progress, many Haryanvis still want sons. Exhortations alone will not change the overall picture of saving the girl child. A declining sex ratio means that female foetuses are being killed in the womb. Several other



states also have a child sex ratio less than 932, as per the NFHS-5. They include Rajasthan, Jharkhand, Punjab, Telangana, Maharashtra, Bihar, Goa, Himachal Pradesh, Odisha and Tamil Nadu. Delhi and Chandigarh, too, have adverse sex ratios. It shows that education and wealth, if anything, exacerbate the demand for sex determination, underscoring the craving for sons. At the same time, there has been a perceptible improvement in states like Andhra Pradesh, Uttar Pradesh, Gujarat, Madhya Pradesh and West Bengal. They are hovering nearer the WHO ideal. It indicates how much of the progress rests with the state leadership. A right-thinking chief minister can do wonders by giving primacy to BBBP

and related health programmes.

It is a matter of comfort that the Health Ministry has extended the National Health Mission by five years. Started in 2005, the NHM has done more to improve the health indicators of women than any other programme. Among the achievements relevant in the context of women's status is the decline of India's fertility rate to below the replacement level. Though it is cause for fresh worry about what will happen to the states that are aging, the plus side is that except for the identified districts — mainly in Uttar Pradesh and Bihar — the days of unwanted and repeated child births are over. It is a great blessing for women.

Side by side, institutional births, that is births under medical supervision, have increased phenomenally. An institutional birth benefits women hugely as it ensures that they undergo antenatal check-ups and are sensitised and skilled in spacing out children, which also staves off unwanted pregnancies. As a result, maternal and infant mortality have reduced substantially. The increase in poorer households' access to clean drinking water, improved sanitation (toilets) and clean cooking fuel have also impacted women's lives for the better. Though they may not be directly related to BBBP, they give much reason for satisfaction. Taking the important indicators into account and without making BBBP a separate vertical silo, it is apparent that women's status has improved. The question is how much and in what respect.



The Bride

Looks lovely Face ..

Marriage is the most beautiful moment of life. How to stress about it .. now its supervision of the entire personality to lift such a way that the bloom ..

- Weddings are not worried. Start relaxing stay.
- Full sleep for good health. Good sleep not only for health, but is also beneficial to the skin.
- Pay a little attention to your diet. With breakfast - Be sure you have a glass of milk or juice Kesryukt. Take nutritious foods at breakfast. Avoid Flour and Jnkfud. At lunch, green vegetables, salad and lentils make sure. Eat a light meal at night.
- Drink plenty of water. At least eight of the day - must drink ten glasses of water. This skin is improving.
- If you go to a fitness center at home is not possible light - hearted exercise. Whether or jump rope again and again climb stairs - land. If you like the song playing in the room a bit - so you can dance.

- Hair Week two - three days to massage course. Or a mild herbal shampoo massage afterwards to wash the hair.
- To clean teeth, good morning or evening. If you have any problems of any kind to teeth Dntrog consult specialist. So you have heard it all to enthral teeth shining pearl. With teeth - with the daily cleaning of the tongue too well.
- Face with hands - legs and neck, stomach and back care is essential.



Clean the entire body by any domestic rouge. The glow on the face is required, as on other parts of the body.

- After cleansing facial massage cream to a good quality. If you wish to consult a qualified beautician can. Note Do not use on the face unnecessary. Lest face comes off in

- pursuit of fairness.
- Night at the hands of a good cream to massage course. Keep a regular cleaning of the nails.
- If the foot should say what is beautiful ... Morning or evening, half a lemon in warm water and add a little rose-water feet from the water, gently rub with cotton. May want to apply a herbal cream afterwards.
- If you want a week - manicure and pedicure can twice.
- Elbows, knees and ankles to take care of. Rub lemon on to the rose-water mixed into the soil cleanup may or Multani.
- Improving the skin once a week to get it mashed papaya or banana sandalwood powder and rose water mixed well to massage.
- Instead of plain water bath of rose leaves put in place for a while. Then the water bath. You can also use fiddle or jasmine flowers.

Face masks you can Make at home

Tips to soothe your tired Feet



By the end of the day, our feet often scream for some attention after all they are put through — long working hours, constantly being on the move, bad weather, ill-fitting footwear, wearing high heels, etc. Often the resulting foot pains and aches occur due to the imbalance of pressure on the feet. Also, many are unaware that tired legs affect your quality of sleep. Therefore, after a long, tiring day, it is a good idea to pamper your feet.

- Avoid wearing uncomfortable and tight pair of footwear, and get a pair that is more comfortable. Ill-

fitting footwear and wearing high heels for extended periods of time are some of the main reasons for pain in the feet.

- Get a pedicure at the salon at least once a month, especially if you suffer from cracked heels, cuts, etc. These are signs that say you need to care more for your feet.
- Get a reflexology foot massage done by professionals. Doing so will relax your feet and loosen the tension in them.
- After a long exhausting day, soak your feet in a tub of

warm water with some epsom salts for relief.

- Soothe your weary legs by massaging them with some anti-inflammatory cream.
- A fun way to ease the pain from aching feet is to roll a tennis ball or a rolling pin, or even a plastic cold drink bottle under your feet in a back and forth motion. Doing this will provide a good massage of sorts for the soles of your feet and tends to increase flexibility in joints and muscles. In fact it's a tip yoga instructors have shared with the who's who of Hollywood.



Vinegar
It's not just a cooking ingredient, vinegar's use as a skin toner probably dates back to the time of Helen of Troy! For a glowing and gorgeous complexion, follow this small tip before you go off to bed: wash your face with one tablespoon of apple cider vinegar combined with two cups of water. It will cleanse and tighten your skin.

Lemon
Lemon is a natural exfoliator and cleanser. For fresh-looking skin, try this: Mix some lemon juice with olive oil or sweet almond oil and apply it on your face every alternate day.

Egg
Eggs make for great face packs. So, if you have dry skin, use an egg paste to moisturise. Separate the egg from the yolk and add a little lemon juice or honey to it. If you have oily skin, use only egg whites. If you are blessed with normal skin, use the entire egg. Keep the paste for 30 minutes and rinse it off.

Milk
Want to look fresh without spending too much effort and money? Try this: Make a paste of milk and honey and apply it on your face. Make sure that

the paste is thick. Let it dry completely and then rinse with warm water. It will make your face fresh and rejuvenated.

Yoghurt
One of the best ways to brighten your skin — and also remove tan — is by using a face pack that contains yoghurt. If you are looking for a quick fix to tighten the pores, apply plain yoghurt on your face. Keep it on for 20 minutes and wash it off. For a revitalizing mask, mix yoghurt with some orange juice and aloe vera. Leave the mixture on your face for five minutes before washing it off.

Bananas
Who needs Botox when bananas can do the trick? Bananas moisturise your skin and leave it feeling and looking softer. Mash up a medium-sized ripe banana and smoothen it into a paste. Apply this gently on your face and neck. Keep it on for 10-20 minutes before you wash it off with cold water. If you want, add some honey and rose water to the mixture.

Mayonnaise
Why waste money on expensive serums when you can get the same results using mayonnaise? Gently apply a teaspoon of eggless mayonnaise on your face and keep it on for 20 minutes. Let it dry; then wipe it off and rinse with cool water. This will keep your skin clean and smooth.

We suggest some simple and natural remedies for your face

Northwest Delhi starts voter information slips distribution ahead of election

The slips aim to inform the eligible voters about their enrolment in the voter list.

NEW DELHI. The North-West Delhi District Election Office announced on Sunday that it has started distributing voter information slips for the Delhi Assembly elections to be held on February 5. The slips aim to inform the eligible voters about their enrolment in the voter list.

District Election Officer and Deputy Commissioner Ankita Anand said, "The voter information slips will be distributed throughout the district... This initiative ensures that all eligible voters are informed about their enrolment and are ready to exercise their democratic right on February 5."

Election officials have begun reaching out to every household in the district to distribute the voter information slips which will include essential information such as the voter's name, polling station and other relevant details. This will make it easier for citizens to find their polling booths and vote



without difficulty, a statement said. Anand highlighted the importance of the initiative, saying, "Our teams are working hard to ensure no eligible voter is left uninformed. We encourage all citizens to check their VIS and confirm their details to avoid any issues on polling day."

She also said colour coding for polling booths would help citizens find their polling stations without hassles. With the elections approaching, the District Election Office is committed to ensuring a smooth and transparent voting process in North-West Delhi, the statement added. Elections to the 70-member Delhi Assembly will be held on February 5 and the votes counted on February 8.

