

# AKHAND BHARAT SANDESH

Title Code - UPENG04488

MORNING EDITION PRAYAGRAJ

Saturday, 02 August 2025

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

## Make UP a global hub of footwear-leather manufacturing: CM Yogi

**□ 'Uttar Pradesh will develop an integrated ecosystem with the 'design to delivery' model, preparations to bring production, design, research and training on one platform: CM Yogi**

**Lucknow.** Uttar Pradesh has started taking concrete steps towards preparing the footwear, leather and non-leather manufacturing sector for global competition. Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath said in a meeting of the MSME department on that Uttar Pradesh has immense potential to get global recognition in this sector. He said that in view of the state's traditional skills, trained workforce, abundance of raw materials and the presence of strong industrial centers like Agra, and Unnao, it has become necessary to formulate a holistic, practical and result-oriented policy. While discussing with the departmental officials on the draft of Uttar Pradesh Footwear, Leather and Non-Leather Sector Development Policy 2025 in the meeting, the



### Create an integrated footwear manufacturing ecosystem: CM Yogi

Currently, India is the world's second largest producer and consumer of this sector, with Uttar Pradesh's contribution being significant. Kanpur and Unnao alone have more than 200 active tanneries, while Agra is known as the "footwear capital" of the country. The Chief Minister said that under the policy, not only leather and non-leather footwear manufacturing units should be promoted.

Chief Minister directed to give priority to the cluster-based development model. He also said that it should be clearly defined in the policy which areas of the state are most suitable for this industry. If production, design, research and training are integrated, then this sector can not only attract large-scale investment but can also provide employment.

**Children's dreams are getting a new flight in the Astro Lab of the council school**

**Ballia:** Like Group Captain Shubhanshu Shukla who flew in space, Astro labs are being set up to give a new flight to scientific thinking among the children of council schools of the state. In Ballia, the Basic Education Department has taken initiative in this direction and has set up science laboratories equipped with modern facilities in one school of each of the seventeen blocks. The inspiration behind the Astro labs that have been set up in a school of seventeen blocks of the district for the children of government primary schools who are unaware of the mysteries.

## Donald Trump's Tariff To Have 'Negligible Impact... 0.2% GDP Hit':



**New Delhi:** The 25 per cent tariff announced by Donald Trump on Indian exports to the United States will have a 'negligible' impact on the economy, government sources told Friday afternoon. The GDP loss is not likely to exceed 0.2 per cent, sources

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open price-sensitive agriculture and dairy markets, or allow the import of beef or 'non-veg milk', i.e., milk from cows fed animal-based products like bonemeal. These may offend religious sentiments, sources said. The government will also act to 'secure national interest' and remains committed to the welfare of farmers, entrepreneurs, and MSMEs.

## "Big Headload Fell...": Railway Minister On What Led To Delhi Station Tragedy



**New Delhi:** A big headload that "fell from one of the passengers" led to the tragedy at New Delhi Railway Station that killed 18 people, Union Railway Minister Ashwini Vaishnaw said today in response to a member's query. It resulted in the "tripping of passengers on the stairs", said the minister. In response to a query by Samajwadi Party MP Ramji Lal Suman in Rajya Sabha, Mr Vaishnaw shared details from the report

by a high-level inquiry committee that was constituted to examine the circumstances leading to the "unfortunate incident". Mr Suman had asked the Railway Minister about the status of the report of the committee constituted

to investigate the stampede and the corrective steps taken by the government.

Eighteen people were killed and 15 were injured on February 15 at the New Delhi Railway Station, which witnessed a surge of

passengers waiting to board trains for Prayagraj -- where the Maha Kumbh was underway at the time.

In a post on X that night, Prime Minister Narendra Modi said that he was "distressed by the stampede".

## Day After US' 'Buying Russian Oil' Tantrum, Govt's Calm Reply



### Market

□ In securing our energy needs, we are guided by what is on offer in the market

**New Delhi:** India has issued a measured reply to US' criticism of its continued Russian oil purchases. "In securing

our energy needs, we are guided by what is on offer in the market and the prevailing global

circumstance," Foreign Ministry spokesperson Randhir Jaiswal said Friday evening. The US

has ramped up pressure on India to stop buying Russian oil, arguing it amounts to funding Vladimir Putin's war on Ukraine. Secretary of State Marco Rubio called the purchases "a point of irritation" in comments this morning, as Delhi and Washington toil to secure a trade deal and scale down Donald Trump's 25 per cent

reciprocal tariff. Rubio acknowledged India's vast energy needs - analysts expect crude oil demand from the world's fourth largest economy to cross 6.6 million barrels per day by 2030 - and that it was buying oil and gas from Russia because the sanction-hit country is offering steep discounts. "But that, unfortunately, is helping to sustain the Russian war effort. So, it is most certainly a point of irritation in our relationship with India," he told American broadcaster Fox News. Trump, he said, expressed "very clear frustration... with so many vendors available India continues to buy so much from Russia, which in essence is helping.

## Poll Body Releases Draft Voter List For Bihar

### SIR

□ ECI clarified that the draft list has already been shared with all political parties

**New Delhi:** The Election Commission of India (ECI) on Friday released the draft voter list for Bihar, following a month-long special intensive



revision (SIR) process. The EC said the public has one month to submit claims and

objections, assuring that "no

name will be removed from the draft voter list without a stated reason."

In a statement, the ECI clarified that the draft list has already been shared with all political parties and urged citizens to review their voter information thoroughly and also specified that "no name will be removed from the draft voter list without a stated reason". The draft voter list has been released today in Bihar. One-month period for claims and objections begins.

## Jaiswal Blitz Puts India On Top After Siraj Impress vs England

**London:**

Mohammed Siraj produced a lion-hearted spell and Prasidh Krishna cleaned up the tail to script India's spirited comeback after a brutal assault from England openers on day two of the fifth and final Test on Friday.

After a forgettable opening session where Siraj and Co. were taken to the cleaners

by Ben Duckett (43 off 38) and Zak Crawley (64 off 57), the Indian pacers redeemed themselves by bowling out England for 247 in the final session, giving the hosts only a slender 23-run lead. Both Siraj and Prasidh ended with four-wicket hauls.

## Shashikant Shinde succeeds Jayant as Maha NCP-SP leader

**Delhi:** Former minister Shashikant Shinde became Sharad Pawar's NCP Maharashtra unit president. His predecessor, Jayant Patil, was dismissed after seven years. The state executive committee meeting of the party that chose the new governor made the decision. The party leadership shift comes ahead of important local body elections in a few months.

Former Mathadi (headloaders) union leader Shinde must resuscitate the party after its humiliating defeat in the November state legislature elections. After taking over the party's state unit, Shinde launched a month-long tour. The party leadership move comes two years after a vertical split split it into two parts. Most prominent leaders allied with Ajit Pawar, who joined the BJP-led Mahayuti cabinet. "In one month, I will tour the state and recruit young Maharashtra-serving people into

## Indian authorities cannot authorize foreign kid adoption: HC

**Delhi:** The Bombay high court ruled that the Juvenile Justice (Care and Protection of Children) Act and adoption regulations do not allow Indian couples to adopt foreign children, even if related. While dismissing a petition by a Pune-based couple, the division bench of justices Revati Mohite Dere and Neela Gokhale stated that the JJ Act and adoption regulations do not allow relatives to adopt a foreign-citizen child unless it is a 'child in need of care and protection' or a 'child in conflict with law'. The 2011-married couple sought to adopt the woman's sister's six-year-old kid in the US. They petitioned the Pune district court to adopt their 'relative'



because Muslims have no adoption statute. While their plea was pending in district court in 2024, the Central Adoption Resource Agency (CARA) refused to register them as prospective adoptive parents or issue a pre-approval letter because the 2022 adoption regulations did not allow American citizen adoption. A couple approached the high court.

## Punjab, Maharashtra Enforcement Directorate raids de-addiction centers

**Delhi :** "The Enforcement Directorate (ED) raided multiple locations in Punjab apart from some in Mumbai as part of a money-laundering investigation linked to" unlawful "sale of drugs by private de-addiction centres in the northern State," sources said. Punjab Police filed FIRs against doctor Amit Bansal, a pharmaceutical business, a drugs inspector, and others, prompting the federal probe.

Sources say Amit Bansal runs 22 Punjab drug rehab centers. "The raids are being conducted in Chandigarh, Ludhiana and Barnala in Punjab and in Mumbai,



Maharashtra, under the Prevention of Money Laundering Act (PMLA)," stated. According to sources, the Punjab government has entrusted private de-addiction centers like Bansal's to deliver BNX (Buprenorphine/Naloxone) to patients to help them quit narcotics. They observed that "excess" amounts of drug rehabilitation drugs

were being used for a "new kind of drug abuse". Bansal "misused" his de-addiction centers and sold "illegal" pharmaceuticals, sources said. Rupinder Kaur, a pharmaceuticals inspector, is being searched for helping Bansal transmit an inaccurate inspection report about medicine theft from his institutions, sources said.

## Ahmedabad, Bhopal, Lucknow cleanest; Indore joins 'Super Swachh League'

**Delhi :** The Swachh Survekshan 2024-25 Awards named Ahmedabad the cleanest city in the one-million population category, followed by Bhopal, Lucknow, Raipur, and Jabalpur. Indore, Surat, Navi Mumbai, and Vijayawada, another

consistent million-population top performer, have been named Super Swachh League (SSL) cities along with Indore, which has been the cleanest city in this category for seven years. Ahmedabad won 12,079 of 12,500 points, followed by Bhopal and Lucknow with 12,067 and 12,001. The Municipal Corporation of Delhi (MCD) placed 31st with 7,920 points out of 12,500, while Mumbai placed 33rd with 7,419 points. Bengaluru and Chennai, 36th and 38th, received 6,842 and 6,822 points.



