

AKHAND BHARAT SANDESH

Title Code - UPENG04488

NATIONAL ENGLISH DAILY

MORNING EDITION PRAYAGRAJ

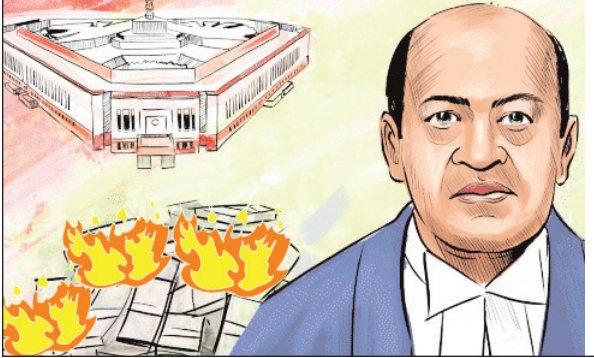
Wednesday, 13 August 2025

UNIQUE GIFT OF KRIYAYOGA ASHRAM AND RESEARCH INSTITUTE TO GIVE IMPETUS TO WORLD BUILDING AND HUMAN DEVELOPMENT.

Lok Sabha: Impeachment motion against Justice Verma accepted

Speaker approved the impeachment motion against Justice Yashwant Verma of Allahabad High Court in Lok Sabha

New Delhi: Lok Sabha Speaker Om Birla on Tuesday approved the impeachment motion against Justice Yashwant Verma of Allahabad High Court in the cash scandal case. The Speaker said, 'I have received the motion with the signatures of a total of 146 members including Ravi Shankar Prasad and the Leader of the Opposition.' He said that this motion demands the removal of Justice Yashwant Verma of Allahabad High Court from the post. The Speaker announced a 3-member committee for investigation. It includes 1 judge each from the Supreme Court and the High Court and 1 legal expert. This impeachment motion will remain pending until the report of the investigation committee comes. Viral video of



Facts are pointing towards corruption

Speaker Birla said - We have studied the provisions of the Judges Inquiry Act. We have also kept information about the laws declared by the Supreme Court as well as many other decisions. The Supreme Court has found the complaint to be of serious nature. In-house procedure was followed.' 'The Chief Justice, after considering the matter, formed

the opinion on the reaction of Justice Verma and the Chief Justice of Delhi High Court that a thorough investigation is necessary. Therefore, a 3-member committee was formed.' 'We remember that the then CJI has sent this report to the PM and the President. It has also been said that in this case, work has been done as per the previous provisions.

Justice Yashwant Verma's house on March 14 this year. In

this, bundles of half-burnt 500-rupee notes were seen.

Retail inflation falls to an eight-year low in July

New Delhi: The common man has got a big relief on the inflation front. The retail inflation rate has come down to an eight-year low of 1.55 percent in July, which was 2.1 percent in June last month. This is the first time since January 2019 that the retail inflation rate has come below 2 percent. According to the



Ministry of Statistics and Program Implementation, the retail inflation rate based on the Consumer Price Index (CPI) has come down to an eight-year low of 1.55 per-

cent in July. This is the lowest level in 97 months. Earlier, the retail inflation rate was 1.54 percent in June 2017. The retail inflation rate was 2.10 percent in June 2025. Similarly, it was 2.82 percent in May 2025 and 3.16 percent in April 2025. According to the data, the retail inflation rate has come down.

Opposition parties are criticising SIR unnecessarily: Lalan Singh

Kolkata: Union Fisheries and Animal Husbandry Minister Rajiv Ranjan alias Lallan Singh on Saturday said that the Special Intensive Revision (SIR) of the voter list is not being done by the Central Government but is being done entirely by the Election Commission. Speaking to reporters after a meeting with fisheries officials from West Bengal, Jharkhand and Bihar in Kolkata, he accused some political parties of taking political advantage of this process. The Union Minister said, "SIR has not been initiated by the Center. This is the process of the Election Commission. The Commission is only checking who are the real citizens of the country. Should the names of those who have died or left the country remain in the voter list?" He quipped, "Unfortunately some opposition parties seem to want the names of dead people in the voter list." He said that the Election Commission has given 11 options to prove citizenship. Giving his own example, he said, "I already had an entry in the voter list and I have voted before 2003. Still I filled the form because I believe in the democratic process. What is wrong in this?" He also targeted Tejashwi Yadav on the question of Bihar leader Tejashwi Yadav's name being excluded from the voter list, the minister replied, 'Was Tejashwi ji born after 2003? He had to fill the form, did he fill it?'



"Supreme" hearing held on SIR

Hearing

❑ The Supreme court had fixed the date of hearing on August 12 and 13

New Delhi: The apex court heard petitions challenging the Election Commission's move of SIR of voter lists in Bihar. The court had



fixed the date of hearing on August 12 and 13. During the hearing, the court said that be prepared. We will ask you some questions regarding the facts and figures

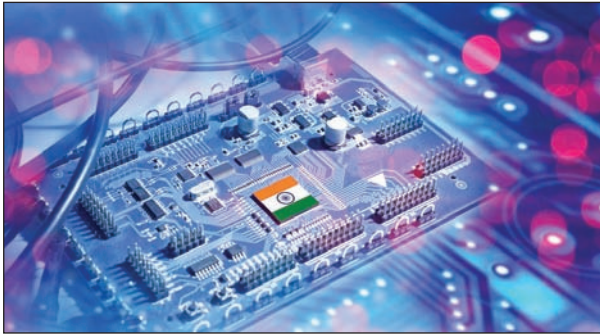
Goyal held discussions with leading industrialists of the textile industry

New Delhi: Union Commerce and Industry Minister Piyush Goyal on Saturday met leading industrialists of the textile industry in Mumbai amid the US' announcement of imposing 25 per cent import duty (tariff) on India. Intensive discussions were held with the industrialists. During this, bold ideas were discussed to enhance global competitiveness, sustainability.

New Delhi: There is a relief news for old car owners. 10 year old diesel and 15 year old petrol vehicles will not be banned in Delhi-NCR. The Supreme Court has asked the government not to take any action on the petition of the Delhi government in which a reconsideration of the 2018 order banning 10 year old diesel and 15 year old petrol vehicles has been sought. The court has issued a notice to the central

Four new semiconductor projects approved

New Delhi: The central government has given the green signal to four more semiconductor projects under India's Semiconductor Mission. With this, a total of 10 units have been approved to be set up in 6 states. The Union Cabinet chaired by Prime Minister Narendra Modi approved the setting up of four semicon-



ductor production units in Odisha, Punjab and Andhra Pradesh with an

investment of Rs 4,600 crore.

Union Minister Ashwini Vaishnav told

in a press conference at the National Media Center on Tuesday that this will provide employment to 2034 skilled professionals. It will also help in creating an electronic manufacturing economy in India, which is likely to generate many indirect jobs in the future. So far 10 projects have been approved under India's

Semiconductor Mission. An investment of Rs 1.60 lakh crore is being made in these projects being built in six states. Sysem will set up units in Odisha, Continental Devices India Pvt Ltd (CDIL) in Punjab, 3D Glass Solutions Inc and Advanced System in Package (ASIP) Technologies in Andhra Pradesh.

Dumb animals are not a problem, removing them is cruelty: Rahul Gandhi

New Delhi: Congress MP Rahul Gandhi on Tuesday reacted to the Supreme Court's decision to remove all stray dogs from Delhi-NCR. He

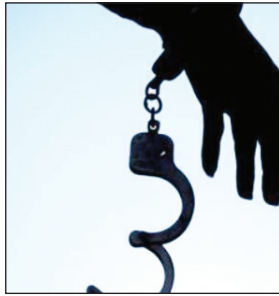


This can keep dogs safe even without cruelty. Complete ban is cruel, short-sighted and destroys our compassion. We can ensure how public safety and animal welfare go hand in hand.' In fact, on August 11, the Supreme Court has directed the municipal bodies of Delhi-NCR to immediately catch stray dogs, sterilize them and keep them permanently in shelter homes.



Opposition protest against SIR in Parliament

Immediately release prisoners who have completed their sentence: Supreme Court



prisoner is found, whose sentence has been completed and he is not wanted in any other case, then he should be released

immediately. Instructions given to the secretaries of all the states. The bench of Justice BV Nagarathna and Justice KV Vishwanathan gave this direction while ordering the release of Sukhdev alias Pehlwan, who was found guilty in the 2002 Nitish Katara murder case. The bench said that Yadav has completed 20 years of sentence in March this year without any remission.

The bench said, 'A copy of this order should be sent by the registry to the Home Secretaries of all the states and union territories to ascertain whether any accused or convict is in jail for more than the period of sentence.' Send a copy of the order to the Member Secretary of the National Legal Services Authority so that it can be sent to all the Member Secretaries.

Supreme Court strict on climate change

New Delhi: The Supreme Court has said that all the concerned parties will have to come on a common platform to deal with the problem of carbon emissions from power generation.

Prepare a concrete action plan in this direction by calling a joint meeting with the CEA and the Central

Electricity Regulatory Commission (CERC). The court believes that the challenge of emissions cannot be overcome without connecting the policy makers to the ground realities. A bench of Justice PS Narasimha and Justice AS Chandurkar said in its order of July 22 that to control carbon emissions generated.

Order

The Supreme Court has asked the government not to take any action

There will be no ban on old vehicles in Delhi-NCR for now: Court



government and asked it to file a reply within four weeks. The Delhi government has filed a petition in the Supreme Court demanding a

review of the complete ban on old diesel and petrol vehicles in Delhi-NCR. The Delhi government says that instead of strict age-

based restrictions, emission-based restrictions based on scientific standards should be implemented. The Delhi government's petition challenges the Supreme Court's order of October 29, 2018, in which the operation of diesel vehicles older than 10 years and petrol vehicles older than 15 years was banned, upholding the direction of the National Green Tribunal (NGT). The Delhi government's

petition has demanded a comprehensive study by the Air Quality Management Commission. The petition states that the comprehensive study will reveal whether age-based restrictions are actually more effective than emission-based vehicle fitness policy. The Delhi government has said that pollution from vehicles depends on their maintenance and usage methods. In such a situation.

The Indian military teaches locals in Jammu and Kashmir

Delhi: Training Village Defence Guards (VDGs) to bolster local security against terrorist threats has been initiated by the Indian Army in partnership with the Jammu and Kashmir Police. The program's overarching goal is to improve regional security by teaching locals how to defend their homes and communities. Training for minor tactics, squad post drills, and the use of automatic rifles is underway for around 600 individuals. Participants are able to put their newly acquired abilities to action in realistic scenarios thanks to training sessions held in close proximity to the villages. Structured training lasts at least three days for each VDG unit. With the help of teachers and materials from the Corps Battle School in Sarol, formations of the Indian Army are leading the training. Around 500 people in Rajouri and 85 to 90 in Doda and Kishtwar have been trained



Jagannath temple body to apply for patents on names

Delhi: Amid the tussle between Odisha and West Bengal over naming of the Jagannath temple in Digha as Jagannath dham, the Jagannath temple management committee of Puri on Monday said it would apply for patent for expressions such as 'Srimandir', 'Jagannath Dham', and 'Mahaprasad'. The temple management committee

through the initiative, which was started in response to a request from the Jammu and Kashmir Police. The Jammu and Kashmir Police and the Army's

which met in Puri said. The Sri Jagannath Temple Administration would apply for patents of terms such as 'Srimandir', 'Jagannath Dham', 'Mahaprasad', 'logo of Srimandir', 'Shrikshetra', and 'Purushottam Dham'. It has been approved in a high-level meeting today," said SJTA chief administrator Arabinda Padhee.