Colour coding for polling booths
District Election Officer and Deputy Commissioner Ankita Anand said colour coding for polling booths would help citizens find their polling stations without hassles. Anand highlighted the importance of the initiative, saying, "Our teams are working hard to ensure no eligible voter is left uninformed. We encourage all citizens to check their VIS and confirm their details to avoid any issues on polling day."

Development talk drowned in deluge of freebies in Delhi

AAP alleges that if Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) came to power the freebies already in the market would be withdrawn.

Delhi. As the campaign for the Delhi assembly election peaks, in this season of sesame-jaggery-sugar (revdi) sweets, competing political parties are announcing freebies after freebies.

Aam Aadmi Party (AAP)'s poster boy Arvind Kejriwal is taking this fight to another level claiming that if Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) came to power the freebies already in the market would be withdrawn.

His claim has been countered by no less a person than the Prime Minister Narendra Modi himself. On behalf of the BJP, he has given a guarantee that not only would the existing jaggery-sugary schemes continue but if his party was voted to power he would value add to these schemes making them more creamy with the icing. The Congress discourse, too, is similar to that of the leading parties. Let this writer be not declared anti-poor, let me explain how the freebies are different from the public welfare schemes. In a Reserve Bank of India report in 2022, freebies have been defined as "a public welfare measure that is provided free of charge". The report further stated that the freebies were different from public/merit goods such as health and education, expenditure on which has wider and for long-term benefits.

The difference between freebies and welfare schemes is not always clear, but a general way to distinguish them is by their long-term impact on beneficiaries and society. Welfare schemes have a positive impact, while freebies can create dependency or distortions.

Parties outline agenda for Delhi election

NEW DELHI. The Prevention of Money Laundering Act has brought much misery to AAP in the past couple of years with its top leadership on central agency radar in various cases of alleged financial irregularities. The former chief minister, his deputy, and cabinet members have been occupied by prison visits, bail hearings and appeals.

Continuing inquiries into the alleged corruption, kickbacks and misuse of public office may become a raging issue in the Assembly polls, with implications for integrity of governance and AAP's political future.

BJP questioned why the AAP government did not table the CAG report in the Assembly, saying the report held revelations on AAP financial misappropriations which would prevent their re-election. The BJP flagged 'numerous scams under the Kejriwal regime,' accusing the latter of preventing discussion on these issues.

AAP, however, left no quarters to hit back at the BJP, saying the party had no moral ground of 'lecturing AAP on corruption.' Party leaders did not mince their words in attacking PM Modi for "harbouring the country's most corrupt" while diverting attention to pre-election narratives.

Congress also sought to corner AAP over corruption saying those who promised transparent governance and clean politics is being exposed in public view with each passing. The CAG report, "withheld by AAP-da govt will be published in the first session of the Assembly with BJP in power." A white paper on AAP 'misgovernance' will also 'see light'.

'Zero tolerance' policy towards widespread corruption under AAP regime; "will constitute Special Investigation Team to probe 'irregularities' related to Delhi Transport Corporation, Mohalla clinics, Excise Policy, Jal Board, etc."

"Will set up a probe panel under the chairmanship of a retired judge of the Delhi High Court to conduct a time-bound investigation into the Sheeshmahal scam orchestrated by Arvind Kejriwal," BJP asserts. AAP says BJP has no moral bearing to lecture on corruption, accusing BJP of harbouring 'most corrupt' while diverting attention from issues with false narratives

Delhi traffic advisory issued for beating retreat rehearsals



NEW DELHI. The Delhi Police has announced detailed traffic arrangements ahead of the Beating Retreat rehearsals scheduled for Monday and Tuesday at Vijay Chowk. The rehearsals, a precursor to the formal conclusion of Republic Day celebrations on January 29, will necessitate significant traffic restrictions.

According to the advisory, Vijay Chowk will remain closed for general traffic from 2pm to 9:30pm on both days. Restrictions will also be in place on key routes, including Rafi Marg (between Sunehri Masjid and Krishi Bhawan roundabouts), Raisina Road (from Krishi Bhawan towards Vijay Chowk), Dara Shikoh Road, Krishna Menon Marg, Sunehri Masjid, and Kartavya Path (between Vijay Chowk and 'C'-Hexagon). Motorists are advised to avoid the restricted areas and opt for alternate routes such as Ring Road, Ridge Road, Aurobindo Marg, Madarsa T-Point, Safdarjung Road, Kamal Ataturk Marg, Rani Jhansi Road, and Minto Road to minimise inconvenience, it said. The advisory highlights temporary diversions for DTC and other city buses. Central Secretariat-bound buses will terminate at Udyan Marg and return via Kali Bari Marg, Mandir Marg, and Shankar Road.

Hottest Republic Day in 8 years: Why Delhi is unusually warm this January



New Delhi. Delhi has been witnessing an unprecedented rise in temperatures during the daytime recently, with the mercury reaching up to 26 degrees Celsius this month. In fact, it was the warmest Republic Day recorded in the national capital in eight years. The maximum temperature in Delhi shot up to 23.7 degrees Celsius on January 26, two notches above normal. The warmest Republic Day recorded in Delhi was back in 2017 when the city saw the maximum temperature rise to 26.1 degrees Celsius.

This is a rare occurrence for Delhi, where maximum temperatures typically remain below 25 degrees Celsius in January. While the minimum temperatures have dipped recently, the temperatures recorded in mornings have often crossed 10 degrees Celsius. This unusual pattern poses difficult questions — is it a natural phenomenon or the result of a mix of specific conditions?

Dry Westerly Winds Driving Daytime Temperature Increase

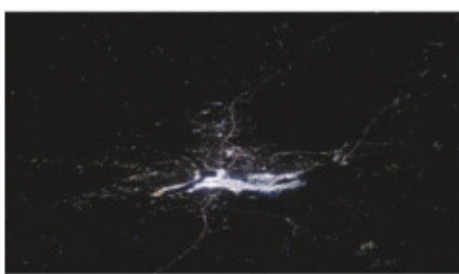
In recent times, Delhi and its surrounding areas have experienced strong southwesterly winds from the Arabian Sea, blowing at speeds of around 15 kilometres per hour. These winds are dry, unlike western disturbances, which typically carry moisture. Moisture in the air absorbs the solar radiation. Due to the absence of this moisture, more radiation ends up reaching the ground, resulting in a rise in temperatures.

Adiabatic Warming System Contributing to the Rise
Another factor that has been seen as a major cause behind the rise in temperatures is what is known as the adiabatic system. This adiabatic process develops when the air flows across two layers — the windward side (north of the Himalayas) and the leeward side (south of the Himalayas). On the windward side, there is rain or snow after the air rises to higher altitudes and cools down.

NASA Astronaut Shares Stunning Photos Of Maha Kumbh Mela From Space

The ISS, orbiting at 28,000 km per hour and 400 km above Earth, captured the grand religious event using its high-powered cameras.

New Delhi. The ongoing Maha Kumbh in Uttar Pradesh's Prayagraj has caught the attention of millions, not just on Earth but also from space. NASA astronaut Don Pettit, aboard the International Space Station (ISS), has shared images of the event, showing its grandeur from the sky. Mr Pettit, known for his exceptional astrophotography, posted the images on X, writing, "2025 Maha Kumbh Mela Ganges River pilgrimage from the ISS at night. The largest human gathering in the world is well lit." The tent city of Prayagraj near the Sangam - the confluence of the Ganga, Yamuna, and the mythical Saraswati rivers - dazzles in pictures. The Maha Kumbh Mela, held once every 144 years, is renowned for its massive gathering of pilgrims and its deep spiritual significance. The ISS, orbiting at 28,000 km per hour above Earth,



captured the event's glow using its high-powered cameras. The internet has since exploded with reactions to the stunning photos. A user commented, "That reminds me of being a star in space and having other stars gather with me until we create a supernova and result in a new universe being formed." Another wrote, "The 2025 Maha Kumbh Mela at the Ganges River, seen from the International Space Station at night, showcases the

immense scale of this religious pilgrimage. The gathering, known as the world's largest human assembly, appears strikingly illuminated from space." The UP government invested Rs 400 crore to ensure 24/7 electricity during the 45-day festival that started January 13. Key upgrades include 182 km of high-tension lines, 40,000 rechargeable bulbs, and AI-enabled security measures like 2,700 CCTV cameras and underwater drones at the Triveni Sangam.

