

AKHAND BHARAT SANDESH

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

Om Birla will lead the Indian delegation in the 68th Parliamentary Conference

New Delhi: Lok Sabha Speaker Om Birla will lead the Indian Parliamentary Delegation in the upcoming 68th Conference (CPC). This conference will be held in Bridgetown, Barbados from 5 to 12 October. Rajya Sabha Deputy Chairman Harivansh, Presiding Officers and Secretaries of the Legislatures of 29 States and Union Territories of the country will also participate in this conference. The Indian delegation will represent the Commonwealth Parliamentary Association (CPA) India Region.

Birla will address the General Assembly of the conference on the topic Commonwealth: Global Partner. Apart from this, members of the Indian delegation will participate in seven workshops which will include topics like strengthening democratic institutions, technology and digital transformation, climate change and health crisis, financial transparency, good governance and international relations.

Institutions will establish blood bank in honor of soldiers: Minister

New Delhi: Delhi Government's

Cooperation Minister Ravindra Indraj Singh said on Sunday that every Indian is proud of the valor of the Indian Army in Operation Sindo. He said that in honor of the soldiers, the cooperative institutions of Delhi will also establish a blood bank. This will also benefit the people of Delhi and there will be availability of blood in any emergency. The Cooperative Minister participated as the chief guest on the occasion of the program organized on the occasion of the Cooperative Year.

House is the engine of democracy: Amit Shah

All India Speakers Conference inaugurated in Delhi Assembly

Conference

□ Citing the example of the assembly at Hastinapur, he said that since

New Delhi: Union Home Minister Amit Shah inaugurated the two-day All India Speakers Conference at the Delhi Assembly on Sunday. On this occasion, he said that the House is the engine of democracy, so the tendency of the opposition to disrupt the proceedings of Parliament and Legislative Assemblies is worrying. Shah said that in a democratic system, the role of both the ruling and the opposition is important, but not



allowing the House to function for several days is against the spirit of democracy. He said that the House is a symbol of the aspirations of the people and public welfare laws are made only through meaningful debate. He said that the Assembly and Parliament are not just a platform for debate, but a confluence of wisdom and thought. Both the ruling and opposition parties should together become the voice of the people in the proceedings of the House. Shah called upon all the Speakers and Deputy Speakers present to try to make the discussion meaningful and result-oriented while maintaining the dignity of the House. The Home

'It is wrong to not allow debate in Parliament for political interests'

Shah said that it is wrong to not allow debates in Parliament for one's own political interests. We will have to think about not allowing the session to run for the whole day. Whenever the assemblies have lost their dignity, we have had to suffer very bad consequences. On this occasion, I would like to give you the example of the Hastinapur assemblies.

Minister also recalled in detail the contribution of Vitthalbhai Patel, who was the first Indian Central Assembly Speaker of independent India. He said that Patel raised the dignity.

"India is constantly moving towards new frontiers of space beyond"



New Delhi: Defence Minister Rajnath Singh on Sunday felicitated the four Air Force Group Captains who were part of ISRO's first space flight mission 'Gaganyaan' during an event in New Delhi. The Defence Minister highlighted India's growing presence in space and said that we are constantly moving towards new frontiers of space beyond the surface of the Earth. We have registered our presence from the Moon to Mars and today our country is fully prepared.

Anish Dayal Singh appointed as Deputy NSA

New Delhi: Former CRPF and ITBP Director General Anish Dayal Singh has been appointed as the new Deputy National Security Advisor (NSA). He has been entrusted with the responsibility of internal affairs. According to official sources, Anish Dayal Singh, a 1988 batch Indian Police Service (IPS) officer of Manipur cadre, retired in December 2024. He has served in the Intelligence Bureau (IB)



for nearly 30 years before heading the Indo-Tibetan Border Police (ITBP) and recently the Central Reserve Police Force

(CRPF). He has extensive experience in this role. As Deputy National Security Advisor, Anish will be in charge of the country's internal affairs, including Jammu and Kashmir, Naxalism and Northeast insurgency. Retired IPS officer TV Ravichandran and former IFS officer Pawan Kapoor are the two serving Deputy National Security Advisors. Played a key role in several key initiatives.