Ordnance Depots are working together to offer VDGs Self-Loading Rifles (SLRs), giving them even more authority to protect their villages.

Congress says Centre MSP doesn't cover inputs

Delhi: The Congress argued that Kharif crop Minimum Support Price (MSP) did not cover input prices and accused the Modi government of misleading farmers. The MSP has become the maximum agony for producers, Congress national secretary Randeep Surjewala said reporters at a news briefing. The Centre claims it has increased the MSP for crops, but Mr. Surjewala said it is far below the Swaminathan Commission's "cost (C2) plus 50%" calculation. Despite declaring MSP, the Centre is not buying crops at that rate, "cheating" farmers.



"What is the point of announcing the MSP without purchase" he questioned. Regarding the Centre's paddy MSP, the Congress leader argued that it was 766 lower than the C2 plus 50% formula. According to Mr. Surjewala, the government should have announced 3,135 MSP

for paddy, but instead only 2,369 MSP was announced. Even NDA/BJP-ruled states reported higher input prices than MSP, with Bihar, Gujarat, and Maharashtra recommending MSPs of 3,260, 3,000, and 4,783, respectively.

'Secularism must be two-way street': Pawan

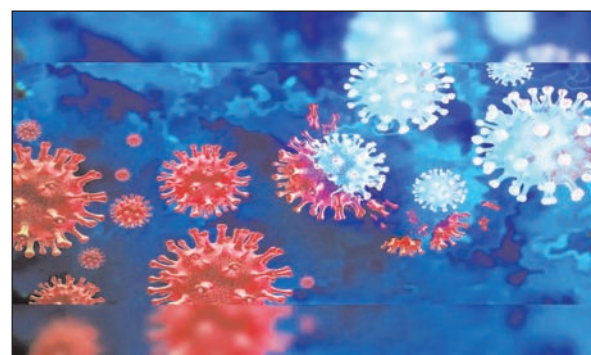
Delhi : Actor-turned-politician Pawan Kalyan condemned the arrest of a Symbiosis law student, who was booked for allegedly hurting 'religious sentiments' through a viral video posted during 'Operation Sindoor'. The student, arrested by West Bengal Police from Gurgaon following a court warrant, had earlier

deleted the video and issued an apology after it drew criticism online. Taking to X, Kalyan questioned the silence over repeated instances of alleged blasphemy by TMC leaders and MPs, accusing them of mocking Sanatana Dharma by calling it "Gandha Dharm". "Blasphemy must be condemned, always! Secularism isn't a

shield for some and a sword for others. It must be a two-way street. West Bengal Police, the nation is watching. Act justly for all," he said, urging equal condemnation of all such acts and impartial police action. The student was produced before Alipore court and remanded to judicial custody till June 13.



Long-Covid affects 15% of newborns and toddlers, symptoms vary by age



Delhi : During another worldwide pandemic, a new study found that 15% of babies and toddlers had long-term COVID-19 and that symptoms vary by age. After a SARS-CoV-2 infection, kids with long Covid have symptoms for at least three months. About 15% of 472 infants and toddlers and 539 preschoolers recruited from March 2022 to July 2024 had lengthy Covid, according to the JAMA Pediatrics study. About 40 of 278 babies under 2 years old (14%) and 61 of 399 children aged 3 to 5 years (15%) experienced persistent symptoms. According to the study, newborns and toddlers have different long-Covid symptoms than preschoolers aged 3-5. Trouble sleeping, fussiness, poor appetite, stuffy nose, and cough were more common in infants and toddlers under 2 years old. Dry coughs and afternoon fatigue were more common in preschoolers (3-5 years old). Preschoolers with probably long Covid had 74% dry coughs.

PMK schism widens as Ramadoss senior attacks son

Delhi : Senior Ramadoss accused his 56-year-old son of throwing a bottle at his mother, calling him a liar, and failing to lead the party "in the right direction" as their schism deepened. In Villupuram, the 85-year-old told the media, "Everyone worships their mother. At Pongal, Anbumani's mother asked if we made his second daughter the youth wing leader. Anbumani flung a bottle at his mother in reaction. Luckily, it impacted the wall instead of her. A sample." Anbumani opposed Ramadoss naming his daughter's son, P Mukundan, as PMK's youth wing chairman. Mukundan resigned Thursday for personal reasons. Ramadoss said his son was "creating internal power struggles" and lying "without shame". Anbumani called a



three-day party netas meeting on Friday. Anbumani's sources stated he didn't make a statement but proved party power. Anbumani doesn't listen or let them speak. I wanted PMK and AIADMK to cooperate for the 2024 LS elections. Anbumani and AIADMK general secretary Edappadi K Palaniswami discussed and formed an alliance.

However, Anbumani and Sowmya immediately wept and demanded a BJP coalition, "Ramadoss added. I gave in after they sobbed so long. AIADMK-PMK may have allied naturally. He stated that PMK could have won three seats and AIADMK six or seven. Ramadoss denied responsibility for Anbumani's activities as PMK's working president.

Teachers overburdened, students didn't attend classes 18 govt schools

Delhi: class 12 board exam results were declared earlier this week, 18 govt schools in Haryana have come under scrutiny. No student passed from any of these schools. Most of these six are in Nuh, four in Faridabad, and one each in Gurgaon, Hisar, Jhajjar, Karnal, Palwal, Rohtak, Sonapat and Yamunanagar. The zero-pass record isn't the only concern. These schools are among 100 govt institutions that performed poorly in the boards, overshadowing the overall pass percentage of 85.7. In 82 schools across Haryana's 22 districts, the pass percentage.

UGC bans 3 private universities from PhD admissions for 5 years

Delhi: Due to academic misconduct and UGC PhD regulations, OPJS University (Churu), Sunrise University (Alwar), and Singhania University (Jhunjhunu) have been forbidden from accepting PhD students for five years (2025-26 to 2029-30). Admissions at three Rajasthan universities were suspended immediately. Following admission exam protocols, Research Advisory Committee (RAC) creation, and thesis evaluation criteria, the UGC found their practices inadequate. Another 30 are being examined.

The UGC said, "After analysing/ examining/ evaluating the information/ data submitted by the universities, the Standing Committee has found that three universities did not follow the provisions of the UGC PhD regulations and also the academic norms for the award of PhD degrees... the responses received from these universities were not found satisfactory." UGC chair M Jagadesh Kumar stressed PhD program integrity and said additional Indian universities are being reviewed. To maintain

Indian higher education's reputation, violations may result in similar punishments. PhD programs should be held to the highest standards by universities. Institutions that violate UGC's PhD regulations will be punished. We are also inspecting PhD programs at other universities. Those that breach PhD regulations will also be punished. Incorrect institutions must be barred from admitting PhD candidates. We must protect Indian higher education's integrity and worldwide standing "UGC chair.

Kavitha rebels against BRS leadership, claims BJP merger

Delhi: In a revolt against Bharat Rashtia Samithi led by former Telangana chief minister K Chandrasekhar Rao (KCR), his daughter and state legislative council member Kalvakuntla Kavitha accused the BRS of merging with the BJP. Kavitha accused the party leadership, particularly her brother KT Rama Rao (KTR), the working president, in a meeting with media at her home. She stated BRS-BJP merger discussions were underway. Merging with the BJP was proposed while I was in jail. I advised my father against rushing to unite the BRS and BJP. I offered to serve six months or perhaps years in prison, she said. She was in jail from March to August 2024 for her alleged role in the Delhi excise policy scandal. The Supreme Court released her on bail. The siblings' fight



Delhi high court upholds Army officer's termination for refusing to attend religious parade

Delhi: Delhi high court has upheld the 2017 termination of an Army officer who refused to participate in regimental weekly religious parades on the grounds that he belonged to the Christian faith. Samuel had challenged his dismissal without pension and gratuity, and sought reinstatement in service. In a May 30 order, a division bench of Justice Navin Chawla and Justice said: "Our armed forces comprise personnel of all religions, castes, creeds, regions and faiths, whose sole motto is to safeguard the country .

was revealed last week when Kavitha's May 2 letter to KCR was leaked. When asked about the letter accusing KCR of softening on the BJP, she stated her

father was like "God" but "surrounded by some demons" night. He continued, "There is only one leader for Telangana and that is KCR."

Yeida approves Film City layout

Delhi: The Yamuna Expressway Industrial Development Authority (Yeida) approved the layout design for the projected Film City in Sector 21, allowing filmmaker Boney Kapoor-led Bayview Bhutani Film City Private Limited to begin building. On December 24, 2024, Bayview Bhutani submitted the layout plan for clearance because work cannot begin without it. Yeida officials approved the layout plan following a thorough planning and high-level committee assessment.

NHAI, Greater Noida authority to build 4km elevated road

Delhi: The Greater Noida authority said it has approved a proposal to build a 4km elevated road from Sector 4 to the Delhi-Meerut Expressway. The road will start from the 130 Metre Wide Road in Sector 4, cross over Shahberi and Crossings Republik in Ghaziabad, and meet the



expressway. The National

Highways Authority of India (NHAI) will construct the road, officials said.

The Noida, Greater Noida and Ghaziabad development authorities are likely to bear the cost of this project, which has been budgeted for 400 crore, said Greater Noida authority officials. We

have given in-principle approval for this 4km elevated road because traffic congestion in Noida Extension is set to rise. We have written to NHAI to build the 4km elevated road because it can seamlessly connect Greater Noida with the Delhi-Meerut Expressway.

Short on funds Temples and memorials to receive Rs 3,000 crore from Maharashtra government

Delhi : The financially constrained Maharashtra government approved plans to preserve and renovate monuments and temples in the state, with a total cost of Rs 2,954 crore. Included in this is the green light for a Rs 681.3 crore development plan to preserve the memorial to Ahilyadevi Holkar, a warrior queen from the 18th century, at her birthplace in Chaundi village, Ahilyanagar. The announcement was made at a cabinet



meeting at Ahilyanagar, just in time for the ruler's 300th birthday. The project is scheduled to be finished in three years.

Dedicating yourself to exploring Plans to build seven large pilgrimage centers in the

state totaling 5,503 crore rupees were approved at the same cabinet meeting. A portion of this amount was allocated to the following projects: the Ashtavinayak temples, the Tuljabhavani temple, the Jyotiba temple,

the Trimbakeshwar temple, the Mahalaxmi Mandir, the Mahurgad development, and the Mahalaxmi Mandir.

The administration administratively approved four of the seven projects on Wednesday. Included in this is the Rs 147.8 crore Ashtavinayak temples construction plan, which calls for an outlay of 100 crore for the temples itself and 47.4 crore for associated expenses like lighting, architectural consulting, and electrification.

The DM Magistrate reviewed the progress of roads, bridges and proposed projects being constructed by Setu Nigam, NH, PWD, UPDA and other implementing agencies

Instructions were given to complete the ongoing works in a timely manner in a quality manner

Akhand Bharat Sandesh

Prayagraj. A meeting was held in Sangam Auditorium on Tuesday under the chairmanship of District Magistrate Manish Kumar Verma regarding the roads and bridges being under construction. In the meeting, the District Magistrate reviewed in detail the roads, bridges and proposed projects being constructed by implementing agencies like Setu Nigam, NH, PWD, UPDA etc. In the meeting, the District Magistrate took information about the problems being faced in the work being done by all the implementing agencies.