Don Pettit is accompanied on the ISS by fellow astronaut Sunita Williams and others. Ms Williams and her colleague Barry Willmore have spent 10 months on the ISS after their mission aboard Boeing's Starliner spacecraft was extended. Their return to Earth in February was further postponed due to delays in the SpaceX Crew 10 launch, now scheduled for late March 2025.

US officials hunt for illegal immigrants in New York, New Jersey gurdwaras: Report

US Department of Homeland Security officials have started visiting Gurdwaras in New York and New Jersey to target undocumented immigrants, sparking backlash from Sikh groups.

New Delhi. US Department of Homeland Security (DHS) officials have begun visiting Gurdwaras in New York and New Jersey to hunt illegal immigrants amid President Donald Trump's crackdown on undocumented aliens in the country. This move has drawn criticism from several Sikh organisations, which view the action as a threat to the sanctity of their religious spaces.

Reports suggest that some gurdwaras in these areas may be used as gathering places by Sikh separatists and undocumented immigrants.

The shift in policy came shortly after Donald Trump was sworn in as President. Acting DHS Secretary



Benjamin Huffman issued a directive reversing the Biden administration's guidelines on Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) and Customs and Border Protection (CBP) enforcement. The previous guidelines had restricted enforcement actions in or near "sensitive" areas, including

places of worship such as gurdwaras.

"This action empowers the brave men and women in CBP and ICE to enforce our immigration laws and catch criminal aliens — including murders and rapists—who have illegally come into our country," a DHS spokesperson was quoted as saying by news agency PTI in its report. The spokesperson added, "Criminals will no longer be able to hide in America's schools and churches to avoid arrest. The Trump administration will not tie the hands of our brave law enforcement, and instead trusts them to use common sense."

"Death Great Leveller": Supreme Court's Split Verdict In Bastar Burial Case

Subhash Baghel's son Ramesh had approached the top court after some neighbours stopped them from burying Subhash's body in the village because they had converted to Christianity.

New Delhi. The Supreme Court today delivered a split verdict in the case relating to the burial of a Christian pastor in Chhattisgarh's Bastar, but did not refer the matter to a larger bench because the body has been in the morgue for nearly three weeks now. The court directed that the body of Subhash Baghel be buried at a Christian graveyard 20 km away and asked the state administration to provide all support.

Subhash Baghel's son Ramesh had approached the top court after some neighbours stopped them from burying Subhash's body in the village burial ground because they had converted to Christianity. The High Court had earlier said the Baghels' insistence on burial at the village graveyard may lead to a law and order situation. The bench of Justice BV Nagarathna and Justice Satish Chandra Sharma had earlier said it was "pained" that a person had to come to the

Supreme Court for his father's burial. Ramesh Baghel's lawyer Colin Gonsalves had argued that the family members were buried in the village burial ground even though they had converted. "I don't want to go outside the village... I don't want to be treated like an untouchable just because I converted." Solicitor General Tushar Mehta opposed this and said this was the beginning of a "movement" that may lead to a disturbance between tribal Hindus and tribal Christians. "Just 20 km away there is a Christian burial ground. This ground is a Hindu tribal burial ground," he said.

Justice Nagarathna today said there were two judgments and went on to deliver hers. "It is said that death is a great leveller and we need to remind ourselves of this. This death has led to divisiveness among villagers on the right to burial. The appellant says there is discrimination and prejudice," she said. Justice



Nagarathna noted that the High Court accepted a suggestion that displaced the practices being followed in the village. "The death of the person has given (way) to disharmony since it was not solved by the village panchayat. Panchayat has been taking sides which led to the case in high court and Supreme Court."

She pointed to the police affidavit that says a Christian convert cannot be allowed burial on the village grounds. "This is unfortunate and violates Articles 21 and 14 and furthers discrimination on the

grounds of religion. The State cannot deny equality before the law. How could ASP Bastar give such an affidavit and what was the authority? It betrays the sublime principle of secularism."

Pulling up the village panchayat, she said its attitude gave rise to hostile discrimination. "The gram panchayat failed in its duty to provide burial which led to social ostracisation of appellant and his family." Justice Nagarathna directed that the burial be done on Baghels' private agricultural land. She also said the State must earmark a graveyard for Christians across all states within two months. But, Justice Sharma disagreed with this. Justice Sharma said he was "unable to persuade myself to the directions issued." "The fulcrum seems to boil down to whether fundamental rights to conduct religious burial ceremonies be extended to other places earmarked for other faiths in a blanket manner," he said.



Protect your Skin, hair during harsh Summer

Cleansing is of great importance for the working woman who leaves home to get to work, battling traffic and exposing herself to the grime and pollutants in the air. Always cleanse the skin at night, before going to bed, so that you can remove make-up, stale sweat and oil deposits, as well as dirt and pollutants. A tulsi neem face wash would be ideal for summer. It would help to remove impurities and soothe and protect

the skin from eruptions and rashes. After cleansing, tone the skin with chilled rose water or a rose-based skin tonic. It not only refreshes and cools the skin, but also helps to stimulate blood circulation to the skin surface and add a glow. A matte moisturizer is ideal if the weather is hot and humid. For dry skins, spray on a moisture mist. If your work entails traveling, apply a sunscreen. For oily skin, oil-free sunscreen is available.

Use a facial scrub two or three times a week. A facial scrub helps to remove dead cells and provides deep cleansing of the skin. It brightens and refines the skin. If your skin is dry, nourish it at night, after cleansing. Apply a nourishing cream and massage it into the skin, using circular strokes. The pressure should be more as you go upwards and slightly outwards. Wipe it off after three to four minutes of massage. Twice a week use a face mask. Apply it on the face, avoiding the lips and area around eyes. Wash it off when it is dry. To refresh your make-up, you need to carry a few items in your handbag. During summer, fragrant wet tissues can be most refreshing. They are easily available. Use them to cleanse skin and remove grease and sweat. A powder compact of pressed powder is also handy. It helps to get rid of that oily look in summer. First wipe

with the tissues and then dab the powder. You also need a lipstick to touch-up after lunch. Apply powder on the lips and then apply lipstick. Remember to carry a small bottle of cologne, or your favourite deodorant. Hair: Although long hair is in fashion, avoid keeping it loose while you are at work. This is more so in summer. Fussing with the hair is most distracting. Put it up in a roll or pin it up. It can also be tied back in a pony tail. Actually, pony tails are in fashion. You can have a high or low pony tail, tied back with ribbons. In fact, match the ribbon with the colour of your outfit. Or, use a hair accessory. Many kinds of clips and other attractive hair accessories are available. But they should not be too decorative for work. You can even curl the ends of the hair with curlers and then tie them in a pony tail, or pin them up with a clip.



'Zero-water' beauty Treatments

With the water crises looming overhead in Mumbai, beauty regimens that use 'zero water' or just 1 per cent water, are fast becoming popular. At a time when the city has been called on to try and do their best to adjust with the ongoing situation, these treatments seem to be the apt new go-to fads for the summer when water cuts are going to be the norm of the day. Here's what they are about...

Waterless mani-pedis

The usual pampering involves immersing the hands or feet in water. That's not needed with this. Manicures and pedicures that use gloves that contain moisturisers and exfoliators are the new fad. You simply slip them on and that's it! Dermatologist Dr Geeta Oberoi explains: "In the glove manicure, you wear plain cotton gloves with a blend of botanical extracts for two hours. These contain green tea, rosemary, jasmine and orange extracts, which act as natural moisturisers and soften the skin. There is no water used. The contents have ethanol, which is antibacterial and protects the skin. The urea in them aims to soften the skin, while the alpha and beta hydroxy peel in the solution gently peels away dead cells, so it's all taken care of without using water. Finally, you take off the glove and wipe off any unabsorbed contents." The dry mani is also said to be a more hygienic option. Adds beauty expert Jo Gaglani, "For one, it eliminates any microbial or fungal scares because it is a waterless or dry pedicure. Also, foot filing on wet skin will make the tissues soggy, and the file will roll over the skin rather than scraping evenly. Plus, the skin is weakened by soaking the feet and is more likely to tear and make skin condition worse. Instead, the foot treatments now use a foot mousse, lotion and an emu oil-enriched nail and cuticle serum, which takes care of everything."



Caramel and ice cream on your skin, too Forget those mint and rose serums, the new manis and pedis use a host of delicious food ingredients to pamper skin and cut down drastically on water usage. Get ready for ice cream, caramel-cane sugar, chocolate and cocktail treatments, that you simply

- **The usual pampering involves immersing the hands or feet in water.**
- **Forget those mint and rose serums, the new manis and pedis use a host of delicious food ingredients to pamper skin and cut down drastically on water usage.**

take off with a steamed towel! In the caramel manicure, hands and feet are soaked in cane sugar. A sugar scrub is then used to exfoliate the skin to clear a dead layer.