India will buy 6 submarines from Germany for Rs 70 thousand crores

Deal

□ The first deal is for the Defense Ministry and Mazagon Dockyards



New Delhi: The Indian government is ready to make two big deals to increase the strength of the Air Force and Navy. The first deal is for the Defense Ministry and Mazagon Dockyards Limited to buy 6 submarines from Germany. The government has approved the start of negotiations for the purchase of these submarines to be made in India under 'Project 75 India'. This deal can be done for 70 thousand crores. At the

same time, the Indian government is going to buy a large consignment of Israeli Rampage air-to-ground missiles. According to sources, this order will soon be given under the fast-track process. Rampage missiles were used in precision attacks on terrorist headquarters in Muridke and Bahawalpur in Pakistan. Air Independent Propulsion System Wal Submarines to be made in Mazagon Dockyard. The Defense Ministry had chosen its partner in January to build six submarines with Air Independent Propulsion System along with German company Thyssen Krupp Marine Systems.

Dharali: Affected families will be given ration for six months



relief operations in Dharali, the Chief Minister said, despite bad weather, more than 1000 people have been rescued safely so far. This includes local people as well as pilgrims

Affected

□ The injured have been admitted to the District Hospital, AIIMS: CM

from all over the country. The injured have been admitted to the District Hospital,

AIIMS. Arrangements have been made to ensure that everyone gets good treatment. Adequate amount of medicines, milk, ration, clothes have been delivered to Harshil and Dharali areas. UREDA's power house has been started for power supply in Harshil area. UPCL is getting the damaged.

Bihar SIR: Election Commission's affidavit in Supreme Court



tions of removing the names of voters from the voter list, the Election Commission said that the name of any eligible voter will not be removed from the list.

In a petition filed in the Supreme Court regard-

ing the special intensive revision campaign of the voter list in Bihar, the Election Commission was accused that the names of 65 lakh voters have been removed from the voter list of the state during the SIR.

Bihar: Amount transferred to bank accounts of 1 crore 12 lakh pensioners

Patna: Bihar Chief Minister Nitish Kumar transferred an amount of Rs 1247.34 crore to the accounts of more than 1 crore 12 lakh pensioners under the Social Security Pension Scheme through DBT during a program organized at his residence on Sunday. The pension amount of Rs 1100 for the month of July has been transferred to the accounts of the beneficiaries of the Social Pension.

New Delhi: ISRO has intensified the preparations for the Gaganyaan mission. ISRO demonstrated the parachute-based deceleration system on Sunday. Under this, the air drop system was successfully tested. The armed forces also helped the Indian Space Research Institute (ISRO) in this. ISRO wrote on X that the first integrated air drop test for the complete demonstration of the

parachute-based deceleration system for the Gaganyaan mission was successfully completed. This test was conducted with the joint efforts of ISRO, Indian Air Force, DRDO, Indian Navy and Indian Coast Guard. Gaganyaan is

Gaganyaan: Parachute based deceleration system demonstrated



the country's first human space flight mission under which four astronauts will be taken on a space trip. The spacecraft is planned to be launched this year. First there will be an unmanned test flight, in which a Vayommitra robot will be sent. The Gaganyaan mission is a three-day one. Humans will be sent into space at a low orbit of 400 km and then brought back safely to Earth.

'Vote theft': 'If there is proof, Rahul should go to court: Shinde



that if they have proof, they should approach the court or the Election Commission. Shiv Sena leader Shinde told reporters during an event in Thane that by making such baseless claims, they

have insulted the people of Maharashtra. Rahul Gandhi on Thursday claimed large-scale criminal fraud in elections through collusion between the BJP and the Election Commission.

Gram Pradhan, area and district Panchayat members will get training: CM Dhami

Dehradun: Chief Minister Pushkar Singh Dhami has directed to provide training to the newly elected village heads, area panchayat and district panchayat

members on modern technology, financial management and governance system. Chief Minister said that everyone will have to make integrated efforts towards fulfilling the resolve of Prime Minister Narendra Modi to make India a developed nation by 2047. Development of the state and the country.

Mumbai: Maharashtra Deputy Chief Minister Eknath Shinde on Sunday attacked the opposition Congress and its leader Rahul Gandhi over their allegations of 'vote theft'. The Shiv Sena chief said

Ladki Bahin plan: The monthly amount cannot be increased



BJP claimed that Stalin is spreading falsehoods regarding the three-language policy

Delhi: The BJP has accused the Tamil Nadu government, led by Chief Minister MK Stalin, of a Rs 1,000-crore liquor fraud through the Tamil Nadu State Marketing Corporation. The ruling Dravida Munnetra Kazagam (DMK) denies the BJP's assertions that Enforcement Directorate raids have revealed massive financial irregularities. The BJP further claimed that CM Stalin is spreading falsehoods regarding the three-language policy and other national problems to distract from the fraud. DMK presented the Tamil Nadu Budget 2025-26 in the state Assembly on the same day as the claims.