In the meeting, the District Magistrate took detailed information about the ring road being constructed by the National Highway Authority of India and when asked about the progress of the work, it was told that the work of the entire ring road is being done in two phases. Phase-1 has three packages, in which 3-D is to be published in package-1, construction is underway in package-2 and 32 percent work has been



completed and 95 percent work of package-3 has been completed. The District Magistrate has instructed to publish 3-D soon and complete all the projects speedily with quality. He has instructed to repair the potholes on Andawa to Jaunpur road and to get the drainage system fixed. In the meeting, the District Magistrate has asked to take necessary action to install nets or make other arrangements to prevent incidents of people committing suicide by jumping from the new Yamuna Bridge. When the District Magistrate sought information from the officials of NH Raebareilly about the progress of road widening work between Lal Gopalganj and Nawabganj, it was told that the work of widening the 17.5 km road from two lanes

to four lanes is going on and 54 percent of the work has been completed and soon the remaining work will be completed in a quality manner. When the District Magistrate sought information from the concerned officials of NH PWD about the progress of construction of Ramvanagamanpath Marg and Jasra bypass, it was told that there are five packages in this project.

Package-2 includes 14 km of road in Prayagraj and Pratapgarh districts, in which about 98 percent of the work has been completed. The construction work of Jasra bypass is going on as per the new scheduled time and 88 percent of the work has been completed and the work will be completed by September. Regarding the transfer of

street lights on NH-96 Ayodhya-Prayagraj Marg, the Additional District Magistrate Nagar has been instructed to take necessary action.

In the meeting, the District Magistrate reviewed the under-construction 6-lane Phaphamau Bridge and directed to complete the work speedily with quality. He has asked to review the progress of the work every 15 days. When the District Magistrate sought information about the progress of the work of the under-construction Ganga Expressway, it was told that the Ganga Expressway is 594 km long, which is divided into 4 groups. Group-4 has a distance of 156 km, which includes 4 districts including Prayagraj. Prayagraj district has a distance of 15 km, in which the work of the main carriageway is complete till BC, the work of the service lane is to be completed. In the meeting, the District Magistrate has directed to make necessary arrangements for the drainage of water in the two underpasses constructed near Judhapur Dandu.

Basic Education Minister debunks opposition's claims

Lucknow. Basic Education Minister Sandeep Singh, on Tuesday, hit back at Opposition criticism on enrolment, teacher recruitment, school mergers, and admission age reforms, accusing them of politicising the issue and misleading the public. Citing data in the Uttar Pradesh Legislative Assembly, he said the government has taken historic steps to raise education standards.



Responding to queries from the opposition regarding the recent incident in Fatehpur in the state assembly on Tuesday, Uttar Pradesh Finance and Parliamentary Affairs Minister Suresh Khanna dismissed claims of government involvement as baseless.

Samajwadis first vitiate atmosphere, then disrupt House proceedings, says govt

Lucknow : For the second day on Tuesday, proceedings in the UP Assembly were disrupted over the Fatehpur incident. The Yogi government told the House that an FIR has been lodged, culprits identified, and strict action assured, yet the



Opposition continued to stall business. Ministers Suresh

Khanna, Nitin Agarwal, and Dayashankar Singh accused the Opposition

of deliberately spreading anarchy for political gain.

Finance and Parliamentary Affairs Minister Suresh Khanna said the Leader of the Opposition raised the Fatehpur incident, to which he promptly gave a detailed reply.

Yogi govt provides land for English and Foreign Language University



Linguistic

A big step towards providing students with global-level linguistic education

Lucknow: With the aim of promoting quality education in English and foreign languages, the Yogi Government has transferred 2.3239 hectares of land for the construction of a permanent campus for the English and Foreign Languages University, Hyderabad (a Central University). This land is located in village Chakauli, Pargana Bijnor, Tehsil Sarojini Nagar, District Lucknow, on lease at the rate of Rs 1 per year. At the permanent campus in Lucknow, the central university will run regular programs like B.A. (Honours) English, M.A. English,

M.A. Linguistics, M.A. English Literature, PGDTE, and Ph.D along with part-time courses in French, German, Russian, and Spanish languages. At present, the university is temporarily operating from the RTTC Complex, Kanpur Road, Lucknow. At the land transfer ceremony Higher Education Minister Yogendra Upadhyay who was also the chief Guest, said that the Yogi Government is committed to providing the youth of the state with linguistic education of global standards. He expressed confidence that the construction of the permanent campus will lead to unprecedented growth in the quality of education and facilities. The University's Vice-Chancellor, Prof. N. Nagaraju, expressed gratitude.

Grand Tiranga Bike Rally in Ghazipur: District Magistrate Flags Off the Event

Akhand Bharat Sandesh

Ghazipur : As part of the "Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav" and the "Har Ghar Tiranga" campaign, a grand Tiranga Bike Rally was organized in Ghazipur to celebrate the event in a magnificent manner. The rally was flagged off by District Magistrate Avinash Kumar from the Vikas Bhavan (Development Building). Leading the rally on a bike himself, Chief Development Officer Santosh Kumar Vaishya gave a strong message to the citizens of the district: to hoist the national flag at every household and ensure Ghazipur secures the top position in the campaign. The rally commenced from Vikas Bhavan and passed through Sainik Chauraha (Bhootahiya Taal), Lanka,



Visheshwarganj, Mahuabagh, Collectorate, and Irrigation Department Chauraha before culminating back at the starting point. The CDO stated that the purpose of this initiative is to awaken a sense of patriotism among all citizens. He appealed to everyone to hoist the national flag at every home and establishment from August 13 to August 15, and to celebrate Independence Day with pride and unity. The District Magistrate informed that similar rallies are being conducted in all tehsils and

blocks across the district, and will continue through August 14 and 15. Children and villagers are also actively participating by carrying the tricolour in their localities. Har Ghar Tiranga campaign while promoting social harmony and mutual respect. As part of the campaign, Self-Help Groups (SHGs) are involved in the production of the national flags, which are being distributed among the public. Awareness campaigns are underway to encourage everyone to display the flag proudly at their homes. The

District Magistrate urged all residents of the district to actively participate in the campaign and maintain communal harmony. He emphasized that the message of this rally is to take pride in the national flag on Independence Day, and to take a selfie with the flag and upload it on the official portal

HarGharTiranga.com. Prominent participants in the rally included Sub-Divisional Magistrate (Sadar) Manoj Pathak, District Development Officer Subhash Chandra Saroj, Circle Officer (Sadar), Basic Education Officer, District Information Officer Rakesh Kumar, along with school teachers and various district-level officers and staff who took part by riding bikes in the rally.

New executive formed in Allahabad High Court Bar Association

Assumed

All the officials including Rakesh Pandey, President Amit Singh, Vice President took charge

Akhand Bharat Sandesh

Prayagraj. The new executive elected in the election of Allahabad High Court Bar Association duly assumed office on 12 August 2025. This formal program was



held under the chairmanship of Elders Committee Chairman and Senior Advocate Vijay Bahadur Singh and in the presence of senior advocates Sarvjeet VK Singh, BP Srivastava, CLF

Pandey, AN Trivedi. Chief Election Officer Richa Kant Ojha, Senior Advocate Lal Bhupan, Sarvjeet Tiwari and Mahendra Bahadur Singh were also present in the taking charge ceremony. The

program was organized at 3 pm on the sixth floor of the High Court Chambers Building. On this occasion, the newly elected President Rakesh Pandey, Senior Vice President K.K. Trivedi, General Secretary Akhilesh Sharma, Treasurer Anjani Kumar Mishra, Administrative Secretary Girish Shukla, Press Secretary R.D. Pandey, Library Secretary Shashi Trivedi 'Ujj', Joint Secretary (Women) Bindu Rao and the entire executive were present. Amit Singh Sonu, Vivek Mishra, Rajkumar Tripathi,

Hanuman Prasad Mishra and Dinesh Varan also took charge as vice-presidents. The members of the governing body included Anjali Singh Tomar, Kanak Tripathi, Divyanshu Tiwari, Baldev Shukla, Abhishek Tiwari, Tripti Yadav, Aarti Gupta, Akhand Pratap Tripathi, Girish Shukla, Gaya Prasad Mishra, Anirudh Singh, Avnish Chandra Tripathi, Krishna Mohan Pandey, Aditya Dhar Trivedi and Amit Singh Sengar. Speakers at the swearing-in ceremony expressed hope that the new executive will work actively

to resolve the problems of advocates and for the development of the bar. Senior advocates congratulated the newly elected office bearers and said that working with transparency, unity and service spirit will increase the dignity and prestige of the Bar Association. The members present on the occasion congratulated each other and reiterated their resolve to move forward with team spirit. The ceremony was conducted by Joint Secretary Rameshwar Dutt Pandey and in the end everyone was thanked.

This rally was flagged off by Chief Development Officer of Prayagraj Harshika Singh and District School Inspector PN Singh

Tricolor rally organized before Independence Day

Akhand Bharat Sandesh

Prayagraj. On the occasion of Independence Day, to make the Har Ghar Tiranga Abhiyan successful under Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav, on Tuesday, 12th August 2025, the girl students of Government Girls Inter College, Swaroopnari Prayagraj, with full zeal and enthusiasm, waving the tricolor in their hands and carrying placards with patriotic slogans, took out a tricolor rally from the school via Civil Lines, Hanuman Temple, Medical Square, Office of District School



Inspector. This rally was flagged off by Chief Development Officer of Prayagraj Harshika Singh and District School Inspector PN Singh. The teachers and girl students waving the tricolor also raised slogans full of patriotism and Bharat Mata ki

Jai. Earlier, the District School Inspector welcomed and greeted the Chief Development Officer with a bouquet, badge, cap and memento. While welcoming the chief guest, he said that under the Har Ghar Tiranga Abhiyan, the school



Government Girl's Inter College has made a commendable effort by taking the initiative of organizing the Tiranga Rally for the first time. The enthusiasm of all the girl students filled with the spirit of patriotism will help in making the public aware as

well. On this occasion, the Chief Development Officer in her powerful address appealed to all and said that Independence Day, a festival symbolizing national pride, is a festival to remind us of the sacrifices made by our immortal martyrs for the freedom

of the country. On this occasion, we should follow our constitutional values, ideals, fundamental rights as well as fundamental duties. The program was conducted by Dr. Prabhakar Tripathi. The school's Principal Neelam Mishra, Lata Kumari, Rashmi Singh, Kiran Rai, Pragya Mishra, Anita Uttam, Dr. Madhu Yadav, Dr. Teachers like Ranjana Yadav, Dr. Akanksha Keshari, Mridula Yadav, Vandana Anand, Pallavi Srivastava, Kirti Pandey, Charu Gupta, Bharti, Rekha Ram etc. were included.

Fertilizer sales soar in UP, Yogi govt ensures timely supply to farmers

Lucknow: Fertilizer sales in Uttar Pradesh have seen a sharp rise under Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath's leadership, reflecting the state's strong push for agricultural support. As per Agriculture Department data, 39.40 lakh metric tonnes of fertilizers have been sold so far this Kharif season (up to August 11, 2025), compared to 33.42 lakh metric tonnes during the same period last year — an increase of over 5.98 lakh metric tonnes. With ongoing efforts, sales are expected to climb further before the season

ends. Placing farmers at the heart of its priorities since 2017, the Yogi government has launched numerous initiatives for their welfare, ensuring timely and adequate fertilizer supply. Fertilizers are being provided across the state at the prescribed MRP, without any extra charges, countering opposition allegations of scarcity or overpricing. Strict measures are in place to prevent black marketing, hoarding, and other malpractices, ensuring that anti-social elements cannot exploit farmers.