## Fadnavis warns against fake SC certificates



**Delhi :** Maharashtra Chief Minister Devendra Fadnavis said a Scheduled Caste certificate obtained falsely by a non-Hindu, Buddhist, or Sikh individual will be revoked. If they have government jobs or other reservation advantages, they will be punished. Fadnavis warned in the legislative council that a false SC certificate will nullify an election. He also said the state administration will introduce robust rules to combat religious conversion through compulsion and cheating in response to a calling attention motion. Amit Gorkhe (BJP) said that "crypto Christians" were abusing religious freedom and taking advantage of SC reservations. "Crypto Christians" were people who secretly practice Christianity but identify with another religion. They appear to be SC and receive reservation advantages like government jobs, he added. Fadnavis stated that the Supreme Court ruled on November 26, 2024, that only Hindus, Buddhists, and Sikhs can claim Scheduled Castes category reservation. "Validity and caste certificates would be termi-

## Kerala's Pending Prez References Should Not Be Withheld

**Delhi :** There is an ongoing Presidential reference that has asked for clarification on the dates that the President and the Governor are expected to act on bills that are presented for their consent, so the Centre disagrees with the Kerala government's decision to withdraw its petitions from the Supreme Court that challenge the Governor's delay in approving important bills. The case was adjourned until July 25 by a panel of justices PS Narasimha and AS Chandrakar following a request for extension by the Centre's attorney general, R Venkata Ramani. Nevertheless, the court made it clear that the state had every authority to withdraw its petitions and that this decision cannot be challenged. If the state wishes to withdraw, that is their right, but we can't



### To evade e-challans, Gurugram police utilize tapes and scratches

**Delhi :** A troubling trend is developing within the ranks of the police force in Gurugram, even as they crack down on regular commuters for faulty or missing number plates. There have been reports of multiple police officers driving around with their license plates partially covered, typically with tape, paper, or even scratches, in an effort to evade the city's extensive system of automated number plate recognition and red-light violation detection cameras. Vehicles parked at various sites, such as the Gurugram Police Commissioner's office, the Traffic Tower in Sushant Lok, and the Anti-Corruption Bureau office in Sector 47, frequently have modified number plates. Cars and motorcycles with license plates that were either folded, scratched, or covered in some other way made it impossible for the security cameras to get behind it. "What are our options?" the bench inquired. Our position is being made plain: there can be no resistance to withdrawal, at least tentatively, according to the bench.

## Starbucks workers expand strike across several US cities

**Starbucks** workers have extended their ongoing strike to four more cities, including New York, according to the union that represents more than 10,000 coffee shop workers.

The strike stemmed from failed negotiations between

Starbucks and union representatives, with disputes over wages, staffing levels, and work schedules remaining unresolved. According to news agency Reuters, the five-day strike, which began on August 1, 2025, with the July bill. Mr. Kumar wrote that 1.67 crore State families will benefit. He added, "We have

Chicago, and Seattle. As of Saturday, the industrial action has expanded to include New Jersey, New York, Philadelphia, and St. Louis. While the union did not specify the location of the walkout in New Jersey, it confirmed that the strike contin-

ues to disrupt operations in the newly added cities.

The union's strike spans in 10 cities, including Columbus, Denver, and Pittsburgh, during the festive period, potentially affecting the company's Christmas revenue.

### Nitish to give Bihar residents 125 free power units

**Delhi :** Bihar Chief Minister Nitish Kumar stated that up to 125 units of electricity would be free for consumers before the State assembly election. Early this morning, Mr. Kumar posted this on 'X'. Since the outset, we've offered affordable electricity to everyone. We've determined that all State domestic consumers would pay nothing for power up to 125 units starting August 1, 2025, with the July bill. Mr. Kumar wrote that 1.67 crore State families will benefit. He added, "We have

Starbucks and union representatives, with disputes over wages, staffing levels, and work schedules remaining unresolved. According to news agency Reuters, the five-day strike, which began on

initially impacted Starbucks locations in Los Angeles,

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## 'Invasion' by 'one religion' will stop, says Assam CM Hemanta Biswa Sarma

**Delhi :** After four years of unwaveringly "resisting" what Chief Minister Hemanta Biswa Sarma characterized as a "invasion," Assam has successfully reclaimed 160sq km of forest and other government-owned land from illegal Muslim settlers. This region is larger than Chandigarh and accounts for nearly 75 percent of Guwahati. According to Sharma, the BJP government's campaign to remove illegal squatters from 1.19 lakh bighas since May 2021 is about

restoring land that is vital to the existence of indigenous tribes and other people, but it is also about maintaining the state's demographic.

There is a common religion among all the invaders of our land. According to Sharma, "jati-mati-bheti" (identity, land, and home-steads) have been the

focus of their efforts. "There is still a long way to go, as more than 63 lakh bighas are still under encroachment." Goalpara, a district in lower Assam where evictions have taken place, was the site of a protest that the CPM had planned at the same time as the chief minister's statements. "Working in the interest of corporations" and "against citizens" were the accusations leveled by the CPM as they pertain to the BJP government.

# Police disclosed the theft of jewellery worth 40 lakhs, three arrested

## Arrested

□ Three vicious accused hailing from Dhar district of MP have been arrested

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**Prayagraj** A big theft case has been disclosed in the swift action of the Police Commissionerate. A joint team of Colonleganj police station, RDR Nagar and Surveillance Cell Nagar has exposed a well-planned theft being committed by breaking into houses on the pretext of repairing safes.

In this action, three vicious accused hailing from Dhar district of Madhya Pradesh have been arrested, from whom gold-silver jewellery, cash and other valu-

ables worth about Rs 40 lakh were recovered. The accused have been identified as Romi Singh Narang, Jaswant Singh and Raj Singh. According to the police, these people used to enter houses in cities of different states by introducing themselves as locker/safe repairers and, as soon as they got the opportunity, they used to steal the precious jewellery and cash kept in the houses.

The police received

information that yellow metal and other valuables were stolen from the victim's house. On the information, with the help of technical help of Kauu, the location of the accused was tracked and action was taken and all three were arrested. More than 300 pieces of jewellery including 11 rings, 7 pairs of earrings, 3 lockets, 2 mangalsutras, 2 chains, 3 nose rings and Rs 641 in cash were recovered from them.

Police have taken action against the accused under sections 305 (A), 331 (3)/112/3 (5)/317 (2) and further legal proceedings are underway. Excellent coordination of the police team: The joint team of Colonleganj police station, SOG Nagar, Surveillance Cell Nagar and Kauu played a major role in this success. This action has once again proved the technical efficiency and teamwork of the police.

## Miscreants riding on Pulsar injured a youth with the butt of a gun



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**Prayagraj** In Mauaima, two miscreants riding on Pulsar fired at a youth in broad daylight on the road. Luckily the bullet did not hit the youth, but the miscreants injured him by hitting him on the head with the butt of the gun. Seeing the shopkeepers coming, the miscreants fled waving the gun. Police reached on the information and after searching the CCTV footage captured in the cameras, started nabbing the miscreants. Injured Vijay Kumar has lodged a complaint in the police station and registered a case against two named and two unknown persons. Vijay Kumar, son of Arjun Kumar, resident of Mohalla Ganjiya Bazar of Mauaima town Nagar Panchayat, said that on Friday at about 5

p.m. he had gone to the nearby Bahrana crossing to buy fruits. It is alleged that he had an argument with fruit vendor Babbu and Babbu's son Sajid called someone, then Vijay left from there. As soon as he reached a little distance, two miscreants riding a Pulsar bike took out a pistol and fired at Vijay Kumar. Luckily the bullet did not hit Vijay Kumar, the miscreants injured the young man by hitting him on the head with the butt of the pistol. On hearing the sound of the bullet, seeing the nearby shopkeepers coming, the miscreants fled waving the pistol. On receiving the information, the police reached the spot and after searching the pictures of the miscreants captured in the CCTV cameras installed in the shops, started catching the miscreants.

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**Prayagraj**. After postponing the examination several times for recruitment to 3539 posts of Trained Graduate Teacher (TGT) and 624 posts of Lecturer (PGT) in the non-government aided secondary schools of the state, the Uttar Pradesh Education Service Selection Commission has announced the new dates of the examination. The PGT exam will be held on 15th and 16th October this year and the TGT exam on 18th and 19th

December. According to the Deputy Secretary of the Commission, Dr. Shivji Malviya, another important decision was taken in the meeting held in the Commission on Friday that the Uttar Pradesh Teacher Eligibility Test (UP TET) will be held on 29th and 30th January 2026. At present, the biggest challenge before the commission

## Many ghats submerged due to the fury of Ganga and Yamuna, 50 people took shelter in civil

### Camps

- The water level of Ganga and Yamuna is rising rapidly once again
- 12 families reached relief camps

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**Prayagraj**. The water level of Ganga and Yamuna is rising rapidly once again. On Thursday, 50 people from 12 families reached relief camps after flood water entered Baghada and Ashok Nagar areas. It is feared that a large number of common people will be affected in the coming two to three days. Administrative officers visited the flood affected areas on Thursday and now their eyes are on the water level of Tons. If water comes out from there, then the water that came here will go ahead, if the water stops there, there will be back flow, after which the situation can worsen.