According to Shirsat, his department was eligible for 11.8% of the state's 2.5 lakh crore budget (29,500 crore) but only means.

received 22,658 crore. The minister said, "I'll ask him for my department's money. I asked the Chief Minister to sympathize with my department."

Akhand Bharat Sandesh

Jhansi. A plumber working in a house under construction at Yadav Square of the police station area died after coming in contact with the current flowing in the pole outside. On receiving the information of the case, the police reached the spot and sent the body for post-mortem. Sushil Kumar Kushwaha, 32, son of Awadhesh Kumar, a resident of Kaithwal village of Utrav police station, works as a plumber. These days Sushil was working in a house under construction near Yadav Square of Jhansi.



According to the family members, Sushil got hit by the current flowing in the electric pole outside the house while working on Sunday.

The people working with him rushed him to SRN Hospital where the doctors declared Sushil dead. After Sushil's death, his friends who took him to

DDA to promote events and projects online using influencers

Delhi: The Delhi Development Authority (DDA) has hired a digital marketing agency to promote its projects. It issued a request for proposal. The agency will promote all DDA projects using social media influencers and professionals. Campaign goals include

branding DDA by increasing awareness and sharing information about its work. "If we are organizing a kite festival, we will promote it through all media and invite influencers. The selected agency must invite five Instagram or X influencers with at least 100K

followers to events or campaigns annually (as needed). Selected agency will also submit a list of relevant influencers to promote DDA events or initiatives," said the authority. Social media reels will be created by the firm in addition to event photos/videos.

Are RLD MLAs politically future-conscious?



the BJP coalition and the Wakf Amendment Bill is poor. Two other party MLAs are also afraid about losing their tickets. Siwalkhas MLA Ghulam Mohammad is concerned that the party may run a Jat candidate this time.

However, Thana Bhawan MLA Ashraf Ali worries that BJP's strong leader and former minister Suresh

Rana may be the nominee if they create an alliance. After joining the power with BJP, the RLD chief's remoteness from his MLAs, ministers, and workers is also blamed. Even after taking power, his lack of status forces him and his workers to sleep somewhere. This uncertainty makes RLD MLAs uncomfortable in the party.

62 locations in Gurugram's Sadar Bazar to have CCTVs installed by GMDA

Delhi: A plan to install 62 CCTV cameras in the "congested" Sadar Bazar region, which witnesses hundreds of visits every day, has been finalized by the Gurugram Metropolitan Development Authority (GMDA). They also mentioned that the authority's control center in Sector 44 will be accessible from all of the CCTVs. The goal of the surveillance project, according to GMDA authorities, is to reduce encroachments, improve traffic management, and prevent crime in one of the city's busiest market locations.

Congress criticizes US role in India-Pak ceasefire, recalls Indira's 1971 war role.



Parliament session to discuss the 22 April Pahalgam terror assault. "In light of the unprecedented announcements from Washington DC, there is now a need, more than ever, for the PM to chair an all-party meeting and take political parties into confidence and a special session of Parliament to discuss the last eighteen days, beginning with the

brutal Pahalgam terror attacks and the way forward, and to demonstrate a collective resolve," Congress general secretary in-charge Jairam Ramesh posted on X. Congress spokesperson Pawan Khera agreed with Ramesh that a special Parliament session was needed to determine what the country has gained and lost.

Two RLD MLAs Rajpal Balyan and Madan Bhaiya, Muzaffarnagar MP Harendra Malik, SP MP from Kairana Iqra Hasan, SP MLA from Sardhana Atul Pradhan, and others attended the panchayat protesting Rakesh Tikait's misbehavior. But are RLD MLAs not confident in their party's future? To ensure their future and handle caste politics in the region, the MLAs joined the Kisan Union without party consent? Although in the government, RLD MLAs feel uneasy and neglected because they ignored Muslim votes and farmers. They feel we may lose political ground if the party's 2027 assembly election performance regarding

No sustainable peace if Pakistan utilizes its land for terrorism against India



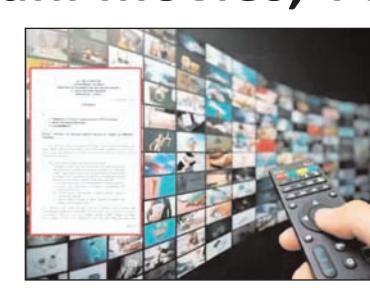
Politics Heat Up Over 107 'Missing' Pakistanis As DyCM Shinde, CM Contradict