Editorial

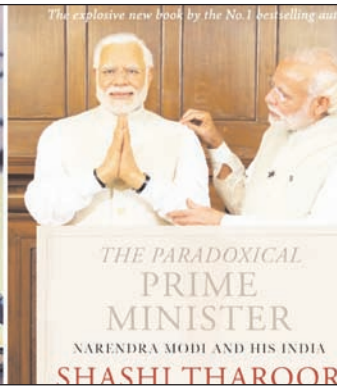
India's GDP victory over Japan is still a year away

There has been much discussion about the assertions made by BVR Subrahmanyam, the CEO of NITI Aayog, India's only official think tank. Speaking at a press conference following the 10th NITI Aayog Governing Council Meeting chaired by Prime Minister Narendra Modi and presumably attended by senior bureaucrats, Subrahmanyam said that "as I speak", India has overtaken Japan in current dollar GDP. Critics of the government's assertion make two points, one relevant and the other "noisy". The relevant point is that the IMF World Economic Outlook (WEO) database clearly shows that for the fiscal year 2024-25 (ending in March 2025), India's GDP was \$3.9 trillion while Japan's was \$4.0 trillion—that is, Japan was 2.6 per cent ahead. Fortunately, both Japan and India have the same fiscal year—April-March—hence adjustments to WEO data are not needed. Equally clearly, the database presents estimates of India's GDP for fiscal year 2025-26 as \$4.187 trillion and Japan's as \$4.186 trillion—that is, India's GDP exceeds Japan's by 0.02 per cent in 2025-26. From this, many, if not most, analysts have erroneously concluded that this won't happen until March 2026. Why erroneous? Because it is a fiscal year conclusion, and the 'centre of gravity' of an April-March fiscal year is September. So, it is likely that the NITI Aayog CEO, in making his hasty conclusion, was wrong by only four months. As it happens, Subrahmanyam was hasty by approximately a year. Note that his conclusion and inference pertains to current dollar GDP, and we have to contend with the conversion from rupees to US dollars, and from Japanese yen to US dollars. First, let us look at the Indian estimate. Data just released by the Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation (MoSPI) on Friday shows that India's GDP in current prices for January-March 2025 quarter was Rs 88.17 trillion, or annualised Rs 352.7 trillion. On 23 May, the last market day before Subrahmanyam's assertion, the exchange rate was Rs 85.4/\$—that is, current GDP in March 2025 was 352.7/85.4 or \$4.13 trillion. Indian nominal GDP is growing by about 10 per cent a year. So, by March 2026, we should expect current India GDP to reach \$4.54 trillion. Now we examine the fortunes of Japan's GDP. The seasonally adjusted quarterly estimate of Japan's GDP is 624.9 trillion yen for Q1 of 2025. On 23 May, the exchange rate was 142.6 yen/\$; hence Japan's GDP in March 2025 was \$4.38 trillion, some 6.1 per cent ahead of India's GDP on the same date. Given that exchange rates change every day, we need to decide as to what exchange rate we should use. Amongst many, we can use a calendar year estimate, a quarterly estimate or a 23 May estimate. But no matter which one we use, it will be wrong because exchange rates do not remain constant, and the future is not asked to see, que sera sera. All of us are concerned with the 23 May estimate, hence the discussion and this note. Japan's nominal GDP growth has averaged 3.4 per cent for the last three years. Assuming this to be the average for 2025-26, the estimate for March 2026 is \$4.53 trillion GDP (as 4.38*1.034). So it will be sometime in March 2026 that India's GDP will exceed Japan's in current dollars. Again, que sera sera, the conclusion will depend on what happens to exchange rates. Changes in exchange rates affect nominal dollar GDP calculations. Assume in March 2026 all estimates come true except the \$ yen exchange rate changes from 142.7 to 135 (the yen has become stronger by 5.7 per cent), then Japan's GDP will be 5.7 per cent higher and the day of decision will be delayed beyond March 2026. How do we interpret the dash to conclusion by the CEO? As a sports junkie, I recall countless occasions over the last 50 years when a sprinter looked over his shoulder to see his competitor – and lost the race. What do we learn from this data-heavy exercise?



Tharoor's loyalty keeps colliding with Congress scepticism

"Would you be interested in contesting for the post of (UN) Secretary-General?" It's a question that then-Prime Minister Manmohan Singh asked Shashi Tharoor in New York in 2005. Tharoor, who was serving as the United Nations Under-Secretary-General, would later admit that Singh's question caught him a little off guard. Having served in various capacities at the UN since 1978, Tharoor felt that his "entire working life had seemed like a preparation" for the organisation's top post. Yet, he had no reason to believe that New Delhi was ready to back such a bid on his behalf, at least not at the time. India did eventually nominate him, albeit after a delay, for the position in mid-2006. Tharoor lost to Ban Ki-moon of South Korea, whose government mounted an aggressive campaign for its candidate. It was, however, the United States that emerged as the biggest stumbling block to Tharoor's candidacy. "Three factors—the bilateral relationship with Korea, a perception of a lack of conviction on India's part, and the Bush Administration's desire not to repeat the Kofi Annan experiment of a 'strong' Secretary-General—combined to ensure the US veto that scuttled my candidacy," he wrote in Open magazine in 2016. Two decades later, in a classic twist of irony, Tharoor finds himself embroiled in a controversy tinged with diplomatic hues. The same Congress party that once championed his bid for the highest seat in global diplomacy is now glum over the Centre naming him as the leader of a multi-party delegation visiting various world capitals on Operation Sindoor. His UN battle lost in



2006, Tharoor started spending more time in India and found a home in the Congress party, which offered him the post of Minister of State for External Affairs after his first Lok Sabha victory from Thiruvananthapuram, Kerala, in the 2009 general elections. Tharoor continues to retain the seat, winning four elections on the trot. In 2015, Tharoor claimed that when he was still considering his options after the UN stint, he had also received offers to join the BJP and the Left. But he chose the Congress because, as he explained in 2009, "I have nothing economically in common with the ideology of the Left and Communist parties. Those who have followed my writing for years know that I have nothing in common with the communalism that has been unfortunately encouraged by people associated with the Bharatiya Janata Party... and that basically means the Congress party." Nevertheless, Tharoor's loyalty to the Congress has remained suspect in the eyes of a section of party leaders from the beginning. His words of praise for Narendra Modi just days after the Congress' drubbing in the 2014 general elections marked the beginning of a series of statements over the last decade that cemented

this perception. In a HuffPost article, Tharoor wrote that just as Modi "remade himself from a hate-figure into an avatar of modernity and progress, he is seeking to remake the BJP from a vehicle of Hindu chauvinism to a natural party of governance." He continued: "For an opposition member of Parliament like myself, it would be churlish not to acknowledge Modi 2.0's inclusive outreach and to welcome his more conciliatory statements and actions. The moment he says or does something divisive or sectarian in the Modi 1.0 mould, however, we will resist him robustly. India's people, and its pluralist democracy, deserve no less." Following criticism from his party colleagues, Tharoor reaffirmed his commitment to the Congress and the principles of secularism in a letter to the party's communication department. "By praising him (Modi) for specific things, we help frame public expectation of his continued behaviour and raise the bar against which we will judge him in future," he wrote. However, it did little to dispel the growing perception of Tharoor as a misfit within the Congress. As Congress general secretary (communications) Jairam Ramesh told a press huddle last month, "Congress mein hona aur Congress ka hona

mein zameen aasman ka antar hai" (There is a major difference between being in the Congress and being of the Congress). At the same time, the Congress leadership agrees that any disciplinary action against Tharoor will likely backfire. "His popular appeal, especially in urban India, is not lost on the party," a senior Congress leader told ThePrint when asked whether the party was considering action against Tharoor. His standing has also risen at a time when Kerala, his home state, is heading to the polls in less than a year. As it is, a section of the party close to the Congress high command was miffed with Tharoor for accepting the Centre's invitation to lead a multi-party delegation on Operation Sindoor without first seeking the leadership's concurrence. His public statements during the trip have only deepened the rift. On 29 May, addressing a gathering of the Indian community in Panama, Tharoor said that in 2016 "for the first time, India breached the Line of Control between India and Pakistan to conduct a surgical strike on a terror base." "Even during the Kargil War, we had not crossed the LoC; in Uri we did. Then came the attack in Pulwama... this time we crossed not only the LoC but [also] the international border and we struck terrorist headquarters in Balakot."

"And let me say to you that this is going to be the new normal. The PM has made it very clear that Operation Sindoor was necessary because these terrorists came and wiped the sindoor off the foreheads of 26 women," he said. These remarks riled up the Congress leadership so much so that it endorsed statements by party

functionary Udit Raj, known for his controversial remarks, that Tharoor should consider becoming a BJP spokesperson. Tharoor hit back, dismissing such critics as "zealots" and "trolls". Congress spokesperson Pawan Khera, considered close to Rahul Gandhi, promptly produced excerpts from Tharoor's own book to highlight the contradiction in his position. In his 2018 book *The Paradoxical Prime Minister*, Tharoor had pointed out that the Congress, while in the government, had authorised many cross-border surgical strikes, but did not exploit them politically—an assertion that countered his statement that India under Modi crossed the LoC "for the first time" in 2016. "The shameless exploitation of the 2016 'surgical strikes' along the Line of Control with Pakistan, and of a military raid in hot pursuit of rebels in Myanmar, as a party election tool — something the Congress had never done despite having authorized several such strikes earlier — marked a particularly disgraceful dilution of the principle that national security issues require both discretion and non-partisanship," Tharoor wrote in the book. Currently in Colombia, Tharoor is yet to respond to Khera.

However, a tweet made by him in 2018 to introduce his book remains instructive. "My new book, *THE PARADOXICAL PRIME MINISTER*, is more than just a 400-page exercise in floccinaucinihilipilification," Tharoor had posted, emphasising that the book was more than just a critique of the prime minister. Perhaps Khera should take note.

Orthodox Russia doesn't take orders from the Pope. Vatican can't convince Putin for a ceasefire

Russia's rejection of Vatican-led ceasefire talks with Ukraine should come as a surprise only to those who are ignorant of the historic animosity between the two religious institutions, the Vatican and the Russian Orthodox Church. Russian Foreign Minister Sergei Lavrov's clarification that it is a little 'awkward' for Orthodox countries to discuss issues on a Catholic platform should put at rest all efforts initiated by US President Donald Trump. The election of the hitherto unknown Robert Francis Prevost, a quiet lawyer-bishop with years of experience in Church matters, as the vicar of Jesus Christ, the first American Pope, does not change the ground realities of the Russia-Ukraine conflict. Patriarch Kirill of Moscow, head of the Russian Orthodox Church (ROC), did not attend the funeral of Pope Francis, though the two held a meeting in 2016 in Cuba, after almost 10 centuries of schism. There is no reason why Pope Leo XIV would broker peace between Russian President

Vladimir Putin and Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelenskyy just because the president of America wants him to do it. Trump's idea of involving the Papal office in the Vatican, the highest seat of the Catholic Church, in the ceasefire talks was a blunder for several reasons. Russia's Russian Orthodox Church (ROC) and the Roman Catholic Church have been at loggerheads for over ten centuries, probably right from 988 when Grand Prince Vladimir was baptised. The theological split first appeared in 1054 when the then Pope Leo IX of Rome excommunicated Patriarch Michael Cerularius of Constantinople, who responded with his own excommunication of the Bishop of Rome, Pope Leo IX. The October Revolution of 1917 further alienated the two Christian faiths, even as Moscow under the brutal atheist regime of Vladimir Lenin and Joseph Stalin stifled religious freedom. After deriding religion as the 'opium of the masses.'