Then, a caramel-cane sugar pack is applied and finally steamed off with a cloth. Another popular treatment, the candle manicure, aims to leave the hands soft and detanned. Says Aryn Manji, spa expert, "In this, warmed candle wax is poured onto the skin. Once it hardens, it is removed with the help of hot wet towels." Skin pampering also comes in the way of a new 'cocktail manicure' where tempting flavours like pina coloda, mojito and strawberry margarita are applied in a fizz ball liquid on the skin. "This involves cocktail flavour-infused cuticle serums, lotions and a pack and leaves the skin refreshed and smelling good," he adds. If you love ice cream, slather on the ice cream skin treatment. "In it, the ice cream fizz ball — comprising oil blends, minerals, epsom salt and fragrances — is used. The ingredients aim to hydrate and enrich the skin," informs expert Farheen Shaikh. And for chocolate lovers, here's another indulgence! A chocolate mani-pedi has a technician massaging the gooey goodness onto your skin in a cream and pack, which is finally wiped off with a hot towel.

Keep aside bad hair days During summers

UV rays are as bad for your hair as they are for your skin. Avoid leaving your hair open and instead accessorise it instead. A scarf or a headband to wrap your hair can make for a great style statement. A stylish hat is another option. Get bows and flowery headbands for a hipster look. - Coloured hair tends to fade if you stay out for too long. So, avoid spending too much time in the sun. Also, avoid swimming as the chlorine in the water could strip the colour off your hair shaft. - Do not wash your hair daily. As an alternative, you can co-wash it. This procedure involves not using a shampoo but using a replenishing conditioner for a few minutes before

- **Coloured hair tends to fade if you stay out for too long**
- **Keep straightening, curling or any other treatments for that matter for later. Products used for hair styling could suffocate your hair.**

rinsing it off. Thus, you can wash your hair without shampooing it for three to four days. Furthermore, to retain natural moisture, avoid using a hairdryer and rely on letting it dry, naturally. - Escape any sort of hair treatments if need be. Keep straightening, curling or any other treatments for that matter for later. Products used for hair styling could suffocate your hair. - Ditch open hair for summer hairstyles in vogue. 'Tis the season for braids, ponytails, buns. Depending on where you are going (work, friends or party) bubble, high or tousled ponytails with ribbons are hot choices! - Go for regular haircuts. Trimming your hair every once in six to eight weeks ensures they are healthy and helps in speeding up its growth.



Makeup artists now trying their hand at eye and lip art



If your definition of eye-catching eyes and lips is about unconventional colours, you need to up your game! Makeup gurus are now blurring the line between makeup and art to create stunning visuals on the eyes and lips, like realistic sunsets, to scenes from fairy tales, cartoon characters and food. This has been taking social media by storm. Apart from paint, the artists use anything from glitters, jewels and decals to create the breathtaking images. Many people are matching their nailpaint to the lip art for added effect.

How to have a detox bath

While most of us can't go through week-long detox rituals, it's quite possible to have a quick relaxing detox bath at the end of a tiring day. Here's how you can rejuvenate your body and your mind by taking a simple but healthy bath.

Ginger bath

Sprinkle some fresh ginger shavings in your bath water. Ginger tends to make the body sweat more, thereby helping it release toxins.

Baking soda bath

Baking soda has the property of neutralizing chlorine in tap water, which aids the body in the detoxing process.

Apple cider vinegar bath

Not only will water mixed with apple cider vinegar help you sweat out toxins, it also helps with any inflammation of the skin. essential oil bath There are a number of great essential oils out there like lavender, peppermint and sandalwood, which are great for a detox bath. For best results, you can first add baking soda to your bath and then a few drops of an essential oil to get the full effects of the latter.



How to use your Emergency Fund

New Delhi. Subra has Rs 1 lakh of emergency fund. Should Subra use that money to invest in ELSS to save some Income tax? — Reader's Question.

I asked her — how much is your monthly expenses? She said — Rs 50,000 but could go up to Rs 70,000. How much time did it take to build this Rs 1 lakh as emergency fund? This is what I told her: You need about Rs 4-6 lakh as emergency fund because you have young children and ageing parents to support. Right now, you have only Rs 1 lakh and you have struggled reaching here. Also, using Emergency fund for investing or even paying Income tax is not the best way to handle money! Paying taxes is better than investing in ELSS especially for you.

I would suggest you to start a SIP in an ELSS fund for Rs 4,000 and a RD in a bank for Rs 5,000. At the end of the year, you would have invested Rs 48,000 in ELSS and have a further Rs 60,000 in your emergency kitty. Your Emergency Fund should primarily be used for unexpected and urgent expenses for you or your parents that could impact you if not addressed promptly. Here are some specific scenarios where using your emergency fund would be appropriate:

Medical emergencies: Sudden health issues or accidents that require immediate medical attention, especially if your insurance does not cover all costs or if you need to pay upfront. If your medical insurance is not cashless, you should charge it on your credit card. On the due date, use your emergency fund. **Job loss:** If you're unexpectedly laid off or lose your job, the emergency fund can help cover living expenses while you search for new employment. **Urgent home repairs:** Emergencies like a refrigerator breakdown, or some major plumbing work, or electric work — has to be done, can be funded using EF. **Car repairs:** Essential repairs if your vehicle breaks down unexpectedly, and you rely on it for work travel. **Unforeseen travel:** If you need to travel unexpectedly due to a family emergency or other critical situations. Of course, your credit card is what you will use, but on the due date you may have to use your emergency fund!

Govt invites applications for Sebi chief post as Buch's term ends on Feb 28

New Delhi. With less than a month left for the tenure of Madhabi Puri Buch to end as the chairperson of Securities and Exchange Board of India (Sebi), the Ministry of Finance has invited fresh applications for the post.

The last day for submission of applications is February 17. The current chairperson's tenure ends on February 28. Buch took charge of the board on March 1, 2022 and was the first person from the private sector and the youngest to hold the position. She is also the first woman to chair the market regulator. She had earlier served as the whole-time member of Sebi from April 2017 to October 2021. An extension in the term can't be ruled out if a proper candidate isn't found before Buch's term ends. Market watchers say several bureaucrats could be in the fray. The advertisement for the post was published in several newspapers on Monday. According to the advertisement, the new appointment will be for five years instead of the usual three-year tenure. The detailed application format will be made available on the Department of Economic Affairs' website.

Buch's last year in the office has remained turbulent with allegations from US-based short seller Hindenburg on the market regulator's probe in the Adani matter. The short seller, which has now decided to wind up its operations, had questioned the objectivity of Buch in the probe and alleged conflict of interest. Congress on the other hand had made accusations of corruption and benefiting from other corporates. However, Buch and her husband have refuted the allegations at different stages.

Further, Buch also faced criticism from Sebi employees, who went on protest on several matters, including allegations of "toxic work culture". The protests had forced Sebi to withdraw a press release on the HR-related issues.

Despite being at the centre of the storm, Buch's tenure also saw fast-paced changes in the regulatory ecosystem with faster settlements, more disclosures from foreign portfolio investments (FPIs), more ease of business steps for mutual funds, AIFs, and steps to curb float with the stock brokers.

Analysts maintain 'Buy' calls on ICICI Bank after Q3; see up to 32% upside

New Delhi. ICICI Bank share price was outperforming the stock markets on Monday, January 27, 2025, after showcasing a 'resilient' quarterly performance for the October-to-December quarter (Q3) of the current financial year (FY25).

On Saturday, private lender ICICI Bank's standalone Q3FY25 net profit jumped 14.8 per cent year-on-year (Y-o-Y) to Rs 11,792 crore. The lender posted a healthy rise in net interest income (NII) to Rs 20,371 crore in Q3, up 9.1 per cent Y-o-Y. Its net interest margin stayed largely flat, cooling off 2 basis points (bps) to 4.25 per cent, compared to 4.27 per cent in the previous quarter. The growth in NII came on the back of a 15.1-per cent Y-o-Y and 3.2-per cent sequential growth in net advances to Rs 12.82 trillion. Total deposits, meanwhile, increased better-than-industry average at 14.1 per cent Y-o-Y and 1.5 per cent sequentially to Rs 15.20 trillion.