Delhi: The ruling Mahayati alliance in Maharashtra has failed to coordinate on Pakistani nationals. Deputy Chief Minister Eknath Shinde told a Buldhana rally that 107 Pakistanis were missing in Maharashtra. Deputy Chief Minister Devendra Fadnavis denied the claim, saying no Pakistani citizen is missing. Shinde told the audience, "Union Home Minister Amit Shah and Prime Minister Narendra Modi have instructed Pakistani nationals to leave our country.

demnable" intrusions. Owaisi posted questions for Modi in English, Hindi, and Urdu. First, he said he wished "our PM Narendra Modi had

announced the ceasefire rather than the President of a foreign country" and asked why Trump announced the ceasefire without naming him.

No Pakistani movies, TV, or music on Indian OTTs



High Court upholds influencers' fact-based criticism

Delhi: The Delhi High Court allowed social media influencers to criticize consumer goods with scientific facts. The Court denied San Nutrition Private Limited's request for an interim order to stop four influencers from criticizing its whey protein products. The judge, Justice Amit Bansal, ruled that restricting speech before a trial would be unreasonable. "Reasonable criticism, comment and parody is largely protected within the right to free speech under the Constitution.

advisory advised all OTT platforms, media streaming platforms, and intermediaries in India to immediately stop streaming web-series, films, songs, podcasts, and other streaming media content from Pakistan in the interest of national security. The advice,

published under the Information Technology (Intermediary Guidelines and Digital Media Ethics Code) Rules, 2021, reminds platforms to obey the Code of Ethics and ensure content does not compromise India's sovereignty, security, foreign relations.

New Sikkim Rail Line From Melli To Dentam Gets Final Location Survey Approval From Railway Ministry



Sivok-Rangpo railway project, which is scheduled for completion in 2027. Melli, the gateway to southern and western Sikkim, would be a cru-

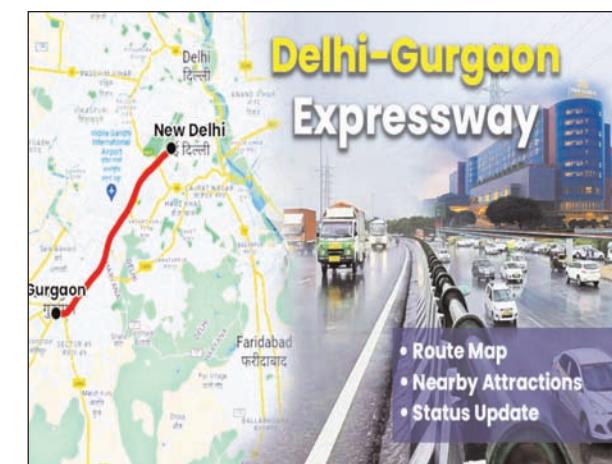
cial junction for this project, ensuring seamless integration into the national railway network. The final location survey will provide the technical

foundation needed to define project alignment, engineering specifications, and cost structure, according to the ministry.

The statement said this is a key step toward rail connection in southern and western Sikkim. The project is expected to have major economic impacts on Gyalshing and adjacent areas. It strives to improve access, tourism, trade, and employment. Tenders for survey work are expected soon.

CAPSULES

Delhi-Gurgaon Expressway to receive 245cr improvement



Delhi : Officials said the Delhi-Gurgaon Expressway will be upgraded to allow closed-loop traffic between it and the Dwarka Expressway, which will open by year-end. Upgrading the surface drain of the 27-kilometre road from Daula Kuan to Kherki Daula is crucial. Waterlogging at Kherki Daula has plagued the Capital during monsoon. Officials say the 245-crore renovation to the expressway will minimize waterlogging by improving road surface, installing barriers, and fixing lights. Invite tenders within one or two days. We hope it would fix many Delhi-Gurgaon Expressway difficulties and bring it up to national highway standards, said NHAI project director Akash Padhi. The goal is to improve the six-lane and eight-lane carriageway and service roads.

Editorial

Has Britain been taken over by Islamists?