Bangladesh Army Chief wants elections. Muhammad Yunus wants to get rid of him

Among military chiefs in the Indian subcontinent, Bangladesh Army chief Waker-Uz-Zaman must have the most unenviable job right now. While his Pakistan counterpart Asim Munir has been elevated to Field Marshal after a military confrontation with India, General Waker-Uz-Zaman risks losing his job. Or worse. His one big mistake? Saying that the national election be held by December this year so that Bangladesh can return to being an electoral democracy. On 22 May, The Daily Star, Bangladesh's highest-selling English newspaper, reported that Chief of Army Staff General Waker-Uz-Zaman said the national election should be held by December this year, "according to three sources with direct knowledge of his remarks made at a high-level gathering in Dhaka cantonment".

Bangladesh needs political stability. This is only possible through an elected government, not by unelected decision-makers," one source quoted the army chief as saying in an Officers' Address. This was not the first time the General had spoken about the national election. The Daily Star

report mentioned an event marking the National Martyred Army Day at Raowa Club on 25 February this year, where the General was quoted as saying—"Every time I spoke with Dr Yunus, I completely agreed with him that there should be a free, fair, and inclusive election and that the election should be held within December or close to that." Soon after, reports that Muhammad Yunus, caretaker to the interim government in Bangladesh, was mulling resignation came out. "He (Yunus) said he is thinking about it (resignation). He feels that the situation is such that he cannot work," Nahid Islam, student-led National Citizen Party chief, said on the night of 22 May, after a meeting with Yunus. Two days later, on 24 May, it was clarified that Yunus would remain as the head of Bangladesh's interim government by an adviser in his cabinet. Former High Commissioner of India to Bangladesh Veena Sikri claimed that the speculation about Yunus resigning was "complete drama" to distract from the Bangladesh Army chief's statement on elections. "He had no intention of resigning

at all, and in fact, he never said himself that he would resign," the former High Commissioner said in an interview. But this "complete drama" generated hate towards Yunus's perceived detractors, the main target being General Waker-Uz-Zaman. Students, radicals, and some of Bangladesh's most popular and influential YouTubers openly attacked the army chief. Bangladeshi journalist Sahidul Hasan Khokon told ThePrint that both the student-led, newly formed political party National Citizen Party and the Islamist political outfit Bangladesh Jamaat-e-Islami have been busy channelising mob rage against General Waker. "The local media is not reporting this, but the mob is ready.

If need be, there will be violent street protests against the Army, like there were during the July revolution against Hasina when the mob turned against the police and killed many policemen," Hasan said. Hasan added that Jamaat had got a free rein ever since Yunus took over and the new student's party will need more time to December polls, as suggested by General Waker, would suit neither of them.

India May Be Barking Up The Wrong Tree As It Takes On Pakistan In IMF

The International Monetary Fund (IMF) approved the disbursement of another \$1 billion to Pakistan under its latest Extended Fund Facility (EFF), reinstating Pakistan's dependence on international bailouts. As a country with a high dependence on imported oil, whenever oil prices hike or international borrowing declines, Islamabad's reserves take a further hit. Since 1958, whenever this occurs, Pakistan has approached the International Monetary Fund (IMF) for a bailout approximately every three years, seek-

ing to save its economy under the condition of improving macroeconomic indicators. While the role of the IMF has been minimal in reforming Pakistan's governance, its fund facilities have stabilised the economy from falling into the pit grave. However, the key question remains: have IMF bailouts inadvertently enabled an environment to facilitate terror financing? If so, should India try to block IMF funds to Pakistan? Contrary to popular imagination, the IMF's role is distinct, and its programmes impose strict conditions that

compel Islamabad to demonstrate some accountability in governance and economic management. And India needs an accountable Pakistan. While the IMF can serve as a platform for India to signal its displeasure and apply international diplomatic pressure following the Pahalgam attack on April 22 by alleged Pakistan-backed terrorists, a more effective route to achieving strategic objectives would be to target terror financing networks and financial opacity through the Financial Action Task Force (FATF), the global watchdog on

money laundering and terror financing, where reports suggest India is already preparing to build a robust case against Pakistan. Persistent macroeconomic imbalances have led to a state of massive public debt, with the country facing massive external debt repayment dues. The Pakistani economy has structural weaknesses, from a narrow tax base to low productivity. Islamabad is also extremely dependent on imported energy, with energy imports accounting for 20 to 40 per cent of total imports. Of the previous 25 IMF programmes.

CM Rekha visit at Sessions House amid mansion search

Delhi: Chief minister Rekha Gupta's recent visit to Sessions House, a lovely home in north Delhi's Civil Lines neighborhood, has alarmed judicial personnel. Gupta is looking for government housing. She visited the British-era cottage at 2 North End Road. Tis Hazari Court, the chief district and sessions judge, is renovating the enormous building. "The judiciary reveres Sessions House bungalow. Treating district courts this way is wrong. "Respect and preserve this house's legacy," stated a district court senior judge. Sessions House sits on nearly two acres and features a seminar and judicial hall, six-room residence complex, servant quarters, and grounds. According to a top Delhi government official, CM Gupta has considered numerous government bungalows over the past few weeks but has not decided on her



ONLY 45% OF CAPITAL BWG COMPOST WET WASTE

Delhi: The MCD has identified Bulk Waste Generators (BWGs), which include large establishments like hospitals, hotels, and commercial buildings, as crucial in managing wet waste. A significant portion of Delhi's solid waste is wet waste, which, if properly managed through composting, can reduce the volume of landfill waste. The MCD has a responsi-

official abode. Gupta's predecessor, Atishi, lived in the AB-17, Mathura Road home during her brief term as chief minister,

bility to ensure the proper disposal of solid waste, including wet waste. The city generates a substantial amount of solid waste daily (around 11,000 tonnes), but only a portion of it is processed. The Supreme Court has criticized the MCD for its failure to implement the Solid Waste Management Rules, 2016.

, and for not adequately but AAP national convener Arvind Kejriwal received a huge property at 6, Flagstaff Road in Civil Lines. image.png

Former Delhi CM Arvind Kejriwal seeks NOC to renew passport

Delhi : Former Delhi Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal has moved a Delhi court seeking a no-objection certificate (NOC) to renew his expired passport. Kejriwal, who is currently an accused in the Delhi excise policy case, has requested a 10-year renewal. His passport expired in 2018. Special Judge Dig Vinay Singh of the Rouse Avenue Court issued notices to the Enforcement Directorate (ED) and the Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI), asking them to file their replies when the matter is scheduled for next hearing. At the same hearing, the CBI informed the court that it



was prepared to begin arguments on framing charges in the corruption case related to the now-defunct Delhi Excise Policy for 2021-22. The CBI is handling the corruption investigation, while the ED is probing the linked money laundering allegations under the same FIR. In a separate but related development, the Delhi High

Court granted permission to businessman Amit Arora — another accused in the same case, to travel to Dubai between June 6 and June 16. Arora, director of Gurugram-based Buddy Retail Pvt Ltd, had requested the court to allow him to travel, citing the need for medical treatment for himself and his minor son.

About 18% of Indians can report e-crimes

Delhi: Indian internet usage is reaching saturation, but only 18% of Indians know how to report cybercrimes, a government survey revealed. Smartphone and mobile data use is higher among younger people. Despite frequent use (most respondents used the internet everyday), the poll found that even

young people struggle to create documents and presentations for school and work. However, the gender difference in mobile and internet use, excluding online transactions, is shrinking. The National Statistics Office's Comprehensive Modular Survey: Telecom (CMS: Telecom) of 34,950 homes in January-March 2025

produced these trends. NSO released the survey results on May 29. NSO last collected data on mobile phone and internet use in the Comprehensive Annual Modular Survey (CAMS) in July 2022-June 2023, which surveyed 3,02,086 households and posed questions about education and financial inclusion.

Supreme Court approves south Delhi ridge group housing project

Delhi : The Supreme Court-appointed Central Empowered Committee (CEC) has approved a group housing project in Vasant Kunj Sector B, Pocket 1 in south Delhi for final approval. CEC stated none of the 23 trees on the proposed project site are being cut, even though 85% of it—4,553 sqm out of 5,353 sqm—is in the morphological ridge, a zone with the same legal safeguards as Delhi's designated ridge areas. CEC further reported to the highest court on May 14 that the area, while part of the morphological ridge, is flat and surrounded by DDA residential development. A private developer is oversee-



ing the project and must not cut or move any trees. CEC inspected 23 trees and found 19 healthy, three dried out, and one rehabilitated after falling.

The assessment stated that the project proponent must

plant 500 indigenous trees, 250 along internal routes and 250 along the project's boundary, to compensate for tree destruction. It said a 385-metre-long green barrier must be installed around the site's boundaries.

Delhi Medical Council informs HC on public awareness campaign

Delhi: In response to rising fears of quack medicine and unlicensed practitioners in the nation's capital, the Delhi Medical Council (DMC) has notified the Delhi high court of various methods by which residents can confirm the legitimacy of their physicians. These include scanning QR codes on displayed certificates and making use of the online verification tools that the DMC provides on its website. In December 2023, counsel Sachin Jain petitioned the court, bringing up the issue.

Over 14 lakh car drivers received traffic challans in 4.5 months

Delhi : Car drivers are the top traffic violators in Delhi this year, according to Delhi Police.

Between January 1 and May 15, 14,11,801 drivers were cited for traffic violations, topping the list. In contrast, two-wheeler drivers earned 12,72,898 challans, 11% fewer than vehicle drivers. Despite the huge number of two-wheelers on Delhi's roadways, private automobile drivers broke 211.4% more traffic laws than business vans or cars. The report reached Delhi Police headquarters. A senior traffic



police officer noticed that vehicle drivers committed 54.48% more traffic offenses than two-wheelers in 2024. However, the first four-and-a-half months of 2025 show a diminishing margin. While 7,626 HGVs and 7,207 rural vehicles were penalized within the same period, they were the most disciplined

road users. Compared to 29,010 MGCV challans last year, 32,25,769 car drivers were fined in 2024. Other vehicle categories had many violations this year. Commercial vehicles and cars earned 4,53,363 challans, while auto-rickshaws got 3,10,712. LGVs received 2,17,565 challans and HTVs 21,600.

DDA starts third housing scheme of year

Delhi : The Delhi Development

Authority (DDA) opened bookings for its 'Apna Ghar Awaas Yojana 2025' housing program, offering 7,500 apartments in Narela, Loknayakpuram, and Siraspur. The first day, May 27, saw 452 units rented in Narela, including 209 EWS, 136 LIG, 3 MIG, and 6 HIG. As well, 37 LIG and 48 MIG units were booked in Loknayakpuram and 13 in Siraspur. The program offers 564 LIG flats in Siraspur, 150 LIG and 96 MIG in Loknayakpuram, and 694 EWS, 5,384 LIG, 386 MIG, and 226 HIG in Narela. The residential flats have 15%-25% discounts across all categories. LIG flats in Loknayakpuram



, Narela, and Siraspur would be 25% off, and EWS, MIG, and HIG flats in Narela and Loknayakpuram will be 15% off "Officials added. All Indian citizens 18 and older can participate in the first-come, first-served policy. Registrations close August 26, with possible extensions. Online bookings on the DDA website cost Rs 50,000 for EWS flats, Rs 1 lakh for LIG, Rs 4 lakh for MIG, and Rs 10 lakh for HIG.

Govt allocates 12,952 crore for public transport system

The BJP government, led by Chief Minister Rekha Gupta, presented its maiden budget on Tuesday, March 25. Gupta presented 1 lakh crore budget for 2025-26, a 31.56% increase from last year. In the budget for the financial year 2025-26, the government has allocated 12,952 crore to improve Delhi's public transport system. It has allocated 1,000 crore to improve the connectivity of Delhi with the NCR region.