ICICI Bank's asset quality remained resilient during a tough macro environment with gross non-performing assets (GNPAs) ratio coming at 1.96 per cent as of December 31, 2024, compared to 1.97 per cent as of September 30, 2024. The net NPA ratio was 0.42 per cent at the end of December quarter.

New bid for TikTok from Perplexity AI could give US government 50% stake

WASHINGTON. Perplexity AI has presented a new proposal to TikTok's parent company that would allow the US government to own up to 50% of a new entity that merges Perplexity with TikTok's US business, according to a person familiar with the matter. The proposal, submitted last week, is a revision of a prior plan the artificial intelligence startup had presented to TikTok's parent ByteDance on Jan. 18, a day before the law that bans TikTok went into effect. The first proposal, which ByteDance hasn't responded to, sought to create a new structure that would merge San Francisco-based Perplexity with TikTok's US business and include investments from other investors. The new proposal would allow the US government to own up to half of that new structure once it makes an initial public offering of at least \$300 billion, said the person, who was not authorized to speak about the proposal. The person said Perplexity's proposal was revised based

off of feedback from the Trump administration. If the plan is successful, the shares owned by the government would not have voting power, the person said. The government also would not get a seat on the new company's board. ByteDance and TikTok did not immediately respond to a request for comment. Under the plan, ByteDance would not have to completely cut ties with TikTok, a favorable outcome for its investors. But it would have to allow a "full US board control," the person said. Under the proposal, the China-based tech company would contribute TikTok's US business without the proprietary algorithm that fuels what users see on the app, according to a document seen by the Associated Press. In exchange, ByteDance's existing investors will get equity in the new structure that emerges. The proposal seems to mirror a strategy Steven Mnuchin, treasury secretary during Trump's first term, discussed Sunday on Fox News' Sunday



Morning Futures — that a new investor in TikTok could simply "dilute down" the Chinese ownership and satisfy the law. Mnuchin has previously expressed interest in investing in the company. "But the technology needs to be disconnected from China," he added. "It needs to be disconnected from ByteDance. There's absolutely no way that China would ever let us have something like that in China." The Perplexity proposal comes as several investors are expressing interest in TikTok. President Donald Trump said late Saturday that he expects a deal will be

made in as soon as 30 days. On a flight from Las Vegas to Miami on Air Force One, Trump also said he hadn't discussed a deal with Larry Ellison, CEO of software maker Oracle, despite a report that Oracle, along with outside investors, was considering taking over TikTok's global operation. "Numerous people are talking to me. Very substantial people," Trump said. "We have a lot of interest in it, and the United States will be a big beneficiary. ... I'd only do it if the United States benefits." Under a bipartisan law passed last year, TikTok was to be banned in the United States by Jan. 19 if it did not cut ties with ByteDance. The Supreme Court upheld the law, but Trump then issued an executive order to halt enforcement of the law for 75 days. Trump, on Air Force One, noted that Ellison lives "right down the road" from his Mar-a-Lago estate, but added, "I never spoke to Larry about TikTok."

Sensex, Nifty extend losses; IT and metal stocks drag markets down

NEW DELHI. Benchmark stock market indices opened lower, extending their losses this month led by a decline in IT and metal sector stocks. The S&P BSE Sensex tanked 378.29 points to 75,812.17, while the NSE Nifty50 was down by 92.40 points to 22,999.80 as of 9:45 AM. Dr. V K Vijayakumar, Chief Investment Strategist, Geojit Financial Services said that the market sentiment has turned weak. Sustained FPI selling (Rs 69,000 crores in January, so far) is impacting the market. Despite DII buying of Rs 67,000 crore in January, so far, the market is under pressure. A major concern is that President Trump is coming up with new threats like the 25% tariff on Columbia for its refusal to take back deported illegal immigrants. The threatened 25% tariff on Canada and Mexico might be implemented from February 1st onwards. Therefore, will Trump walk his talk on other threats including tariffs on China and other countries, is a question that is being asked in economic and market circles now. These concerns are weighing on the markets," he added. Several heavyweight stocks showed mixed performance. Britannia Industries led



the gainers with a 2.01% jump, followed by ICICI Bank which rose by 1.15%. Hindustan Unilever continued its positive momentum with a 1.08% increase, while Larsen & Toubro added 0.77% to its value. State Bank of India rounded off the gainers with a modest uptick of 0.62%. JSW Steel took the biggest hit, dropping 2.57%. Power Grid Corporation wasn't far behind with a decline of 1.98%, while HCL Technologies slipped by 1.84%. BEL (Bharat Electronics Limited) fell by 1.54%, and Wipro shares retreated by 1.34%. In a broad-based decline across sectors today, all Nifty sectoral indices were in the red, with no gainers in sight. The Nifty Midsmall Healthcare index emerged as the biggest laggard, tumbling 3.37%, while the Nifty Midsmall IT & Telecom sector wasn't

far behind with a 3.19% drop. The Nifty Media sector took a significant hit, falling 3.92%. Consumer-focused sectors also faced selling pressure, with Nifty Consumer Durables declining 2.34%. The metals space witnessed weakness as the Nifty Metal index fell 2.16%, while the technology sector represented by Nifty IT shed 1.95%.

Banking and financial indices showed relatively lower losses but remained negative - Nifty Bank dropped 0.84%, and both Nifty Financial Services indices declined by 0.64% and 0.84% respectively. Other sectors that felt the heat included Nifty Healthcare (down 1.85%), Nifty Oil & Gas (down 1.78%), and Nifty Auto (down 1.27%). The real estate sector showed some resilience, with Nifty Realty posting the smallest decline of 0.40%, though still ending in negative territory. "This 6-day week is likely to be highly volatile with other major events like the Fed decision and the Budget in India. The market is looking forward to fiscal stimulus through income tax cuts in the Budget. If the expectations are met, there can be a relief rally in the market. But if a rally is to sustain, we need data indicating growth and.

EV market share will double in 2025: Vivek Srivatsa

NEW DELHI. Tata Motors, India's largest electric carmaker, remains unfazed by potential market share pressures despite major competitors - Maruti Suzuki, Mahindra & Mahindra and Hyundai - launching/unveiling their much anticipated electric vehicles (EVs) in recent times. "The EV market is set to expand, and consumers will begin comparing products more closely. This is a positive development for us because we are confident in the strength of our offerings. We are the only company in India with 2 lakh EV customers who have collectively covered over 5 billion kilometers. This gives us a significant advantage," Vivek Srivatsa, Chief Commercial Officer of Tata Passenger Electric Mobility told TNE. He added, "The trust we have built, the diverse customer base we serve, and the wide product range we offer - from Rs 8 lakh to Rs 22 lakh - are key factors in our leadership. With more EVs in the pipeline, this range will only grow. We are confident in our position and not concerned about market share." Tata Motors was the top EV seller with 61,496 units sold in 2024, compared to 60,100 in 2023. However, its market share decreased from 73% to 62%. Going forward in 2025, Tata Motors will be launching the Harrier EV in the first half of the year and the much anticipated Sierra EV in the second half. These two models will help Tata Motors to take on the new EVs launched by Mahindra & Mahindra, Hyundai's Creta Electric and Maruti Suzuki's e Vitara. Srivatsa said that with more players joining the EV space, the category as a whole will grow significantly. "Currently, EVs make up a little over 2% of the total passenger vehicle market. We need to surpass the 5-6% mark, and once that happens, the growth will accelerate rapidly. It is possible for the EV market to double its penetration this year." However, for the overall passenger (PV) vehicle market, he expects the growth rate to slow. "2025 is likely to be a challenging year for the PV industry. Over the past 3-4 years, the industry witnessed spectacular growth, but this year, that growth is expected to moderate, especially given the high stock levels across the network," said Srivatsa. PVs grew by 4.2% in 2024 as compared to last year, with sales of around 4.3 million units. For Tata Motors, Srivatsa said that sales growth this year will be led by EVs and CNG-powered vehicles. He added that their recently launched coupe SUV Curvv is performing "very well". "It has a unique, differentiated design, and Indian consumers often take some time to fully appreciate innovative designs. I am confident that as the car becomes more visible on the roads, its sales will grow significantly," he said.