British MPs have been forced to hire personal bodyguards following threats by Islamist groups over Britain's support of Israel in the Gaza war. Three unnamed women MPs have been given additional security. Prime Minister Rishi Sunak issued a statement following the direct threats to British MPs: "Legitimate protests (have been) hijacked by extremists to promote and glorify terrorism, elected representatives verbally threatened and physically, violently targeted and antisemitic tropes beamed onto our own Parliament building." Threats of physical violence against British MPs have increased further since the killing by the Israeli army last week of over 100 Palestinian civilians seeking food aid in north Gaza. London has become a safe haven for Islamist extremists. Pakistan-origin mayor Sadiq Khan, in office since 2016, is accused of being soft on Islamists because he relies on Muslim votes in mayoral elections. As in India, Muslims in Britain vote in blocs. This was highlighted by the victory of controversial politician George Galloway last week in a by-election in Rochdale, a town in Greater Manchester. The by-election showed how deeply the Gaza war is influencing British politics. Labour party leader Keir Starmer is widely expected to be the next British prime minister given Labour's lead in opinion polls of more than 15 per cent over the Conservative party. In the Rochdale by-election, Starmer, a staunch supporter of Israel, suspended Labour's official candidate Azhar Ali for making antisemitic comments on Israel's war in Gaza. In the absence of party support for a Labour candidate, Galloway romped home to victory. A strong backer of Palestine, Galloway, who leads the small Workers Party of Britain, said after his win: "Labour will pay a high price for the catastrophe in the Gaza war." This alarmed Starmer enough to apologise to Rochdale voters after Galloway's win: "I regret we had to withdraw our candidate (Ali) and apologise to the voters of Rochdale." Galloway has promised to make life difficult for both Starmer and Sunak as campaigning gets under way for the UK general election later this year. Putting aside their parties' differences, Starmer and Sunak have come together to support Israel which could alienate young Britons, both white and ethnic minorities. It could make the result of the general election less predictable. It's not only British politicians who are under threat of violence. Crime in London has soared. Young knife-carrying gangs on mopeds snatch expensive watches, mobile phones and other personal effects. Several Indian tourists speak of being robbed in broad daylight in central London. According to a Sky News report: "India's business elite feel they have to look over their shoulder while visiting areas such as Mayfair in London due to the risk of being mugged. The theft of high-value timepieces sold on the black market has become a criminal enterprise in the UK capital in recent years with one former watch dealer telling Sky News it is 'more lucrative than drugs'. 'High-profile targets include former world boxing champion Amir Khan, who was forced to hand over his £70,000 Franck Muller watch in a gunpoint robbery in east London.' The man blamed for the descent of London into a crime-laden metropolis is mayor Sadiq Khan. On his watch crime in London has soared. British tourism authorities have issued a warning to London police that foreign holidaymakers have safer cities to visit in Europe other than London and more action is needed to make the city safer for tourists. The demographics of London are changing rapidly. According to the latest census, British whites now comprise only 30 per cent of London's population. Other European whites permanently resident in London account for another 20 per cent. The balance 50 per cent are ethnic minorities from India, Pakistan, Bangladesh, China and the Caribbean.

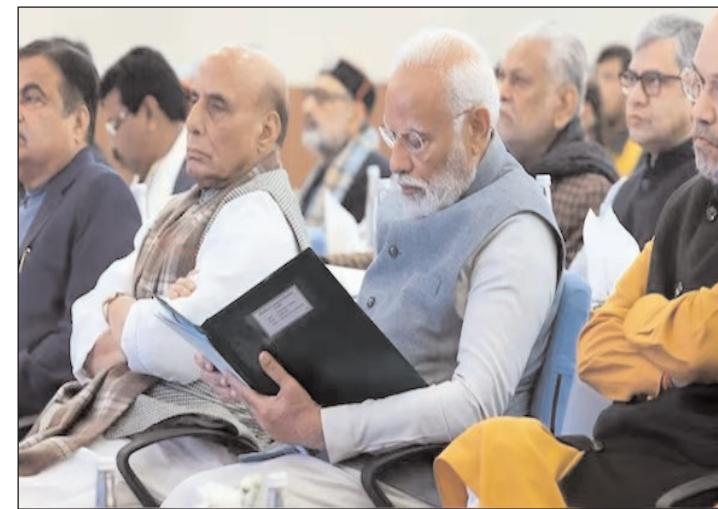


Why India is the best bet for big cats

Numbers tell an astonishing tale. India is one of the most densely populated nations in the world, with 481 people per sq km. China, with only marginally less people has less than one-third of India's density at 152 per sq km. The first five countries on the list are just city-states: Macau, Monaco, Singapore, Hong Kong and Gaza. Ranked 30th, India is the first really large country in that list with a high density; those above and below it (Tuvalu and Curacao) are tiny. The purpose of this peroration? To put in context, India'sfeat in safeguarding and increasing its complement of critical wildlife in the face of increasing pres-