This month, many people reached relief camps due to the rise in the water level of Ganga. After the water level decreased,

people went home. An increase in the water level was recorded once again. Water started entering the houses in the coastal area of Baghada and in the afternoon, seven families reached Annie Besant camp to take shelter. 30 people from these families had already come to the Cantt Marriage Hall. On the basis of their Aadhar cards, they were given space in the camp and after this the officials inspected the affected areas. SDM Sadar Abhishek Singh reached Bakshi Dam, Baghada, Salori, Rajapur and Beli Kachhar areas at 10 am and took stock of the rising water level. During this, the administra-

tion team talked to the people in the coastal area and requested them that all the relief camps are active. If anyone has a problem, then he should not stay here and go straight to the camp. Operation of six boats has also been started to take and bring common citizens to the flood affected areas. Whereas only one boat was operated on Wednesday. The administration has instructed the Water Police, NDR and SDRF to keep their boats ready. Three villages also affected by the flood. As the water level increased, three villages of the district have also been affected. Life is being affected in Badra, Sonaoti in Phulpur tehsil and Delhi Bhagesar village in Karchana. Administrative teams have been sent to all places. 27 relief packets were also distributed due to rising water level. SDM Tehsildar should take news every moment. Prayagraj District Magistrate Manish Kumar Verma reviewed the preparations of flood relief camps in the Circuit House. In the meeting held on Thursday night, he took information about the water level and instructed that SDM and Tehsildar should be in touch with the people.

## Today PM Modi to unveil 52 development projects

Installment of PM-Kisan Samman Nidhi to benefit nation's farmers



**Varanasi** : Prime Minister Narendra Modi will visit his parliamentary constituency, Varanasi, to inaugurate and lay the foundation stone for 52 development projects worth approximately 2,183.45 crore.

Coming just before Rakshabandhan in the auspicious month of Shravan, this visit is expected to bring a significant boost to Purvanchal's development. The projects span key sectors such as road infrastructure, healthcare, education, sports, tourism, and urban development. Initiatives include the construction and

widening of roads, hospital upgrades, enhancement of educational institutions, improved drinking water and sanitation facilities, development of sports infrastructure, establishment of a homeopathic college, construction of paved ghats for religious tourism, expansion of electricity and parking facilities, pond renovation, and the setting up of libraries, animal hospitals, and dog care centers.

## PGT exam on 15th and 16th October and TGT on 18th and 19th December

### Recruitment

- Now decided to conduct the written examination on 18 and 19 December

**December**. According to the Deputy Secretary of the Commission, Dr. Shivji Malviya, another important decision was taken in the meeting held in the Commission on Friday that the Uttar Pradesh Teacher Eligibility Test (UP TET) will be held on 15 and 16 October 2025. It is worth noting that the commission had decided in the meeting held on July 24 that the dates of TGT / PGT examination and UP TET would be postponed for 20 and 21 July.

will be to conduct the TGT and PGT examinations on time on new dates as both the exams have been postponed three and four times respectively.

The application process for recruitment to 4163 posts of TGT- PGT has been completed in July-2022 itself. The TGT exam was first proposed on April 4 and 5, 2025. After this, it was proposed on 14 and 15 May and for the second time it was postponed and proposed for 20 and 21 July.

Postponing it for the third time, the commission has now decided to

conduct the written examination on 18 and 19 December. At the same time, the PGT exam was first proposed on 11 and 12 April, then 20 and 21 June, then 18 and 19 June. Postponing it for the third time, it was proposed in the last week of August and now the commission is going to conduct the PGT examination on 15 and 16 October 2025. It is worth noting that the commission had decided in the meeting held on July 24 that the dates of TGT / PGT examination and UP TET would be announced in a week.

## Journalists Unite Against Injustice: Emergency Meeting Held by Gramin Ptarkar Association



**Ghazipur** : An intense atmosphere was witnessed on Friday at the Muhammadabad Tehsil premises in Ghazipur district, where an emergency meeting of the Rural Press Association was convened with a firm commitment to uphold the core values of journalism—public interest, freedom of expression, and justice. The meeting, chaired by the Tehsil President Mr. Ramil Pandey, became a platform for journalists to share their experiences and

collectively raise their voices against the injustice faced by a fellow journalist. The focal point of the meeting was the serious allegations of police harassment leveled by Subhash Yadav, a resident of Todarpur village, against officers of the Bhawarkol Police Station. The incident sparked outrage among the journalist fraternity and raised deep concerns over democratic values and civil liberties. All present

members unanimously demanded a fair investigation and strict action against the culprits. Following the meeting, a delegation met with the Sub-Divisional Magistrate (SDM) and submitted a formal memorandum, urging immediate administrative intervention in the matter. Efforts were also made to meet the Circle Officer, but the meeting could not take place due to his absence. The event witnessed the presence of several key figures from the association, including Vice President Pradeep Kumar Pandey, General Secretary Somdatt Kushwaha, senior journalists Reayaz Ahmed, Narendra Rai, Shahnawaz Ahmed, Tauqeer Khan, Rahul Patel, Wasim Raza, Khurshid, Neeraj, and Satish, among others. Speakers at the meeting passionately expressed that journalism is not merely the process of gathering news, but a powerful voice for the oppressed and marginalized. They emphasized that remaining

silent in the face of injustice is a betrayal of journalistic duty. The association issued a stern warning to the administration: if timely action is not taken, a peaceful democratic protest could be launched. The meeting concluded with a firm resolution—The Rural Press Association will continue its unwavering struggle to protect not only the rights of journalists but also those of common citizens, and it will never back down from raising its voice against injustice.

## Teacher Ajit Singh became the state in-charge of Dependent Welfare Committee

### Lal Gopalganj:

Dependent Welfare Committee is continuously fighting for the interests of dependent employees. In this sequence, Ajit Singh Assistant Teacher Primary School Babhan Kuinya Development Block Bahadurpur Prayagraj has been made the state in-charge of the teacher cadre and Deepanshu Junior Block Education Officer Office Bisalpur District Pilibhit has been made the state in-charge of the clerical cadre. It is known that the

Dependent Welfare Committee is continuously fighting for the interests of dependent employees. In which the employees of any department who are from the dependent cadre. It is committed in every way to their problems and demands. State Secretary Vinay Tripathi informed that in future we will connect this organization with every department in the interest of employees.

Participation of all is the priority of the organization.

## Greed for Land Leads to Bloodshed

# Son Kills Mother, Father, and Sister with Axe

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**Ghazipur** : In a shocking case of familial violence driven by greed for land, the Ghazipur Kotwali Police have successfully solved a triple murder case and arrested the accused son. The horrific incident involved the brutal killing of the accused's mother, father, and sister with an axe. As per the directives of the Superintendent of Police, and under the supervision of the



Additional Superintendent of Police (City) and the Circle Officer (City), a campaign was underway targeting criminals, absconders, and those with non-bailable warrants. In this operation, on July 27, 2025, Amar Nath Yadav, son of the late Teni Yadav and a resident of Dilian village under Kotwali Police Station, Ghazipur district, filed a complaint. According to the complaint, the accused Abhay Yadav, also known as Bhuttan

and reward-listed accused Abhay Yadav near Chowkiya Tiraha. Legal procedures are being carried out against him as per the law. During interrogation, Abhay confessed that his sister Kusum had previously been married in Jaitpura through dowry, but the marriage ended.

She was married again in Hathikhana, where her second relationship also deteriorated. According to him, his sister turned their parents against him and

transferred ownership of 1 bigha, 4 biswa, and 10 dhur of land into her name. Abhay further claimed that his sister was bent on ruining him, and their parents always took her side. In a fit of rage and greed over land, he killed his sister first, then his mother, and finally his father on July 27, 2025. The arresting police team included Inspector-in-Charge Kotwali Deen Dayal Pandey and Sub-Inspector Rohit Mishra, in-charge of the SWAT team.

## Editorial

**Punjab govt must take Centre into confidence on new anti-sacrilege bill**

The Aam Aadmi Party-led Punjab government has tabled the Punjab Prevention of Offences Against Holy Scripture(s) Bill, 2025 which was discussed in the Assembly on Tuesday amidst ruckus and then referred to a select committee. It might take about six months for the committee to send the bill back to the Assembly for clearing and then to the governor for approval. If the bill is referred to the Union government, then it would be another year before it finally becomes an Act. Earlier governments — the Shiromani Akali Dal (SAD)-Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) coalition government and the Congress government headed by Captain Amarinder Singh — had also brought similar bills which were found to be insufficient to meet the demands of the situation and hence junked. The new anti-sacrilege bill is said to have taken note of the shortcomings of the earlier bills and is hence more comprehensive, secular, and sufficiently stringent to be a deterrence for sacrilege offences considered very serious in the state. Meanwhile, 42-year-old Gurjeet Singh Khalsa, supposedly a non-political activist, has been staging a protest on top of a BSNL mobile tower in Punjab's Samana since October 2024 demanding an anti-sacrilege law. Though not widely reported in the mainstream media, such protests should be handled deftly by the government, lest it rakes up discontents of the past. In fact, the Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita (BNS), under Sections 298, 299, and 300, already provides stringent punishments for religious offences. Punjab government as well as the activists who are protesting for a new law against sacrilege of religious texts are of the view that the provisions of the current Union laws are not stringent enough. Incidentally, the bill inadvertently equates the Bhagavad Gita with the holy books of other faiths, which may trigger a controversy. The bill could be amended to also include other religious texts considered holy by a vast majority of Hindus and/or be worded appropriately to capture the essence of all holy books of all faiths without naming any of them. Needless to say, the issue is a complex one. Going by the text of the present bill, albeit a short one, there are sufficient indications to suggest that adequate care has been taken to make the acts of sacrilege a serious offence inviting harsh punishments. But it is not clear why these provisions could not be added to the existing Sections of the BNS. After all, the BNS is an all-India law that applies equally to all states and all faiths. The AAP-led Punjab government appears to have not consulted the Union government or had any discussions with the Union Law Ministry on this issue. What should be of concern are the possibilities of other states following suit and enacting separate laws to suit the political environment of respective states citing the Punjab bill as a precedent. In a federal setup, the Constitution allows states to enact sufficient laws to maintain law and order and preserve religious harmony through stringent punishments for offences involving religious practices, texts, icons, and symbols. There have been instances of religious books being vandalised, places of worship desecrated, and statues of widely revered socio-political leaders popular among certain communities damaged. Another aspect of concern should be the misuse of any law, however sincere the intentions of the lawmakers might be. The anti-sacrilege bill may have good intentions, but there is hardly any guarantee that such a law will not become a tool for miscreants wanting to drive a wedge between communities and followers of different faiths in the state. In a politically volatile border state where religious fault lines have been exploited by extreme elements bent on hurting the unity and integrity of the country, the state government needs to be extra-vigilant and take the Union government into confidence at every stage.