Why generate an investment rulebook

New Delhi. India completed 75 years of being a Republic on Sunday. It was no mean achievement for a country that pundits predicted would fail in the 40s and 50s. All stakeholders must follow the Constitution as a guidebook regardless of political ideology. Despite multiple differences, there is a relative public consensus that we have to function as a democracy and follow the laws in the written Constitution. Imagine your life as a chaotic place like India in 1947. There are problems galore. Unlike the situation then, the risks to your life are low. However, you know that you need to take control of it. You need to establish an order that allows you to

lead an everyday life. The role of money in your life cannot be understated. The root cause of disruption in life is related to your finances. They may not align with your life goals. But you know your future depends on how you handle your income and expenditure. You also know that your savings and investments require a rule book you agree to without grumbling. The reason to flag that concern as we celebrate 75 years of being a Republic is due to the churn you do with your mutual fund systematic investment plans. Almost 90% of the SIPs that power the Indian domestic investment into the stock market are withdrawn within three years. There could be

several reasons for that. First, it could be a loss of income. There is a possibility that you do not have the money to continue making that commitment any more. That could lead to the snapping of fixed commitments like SIPs every month that are meant for the future. Your state of work may look uncertain now, but it is unlikely to remain like that forever. You will find work sooner than later. The lesson to learn here is that you cannot stop investing no matter what. You can scale it down, but continue to invest. You can always step up as you regain your income. You must ensure that your commitments are manageable even if you suffer an income loss in the short term. That requires astute financial management.

Why H-1B visa matters to students, workers

BENGALURU. Ever since the announcement of the H-1B visa reform programme, foreign talent, especially Indians studying or working in the US have been concerned about uncertainties, and with US President Donald Trump's executive order on birthright citizenship, concerns are now growing among visa holders.

Who can apply for H-1B visa? Through this programme, US employers can hire foreign workers in specialty occupations. According to US Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS), the specific duties of the offered position are so specialised, complex or unique that the knowledge required to perform them is associated with the attainment of a US bachelor's or higher degree.

"One thing is certain, the recent H-1B visa reforms will make a significant impact on how foreign talent, particularly from India, will navigate the US job market. The new rules are designed to streamline the application process and enhance flexibility for employers. This means that companies can now more easily retain skilled workers who are crucial for their growth and innovation," says Somdutta Singh, Founder and CEO Assiduus and Investor with Karma Holdings.



Fullscreen

Interestingly, Indians are the biggest beneficiaries of this visa programme, and top Indian IT firms heavily rely on H-1B visas. According to USCIS, Amazon is the top beneficiary with 9,265 visas, followed by Infosys with 8,140 visas for the fiscal year ended September 30, 2024. Out of the total 1.3 lakh visas issued, close to 24,766 visas were issued to Indian-origin firms. With a new registration process that has been put in place, experts believe it will improve the transition process for F-1 visa holders (US student visa) moving to

H-1B status.

About 85,000 (65,000+ 20,000 additional visas) H-1B visas are issued each year. Apart from a base filing fee of \$460 for H-1B petitions, employers also pay anti-fraud fees and premium processing fees, among others. Usually, H-1B status is valid up to 3 years and also extendable up to another 3 years. An H-1B visa holder can work till six years. After six years, the employer can submit again a petition with a request to extend one's status. Also, the proposed changes in the new programme can raise the minimum salary requirement

of visa holders from \$60,000 to over \$1,20,000. "With automatic cap-gap extensions, students will no longer face the anxiety of losing their lawful status while waiting for their applications to be processed. This is a game-changer for many international students who aspire to build their careers in the US. Moreover, the revisions to what constitutes a "specialty occupation" are noteworthy.

The updated criteria ensure that there's a clear connection between job duties and required degrees, making it easier for both employers and applicants to understand eligibility. This clarity is essential in preventing confusion and ensuring that qualified candidates can secure positions that match their skills," adds Singh.

For entrepreneurs, those who own a majority stake in their companies can now self-petition for H-1B visas under stricter conditions, allowing them to pursue their business ventures more freely. "With the Trump administration's policies, particularly regarding H-1B visa regulations, the global talent landscape has shifted notably," says Dhriti Prasanna Mahanta, VP, TeamLease Degree Apprenticeship.

NEWS BOX

After Test success, Jamie Smith aims to be England's finisher in T20Is

New Delhi. England wicketkeeper batter Jamie Smith has set his sights on being an all-format regular for his team as he aims to seal his spot as a finisher in the T20I side. Smith recently made his T20I debut against India in the second game of the five-match series at MA Chidambaram Stadium in Chennai. The 24-year-old showed tremendous potential by scoring a quick-fire 22 off 12, smashing one four and two sixes. Following his debut, Smith has opened up on his desire to play all three formats for his country. He also mentioned how having a fixed role in the T20I side would give him more clarity while training and preparing ahead of a game.

"I want to play all formats for England. That's the main goal. I'm seeing these games (as) an opportunity I get to experiment and showcase my skills. I want to do that. It would be nice to fix down a role so that everyone knows that you are going to be that number six batter in T20, it gives you a little bit more clarity to train and prepare with," Smith was quoted as saying by Yahoo Sports. Furthermore, the youngster reasoned that having a clear role in the Test side has allowed him to perform to the best of his abilities. "I've got a very clear role in the Test side, keeping wicket and batting seven. That makes it much easier to prepare for. I feel confident I can go out and perform in any role that is thrown at me," he



added. Smith's impressive Test debut in 2024. Smith made his Test debut against West Indies in July 2024 at Lord's, the game famously known for being the last Test of the legendary England bowler James Anderson. He scored a brilliant 70 in his first outing and followed up with a 95 in the third Test of the series. Smith further went on to score his maiden Test hundred in the following Test series against Sri Lanka and recently scored a gritty 89 in the third Test against Pakistan in Rawalpindi on a turning track. In the nine Tests played in his career so far, the Surrey cricketer has scored 637 runs at an average of 42.46 with one hundred and four fifties. Apart from that, Smith has also played seven ODIs but failed to impress with just 133 runs at an average of 22.16. Hence, the wicketkeeper batter will be eager to play some memorable knocks in the remaining matches of the ongoing T20I series vs India to prove his mettle in white-ball cricket as well.

Olympian Nishant Dev secures ruthless win on pro-boxing debut in Las Vegas

NEW DELHI. India's Nishant Dev made a terrific pro-boxing debut in Las Vegas on Saturday, January 25. The Olympian knocked-down his opponent thrice in the first round of his maiden fight. Nishant was ruthless with his punching against Alton Wiggins, who was so dazed at the end of the first round that the referee had to call a stoppage and hand Nishant his first win. The 24-year-old, who represented India in the Paris Olympics turned to the world of professional boxing earlier this year. Nishant had narrowly missed a medal at the Paris Olympics after losing in the quarter-final of the competition against Mexico's Marco Verde Alvarez. Nishant's bout was part of the undercard for the Diego Pacheco vs Steve Nelson fight. After his victory, Dev, who has been dreaming of this moment for 15 years, dedicated his win



to his father and India, on Republic Day. He is now eyeing the title of India's first world boxing champion. Nishant turned to pro-boxing after partnering with Matchroom Boxing. The two-time national champion is being trained by former professional boxer Ronald Simms. "I'm working hard every day with my trainer Ronald Simms. I know I have the right team behind me and the biggest promoter in the world to ensure that I reach the very top in the sport," he had said while announcing his career switch. "I enjoyed my time as an amateur boxer and competed at the very highest level in the Olympics and winning a World Championship medal. But now, I'm ready for this new chapter in my career," he had further added.

Kylian Mbappe fires first Real Madrid hat-trick as leaders thrash Valladolid

← **Kylian Mbappe scored his first hat-trick for Real Madrid in a LaLiga match vs Valladolid on Sunday, January 26. Mbappe's 3 goals helped Madrid rout the opponent and continue their run at the top of the league.**

New Delhi Real Madrid's Kylian Mbappé celebrated his first hat-trick for the club in their La Liga match against Valladolid on Sunday, 26th January. Mbappé tucked the ball under his shirt and raised both hands after scoring his third goal of the evening as he soaked in the applause from travelling fans at the José Zorrilla Stadium in Spain. Mbappé's hat-trick on Sunday helped Real Madrid secure a 3-0 win against last-placed Valladolid, who have just 15 points to their name in 21 matches. In stark contrast, Madrid extended their lead at the top of the table, reaching 49

points, four points clear of second-placed Atlético Madrid. There was no shortage of confidence from Mbappé, which had been lacking earlier this season as he dominated the play against the last-placed side to fire his team to a 2-0 lead by the 57th minute. Mbappé completed his hat-trick with a penalty in injury time. "I'm very happy for the hat-trick but even happier for the win," Mbappé told the broadcaster on Sunday.

"It was very important to win after Atlético's result because that gave us a bit more pressure to take advantage of it."