South Asia's 'largest' battery energy storage system opened in Kilokari, Delhi

Delhi: At Kilokari on Delhi Power Minister Ashish Sood launched South Asia's "largest" 20-MW battery energy storage system (BESS). According to BRPL, the system is India's "first commercially approved" utility-scale energy storage system and will improve electricity supply in South Delhi, which has over one lakh inhabitants. The 20-MW (40 MWh) BESS at the BRPL substation in Kilokari is South Asia's "largest" utility-scale system, it stated. It stated the energy storage system can



provide up to four hours of reliable daily power — two hours each day and night — to over one lakh inhabitants in South Delhi's densely populated Kilokari neighborhood. According to the statement, the system improves power supply, grid stability, power purchase costs, peak shaving,

network overloading, and renewable power integration. This project improves grid dependability, especially during peak demand, setting a new norm for urban energy management. The one-year project uses innovative Lithium Iron Phosphate (LFP) technology for

Capital's 3 ISBTS acquire prepaid auto booths

Delhi: Officials from the transport department indicated that the three interstate bus terminals (ISBTS) in the Capital may soon acquire prepaid auto stands and that room is being provided for a predetermined number of cars. The government is seeking bids for prepaid stand construction and operation at Sarai Kale Khan, Anand Vihar, and Kashmere Gate ISBTS. "We've noticed that cars are often parked haphazardly outside, and monitoring or assigning spots hasn't helped. The transport department official hopes the prepaid booths will assist get cars in line and reduce traffic outside the ISBTS.

safety, thermal stability, and longevity. The discom said the system's temperature-controlled

containers work well in Delhi's varied climates, making it perfect for crowded urban.

The trial run of the Dwarka Expressway-airport tunnel has begun

Delhi: There will be a brief trial run of the tunnel connecting the Dwarka Expressway to Indira Gandhi International Airport. Every day from noon to three o'clock, the tunnel will be accessible to traffic as part of the trial. With eight lanes, the 3.6-kilometer-long tunnel is the largest and longest road tunnel



in India. The Dwarka

Expressway project includes it in Package 4. Only 18.9 km of the 29 km expressway is located in Haryana, while the remaining 10.1 km is in Delhi. The Dwarka Expressway tunnel provides a speedier and more direct route to the airport, according to the Gurugram Police, who are urging drivers from Sohna, Jaipur,

and the Southern Peripheral Road to take it. In preparation for a full-scale launch scheduled for mid-June, the experiment will examine traffic density, flow patterns, and vehicle movement. If any changes are required before permanent operation, the data collected during the trial will help.

IIT Kharagpur-Singapore's A*STAR IME boost semiconductor future

Delhi : This MoU was launched during SEMI-CON Southeast Asia 2025, where IIT Kharagpur exhibited India's academic and technological expertise in semiconductors. This agreement shows India and Singapore's commitment to international collaboration to establish a robust, innovative, and skilled semiconductor ecosystem. This alliance's technical partner, IIT Kharagpur, India's top science and technology university, has decades of experience in microelectronics, chip design, nano-fabrication, and innovative materials. "This MoU with A*STAR IME marks a significant step in IIT Kharagpur's global ambition to drive semiconductor innovation," said Prof. Anandaroop Bhattacharya, Dept. of Mechanical Engineering. This kind of academia-industry-government partnership will help India become a semiconductor hub quickly and establish a strong, self-sufficient, and competitive semiconductor ecosystem. This agree-



ment puts IIT Kharagpur at the forefront of global semiconductor value chain strengthening measures as India expands its semiconductor production and R&D. The MoU allows cooperation in research in advanced CMOS and post-CMOS technologies, heterogeneous integration and packaging, AI hardware accelerators, next-generation memory systems, photonics and quantum devices, chip reliability, thermal management, and failure analysis. Student and researcher exchanges, knowledge-sharing workshops, and co-development of semiconductor talent training modules are all supported by the collaboration.

Ecom Express loses 150 workers before Delhivery merger

Delhi : Logistics company Ecom Express has considerable labor changes before being acquired by Delhivery. About 150 mid-level and regional operations workers quit voluntarily. These departures correspond with the company's Delhivery merger. Ecom Express CEO Ajay Chitkara and other senior executives are anticipated to leave after regulatory approval. Delhivery will buy 99.4% of Ecom Express for Rs 1,407 crore. Delhivery informed stock exchanges that the acquisition will boost its market value.

Carmakers promote hybrids to help purchasers switch to electrics

Delhi : For India's 2030 goal of 40% electrification, mass acceptance of electric vehicles will be difficult, requiring carmakers to promote hybrids as a stop gap. Hybrids are cheaper than fully electric vehicles, thus all carmakers, from Maruti Suzuki to Toyota Kirloskar to Mercedes-Benz, prefer them. Hybrids have fossil fuel engines and electric motors. These cars run on either power source. The upshot is that hybrid automobiles get better fuel economy than gasoline or diesel cars.



Senior leaders from numerous industries argue that electrifying hybrids and plug-in hybrids is the best answer before being electric by 2047. This will help buyers adapt to the changing transport ecosystem. CV Raman, executive director (engineering),

Maruti Suzuki, told Moneycontrol, "Price and cost are very important when it comes to electric vehicles.

Hybridization is cheaper than electrification. Hybrids compliment EVs and are better than IC engines.

IndiGo to start direct flights to London, Athens, 8 other overseas cities this fiscal

Delhi: IndiGo will start direct flights to London, Athens and eight other overseas cities in the current financial year as the country's largest airline continues with international expansion and expects to have more than 600 aircraft in its fleet by FY30. There is an

enormous opportunity in Indian aviation where rising demand is supported by infrastructure expansion. There is an unmatched growth leading to doubling of passengers from 2025 to 2030 and that the rising demand is supported by infrastructure expansion,

airline CEO Pieter Elbers said at a briefing in the national capital. While flights to Manchester (UK) and Amsterdam (the Netherlands) from Mumbai will commence in July, the airline will connect eight more overseas destinations . -- London (UK), Athens

Higher loans, credit cards for street traders

Delhi : After banks joined the new PM SVANidhi plan, street sellers will receive higher-subsidized loans and credit cards with a Rs 30,000 maximum. Street vendors who have repaid Rs 10,000, Rs 20,000, and Rs 50,000 subsidized loans will receive credit cards from banks. The modified idea will shortly be presented to Cabinet for approval, TOI reports. Sources stated rural street vendors who go to cities for work will now receive subsidised loans. The housing and urban affairs ministry did not react to inquiries, but sources indicated the enhanced loan amount will



include Rs 10,000. Sources said the credit card facility will provide street sellers with better credit and more rolling cash for business, with banks setting repayment requirements. FM Nirmala Sitharaman high-

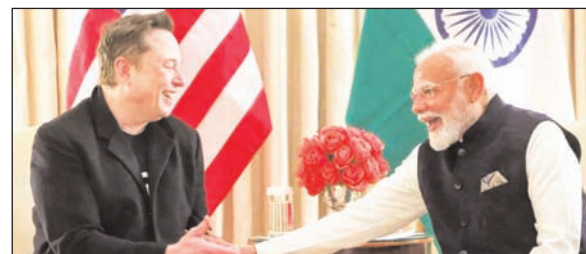
lighted in her Budget speech that the 2020 plan, established during the COVID-19 pandemic, has saved over 68 lakh street sellers from high-interest informal sector loans. "Building on this success,

ICAI to Evaluate IndusInd's Financial Statements

Delhi : The financial accounts of IndusInd Bank, which were affected by fraud in 2023-24 and 2024-25, will be reviewed by the Institute of Chartered Accountants of India (ICAI). An examination by the Financial Reporting Review Board (FRRB) of the ICAI will be conducted. In order to determine whether or not a company's financial statements comply with accounting and auditing requirements, among others, FRRB reviews them. Trouble has been brewing for IndusInd Bank for the past two months, beginning with a report on March 10.

Starlink arrives in India with plans under Rs. 850 per month

Delhi: Starlink is preparing to launch its satellite communication services in India after clearing most regulatory hurdles. A report claims that its plans could cost \$10 (Rs. 850) per month as the debut approaches. Consumers may receive unlimited data plans under initial promotional schemes. The Elon Musk-backed business hopes to swiftly build its user base to 10 million to offset high spectrum prices due to volume benefits. The Department of Telecommunication



(DoT) granted Starlink a Letter of Intent to launch satellite communication services in India earlier this month. The Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (TRAI) may impose a Rs. 500 per month per urban user price, making satellite internet services more expensive than wired and wireless broadband

connections, according to the. In addition, 4 percent of total adjusted gross revenue (AGR) with a minimum yearly charge of Rs. 3,500 per spectrum block and an 8 percent licensing fee for commercial services in India are required. The government has yet to approve these recommendations.

CNG Kit for Nissan Magnite Starts at Rs. 6.89 Lakh

Delhi : Dealers can retrofit the Nissan Magnite's CNG kit. The CNG Kit is fully developed and manufactured by Motozen, a third-party company, following company standards. Motozen warranties CNG kit parts. Complete retrofitting costs Rs. 75,000. CNG kits are only available with the new Nissan Magnite 1.0 liter naturally aspirated petrol engine with manual gearbox. For now, turbo variants won't have CNG. . CNG kit prices include fire extinguisher, third-party warranty, RC endorsement, and installation. Initial CNG kit installation is available at Nissan-authorized dealerships in Delhi-NCR,



Haryana, Uttar Pradesh, Maharashtra, Gujarat, Kerala, and Karnataka. Phase 2 will expand it to other states nationwide. New Magnites are E20 compliant and CNG-ready, so existing owners cannot retrofit the CNG kit. The dealership will install the CNG kit and a 12-kg single-cylinder for the Magnite. An auto cut-off valve and 7 mm walls will be on the cylinder. The firm

claims that the CNG cylinder would not affect bootspace and that the suspension will handle the extra weight. The SUV can hold two luggage and two small bags. The Nissan CNG kit is government-certified, and Nissan and Motozen will provide a 3-year, 1 lakh kilometer warranty. Official Nissan Magnite CNG fuel efficiency data will be released in weeks. Nissan expects to sell 200,000 Magnites in India by month's end.

Partnership between Noida Airport and Uber to provide on-site ridesharing

Delhi : In order to provide visitors with transportation options right from the airport, Noida International Airport (NIA) has partnered with the ride-hailing company Uber. According to NIA, as part of the strategic partnership, Uber will run designated areas for driver partners to be picked up, as well as



provide on-site assistance and special parking. According to the airport operator, the partnership will provide several benefits to customers using Uber at Noida International Airport, including the ability to follow their rides in real-time and get projected arrival times through the app, as well as the

opportunity to pay without using cash, which is more convenient. Speaking about the importance of app-based taxi services like Uber, Christoph Schnellmann, CEO of Noida International Airport, stated that it is crucial for travelers to have access to last-mile transit alternatives.

In FY 25, general insurance premiums total Rs 3.07 lakh crore



GDP (compared to 4.2% globally in 2023), insurance density has progressively increased from \$9 in 2019 to \$25 in 2023. The finance minister stressed that PSGICs must increase penetration and density to preserve financial assets. Officials also provided a five-year health

insurance report demonstrating constant premium growth across Private, SAHI, and PSGICs. PSGICs had 126% incurred claims ratios in FY21, while private insurers had 105%. This ratio dropped to 103% for PSGICs, 89% for private insurers, and 65% for SAHI by FY24.

Fewer jobs at Tata Motors, smaller hikes for top deck

Delhi: For the first time in five years, automotive manufacturer Tata Motors saw its workforce shrink in a fiscal year, when its employee base fell 3% in FY25 compared with the previous fiscal. Alongside, the fiscal also saw median salary hikes for its senior-most executives at just 3% compared with 15% in

FY24, the company's annual report for FY25 showed. The twin developments happened against the backdrop of falling demand for its cars, trucks and buses in the fiscal. The total employee count of the country's third-largest automaker, excluding employees of its UK-based subsidiary Jaguar Land Rover.