## Critical minerals are the new oil. India can't afford to depend on China

Critical minerals have now become instruments of geopolitical bargaining and means to assert domestic autonomy and security. Prime Minister Narendra Modi's recent visit to Argentina and meeting with Chilean President, Gabriel Boric, the two legs of the lithium triangle, on the sidelines of the recently held BRICS summit in Brazil, were strategically aimed at exploring cooperation and engagement on critical minerals. At the Summit, Modi warned against the weaponization of critical minerals and stressed the need to

work together to make supply chains secure and reliable. Other global leaders have also echoed similar concerns at the G20, Quad, and BRICS summits, and have discussed collaborating to secure and diversify critical mineral supply chains. Currently, India is heavily dependent on imports for critical minerals such as lithium, cobalt, nickel, and rare earth elements (REE). Much of this supply comes through re-export channels, which creates a third-level dependency while exposing us to potential supply shocks and strategic coercion.

Mineral security is no longer just an economic concern but a national security imperative, underpinning the country's ambitions in clean energy, defence self-reliance, and advanced manufacturing. Globally, China holds roughly 62 per cent of lithium refining capacity, 33 per cent for nickel, 77 per cent for cobalt, 87 per cent for graphite, and 76 per cent for REEs, according to the International Energy Agency's (IEA) Global Critical Minerals Outlook 2025. This underscores China's overwhelming dominance in supply

chains, even though it does not host most raw material reserves. Compared to 2023, India's lithium imports from China surged by roughly 921 per cent in 2024, while graphite imports rose 85 per cent between 2022 and 2024 and Nickel imports jumped 137 per cent in 2024. Such dominance gives Beijing an asymmetric leverage over supply chains vital to clean-tech sectors and key defence applications, including advanced electronics, missile systems, and communication technologies. As a result, securing reliab

## India's TRP ecosystem needs a reset. Time to end BARC monopoly



Television advertising revenues have been in freefall, declining from Rs 334 billion to Rs 294 billion in just two years. Twelve per cent of the brands that used TV to reach the masses in 2023 adopted a different distribution medium in 2024. Despite this, the TV industry continues to expand its offerings. DD Free Dish, a state-run distribution platform that requires only a one-time installation fee and no subscription charges, added both consumers and channels last year. The number of Free-to-Air channels on TV that recover costs from advertising is also increasing. Clearly, there is a disconnect between broadcasters' and advertisers' assessment of the true value of India's 160 million-household-strong TV market. At the heart of this mismatch is a measurement gap that the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting (MIB) is now trying to resolve through reforms to TV ratings guidelines. The MIB is in the process of amending the 2014 television ratings guidelines that led to the accreditation of the Broadcast Audience Research Council (BARC) to measure the relative popularity of TV channels. This much-needed proposal aims to end BARC's monopoly and allow additional entities to conduct TV ratings,

which can revitalise TV advertising. Before BARC, TAM (Television Audience Measurement)—a joint media research venture by Kantar and Nielsen—tracked what India watched. But India is a large country, and TAM could only place meters to measure audience preferences in a limited number of households, that too mostly in urban areas. As a solution, broadcasters, advertisers, and media agencies came together in 2010 to form BARC, which was empanelled by the MIB and started operations in 2015. BARC roped in TAM for back-end technological expertise and rejigged sampling methods. When BARC was rolled out, it measured 12,000 out of the 145 million TV households in India.

This was still only 0.008 per cent. Panel sizes have grown over the years to 55,000, but BARC continues to use the same data-collection methods. Watch time is measured in clock minutes through audio-watermarking tech-

nology that detects the channel being viewed. Before watching, each family member in a metered household must press a button to indicate whether they are an adult or a child, and to record their gender. They must press the same button again when they stop viewing. This approach rests on the optimistic assumption that viewers comply every time they switch channels. Meanwhile, the global media landscape has been moving ahead with qualitative, platform-agnostic measurement tools enabled by big data, advanced meter technologies, and more demographically inclusive panels. Advertisers rely on BARC's single measurement currency, Television Rating Point (TRP), which estimates the duration and frequency of viewership. These ratings help them determine which channels attract the most viewers and where to spend their ad budgets. There are no alternative estimates to go by. In con-

### India's solar ambition needs financial vision – ISA must move from commitments to execution

As the world confronts the realities of climate change and energy insecurity, solar energy presents itself not merely as a technological solution but as a transformative geopolitical and developmental strategy. The International Solar Alliance is uniquely positioned to catalyse this transformation. But to succeed, it must go beyond declarations. It must now design and implement financial architectures capable of supporting its ambitions. The potential of solar energy is undeniable. It is modular, scalable, and increasingly cost-effective. Yet, for the nations most abundant in sunlight, finance remains a key constraint. The International Energy Agency estimates that clean energy investments in emerging economies must rise from \$770 billion in 2022 to over \$2.2 trillion annually by 2030. A significant portion of this must be allocated to solar energy.

However, the fiscal realities of many countries—either still recovering from the Covid-19 pandemic, burdened by debt, or struggling to cope with press-

ing social needs—limit the ability of governments to invest at scale. India's experience illustrates this well. Despite policy successes in solar deployment, the government's ability to directly invest in grid infrastructure or generation assets is capped by fiscal deficit targets and debt ceilings. Even green bonds, while helpful, are bound by ring-fenced rules and are limited in scale. Public financing, therefore, can only act as a catalytic lever—it cannot be the backbone. Turning to the private sector, we find both potential and limitations. Many solar developers operate on highly leveraged balance sheets, and with rising global interest rates, the space for fresh capital is narrowing. Moreover, risks such as currency volatility, regulatory uncertainty, and weak transmission infrastructure dampen investor appetite, especially in frontier markets. Private capital is crucial but requires structured entry points, credible exit mechanisms, and active risk mitigation to be effective.

### Trump's sanctions have failed to deter Russia. Now the West faces a dilemma

Last week, Russia once again pulled the nuclear weapon threat out of its sleeves, two days after US President Donald Trump — following his meeting with NATO Secretary General Mark Rutte — threatened to impose 100 per cent secondary tariffs on Moscow if it doesn't reach a deal with Kyiv in 50 days. Trump also confirmed that "top-of-the-line" weapons, including the Patriot missile defence system and batteries, would be sent to Ukraine in an operation coordinated by NATO members. Russia's newly updated nuclear doctrine apparently allows Moscow to use nuclear weapons against a non-nuclear weapon state that is supported by a nuclear one, unsettling deterrence dynamics in Europe. Though Trump's about-turn on the Russia-Ukraine war might bring some sigh of relief in Kyiv, Moscow's counter-threats echo a Biden-era tit-for-tat escalation when Washington's no-holds-barred support for Ukraine's war efforts was met with Moscow's nuclear threats. The question is: will Trump's threats be enough to affect any change in Russia's behaviour? Or will such threats be counter-productive, embolden Putin's hand, and give him more ammunition to project a Russia reclaiming its lost status of parity with the US and standing up to the combined might of the Western alliance? Sanctions are meant to bite, and not just bark. They are coercive economic tools that the US and its Western allies have often used as a default policy to punish adversaries. However, do they really affect consequential changes in a country's behaviour as expected? In the case of Russia, sanctions have won tactical gains, but have failed to achieve the desired strategic goals. US-led Western sanctions have hit Russia since 2014, when the latter annexed Crimea from Ukraine after the Maidan Square event. Though Russia has seen rising inflation, labour shortage, and devaluation of its currency, the sanctions have had too little impact to make Moscow kowtow. On the contrary, the Central Bank of the Russian Federation has kept the key rate at 21.5 percent per annum, indicating that inflation and economic growth are relatively stable under the current circumstances. The Russian stock exchange market has also continued to grow despite Trump's warnings. The International Monetary Fund (IMF) has forecasted Russia's growth rate in 2025 at 1.5 per cent while the Russian Economic Development Ministry has kept it at 2.5 per cent. This month, the US Senate tabled additional sanctions on Russia, calling them a 'sledgehammer'. Sanctions on Russia will also impact countries that trade with Russia in oil, gas, uranium, and other products. Such secondary sanctions on third countries are reportedly proposed to touch 500 per cent. Some US lawmakers are even hinting at the US, together with its European allies, accessing frozen Russian assets, including the \$5 billion located in the US, to dent Russia's warfighting resources and utilise the money in Ukraine's reconstruction. This would be an unprecedented move as no US president has ever taken the central bank assets of a foreign country that the US is not at war with. However, secondary sanctions have not been too successful either, with Russia, through its 'shadow fleet', exporting energy to the other countries, including China, Turkey, UAE, Belarus, and Armenia. Moreover, partner countries of the US such as Turkey, UAE, and Armenia have not participated in sanctions, creating an enforcement gap, helping Russia maintain access to sanctioned goods and continue its economic activities. A report, published by the Kyiv School of Economics, estimated that the shadow fleet transports about

## Delhi has extended its electric vehicle policy until November

**Delhi** : Delhi government has decided to extend the deadline for its Electric Vehicle (EV) Policy by four months, bringing it to November. This decision was made since a draft of the policy is currently being reviewed and is awaiting clearance. According to Pankaj Singh, the minister of transport, the document is currently undergoing revisions and will likely be finalized in at least four months.