Madrid's fourth straight triumph in the league, combined with Atlético Madrid's 1-1 draw with Villarreal, allowed Carlo Ancelotti's side to open a four-point gap over their city rivals. Barcelona are in third place, 10 points behind, before hosting Valencia on Sunday. Real Madrid's turnaround in La Liga came after being thrashed 4-0 by Barcelona in the El Clásico back in October 2024. Madrid found their stride after that, not only overtaking Barcelona but also building a distance between the bitter rivals. "My adaptation to the team is over. I feel



Mbappé swept in Madrid's first goal on the half-hour mark after a flowing team attack of quick passes to weave the ball through a packed Valladolid area that culminated in Jude Bellingham's assist for the France star. He made it a double in the 57th minute by finishing off a three-against-two counterattack after Federico Valverde intercepted a Valladolid pass. Mbappé took a pass from Rodrigo and rifled in a low strike from the left side of the box.

Valladolid finished with 10 men after Mario Martín received a second booking in the 90th minute for a foul on Bellingham, sending Mbappé to the spot for his third. That made it four games in a row with a goal across all competitions for Mbappé. In La Liga, Mbappé has 15 goals, second only to Robert Lewandowski's 16 for Barcelona. He also scored twice last weekend against Las Palmas in a 4-1 win.

"Mbappé is giving us a lot. He has found his rhythm over the last couple of months, and that is obviously a boost for us," Ancelotti said. Valladolid could only draw one save from Thibaut Courtois in the opening moments. It was all Madrid the rest of the way, even though Vinícius Júnior didn't play, having completed a two-game suspension.

Shashank Singh reveals MS Dhoni's golden advice which made him a 'confident' finisher

New Delhi. Punjab Kings batter Shashank Singh recently revealed legendary India cricketer MS Dhoni's advice which helped him gain confidence as a finisher. Shashank had a phenomenal season for Punjab in IPL 2024 after he was mistakenly bought by the franchise at the auction. The 33-year-old left everyone in awe of his marvellous strokeplay, scoring 354 runs from 14 matches at an average of 44.25 with two half-centuries to his name. Recently, Shashank shared advice given to him by MS Dhoni which helped him get a reality check about finishing matches for one's team. The right-handed batter mentioned how his words filled him with confidence and helped him to play without any burden.

"Once, I had a conversation with Mahi Bhai (MS Dhoni) about this finisher's thing. So he told me that if you're winning three games for your team out of 10, you are in the world's five or 10 best players," Shashank told PTI. "That gave me real confidence that it's important to accept that every match is



not possible practically for me to win. So, I just try to collect those good points, which I did. Just try to minus those stupid point or points which were not sensible," he added. Shashank rose to the limelight after his unbeaten match-winning innings of 61* off 29 deliveries against Gujarat Titans

during Match 17 of the Indian Premier League 2024 (IPL 2024). Courtesy of his knock, Punjab managed to chase down the target of 200 in 19.5 overs as Shashank became an overnight sensation. Punjab retains Shashank for Rs 5.5 Crore Following his incredible performance in the previous season, he was retained by Punjab for Rs 5.5 Crore for IPL 2025. Meanwhile, at the auction, Punjab bought star India batter Shreyas Iyer for a whopping Rs 26.75 Crore and appointed him the captain for the upcoming season. The 2014 runner-ups have added a lot of firepower to their team during the auction, buying the likes of Josh Inglis, Marcus Stoinis and Glenn Maxwell. In the bowling department, they've onboarded Marco Jansen, Yuzvendra Chahal, Arshdeep Singh, Lockie Ferguson amongst others. Punjab also appointed Ricky Ponting as their new head coach for the upcoming season as the franchise aims to end their trophy drought in IPL 2025.

40,000 kilometres around the globe: Runner Sufiya Sufi's goal to make India proud

NEW DELHI. These are the closing lines from Robert Frost's famous poem, The Road Not Taken. These lines often connect with people who decide to move away from the usual path in life and take one that not many will dare to take. And they perfectly fit Indian runner Sufiya Sufi's life and her journey so far. She had a secure job in the aviation industry with a steady income but was slowly feeling the effects of her lifestyle at that time. Sufiya wanted to break out of her monotonous life and decided to pick an escape route. She decided to take up running to improve her health and mental peace. Each step that she took went on to increase her love for the sport, and she decided to quit her job and follow her newfound passion. There was pushback from her family and Sufiya faced a lot of challenges along the way. But in 2025, the Indian runner holds 5 Guinness World Records to her name. She is also the fastest athlete (man or woman) to complete the Manali to Leh trail and also completed the The 4,000 km Kashmir to Kanyakumari Run in 2019. When Indiatoday.in spoke to Sufiya in 2022, she had made plans to travel around the globe. Now the Indian runner is planning



to do that in 2026, as she revealed the biggest challenge she will be tackling, how she was able to prove her naysayers wrong and how she plans to represent India on the grand stage.

Excerpts from exclusive interaction with Sufiya Sufi

India Today: Why did you choose running specifically over other sports? Sufiya: I was doing a night shift job, and I needed to break out of my daily routine because my health and mental health were declining. Running was the choice because it's a sport that doesn't require much equipment, and it's like meditation. I still remember in 2017 when I did my first run inside a park. It was

more convenient to run there. And I started with a 3-kilometre run, my first-ever one, and that's how my journey began. I think I chose running because it didn't require much equipment, and you didn't have to go to a particular ground or court. India Today: Running has transformed into your passion, and you've started breaking world records as well. How did this transition happen?

Sufiya: Actually, when I started running for fitness, I didn't set any goals or think that I would break world records or aim for such feats. My purpose back then was simply to break out of the daily routine and relieve my frustration. But slowly, running became a hobby, and then it turned into a passion. When I did my first run, I had no sports background. But after that, I started developing an interest, and it felt good. When I started running in 2017, there was a boom in running. Marathons were becoming popular, and I started participating in them. Slowly, running became a passion for me. I realised that I had the strength and the ability to go far if I trained properly and focused on it. So, I think it was during marathons that I started feeling that I could go further.

Would rather play 63-year-old goalkeeping coach: Amorim's brutal take on Rashford

Ruben Amorim benched Marcus Rashford again, citing poor training intent, fuelling transfer rumours linking the Manchester United forward with Dortmund, AC Milan, and Barcelona.

New Delhi Manchester United manager Ruben Amorim has offered insight into his decision to exclude Marcus Rashford from recent matches, including the team's narrow 1-0 win over Fulham on January 27. Amorim emphasised that his selection criteria are based on commitment during training, even stating he would prefer to play the club's 63-year-old goalkeeping coach Jorge Vital over a

player who lacks intent. Rashford's absence from the squad has drawn significant attention, with his omission further fuelling transfer speculation. Amorim's comments underline a no-nonsense approach, prioritising effort and discipline over reputation. The Fulham clash, decided by a crucial Lisandro Martínez goal, showcased United's ability to grind out results under Amorim, but Rashford's continued exclusion overshadowed the victory. "It's always the same reason - the training, the way I see a footballer should do in life. It's every day, every detail," Amorim said. "If things don't change, I will not change. It's the same situation for every player. If you do the maximum and right things, we can use every player. You can see on the bench we miss a bit of pace on the bench, but I would put [Manchester United goalkeeper coach Jorge] Vital before a player who doesn't give the maximum every day," he added.

The England forward has been increasingly linked with a move away from Old Trafford, with Borussia Dortmund, AC Milan, and FC



Barcelona emerging as potential suitors. While no official offers have been made, these clubs are reportedly keeping a close watch on Rashford's situation. Rashford, who has been a cornerstone for United throughout his career, has faced a



at the Pakistan spinner. Meanwhile, West Indies managed to take a lead of 253 runs in the second innings as captain Craig Brathwaite scored a crucial half-century for his side with his innings of 52 (74) as he smashed four fours and two sixes. Apart from him, no other batter could cross the 35-run mark with Tevin Imlach (35) and Amir Jangoo (30) being the next two highest scorers as Sajid Khan and Noman Ali ran through their batting.