sure on land due to population. This week India revealed that the numbers of another iconic 'big cat'—the leopard—have risen by 8 per cent overall, from 12,852 in 2018 to 13,874 in 2022, although several states have reported a decline. The actual number would be higher as the survey did not cover all

habitats. Also from 2018 to 2022 India's tiger population rose by nearly 24 per cent from 2,967 to around 3,682 though the figure is probably closer to 4,000 as not all tiger areas were included in that survey. India has 75 per cent of the world's population, most of them in 54 tiger reserves. India is also the last habitat of the Asiatic lion with around 600, all of them in Gujarat as well as 718 snow leopards—around 1/6 of the world's total number. And all four felines' numbers are rising here. A valid comparison would be the state of another big cat, the jaguar, in the Americas, whose population is currently estimated to be around



by Taboola Sponsored Links

The minutiae of electoral arithmetic notwithstanding, the battle for 2024 is in many ways a battle over the next decades to realise a developed India by 2047. Recording a stunning 8.4% GDP growth during the third quarter of 2023-24, the economic tailwinds and geopolitical undercurrents seem to be working in concert to propel the country towards the goal. Recognising the significance of the moment, PM Modi's government has bet big on sunrise technology sectors that will fuel the Indian economy in the decades to come. In the last few weeks a slew of decisions by the government underscore the central role technology has come to occupy in Modi's vision for a Vaisit Bharat by 2047. From announcing to the nation, the final shortlist of astronauts for India's first manned space mission Gaganyaan to approving the first semicon-

ductor fab to come up in the country, Modi's technonationalism is emerging as the crucial mantra in this race to 2047 with 2024 as an important stopover. Semiconductor investments spanning from the east in Assam to the west in Gujarat, underscore how Modi's thrust on a technology-driven economy has become a political priority. With the decision to completely liberalise the space sector opening up to a hundred percent in foreign direct investment (FDI), sunrise sectors are poised to play a crucial role in sustaining and further accelerating the economic momentum. Casting a wide social safety net has been a hallmark of Modi's technonationalism over the past decade. The results from this laser focus on keeping the socio-economic fabric intact is most visible in the declining levels of extreme poverty across India. For the first time the World Poverty

Clock, a monitoring tool of the World Data Lab based in Vienna, has estimated extreme poverty in India to be below three percent. Writing for the Brookings Institute, an American think tank, noted economist Surjit Bhalla alongside Karan Bhasin, observed that extreme poverty stands eliminated in India as commonly defined in international benchmarks. This important socio-economic milestone on the road to a developed India by 2047 comes on the eve of general elections with a confident PM Modi making his case to the voters for what he believes to be an imminent third term. It also comes at a time when the aspirational middle class in India is experiencing accelerating growth as witnessed in the rising levels of automotive ownership, mobile phone penetration and exponential growth in digital payments. In stark contrast to the decadal growth vision of the Modi led-BJP rooted in technonationalism, the narrative from the opposition continues to be regressive and lacking in a vision. Far from laying out a roadmap for a developed India, the political opposition's messaging has been a mish-mash of unsustainable entitlement programs bordering on fiscal irresponsibility and scorched earth politics of caste that is seeking to inflame social faultlines. The sullen petulance of the political opposi-

62 years since Indo-China War

The year 2024 could mark the proverbial "anniversary" of the fateful 1962 China's aggression on India. Sixty-two years will have passed since our northern neighbour sought territories that history, and even later-day detente, had proclaimed as rightfully India's. Deliberation and debate can continue until 2062 about how a conference in Simla in 1914 determined a line, and the huff with which Ivan Chen, the Chinese plenipotentiary, left was otherwise a tripartite cordial. History, at this point, must be revisited. The two most important aspects of the meeting in the then British India retreat were that Tibet was free. The roof of the world had an emissary in Lonchen Shatra. Indeed, Shatra signed the Simla (readers must note that I am using the spelling of the hill sta-