For the time being, we have prolonged the present policy until 15 and may do so again if needed, he stated. In order to make sure that everyone may enjoy a cleaner, more sustainable transportation system, we are talking to professionals and looking into all possible possibilities. An increase in EV registrations and a general uptick in interest have been observed recently. The present electric vehicle policy has been extended multiple

times since its inception in 2020 and its expiration in August 2023. At present, e-



**Delhi government plans to revamp the DTC**

**Delhi** : To ensure that residents of the nation's capital have access to first-rate public transportation, the Delhi government has begun a massive renovation of the Delhi Transport Corporation (DTC). A press release states that this effort would soon deploy smart travel cards, restructure bus routes, modernize interstate bus terminals (ISBTs), and

rickshaws and e-carts can receive a 25% purchase incentive up to 5,500.

## CM Rekha Gupta announces 600 cr. central money for Delhi development



and Union Territories for capital expenditure. The scheme's grant to Delhi is likely to boost infrastructure projects in the government's current budget. Ms. Gupta said the government wants

to make Delhi a world-class metropolis and will implement the project fully. Delhi is India's cultural, administrative, and economic center as well as its capital.

**Delhi** : Chief Minister Rekha Gupta promised ₹600 crore in Central support for Delhi government development projects by July end, following a meeting with Union Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman. Infrastructure and municipal projects in the Capital, including traffic management, drainage systems, renewable energy efforts, and waste management reforms, will be expedited with SASCI funds. The Chief Minister's Office said it will shortly submit a formal allocation recommendation to the Union Ministry of Finance. SASCI, launched in 2020-21, provides 50-year, interest-free loans to States

## In order to alleviate waterlogging, MCD sets up 79 pumping stations



sure that inner roads are safe from potential flooding on main highways, he needs to get the PWD on board.

Sharma further said that control centers were set up in each zone so that field operations could be coordinated and public complaints could be handled instantly. "Response teams, comprising junior engineers and support staff, were stationed round the clock,"

### 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.

## New Delhi Solar Energy Policy: Subsidy Tripling

**Delhi** : The Delhi Solar Energy Policy, 2023 was revised by the Delhi government, which meant that families may receive a subsidy of up to ₹10,000 per kW for rooftop solar systems that did not exceed 3 kW, with a cap of ₹30,000 per consumer. A new capital subsidy for resident welfare associations and group housing societies was also introduced by the amendment. Solar systems for shared facilities, such as electric vehicle charging infrastructure, can now be purchased for up to 500 kW for these companies for ₹2,000 per kW. Another model that was improved by the



regulation was the RESCO model, which is a financing structure where developers own and finance solar installations. Removing the requirement for upfront investment and streamlining the billing process through distribution companies, the revised model proposes that

consumers pay the RESCO developer through their regular electricity bills. With application data obtained from either the Delhi Solar Portal or the National Rooftop Solar Portal of the PM Suryaghar Muft Bijli Yojana, users will have their subsidies sent

### Athal canteens in Delhi will offer meals for 5 per plate by December

**Delhi** : The government of Delhi is getting ready to open 100 Atal Canteens around the city. These canteens will provide meals for around ₹5 each plate. The initiative's target population consists of daily wage workers and the urban poor, and it

intends to supply them with affordable and healthy food at 100 sites, primarily in areas surrounding large construction projects and clusters of slums. The government is aiming to finish a number of projects by December, the birthdate of former

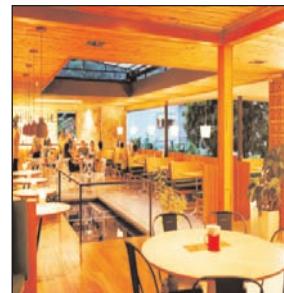
prime minister Atal Bihari Vajpayee—in whose honour the canteens are named according to senior officials. The establishment of these canteens throughout the nation's capital was funded by chief minister and minister of finance Rekha Gupta.

**L-G orders probe into AAP's free coaching scheme for students from disadvantaged backgrounds**

**Delhi** : Delhi's Minister of Education Ashish Sood requested that the Anti-Corruption Branch (ABC) investigate allegations of wrongdoing in the free coaching programme that the Aam Aadmi Party (AAP) government instituted for kids from low-income families. He went on to say that Lieutenant Governor V K Saxena had directed the investigation to begin. Free private test preparation for students from Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes, and Other Backward Classes was made available through the Jai Bhim Pratibha Vikas Yojna. Sood accused private coaching institutes of receiving a charge for ₹145 crore during the 2021-22 COVID-19 cycle while addressing journalists with SC/ST Welfare Minister Ravinder Indraj. He went on to say that the previous AAP administration had not checked with coaching institutes for a list of pupils or ensured that they were receiving coaching.

He stated that Chief Minister Rekha Gupta has suggested investigating the claims. Starting in 2018, the program funneled public monies straight to coaching organizations in an effort to make coaching available to everyone at no cost.

## Delhi's hotels and restaurants no longer need police NOCs



**Delhi** : Hotels, restaurants, discotheques, amusement parks, and auditoriums in the Capital will no longer need permission or NOCs from the Delhi Police. Recent order by L-G V K Saxena removed Delhi Police sanction power in such instances. The Delhi Police's Licensing Branch would now exclusively issue guns and explosives licenses, the directive added. L-G Saxena issued an order rescinding the sanction granted to the Commissioner of

Commissioner of Police to issue notification "repealing the said regulations with immediate effect". The order added, "The repeal notification shall be given wide publicity by Delhi Police and the Home Department." The decision stated that the Centre in pursuit of "minimum government and maximum governance" had reduced various licensing regimes in states and Union Territories (UTs) and urged simplified licensing procedures.

## Take a stand against stray dogs by feeding them inside: SC backs a petition



causing conflicts. Although the court recognized the petitioner's good intentions, it stressed the dangers of wandering dogs in public areas and emphasized that the "cruelty faced by the common man" must also be con-

sidered. Justices Vikram Nath and Sandeep Mehta inquired, "Do you go cycling in the morning?"

With an air of formality. The court advised that one should "try it one day and see what happens" when riding a

**Parents asked to update Aadhaar biometrics of kids aged between 5 & 7**

**Delhi** : The Unique Identification Authority of India has urged parents to update the Aadhaar biometrics of children between five and seven years. "Timely completion of mandatory biometric update is an essential requirement for maintaining the accuracy and reliability of biometric data of children. If the MBU is not completed even after seven years of age, the Aadhaar number may be deactivated, as per the existing rules," the agency said in a statement. This is required to ensure seamless access to school admissions, entrance exams and other benefits such as direct benefit transfer, it added.

bike or two-wheeler, "These animals have particularly on vacant space, but streets where aggressive dogs are common. humans don't," the bench said.

## It is possible to return to the drawing board with Master Plan 2041



**Delhi** : Would it be necessary to start over with the Delhi 2041 Master Plan draft? Master Plan 2041 is back in the spotlight after being put on the back burner for over two years after the Delhi Development Authority (DDA) submitted the draft to the

Centre for notification and

implementation. The government of Delhi met behind closed doors to pore over the document's sections, which lay out the groundwork for the city's future infrastructure and urban planning. DDA briefed chief minister Rekha Gupta, cabinet members, and high-ranking officials in the Delhi government on the draft

in great detail. The Delhi secretary is expected to have more discussions over the paper, but according to sources, the officers were requested to provide comments on various parts of the plan. "Depending on the nature of inputs received from various departments, we may

## SBI plans to raise a Rs 45,000 crore in a mix of stock



**Delhi :** Capital markets are expected to generate Rs 45,000 crore for the biggest lender in the nation, SBI. This week, the largest equity issue of its sort in the Indian market will occur, with Rs 25,000 crore coming through a qualified institutional placement (QIP). The issue would dilute equity by 3.3% at the present market valuation of around Rs 7.4 lakh crore. Following shareholder approval on June 13 and board approval on May 3, the bank started the share sale. In accordance with the SBI Act and its General Regulations, the shares will be issued having a face value of Re 1. Up until now, the

biggest equity fundraising under QIP has been Coal India's 2015 Rs 22,560 crore offering. When fully subscribed, SBI's placement will surpass this. The offer's floor price, determined using Sebi's pricing formula, is Rs 811.05 per share. This amount can be reduced by as much as 5% by the bank. The book-running lead managers will be consulted to decide the ultimate pricing.

### The PM SHRI Institute

**Delhi:** The Government of India is a major backer of SHRI School. Every student should feel welcomed and cared for in more than 14,500 PM SHRI Schools managed by the Central Government, State Government, UT Government, and local bodies like KVS and NVS. These schools should also provide a safe and stimulating learning environment, a variety of learning opportunities, and adequate physical infrastructure and resources that help students learn.

**Delhi :** A steep surge in provisions lowered Axis Bank's net profit to Rs 5,806 crore in the quarter ended June 2025, down 4%. The bank described a one-time accounting adjustment as a "technical impact" or internal recalibration of their poor credit categorization, which increased provisions. This modification affected cash credit, overdraft, and one-time cleared accounts, causing Rs 2,709 crore in slippages. That alone prompted Rs 821 crore in provisions. Without this,

quarter provisions would have been Rs 3,127 crore instead of Rs 3,948 crore. The bank called this hit a "prudential application" of regulatory standards, not a decrease in asset quality. Gross non-performing assets rose 29 basis points quarter-on-quarter to 1.57% after the policy change. Net NPAs rose 12 basis points to 0.45%. A technical recalibration hurt headline profit, while revenue, loan book, and fee income grew more evenly.