Pakistan reeling at stumps on Day 2 Noman registered his maiden ten-wicket haul in Tests as he scalped 4/80 in the second innings after registering figures of 6/41 in the first, which included the record feat of being the first Pakistan spinner to take a hat-trick in Tests. Being set a target of 254 runs, Pakistan got off to a dismal start in the fourth innings as captain Shan Masood (2) and Muhammad Hurraira (2) got dismissed cheaply. After two early blows, Babar Azam (31) and Kamran Ghulam (19) tried to stabilise the innings but were eventually dismissed late in the day, leaving Pakistan in misery.

tough spell under Amorim's management. Despite his undeniable talent, the 26-year-old has fallen down the pecking order. Amorim's remarks about Jorge Vital underline his preference for players who show full commitment, leaving no room for those who fail to meet his expectations. The lack of playing time has raised questions about Rashford's long-term future at the club. With just a few days remaining in the transfer window, his fate could soon be decided. For Rashford, this period is critical to either win back the trust of his manager or seek a fresh start elsewhere. For Manchester United, Amorim's firm stance reflects his vision for a disciplined and unified squad. The manager's approach appears to prioritise team ethos over individual status, even if it means benching one of the club's biggest stars. As the season progresses, the Rashford situation remains a central storyline at Old Trafford, with fans and pundits eagerly awaiting the next chapter in this unfolding drama.

Janhvi Kapoor

Sidharth Malhotra's Chemistry In This Param Sundari BTS Will Make You Scream Wow



Janhvi Kapoor and Sidharth Malhotra have started shooting for Param Sundari in Kerala. How do we know, you ask? There is a BTS video that is going viral on social media. The clip, shared by a Reddit user, shows Sidharth Malhotra (playing Param) and Janhvi Kapoor (playing Sundari) at the picturesque Athirappilly Waterfalls in Kerala. At one point, Janhvi gets up and walks away.

In December last year, Maddock Films announced Param Sundari. It love story of a man from North India and a woman from South India. Param Sundari was announced with much fanfare, and the film's first posters sparked interest among fans. The movie has been directed by Tushar Jalota, who is known for his previous work on Dasvi. It featured Abhishek Bachchan, Yami Gautam, and Nimrat Kaur.

Param Sundari is set to hit cinemas on July 25. This movie will mark Sidharth Malhotra and Janhvi Kapoor's first on-screen collaboration. With Tushar Jalota at the helm and a strong cast, Param Sundari has generated significant buzz, and it is poised to be one of the highly anticipated films of 2025. Fans are eagerly waiting to see how the chemistry between Sidharth and Janhvi unfolds on the big screen.

Twinkle Khanna

Slams 'Ridiculous' Rumours Involving Kareena Kapoor Khan After Saif Ali Khan Attack

Twinkle Khanna recently wrote an article for a newspaper, in which she wrote about 'missus blaming'. She cited several examples, and pointed out how the women (especially wives) are blamed in every situation or problem that men face. She highlighted how Anushka Sharma is blamed when Virat Kohli gets out. She also shared a recent example wherein 'ridiculous' rumours surfaced about Kareena Kapoor Khan after her husband Saif Ali Khan was stabbed by an intruder in their

residence. In her column for Times Of India, Twinkle Khanna wrote that she double-checks the window locks before going to bed, and that a sense of vulnerability has taken root in homes everywhere, in the wake of Saif Ali Khan's stabbing. Further slamming the rumours involving Kareena Kapoor Khan, Twinkle wrote, "While Saif

was in hospital, ridiculous rumours swirled that his wife hadn't been at home or had been too intoxicated to help him during the assault. The absence of any sort of evidence did nothing to stop these dumb theories. People just enjoyed shifting the blame onto the wife — an all-too-familiar pattern."

Twinkle Khanna Points Out Anushka Sharma Gets Blamed Whenever Virat Kohli Gets Out

She further shared instances wherein the blame is unfairly shifted on wives. She pointed out that when the Beatles split, people blamed John Lennon's wife Yoko Ono. "When Virat Kohli gets out, then Anushka gets booted. When Beckham could not bend it on the football field, fingers were pointed at Victoria," she wrote. She said that the wife-blaming is not just restricted to couples in the public eye. In the same column, Twinkle Khanna wrote that during an interview, she was asked what it's like being a 'star wife'.

"While my first instinct is to bite the reporter's index finger, I reply, 'I am not sure that an entity like 'star wife' exists, unless, in the way that Manglik women marry trees, because of some Rahu Ketu ka dosh, you end up marrying Sirius or worse, Halley's Comet,'" she wrote. She further added that she is also often asked about, and blamed for, the difference in political views between her and her husband Akshay Kumar. "It's almost like people believe he isn't my husband but a toddler who will listen to me when I say, 'Beta ji, please walk on the left side of the road, and I will give you a Frooti,'" she wrote.



residence. In her column for Times Of India, Twinkle Khanna wrote that she double-checks the window locks before going to bed, and that a sense of vulnerability has taken root in homes everywhere, in the wake of Saif Ali Khan's stabbing. Further slamming the rumours involving Kareena Kapoor Khan, Twinkle wrote, "While Saif

Farah Khan On Choreographing Loveyapa Actors Junaid Khan, Khushi Kapoor: 'I Started My Career With Aamir...'



Aamir Khan's son Junaid Khan, and Sridevi-Boney Kapoor's younger daughter Khushi Kapoor, are all set to make their theatrical debut with their upcoming film 'Loveyapa'. Choreographer-turned-director Farah Khan recently reflected on her remarkable journey in Bollywood, from choreographing Aamir Khan and Sridevi to now, doing the same for the next generation of actors Junaid Khan and Khushi Kapoor. Farah, who has been in the industry for decades, revealed the emotional connection she shares with the children of some of the biggest stars she once worked with. Speaking about choreographing Junaid Khan, the son of Aamir Khan, and Khushi Kapoor, daughter of the late Sridevi, Farah said, "It was a surreal experience because literally, I think I was working with Aamir in Jo Jeeta Wohi Sikandar and after that Junaid was born. We all had gone to his house with Mansoor and everybody to congratulate him. Same with Sridevi also, I was quite close to her, Boney, and the whole Kapoor family. For me, it was very wonderful."

Farah then added that it feels weird that she has been in this industry for so long. "I don't feel it. It's just that when I shoot with these guys, I realize that, oh my god, I started my career with Aamir and now I'm choreographing his son," she said.

About Loveyapa

'Loveyapa' is a fresh take on Gen-Z relationships, blending romance with comedy. The plot revolves around a humorous challenge set by the lead characters' parents, where Gaurav and Baani must exchange their phones for a day to prove their trust before deciding to marry. Apart from Junaid Khan and Khushi Kapoor, the film also features a stellar cast including Grusha Kapoor, Ashutosh Rana, Tanvika Parikar, Kiku Sharda, and Kunj Anand. Directed by Advait Chandan and backed by Phantom Studios and AGS Entertainment, Loveyapa is set for a worldwide release by Zee Studios on February 7, 2025.

Priyanka Chopra Thirsts Over Husband Nick Jonas' Smouldering Look From Photoshoot: 'Damn'



Priyanka Chopra and Nick Jonas are undeniably one of the most loved celebrity couples, and they never shy away from expressing their love and admiration for each other on social media. From posting swoon-worthy pictures together, to dropping lovely comments on one another's Instagram posts, the couple never fails to shell out major relationship goals. Looks like PeeCee can't get enough of her hubby, as she recently shared a captivating picture of Nick, and couldn't help but appreciate his good looks! On Saturday evening, Priyanka Chopra took to her Instagram stories and shared a picture of her hubby Nick Jonas from a magazine photoshoot. The picture shows him staring intently at the camera. He is seen with an intense look on his face, and can be seen flaunting his biceps while sporting a black tank top. The picture captured Nick's bold charisma and powerful presence, while his tousled hair further added to his allure. Sharing the picture from the photoshoot, Priyanka swooned over her hubby and wrote, "Damn," along with a hot face emoji. Check out her Instagram story below!

Priyanka Chopra and Nick Jonas often openly appreciate and hype each other up on social media. They also frequently share pictures on social media, giving fans a sneak-peek into their day-to-day life. A few weeks ago, post New Year celebration, Priyanka dropped a series of pictures with her hubby Nick Jonas and their 3-year-old daughter Malti Marie. She wrote, "Abundance. That is my goal for 2025. In joy, in happiness and in peace. May we all find abundance this new year. So grateful for my family. Happy 2025."

Meanwhile, on the professional front, Priyanka Chopra has several exciting projects in the pipeline. She will star alongside Idris Elba and John Cena in 'Heads of State', an action-comedy directed by Ilya Naishuller. She will also play a 19th-century Caribbean pirate in 'The Bluff', a swashbuckling drama set in the Caribbean. The film, directed by Frank E. Flowers, also stars Karl Urban, Ismael Cruz Cordova, Safia Oakley-Green, and Vedanten Naidoo. Additionally, she will return for the second season of the spy thriller series 'Citadel'.