CBSE helps pupils cope with test stress before this week's Boards

Delhi : Sanyam Bhardwaj, CBSE's examination controller, says pupils often encounter academic stress, peer pressure, substance abuse, mental health issues, career worries, digital addiction, and life skills. Collaborations like "Say No to Drugs and Yes to Life" with NCB, IHBAS, and others boost students' mental health and life skills. Campaigns teach pupils drug dangers, coping methods, and early intervention. Through expert-led conversations and interactive activities, CBSE encourages awareness, pushing students towards a mindful and holistic life. "Through such seminars, programmes and sum-mits for students, par-ents, counsellors and principals in schools, CBSE continues to increase its outreach, benefiting thousands annually. The 2025 CBSE board exam format modification was made to eliminate rote learning. Board



exams vary from other competitive exams in that they have extended responses and objective questions. Some problems don't require direct solutions; they can be solved in steps that earn points. Competency-based questions need steps to answer and are based on the application, thus they can't be answered by cramming. He thinks that increasing the amount of competency-based questions from 40% in 2023-24 to 50% in 2024-25 will eliminate rote memorization. Bhardwaj says that pupils who attend class consistently tend to solve the huge, complex

questions and answer appropriately on tests. Students who just prepare for objective-type questions and don't attend school will miss the steps and write answers immediately in the Board exams, losing scores. "In fact, it has been seen many times that a student is able to perform well in competitive examinations and fails to perform well in the Board examinations," says Bhardwaj. To protect pupils, CBSE has cut ties with 21 "dummy" schools and degraded six. To avoid disruption, fake school students in classes X and XII were allowed to take the Boards.

Budget boost for 5 youngest IITs with 6,500 new seats

Delhi: The third-generation Indian Institutes of Technology (IITs) will get a boost from Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman's announcement of new facilities to accommodate 6,500 more undergrads over five years. The finance minister said in her Union Budget speech Saturday that IIT Patna's dormitories and infrastructure would be increased. "The total number of students in 23 IITs has increased by 100 per cent from 65,000 to 1.35 lakh in the past 10 years. Sitharaman remarked, "New infrastructure will be built



in the five IITs founded after 2014 to educate 6,500 more students." In 2024, the 23 IITs offered 17,740 seats across various courses and categories. The five IITs founded after the Modi government took office in 2014 were in Tirupati, Palakkad, Bhilai, Jammu, and Goa, plus ISM Dhanbad become IIT (ISM) Dhanbad. Five IITs, barring IIT Goa, will add seats, officials

said. IIT Goa lacks a permanent campus, though many fledgling IITs have grown steadily. Since 2016, it has been in temporary facilities at Goa Engineering College in Farmagudi. A senior official in the Ministry of Education remarked, "IIT-Goa has not been included at this moment since it does not have a permanent campus." Additionally, the government announced to grant 10,000 fellowships for tech research at IITs and Indian Institute of Science (IISc) for the next five years under the PM Research Fellowship Scheme.

Tamil Nadu should appeal SC ruling on domicile quota

Delhi: A day after the Supreme Court banned domicile-based reservation in specialized and higher education including PG medical courses, MK Stalin's Tamil Nadu government declared it would file a review petition to vindicate its rights and uphold social justice. Health minister Ma

Subramanian said the SC order would affect the state's 69% reservation and quotas for in-service applicants in government medical colleges and minorities in self-financing medical colleges. He said that the order would violate state rights. The Union government receives 15% of under-

graduate medical seats and 50% of postgraduate medical and super speciality seats through the state quota each year. "All super specialty seats were lost. "TN gave government doctors a quota for super speciality courses after a court battle," he told reporters. He stated the Centre



The government of Maharashtra says it would not pay for eggs for the midday meal.

Delhi ;The opposition vehemently criticized the decision, as Maharashtra became the latest BJP-ruled state to ban eggs from midday meals for students in grades 1 through 8. The school education department changed the list of foods served during midday meals in a government resolution this week, eliminating the inclusion of sugar and eggs. Rather, it instructed schools to serve nachni sattu and "egg pulao" as optional meals. Nonetheless, it stated that these things, as well as sugar for desserts, had to be organized by the general public without the need for further government support. The state has changed the list to adhere to the meal items prescribed by the Center, according to an official who defended the action. While some states use their own resources to offer eggs, the federal government, which provides 60% of the funding for midday meals, does not include them in its list. Goa and Madhya Pradesh recently banned eggs due to criticism from some groups.

Health and wealth benefit from flexible work hours.

Delhi: The Economic Survey supports allowing manufacturers to average legally capped working hours over three weeks or longer rather than week-by-week. Industry captains want larger hours. It claims that agile regulations will assist management satisfy production demands and grow. "New Labour Laws are an improvement. With flexible legislation and competent implementation, firms may develop and create more jobs.

Delhi Govt Triples DU College Funding

Delhi: The Delhi government has allocated around Rs 100 crore for 12 DU colleges funded by it, the party claimed. The AAP government has set aside Rs 400 crore for colleges for FY 2024-25, with the latest sum for Q3. The party started the AAP's rise to power in Delhi had led to a more than threefold increase in the funding for these institutes, proving the government's commitment to education. "Education has always been the AAP government's top priority under Arvind Kejriwal," said Chief Minister Atishi. Kejriwal's government has allocated the greatest money to education each year since it was created. The Delhi government has focused on higher education by creating three new institu-



tions and expanding the older ones. She added the 12 fully funded Delhi University colleges are crucial to higher education in Delhi. College spending has risen since the AAP took over in Delhi. The statement said that these colleges were awarded Rs 132 crore in 2014-15, which is currently over Rs 400 crore. With a focus on the welfare of teachers, and giving their medical and pension benefits

that were stopped owing to financial mismanagement, the Delhi government is releasing Rs 100 crore in the third quarter for these 12 Delhi University colleges, it added. The Delhi government has set aside Rs 100 crore for 12 DU institutions in a Rs 400 crore budget for 2024-25. Funds increased since the AAP took over in 2015. The administration is committed to education.

DU to expand PhD admission slots by 20-25 pc

Delhi: Delhi University's executive council (EC) resolved to boost PhD admission seats by 20-25% from the last round of admission. The EC also allowed a university representation on St. Stephen's College's governing body to connect DU and the college. DU also updated donation rules to fund scholarships, honors, and capital assets. Under this, the government, trusts, and corporations may set up scholarships. Under this, the establishment of scholarships will be allowed by government entities, trusts, business houses.

Pradhan unveils 41 PM YUVA 2.0 volumes

Delhi : Union Minister for Education, Dharmendra Pradhan, introduced 41 new books under the PM YUVA 2.0 initiative at the New Delhi World Book Fair 2025. The Governor of Tripura, Indrasena Reddy Nallu, attended the ceremony as the guest of honour. In his remarks, Dharmendra Pradhan complimented the 41 young authors whose books were launched, expressing faith in their abilities to enrich the literary landscape and impact intellectual conversation through their unique writings. The



Minister stressed the program's value in mentoring young writers and developing ambassadors of Indian culture, history, languages, and literature. He also stressed the need to promote the unsung heroes of India's liberation movement. Pradhan said that promoting Indian-

language novels is now a national goal. He cited PM YUVA and the new 'Bharatiya Bhasha Pustak Scheme' from this year's budget as crucial milestones to this goal. He commended the National Book Trust (NBT) for making literature more accessible in Indian languages.

New UPSC PwBD guidelines avoid misconduct and fraudulent certifications

Delhi: The Union Public Service Commission (UPSC)'s CSE 2025 requires online submission of certificates and documents at the preliminary stage of the exam, which includes submitting the necessary information and supporting documents for various claims, such as date of birth, category (SC/ST/OBC/EWS/PwBD/Ex-Servicemen), educational qualification, and Service preferences, with the Online A. Examination candidature will be canceled if the registration and online application form lack the relevant information/documents. "All of these changes should be explicitly stated in the notification, or the exam-conducting authority can create an educational video for spe-



cially abled candidates," he says. They appear puzzled and unable to complete the Prelims application form (due February 11, 2025). Candidates must also write about their interests, hobbies, achievements, and NCC Scout participation in the Prelims, which were previously announced after the Mains. "The goal is to get the best candidate profile information before the Prelims," Kottaram explains (IRS) officers were recruited under PwBD reservation advantages. UPSC

must examine claims and papers if aspirants submit fraudulent documents. Kottaram notes that mental illness is a grey area in the notification's five impairment categories, making it easy to misuse. After the Puja Khedkar controversy, aspirants who took the Personality Test/Interview this year reported rigorous medical tests over 2-3 days at top medical institutions like AIIMS, Safdarjung Hospital, etc. to eliminate assessment irregularities.

Delhi: To eradicate corruption and speed up accreditation, the National Assessment and Accreditation Council (NAAC) has stopped physical college inspections. Accreditation teams will now perform evaluations exclusively online, replacing on-cams visits with virtual examinations. But for colleges, the changeover will be hybrid; most inspections will be remote, but some reviewers will still visit campuses to retain some monitoring. The decision follows the CBI's recent arrests in the case involving Andhra Pradesh's Koneru Lakshmaiah



Education Foundation (KLEF), where management reportedly bribed NAAC peer visit inspectors for good ratings. "We chose to do whatever it takes to eliminate corruption. "Stopping in-person visits will greatly reduce the

issue," stated NAAC executive committee head Prof Anil Sahasrabudhe. "With so many weekly inspection visits, it was hard to track what happened. Now, all this is recorded." NAAC head Ganesan Kannabiran hailed

the switch to online inspection a "surgical strike" against corruption. The latest CBI lawsuit challenged NAAC's peer review system. He remarked, "These are unwelcome in higher education, and NAAC, a quality assurance agency, is committed to eradicating them." The K Radhakrishnan Committee's basic (binary) accreditation scheme was to begin in July 2024, but it didn't. It's currently April-May 2025. The new schedule will also introduce maturity-based graded levels (MBGL) to encourage institutions to improve their academic and research capacities.

JEE Main 2025 Rescheduled For Bengaluru: New Dates After Technical Glitch!

The NTA has rescheduled the JEE Main 2025, Session 1 for 114 applicants who had difficulty at the eTalent Examination Centre in Bengaluru on January 22, 2025. A technological issue that halted the exam's first shift caused this decision. The impacted candidates will sit their tests on January 28



or 29, 2025. The NTA will issue new admit cards to these applicants, which they can download from the NTA website. Due to an unavoi-

able reason of technical snag in Examination Centre Talent, (TC code- 40086), No. 3, Belmar Estate, Nagasandra Main Road, Amaravathi Layout, Nagara Bavi, Nalagadderanahalli, Peenya Bengaluru, Karnataka, during the conduct of JEE (Main)-2025 Session-I (Shift-I)

Examination on 22 January 2025, the examination for 114 affected candidates are rescheduled and will be conducted on 28/29 January 2025," the testing agency said in an official notification. It said, "These candidates will receive new admit cards with other candidates on the above dates.