## A parliamentary committee on the income tax bill supports the expedited settlement of tax disputes



**Delhi :** In its 285 recommendations on the proposed legislation to streamline and update tax regulations, a parliamentary committee that reviewed the Income Tax Bill, 2025, Delhi, argued that litigation should have a deadline. On the opening day of Parliament's monsoon session (July 21), the IT Bill was reviewed by a select committee of the Lok Sabha presided over by BJP leader Baijayant Panda. The committee then adopted a report outlining the proposed law. Our team has put out 285 suggestions. Nearly two hundred fifty have been approved by the government. Huge improvements have transpired, as can be seen in the case of

refunds, but we have stated that tax litigations should not drag and that there should be time-bound settlement," a panel member added. The majority of the legislative panel's suggestions on the Income Tax Bill, 2025 were of a "corrective" character, according to one of its mem-

bers. The document's size has been reduced from 850 pages to 600 pages as a result of the simplification efforts. Simplifying the wording and structure of the IT Act 1961 was the goal of the IT Bill, 2025, which was submitted in Parliament.

### To simplify TDS refund provisions under Income Tax Bill 2025

**Delhi :** Even if their income is not taxable, taxpayers must file income tax returns to receive a refund for tax deducted at source. This criterion is apparently being simplified by the government. According to The Hindustan Times, taxpayers may be able to receive TDS refunds without completing ITRs by filling out a simple form. The Select Committee on the Income Tax Bill 2025 advised the administration, according to bill-related officials.

## Tesla sets foot in India with Rs 61 lakh Model Y



### SC recognizes firms as criminal victims

**Delhi:** Tesla is finally here. The electric car giant run by Elon Musk opened its first India showroom in Mumbai's BKC. Musk had set his eyes on India since at least 2015, but high tariffs, limited flexibility, and charging infrastructure challenges, kept Tesla away from the country, which the company had described as a hard market. While bookings opened, deliveries of Model Y SUVs, prices for which start at Rs 61-lakh on-road (500km range), will begin in Oct. A 'long-range' (622km) Model Y variant will be available from Jan 2026 with an on-road price tag of just over Rs 69 lakh. For context, BMW iX1 LWB electric SUV is priced at about Rs 51 lakh on-road, and Mercedes-Benz EQA electric SUV costs just over Rs 70 lakh. Users will have a simple 'plug and charge

experience' with superchargers adding up to 267km range in 15 minutes. individual convicted of selling counterfeit paint under its brand name. Justices Ahsanuddin Amanullah and Prashant Kumar Mishra approved the appeal. Whether the appellant is a 'victim' under Section 2(wa) and the provision to Section 372 of the CrPC is a significant legal question. This bench believes the High Court erred in ruling otherwise.

Deputy: The Supreme Court ruled that firms can be regarded "victims" under the Code of Criminal Procedure (CrPC) and can appeal acquittals even if the state does not. This might profoundly change corporate rights in criminal litigation. Asian Paints Ltd. appealed a Rajasthan High Court ruling denying its right to dispute the acquittal of an individual convicted of selling counterfeit paint under its brand name. Justices Ahsanuddin Amanullah and Prashant Kumar Mishra approved the appeal. Whether the appellant is a 'victim' under Section 2(wa) and the provision to Section 372 of the CrPC is a significant legal question. This bench believes the High Court erred in ruling otherwise.

up to 267km range in 15 minutes.

## Sources suggest Japan's SMBC wants RBI clearance for 4.9% more Yes Bank ownership

**Delhi :** Japan's Sumitomo Mitsui Banking Corporation (SMBC) [RIC:RIC:SUM-FGI.UL] has sought approval from the Reserve Bank of India to acquire an additional 4.9% stake in India's Yes Bank (YESB.NS), bringing its total ownership to just under 25%, two sources told Reuters. Yes Bank disclosed in a stock exchange filing that SMBC bought a 20% share in the private lender for \$1.6 billion in May. Receive the latest Indian news and its global impact with the Reuters India File newsletter. Join here. The first source stated the RBI, India's central bank and banking regulator, is reviewing the transaction. Both sources declined to be identified due to transaction confidentiality. The additional pur-



### Samsung may make India a US hub amid rising tariffs

**Delhi :** Samsung may move some smartphone production from Vietnam if US tariffs drop in India. The world's largest smartphone maker would follow Apple in making India a top US smartphone manufacturing base. Samsung manufactures in various countries. Due to heightened US uncertainty, we are ready for several possibilities.

chase's timeline was unknown to Reuters. Answers to Reuters' emails from Yes Bank and the RBI were delayed. On specific

deals, SMBC declined to comment. SMBC is considering a \$1.1 billion investment in Yes Bank for a 5% stake held by the U.S.

## Stricter bad loan policy cuts Axis Bank profit 4%.



quarter provisions would have been Rs 3,127 crore instead of Rs 3,948 crore. The bank called this hit a "prudential application" of regulatory standards, not a decrease in asset quality. Gross non-performing assets rose 29 basis points quarter-on-quarter to 1.57% after the policy change. Net NPAs rose 12 basis points to 0.45%. A technical recalibration hurt headline profit, while revenue, loan book, and fee income grew more evenly.

## Modern electric vehicle lenders ramp up battery loans



**Delhi:** When early indicators of scale appear in an industry that was previously considered too specialized or hazardous for institutional investors, a slew of new companies and financiers are changing the way electric commercial vehicles (EVs) are financed in India. Financing arrangements are being adjusted by lenders to accommodate the economics of electric vehicles and the credit realities of small business operators. This includes models such as first-loss guarantee partnerships, flexible EMIs, and battery subscription models. Modern methods are now able to meet the unique requirements of EVs. Battery subscriptions are offered by some lenders. Instead of paying for the entire cost of the battery up front, purchasers pay for it as they use it, similar to fuel. For driver-owners whose wages are unpredictable, there are options that offer adjustable EMIs that change depending on how much the car is used. Another way that startups are collaborating with NBFCs is through first-loss guarantee (FLDG) structures. This allows startups to de-risk lending to consumers without formal credit records by covering a percentage of the defaults. When it comes to financing electric vehicle chassis and batteries, VidyutTech is in the vanguard. Oil is a running cost for internal combustion engine vehicles. The battery, however, is essentially prepaid gasoline in an electric vehicle, accounting for 30-40% of the total cost.

## MTNL has failed to repay bank debts totaling 8,585 crore rupees



**Delhi:** In a regulatory filing, the state-run telecom giant MTNL announced that it has defaulted on loans totaling Rs 8,585 crore from seven public sector banks. The public sector telecom firm's overall debt liabilities reached Rs 34,484 crore as of June 30, 2025, according to the filing.

This included a bank loan of Rs 8,585 crore, a sovereign guarantee bond of Rs 24,071 crore, and a loan of Rs 1,828

crore from the DoT to cover the interest on the Sovereign Guarantee Bond. A sum of 3,733 crore INR, 2,434 crore INR, 1,121 crore INR, 474.7 crore Punjab National Bank, 363.4 crore State Bank of

## An amnesty program for overdue VAT taxes of 85,000 crore

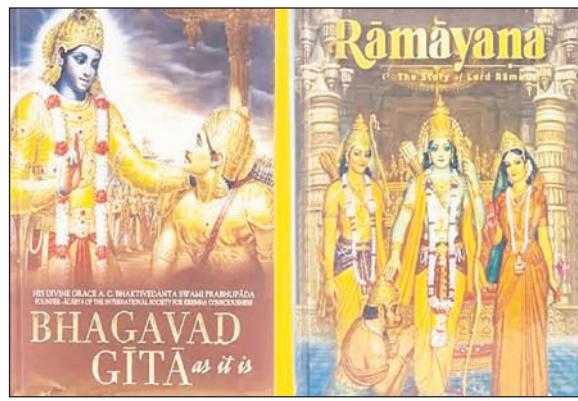
**Delhi :** Resolving roughly 85,000 crore in unpaid dues - mostly under the pre-GST Value Added Tax (VAT) regime - from before 2017, the long-awaited tax amnesty scheme is expected to be approved soon by the Delhi Cabinet. Over 300,000 traders from various sectors operating in Delhi will be encouraged to clear their long-pending tax bills through a scheme that is now being discussed at a high level. The scheme would offer large concessions on penalties and interest. The Trade and Taxes Department has presented a comprehensive plan detailing a framework for complete or partial waivers on penalties, interest, or both, according to a top source in the Delhi government's finance department. More than 85,000 crore is owed by over 300,000 merchants collectively. The government hopes to recoup half of this sum through the amnesty program. According to the official, it will increase tax revenue while also reducing the administration's legal load.

## 500 executive positions to be eliminated at Tata-owned Jaguar Land Rover

**Delhi :** Jaguar Land Rover (JLR), which is owned by Tata, will be laying off 500 managers in the UK as a result of falling profits and US tariffs. The automaker announced a 15.1% drop in retail sales and a 10.7% drop in wholesale sales for the three months ending June 30, 2025, on July 7. This is mainly due to JLR's stated intentions to halt shipments to the US in April 2025, after the implementation of US import taxes, and the planned retirement of older Jaguar models.