tion as it was in 1914!) Conference document, which not only outlined inner and outer Tibet in unambiguous terms but also endorsed Sir Henry McMahon's Line, which determined the border between India and Tibet. Much of history will also ponder aspects such as why Major Bob Khathing and his posse of the noble Assam Riflemen "liberated" Tawang only in 1951, decades after McMahon drew a thick-lined terrain line that today subtly corresponds to the Thagla Ridge as well as the "Watershed," which determines borders, boundaries and frontiers in the sense by

which the Westphalian concept came to be enacted. The fact that a newly-cast Peoples Republic of China, post its communist innards, invaded Tibet several years later cannot change the iron-clad nature of the border agreement between two sovereign entities: the fact that India achieved independence in 1947 and Tibet was conquered in 1951. The McMahon Line, although a soldier-diplomat drew it, will continue to confuse people worldwide, especially India and China. A 1914 quill continues to contest ground in terms of simple grazing expanse. But it is as inviolable as the 14th Parallel. Therefore, even as two powers exchange knights, rooks, and bishops, it must not behave sacrifices that incorporate destinies.

How failure of Nehru-Liaquat pact served as a starter for CAA

Even as the Citizenship Amendment Act (CAA) is set to be implemented, did the failure of the Nehru-Liaquat pact of 1950 play a key role as a starter of a 'benign and narrowly tailored legislation' aimed to protect the minorities in 'non secular' countries within our neighbourhood? The CAA provides that persons belonging to six minority communities, namely Hindus, Sikhs, Parsis, Buddhists, and Christians

in Afghanistan, Bangladesh, and Pakistan, who were compelled to seek shelter in India on grounds of religious persecution would no longer be treated as illegal migrants. Liaquat Ali Khan was the prime minister of Pakistan when he and Indian premier Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru signed an agreement in Delhi in 1950, commonly called the Nehru-Liaquat pact. The accord was signed to protect religious minorities in each other's territories. Under the Nehru-Liaquat pact, forced conversions were unrecognised, and minority rights were confirmed. Pakistan had solemnly agreed to accord complete equality of citizenship and a full sense of security with respect to life, culture, freedom of speech, and worship. However, Pakistan quickly went back on its promise. Liaquat Ali was assassinated in October 1951. When the holy relic in

Hazratbal, Srinagar, was stolen on January 3, 1964, there were large-scale disturbances in East Pakistan [now Bangladesh], leading to the loss of lives, arson, and looting targeted at the minority community. Even though the holy relic was recovered the next day, communal disturbances went on. In fact, responding to a calling attention motion in the Lok Sabha, the then Union Home Minister Gulzar Lal Nanda said that while India was implementing the Nehru-Liaquat pact, Pakistan was not doing its part. Regarding minorities in Pakistan, Nanda [who twice served as caretaker prime minister of India after the deaths of Nehru and Lal Bahadur Shastri] said India cannot shut its eyes to those "who were part of ourselves, with whom we have ties of blood and who are our relations and friends and that we can not turn our face against sufferings, the torture of their bodies and spirit and all that they are undergoing there." This was the time Nehru was prime minister and sitting in parliament when his home minister stated,



"If they [the Hindu minority in Pakistan] find it impossible to breathe the air of security in their country and they feel they must leave it, then we can not bar their way. We have no heart to tell them, 'You go on staying there and be butchered.' Three days later, Nehru suffered a paralytic stroke on his left side in Bhubaneswar, prompting Nanda to temporarily assume the executive responsibilities of ailing Prime Minister Nehru. A ministry of home affairs document on CAA quotes Nehru's 'Tryst with Destiny' speech delivered at midnight of the country's independence as saying, 'We think also of our brothers and sisters who have been cut off from us by political boundaries and who unhappily can not share at present in the freedom that has come. They are of us and will remain of us whatever may happen, and we shall be sharers of their good and ill fortune alike...' The CAA has excluded Ahmadias, Shias, Bahais, Hazaras, Jews, Baloch, and Atheist communities on the grounds that persecution

Entire stretch from DND Flyway to Delhi-Mumbai Expressway to be opened by year-end: Gadkari



● "The company has fallen roughly 70% since a \$2.5 billion 2021 IPO as investors fret about persistent losses