Google under CCI investigation over gaming firm complaint

Delhi: India's Google regulatory issues are growing. In 2022, the Competition Commission of India (CCI) fined the US tech giant for abuse of dominant position in its Play Store and Android mobile device ecosystem. Now, the fairplay regulator is investigating a complaint filed by gaming company WinZO. CCI directed its investigation arm to investigate and report within 60 days after finding a prima facie case. "Based on the facts and circumstances of the case, the commission believes Google is in violation and justifies further inquiry. The CCI bench, chaired by Ravneet Kaur and three members, ordered the director general to investigate. A Google spokesman declined to comment. WinZO, an online gaming company, claimed that Google's Play Store prohibits Real Money Game hosting. "Due to Google's unreasonable and

restrictive policy, all apps offering real money games of skill are only available for download from their website (a process called sideloaded)," it told CCI. On Android devices, using this process to reach WinZO displays a disclaimer/warning, tarnishing its image. WinZO stated warnings are without validity and "completely illegal" and cost the company. It also claimed Google displays another "baseless warning" when users pay for skill-based games. "Such payment warnings are arbitrary as Google has not set any criteria for displaying them," WinZO complained to CCI. The gaming company also claimed that Google has enabled DFS and Rummy downloads on the Play Store as part of a pilot project while restricting their app store availability. This action, it stated, "eliminate the level-playing

field and create a false perception of legitimization of DFS and Rummy over all other games of skill." It claimed the policy "discriminatory and arbitrary, constituting abuse of its dominant position."

US retailers utilize Trump tariff threats to boost sales

Delhi: Local media stated that many US businesses are advising clients to buy now before President-elect Donald Trump's proposed tariffs hike prices. Trump threatened 60% tariffs on all Chinese goods and 10% to 20% tariffs on other goods during his campaign. He announced plans to impose 25% tariffs on Mexican and Canadian imports and 10% on Chinese imports.

The Union government wants 100% FDI in insurance

Delhi: The Union Finance Ministry proposed raising the insurance sector's FDI ceiling from 74% to 100% in a consultation paper. The insurance FDI limit was raised from 49% to 74% in 2021. The government said the proposal to alter insurance legislation will make insurance more affordable, grow the insurance industry, and streamline corporate operations.

An office memorandum dated November 26 proposed lifting the FDI ceiling in Indian insurance businesses from 74% to 100% and



allowing insurers to conduct one or more kinds of insurance business and associated or incidental operations. The suggestion also cut foreign reinsurers' Net Owned Funds from Rs 5,000 crore to Rs 1,000 crore. IRDAI can also set lesser entry capital (Rs 50 crore) for underserved or unserved regions on

a case-by-case basis. The sector regulator is trying to increase capital in this capital-intensive industry. The Chairman of IRDAI suggests that the insurance market requires 50,000 crore yearly to double penetration in the country. Insurance penetration is the ratio of annual premiums issued to GDP.

Gold loans rise 50% in seven months

Delhi: Bank loans against gold jewelry rose 50.4% in the first seven months of the year. Despite single-digit growth in every other personal loan area, credit rose sharply. RBI issued sectoral deployment of bank credit Gold loans totaled Rs 1,02,562 crore in March 2024. Growth was 56% year-over-year, up from

13% in October 2023. NBFCs' move and a preference for secured loans over unsecured ones contributed to the first-seven-month gold loan surge, bankers said. Bank loans to NBFCs fell 0.7% to Rs 1.5 lakh crore in the first seven months. Bankers also said that rising gold prices allow borrowers to repay previous loans

and get higher new ones. Analysts see rising gold loan demand as an indication of financial instability. RBI ordered banks and financial companies to review and fix their gold loan rules and procedures within three months last month. After an examination, evergreening was found to hide bad loans.

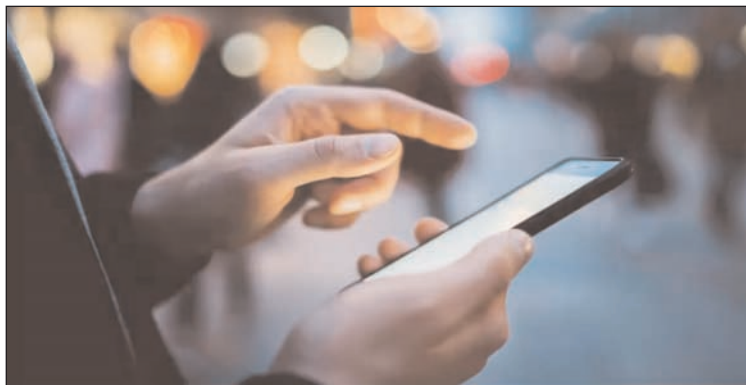
Bengal counters Centre in SC, says CBI can't conduct probe sans state consent

NEW DELHI:

Countering Centre's stand that it wields no power over CBI which is an independent agency, West Bengal govt on Wednesday told Supreme Court that Delhi Special Police Establishment Act, under which the agency was formed specifically says that its superintendence shall vest in the central govt in all cases except those related to corruption and contended CBI probe can't be ordered in the state without its consent. Senior advocate Kapil Sibal told a bench of Justices B R Gavai and Sandeep Mehta that Sections 4 and 5 of the Act confer the power pertaining to superintendence and jurisdiction of the agency to the Centre. Putting forward the stand of the state govt that the central agency could not conduct a probe within its jurisdiction without its consent, Sibal said that it would destroy the federal structure if Centre forced its way into the state and conducted a probe. "Centre has no jurisdiction to allow its investigating agency to come in my state against my consent. Such an act is unconstitutional. It would be an encroachment on the rights and jurisdiction of the state and its police. It would be constitutional overreach and exceeding of jurisdiction and would destroy the federal structure of the country," Sibal said. The lawyer referred to various sections of Delhi Special Police Establishment Act to make a point that Centre controls CBI but clarified that role of Centre is only upto the registration of case but not investigation and probe was not influenced by it. Reading Section 4. of the Act, he said the superintendence of the Delhi Special Police Establishment in so far as it relates to investigation of offences under the Prevention of Corruption Act s.

TRAI deadline may prevent Jio, Vi, and Airtel subscribers from receiving OTPs

Delhi: As Airtel, Vodafone-Idea, and Reliance Jio struggle to reach a crucial Telecom Regulatory Authority of India deadline, Indian mobile subscribers may experience OTP delays. The telecom watchdog extended the deadline for spam and phishing traceability requirements to December 1, 2024. Telecom companies must now track all commercial messages, including OTPs, to combat fraud. Telecom companies can block scams by identifying message sources. However, missing this deadline could delay or prohibit OTPs, harming banking, e-commerce, and social networking. The TRAI imple-



"The TRAI implementation timeframe is phased. Operators will notify chain declaration violators daily until November 30. All non-compliant messages will be prohibited starting December 1"

mentation timeframe is phased. Operators will notify chain declaration violators daily until November 30. All non-compliant messages will be prohibited starting December 1.

A former employee being sued by Google India for disclosing Pixel secrets

Delhi: Google and its subsidiary in India filed a lawsuit in the US against former Bengaluru office employee Harshit Roy for revealing trade secrets that were considered confidential. In order to prevent Roy from further disseminating the stolen trade secrets that had irreparably harmed Google, Google hired an outside investigator to find him. Among the information that was revealed were comprehensive specifications of proprietary hardware.

New Honda Amaze Variants and Top Features

Delhi: India will launch the third-generation Amaze on December 4, 2024, and unofficial bookings have begun. The car is arriving at dealer yards nationwide ahead of its much-anticipated launch. It will rival the new Maruti Suzuki Dzire, Tata Tigor, and Hyundai Aura. The 2025 Honda Amaze will come in three variants—V, VX, and ZX—with many interior and exterior changes. Since its inception in India over a decade ago, the Amaze has been a popular sedan. Several new features and technolo-

gies will be added. The top model will have a floating touchscreen infotainment system with wireless Apple CarPlay and Android Auto connectivity, automatic climate control, ADAS technology, six airbags, reversing camera, wireless smartphone charger, multi-functional steering wheel with mounted controls, rear AC vents, dual cup holders, type-c charging ports, and more. However, an electric sunroof, motorized seats, and 360-degree camera will be missing. It will keep its 1.2L four-cylinder

VTEC naturally aspirated petrol engine, which produces 90 PS, and no major mechanical alterations. A CVT or five-speed manual transmission will accompany the powerplant. The sedan's redesign is inspired by Honda's Elevate and City models. Redesigned front end with crisp LED headlamps and slim LED DRLs. Chrome accents were added to the grille and bonnet. The 2025 Honda Amaze's road presence is enhanced with the reworked front bumper and fog lamp .

French energy giant Total puts Adani Gp investments on hold

Delhi: Total Energies, a French oil company, has suspended investments in Adani Group entities pending the conclusion of US bribery allegations against its founder. The Paris-based company, which owns key investments in Adani Group's renewable



energy and gas distribution operations, said it was unaware of the US solar power corruption inquiry. "Total Energies rejects corruption in any form," it declared. "This indictment does not target Adani Green Energy (AGEL) itself, nor any AGEL-related companies." Total Energies claimed it learned about Gautam Adani's and others' indictment from US public pronouncements. Gautam Adani, his nephew and Adani Green

NBCC India will buy sick PSUs and redevelop land banks

Delhi: Two sources say NBCC India Ltd. wants to buy defunct public sector undertakings (PSUs) to redevelop and monetize their land. The state-run construction company wants to leverage its success in developing land for government-owned companies. Developer is in talks to acquire non-operational PSUs through a new entity to monetize their land banks.

30k cr bank guarantee relief for telcos

Delhi: Government sources claimed the Union Cabinet has agreed in principle to waive bank guarantee requirements for telecom companies' deferred spectrum payments, but with strict conditions. The waiver will require telcos to pay three months' instalments in addition to their annual fees. Sources said the government will give up its right to collect Rs 30,000 crore in bank guarantees upfront. The Cabinet waived the requirement for telcos to buy spectrum in six auctions between 2012 and 2022. Spectrum auction regulations from 2022 and 2024 removed the necessity. Airtel and Jio would guarantee Rs 2,300 crore and Rs 4,000 crore. Vodafone Idea (Vi) spectrum auction moratorium ends in October 2025. Current



"Vi was accused of not paying its second bank guarantee of Rs 350 crore for spectrum purchased in a 2012 auction. November 1 was the payment deadline"

rules required the corporation to file bank guarantees 13 months before the next payment due date. The DoT requested bank guarantees from Vi for the September 2025 spectrum payment of Rs 24,747 crore. The DoT also asked the finance ministry to exempt operators from bank guarantees for spectrum payments. The waiver should help Vi. Telco shares

increased 7.8% intraday to Rs 7.53. After opening higher, Airtel shares fell 0.1% to Rs 1,577. Vi was accused of not paying its second bank guarantee of Rs 350 crore for spectrum purchased in a 2012 auction. November 1 was the payment deadline. Vi skipped the payment of about Rs 4,600 crore in 2016 auction guarantees two months earlier.

Tgana rejects Adani's 100-cr contribution

Delhi: Telangana chief minister A Revanth Reddy announced that the state government will not accept the ₹100 crore CSR donation from the Adani Group for the Young India Skills University in Ranga Reddy district, citing current circumstances and controversies. We thank you for committing 100 crore to Young India Skills University on behalf of your Foundation via letter. We have not sought donors for physical transfers of monies since the university did not acquire the IT exemption under section 80G, Ranjan wrote. The official added that he was "instructed by the chief minister not to seek the transfer of funds in view of the present circumstances and arising controversies". According to the US Department of Justice indictment, Adani executives and Azure Power executives bribed Indian government officials in five states to win solar energy supply contracts worth over \$2 billion over 20 years between 2020 and 2024. The scam purportedly started in Odisha and spread to Andhra Pradesh, Tamil Nadu, Chhattisgarh, and Jammu & Kashmir. The Telangana chief minister said everyone may lawfully invest, despite accusations that the state government accepted Adani Group funding. Reddy said Congress leader Rahul Gandhi has stated that the company that wins the bids according to the regulations will invest.