## Modern science is connected to early Indian discoveries in NCERT books

**Delhi :** Indian scientific knowledge and discoveries are featured in sections of the new National Council of Educational Research and Training (NCERT) science textbook for Class 8, from the ideas of ancient philosopher Acharya Kanad's "Parmanu" (atoms) to the methods of water bowl astronomy developed by mathematician Bhaskara II. Ayurvedic medication compositions include natural solvents like water and oils, the old practice of variolation was used to battle smallpox before modern vaccines, and alloys like "Kamsya" (a copper and tin alloy) are mentioned as well. Parts of the book headed "Ever heard of?" and "Our scientific heritage" draw connections between contemporary scientific ideas and findings made by ancient Indians. The seeks to pique students' curiosity by providing interesting information and insights from ancient Indian writings, while the latter provides



### 305K students compete for 71K DU spots

**Delhi:** Delhi University (DU) began its preference change window for the 2025-26 academic session under the Common Seat Allocation System, intensifying the competition for 71,642 undergraduate seats with over 305,000 applicants. After simulated ranks are released, the window will stay open. According to university data, 38,795 applicants chose Shri Ram College of Commerce (SRCC) as their first college choice this year. Hindu College, Hansraj College, St. Stephen's College, and Miranda House follow. Based on CUET scores and preferences, the simulated ranks allow students to adjust their course and college selections before the initial allocation list, which will be announced July 19. 239,890 of 305,357 CSAS portal users selected colleges and programs. Three are transgender, 127,284 (53.06%) are female, and 112,603 (46.93%) are male. The orphan quota has 221 female and 291 male applications, while 7,243 students have expressed interest in the single girl child quota.

details on organizations and individuals.

## Japanese 'no-match' artificial blood could put an end to shortages



ongoing scarcity of donors have contributed to India's severe blood shortage. Therefore, in this kind of situation, the concept of a blood substitute might be absolutely game-changing. The absence of white blood cells and platelets makes it an incomplete substitute for human blood. On the other hand, it

may transport oxygen, which is absolutely necessary in an emergency. Made from donated blood that would have otherwise gone to waste, these artificial cells are stable at ambient temperature, look just like genuine blood, and imitate the body's natural red blood cells.

## SRCC, Hindu and BCom (Hons) top preferences at DU

**Delhi:** The University of Delhi has got an overwhelming response to its undergraduate admissions this year, with Shri Ram College of Commerce (SRCC) emerging as the most sought-after college and BCom (Hons) as the most preferred course among applicants.

According to the data released by the university on Tuesday, DU has received over 3.05 lakh registrations through the Common Seat Allocation System (CSAS), of which 2.39 lakh candidates have successfully submitted their college and programme preferences for admission to 71,642 undergraduate seats in 69 colleges and various departments. SRCC alone received 38,795 first-preference applications, followed by Hindu College with 31,901, Hansraj



### IITTA urged the board of governors to expunge show-cause notices

**Delhi:** The IIT Kharagpur Teachers' Association (IITTA) urged the institute's board of governors to expunge show-cause notices issued to 86 faculty members, restore their administrative positions, and protect the association's office bearers from arbitrary or retaliatory actions amid the faculty-administration dispute. In September, the IIT Kharagpur teachers' association accused director Virendra Kumar Tewari of "nepotism" and "arbitrary faculty recruitment" in a letter to the Union Ministry of Education, sparking a confrontation. They wanted an academically qualified, inclusive governance-experienced successor. When the administration sent show-cause notices to IITTA office bearers and disciplined them for not answering within seven days.

College (15,902), St and Miranda House Stephen's (12,413), (11,403).

## A Third of the Total Fees Will Go Towards Reevaluating Legal Papers

**Delhi**

Students in the Faculty of Law at Delhi University are protesting the introduction of a new re-evaluation facility, and not because of the facility itself but because of how much it would cost. DU's re-evaluation price for LLB students is Rs 2,000 per answer sheet, which is equivalent to one-third of the faculty's yearly tuition fee and twice the fee for other disciplines. Previously, the only alternative accessible to law students was to have their marks re-totaled; re-evaluation of answer sheets was not an option. Professional courses, like



law, do not currently have access to re-evaluation facilities, but DU announced plans to expand them in November of last year. Many were disappointed by the recently approved pricing, despite the fact that the move was well-received initially. The application fee is too high for the majority of law students, according to a fifth-semester stu-

dent who asked to remain anonymous, adding that this is the first time that LLB students have the option to apply for re-evaluation. "With a total annual fee of just about Rs 6,000, how can students be asked to pay Rs 2,000 for each paper?" Many will be discouraged from accessing a fundamental academic entitlement because of this.

### RIL makes record profit amid oil decline, sets clean energy outlook

**Delhi :** India's most valuable company, Reliance Industries Ltd., surpassed predictions to register a strong increase in revenue and profit for the April-June quarter, driven by better telecoms and retail profitability despite crude-based difficulties. Profits from its Asian

Paints disposal also boosted the bottom line. According to an investor presentation, Reliance's new energy business's production plants—which will drive its growth over the next decade—are being commissioned quickly. The new energy business would create solar mod-

ules, generate clean electricity from them, use electrons to run data centres, and make hydrogen, ammonia, and aviation fuel. Reliance did not provide timescales. Reliance Industries' oil-to-chemicals (O2C) business's operating profit fell in the first quarter.

### Irish education minister invites Indians for education, research

**NEW DELHI:** James Lawless, Ireland's Education Minister, on Monday said his country is "very welcoming" for students and has a supportive post-study employment visa arrangement. "Ireland is a very welcoming country. We have a very cosmopolitan culture. We have many nationalities now in Ireland, and many people have made their home, including many, many Indians," the Irish minister said, when asked whether his government is considering any changes in post-study work or immigration policies to retain skilled talents.

## An individual contested the exclusion of a tennis match from the Hindu College sports quota admissions

**Delhi:** A junior national-level tennis player has taken Hindu College of Delhi University to court, claiming that the university should have included tennis in its list of sports accessible for admission under the sports mandate. Aditi Rawat challenged the college's decision to exclude lawn tennis from the sports available for admission under the sports quota for the upcoming academic year, and on Monday, Justice Vikas Mahajan sought the college's and DU's stance on the matter. The petition describes Rawat as "a distinguished Lawn Tennis athlete and gold medalist at the CBSE Nationals" who is contesting what is described as "the arbitrary denial of admission" to Hindu College under the Sports Quota



### Samsung may make India a US hub amid rising tariffs

**Delhi:** Samsung may move some smartphone production from Vietnam if US tariffs drop in India. The world's largest smartphone maker would follow Apple in making India a top US smartphone manufacturing base. Samsung manufactures in various countries. Due to heightened US uncertainty, we are ready for several possibilities.

(Lawn Tennis) category. It states that DU's administration disregarded the 5% supernumerary sports quota that is mandated by the Common Allocation System (CSAS) Policy 2025-26. The appeal, submitted by counsel Jeetender Gupta, states that "Hindu College failed.

## Premji pledges 2,250 crore for college education of girls



**Delhi:** Azim Premji Foundation has committed to giving 2,250 crore over three years to help more girls complete their college education, making it the country's largest direct benefit transfer scheme by a not-for-profit private entity. Under the initiative, a girl who has completed her standard X and XII from a government school can apply for the Azim Premji scholarship. Billionaire and philanthropist Azim Premji's eponymous foundation, Azim Premji Foundation, would give 30,000 a year to up to 250,000 girl students. This translates to 750 crore a year, which, over a three-year degree program, would total 2,250 crore.

"The basic purpose of this is to allow girl children to complete their higher education," said Anurag Behar, chief executive officer of Azim Premji Foundation. "If a girl has completed 10th and 12th from a government school and is admitted to a bona fide college, the child is eligible to get 30,000 every year for the duration of her course." Beginning in September, a girl who starts college and has received the Azim Premji scholarship will receive \*90,000 over a three-year degree program.

## IT-Delhi rose 255 places to 171st globally, according to 2025 QS



**Delhi:** Among Indian universities for sustainability, IIT-Delhi rose 255 places to 171st globally, according to 2025 QS Rankings released. The QS Sustainability Rankings include 78 Indian universities, with nine of the top 10 improving and 21 new institutions entering. Two IITs—Delhi and Kanpur—are in the world's top 100 for environmental impact. With 177 and 67 rank improvements, each became fourth and fifth in India. Bangalore's IISc is among the world's top 50 environmental education schools. The

University of Delhi is the only Indian university to drop from 220 to 299, yet it still ranks sixth. DU leads India in Knowledge Exchange at 121 internationally. At seventh, eighth, ninth, and tenth places are IISc, Vellore Institute of Technology, Manipal Academy of Higher Education, and Anna University. Guru Gobind Singh Indraprastha University ranks 951-960. It is a leader in sustainable education and research, ranking 35th in India and 288th in Asia. "The rankings show that Indian universities are forging ahead with their sustainability initiatives."

### The AICTE has formed an expert group

**Delhi:** The formation of an expert committee by the All India Council for Technical Education (AICTE) is a major development in the field of technical education in India. The committee's mandate is to help various academic programs, not limited to computer science degrees, incorporate AI and applied AI. Leading AI professionals from IITs and NITs are part of the committee, which is chaired by Anand Deshpande, managing director of Persistent Systems. The goal of the move is to encourage the lateral expansion of AI in several streams, including BBA, BCA, electrical engineering, and others. "We are forming a committee to introduce AI laterally across all programs, especially Applied AI," stated AICTE Chairman Prof. TG Sitharam. "The goal is to integrate AI and related courses into all academic programs so that students from all walks of life can learn the basics of AI and data analytics."

### A professor from IIT Delhi to head up IIM Lucknow

**Delhi:** The directorship of the Indian Institute of Management in Lucknow is anticipated to be assumed by a professor from the Indian Institute of Technology in Delhi (IIT-D). (Department of IIM-L). The esteemed management school will likely be led by an IIT professor for the first time. Though the official announcement has not been made yet, it has been learned that the nomination of Prof. MP Gupta has been approved by the board of governors of IIM-L. "The chairman, board of governors, IIM, Lucknow, Shri N Chandrasekaran, vide his letter dated , has informed that the BoG has appointed Prof. Manmohan Prasad Gupta

## 'Physical, technical external interference': Azerbaijan Airlines

Azerbaijan Airlines on Friday revealed that initial investigation into the crash of its aircraft in Kazakhstan that killed 38 was likely due to "external interference of a physical and technical nature", fuelling discussions about potential involvement of Russian air defence systems. The airline has also halted operations to 10 airports in Russia, stating their decision was "based on the preliminary results of the investigation into the crash of the Embraer 190 aircraft operating the Baku-Grozny flight J2-8243 of Azerbaijan Airlines due to physical and technical external interference". This comes after, Russia, earlier in the day, put the blame on Ukraine, claiming that Ukrainian drones were attacking the city of Grozny as the Azerbaijan Airlines plane attempted to land, before its subsequent crash in Kazakhstan.

"Ukrainian military



**Balaji's mother opens up on his death: 'It doesn't look normal'**

Balaji, who played a key role in organising data for OpenAI's models, resigned in August, calling its practices unfair. By November, The New York Times' lawyers named him as a key figure in their copyright case against OpenAI. However, on November 26, shortly after his 26th birthday, Balaji was found dead in his San apartment. Authorities ruled his death a suicide, yet his family remains unconvinced, pushing for a deeper investigation.

Tech mogul Elon Musk described the philanthropic efforts of MacKenzie Scott, the ex-wife of Amazon founder Jeff Bezos, as "concerning." His comment came in response to a social media post scrutinising Scott's extensive donations, alleging that her initiatives primarily fund non-profits promoting divisive ideologies rather than addressing pressing global issues. The post highlighted Scott's "trust-based philanthropy," which involves providing no-strings-attached grants to over 2,500 non-profits. It alleged that her focus on causes such as racial



equity, immigrant rights, and LGBTQ justice feeds what the post described as an "NGO/non-profit complex," creating jobs for individuals seeking to validate their expensive degrees. The post further detailed Scott's \$16 billion in donations over

## Shark Tank's Kevin says half of Canadians are interested in becoming 51st state

Shark Tank's Kevin O'Leary said most of the Canadians are interested in merging with the US.



Shark Tank's Kevin O'Leary, a Canadian, said he is very much enthusiastic about the idea of Canada being merged with the United States and half of the Canadians are but they don't want Prime Minister Justin Trudeau to do the deal with President-elect Donald Trump. The Canadian businessman said he would go to Mar-a-Lago to talk about a US-Canada merger. "There are 41 million Canadians, basically the population of California, sitting on the world's largest amount of all resources, including the most important: energy and water. Canadians, over the holidays, the last two days, have been talking about this. They want to hear more. Obviously, there are a lot of issues, more details of what could be the beginning of an economic union. Think about the power of combining two economies erasing the border between Canada and the United States and putting all that resource up to the northern borders where China and Russia are knocking on the door. So secure that, give a common currency, figure out taxes across the board...I like this idea and at least half of the Canadians are interested," Kevin O'Leary said. But the problem is, Kevin O'Leary continued, that most of the Canadians don't trust Trudeau to carry out the negotiation with his government collapsing and hence he said he would go to Mar-a-Lago to talk to Trump about this. He said he believed that Canadians would trust him with the negotiation. The issue started as a joke at a Mar-a-Lago dinner where Justin Trudeau and his government officials joined Donald Trump. It was a courtesy visit from Trudeau after Trump said he would impose a 25 per cent tax on Canada.

## MAGA Civil War: Why Indian-Americans, the new Jews, are irking Donald Trump supporters

There's a theory out there—wild, audacious, but surprisingly hard to dismiss—that just about everything worth celebrating in Western civilization was dreamed up, built, or perfected by Jews. From splitting the atom to decoding life itself, from rewriting the

rules of music to redefining what it means to be human, Jewish brilliance turned the world into their intellectual playground. Let's take a stroll down the hall of fame: J. Robert Oppenheimer, the "father of the atomic bomb," quite literally blew the lid off 20th-

## CNN's Scott Jennings mocks Vivek for 'queen' dig: 'Someone got stuffed in a locker'

CCN's Scott Jennings made fun of Vivek Ramaswamy's rant against the American culture over the H-1B row and without naming the DOGE co-chief, Jennings said someone got stuffed in a locker. "I'm not going to say who. Look, I think there's a way to talk about this that doesn't denigrate all of American culture," Jennings said without covering his feelings of hurt caused by Ramaswamy's strong words against America's prom queen culture. "I'm now understanding more and more how he got 100 votes in Iowa or whatever it was he got during the Iowa caucus," Jennings said taking another dig at Ramaswamy who had challenged Donald Trump in the



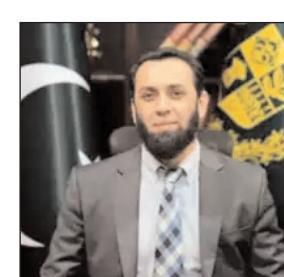
Republican primaries but got a very poor electoral support in Iowa which prompted him to end his campaign following which he endorsed Trump. After Trump's win in the election, Trump made Vivek Ramaswamy the co-chief of the Department of Government Efficiency along with Elon Musk. The row goes back to Sriram Krishnan's advocacy

for removing the visa cap for countries. Sriram Krishnan will work for artificial intelligence at the White House but the Indian-American's lobbying for more Indians in America by removing the cap on H-1B visas ruffled many feathers of Make America Great Again activists. But Elon Musk, Vivek Ramaswamy supported Sriram Krishnan's idea.

### 'Settle issues' of 1971, Yunus urges Pakistan PM, but mum on apology

Bangladesh's chief adviser, Muhammad Yunus, urged Pakistani PM Shehbaz Sharif to resolve outstanding issues from 1971 to improve bilateral relations. While Sharif highlighted the 1974 tripartite agreement, Yunus emphasized the importance of a SAARC summit. Both leaders agreed to strengthen ties through trade, cultural exchanges, and cooperation in areas like sugar industry and dengue management.

## Pak minister defends military trial of civilians



ISLAMABAD: A Pakistani minister on Wednesday defended the military trial of civilians, saying that such courts were competent to deal with the cases related to attacks on army facilities.

Information minister Attaullah Tarar also urged the opposition Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) led by Imran to refrain from politicising or disputing the issue of military trials. "When an attack is carried out on a defence institution or its property is set ablaze, it becomes the responsibility of the relevant authorities to apprehend the culprits. Just as railway police handle crimes on railway premises, military courts address offences targeting assets. So, when attacks on military assets occur, the Military Act is enforced," he said while addressing a press conference. Tarar criticised Khan's party for using military courts as a political

tool, aiming to create controversy around them. He clarified that military courts only handle cases involving attacks on defence establishments, citing incidents such as the attack on the Corps Commander's House in Lahore. The minister also criticised the PTI for changing its stance regarding trials of civilians in the military courts, recalling that during Khan's tenure, military court trials were praised. "The statements praising the military courts from PTI's leadership are still available on social media."

## Rice shipment from India, first for Yunus government, to arrive today



had witnessed ships coming from Karachi twice in recent days. On Nov 13, for the first time since independence, a container-carrying ship sailing directly from Karachi had docked at Chittagong (Chittagong). This time the ship "MV Tanais Dream", carrying 24,690 metric tonnes of parboiled rice imported from India under the open tender agreement, will arrive at Chittagong port at 5.30am on Thursday. This is also the first consignment of parboiled rice imported from India

under the Nov 11 agreement. The unloading of the rice will start soon after samples of the rice are collected and after physical examination, said a senior Bangladesh food ministry official. Talking to diplomatic correspondents in Dhaka recently, Indian high commissioner to Bangladesh Pranay Verma had said he was optimistic about Dhaka-Delhi relationship despite changes happening around. "This we look at the relationship. We have so many things to offer each other.

## Pak military court sentence 60 more civilians, including Imran's nephew



### Imran's nephew Hassan Khan Niazi, who was taken into military custody in Aug 2023, was one of two people sentenced to 10 years' rigorous imprisonment

military courts to pronounce verdicts on 85 under-custody civilians in cases related to the May 9 riots. The Field General Court Martial has promulgated the punishments to the following remaining 60 culprits after examining all evidence, ensuring the provision of all legal rights to the convicts, completion of due process and the appropriate legal proceedings.

Services Public Relations, the army's media wing, said. "All convicts retain the right to appeal and other legal recourses, as guaranteed by the constitution and law." It stated. "The nation, govt, and the armed forces remain steadfast in their commitment to upholding justice and ensuring that the inviolable writ of the state is maintained," the ISPR added.

## Vietnam's restrictive internet law comes into force

A new internet law in Vietnam, Decree 147, gives the government increased control over internet access and content in the name of national security and social order. It mandates tech companies to store user data, verify accounts, and remove deemed illegal content within 24 hours. Critics argue this suppresses free speech and impacts livelihoods. A new internet law that gives the Vietnamese government expanded powers over internet services and people using them is set to officially take effect



Wednesday. Decree 147 expands government control over access to information on the internet for reasons of "national security" and "social order." The law requires social media platforms providing services to users in Vietnam to store user data and provide it to authorities on demand. The government issued the decree this November, and it requires organizations to take down anything the authorities consider "illegal content" within 24 hours. Decree 147 has sparked concerns, with researchers and experts tracking the country saying that the law is part of a growing crackdown on civil society. "Because the Vietnamese police treat any criticism of the Communist Party of Vietnam as a national security matter, this decree will provide them with yet another tool to suppress dissent," said Patricia Gossman, associate Asia director at Human Rights Watch. The decree requires tech giants like Facebook and TikTok among other organizations,