NEW DELHI: Come December, commuters from Delhi, Noida and Ghaziabad will not have to take the congested Mathura Road to head towards Agra or the newly-built stretch of Mumbai Expressway. The entire 59 km stretch, from DND Flyway (near Maharani Bagh) to Delhi-Mumbai Expressway (at Sohna), will be opened for traffic by the end of this year, road transport minister Nitin Gadkari said on Wednesday. Gadkari conducted a physical inspection of the 33 km stretch between DND Flyway and Ballabgarh Bypass on Wednesday with top officials and local leaders. The 26-km road from Ballabgarh to Sohna on Delhi-Mumbai Expressway was opened for traffic in March 2023. The three packages are being built with an investment of Rs 7,000 crore, including land value and civil construction. "Besides providing direct connectivity to Delhi-Mumbai Expressway, this link

from DND Flyway can be used by commuters to reach Palwal in just 25-30 minutes. Mathura Road, which is currently the only major road for vehicles heading towards Faridabad, Palwal, Agra and beyond, will be decongested as well," said a senior NHAI official. Moreover, completion of this link will mean that people trav-

elling from Uttar Pradesh and Uttarakhand can drive non-stop to Mumbai taking the Delhi-Dehradun and Delhi-Meerut expressways. But this will be a reality next year, sources said. Delhi-Dehradun and Delhi-Mumbai stretches are set to be fully operational in 2025. Speaking to reporters after inspection of ongoing work, Gadkari said Delhi is facing problems of both air pollution and congestion. "This is not good for the capital city of our country. That's why we have undertaken massive road development work to improve traffic flow and air pollution.

Franco-Italian regional aircraft major ATR sees India emerge as its biggest market

NEW DELHI: Franco-Italian regional aircraft major ATR sees India emerge as its biggest market in the next five years. And as that happens, the turboprop-maker says "it will be foolish not to increase our footprint here" in terms of sourcing of components, pilot training and others. "India currently has 65 ATRs - 45 with IndiGo and 20 with Alliance Air. IndiGo is to get five more. Startup carrier Fly91 (which is being launched by aviation industry veteran Manoj Chacko) will get its first leased ATR anytime now and the second in a week or so," Jean-Pierre Clercin, ATR's

head of commercial for Asia Pacific, said. "Indonesia has about 100 ATRs and is currently our biggest market. India and Brazil come after that. But the way Indian economy and air travel in the country is booming, within five years India will have the maximum ATRs given the government's focus on regional air transport through 'ude desh ka aam naagrik' (UDAN) scheme," Clercin said.

ATR feels India will need 50-150 such planes in the next decade. "That is the official estimation. But given the way India is developing, the actual number could be even higher. Much higher," he

said. The turboprop major is in talks with several Indian airlines for more orders. "The focus here is on regional and ATR is for that. So we are talking to all the airlines in India," he said. Asked if ATR plans to make in India, Clercin said: "We do already have a presence in India. There are some simulators (for pilot training) operated by third parties in India. The footprint depends a lot on the size of the markets, and India is one of the most promising aviation markets globally. We've seen the amazing resilience of the country. As the market is so big, we need to look at all options."

Digvijaya, Kamal Nath manage to get their Rajya Sabha pick nominated over Rahul Gandhi's choice

NEW DELHI: Congress's nomination of Ashok Singh from Madhya Pradesh for Rajya Sabha marked a climbdown for Rahul Gandhi who was pushing for former MP and confidante Meenakshi Natarajan for the upper House. The advantage for Singh was that he became a sort of joint candidate of veterans Digvijaya Singh and Kamal Nath, while the central leadership is learnt to have stuck to Natarajan for elevation. Singh's profile is intriguing as he has lost four consecutive Lok Sabha elections from Gwalior, even though it is argued in his defence that he came second by close margins in a tough constituency. But what became his calling card was that he has been "pathologically" opposed to former



party insider Jyotiraditya Scindia. This testimonial seems to have clinched his case, since the party is looking to rebuild in the Gwalior-Chambal region after Scindia's exit and defeat of key leaders in the recent assembly polls. That he is an OBC only boosted his claim. But sources said Singh's camp credentials became mysteriously bipartisan this time around. While he has been known as a loyalist of Digvijaya Singh, and Nath was said to have lobbied for himself for RS, sources

close to Nath said he had indeed put forward Singh's name. The surmise now is that once Nath was turned down by the party brass, he suggested Singh for RS. "Ashok Singh is a Digvijaya man, but Nath made him the treasurer of the state Congress," a leader said. In contrast, Rahul preferred Natarajan in the upper House. She had won the Mandsaur LS seat in 2009, but has since lost the polls. A close aide, she has overseen projects close to Rahul's heart in Congress.

Farmers' 'Delhi Chalo' march enters fifth day, BKU (Ugrahan) to protest outside BJP leaders' homes

CHANDIGARH: The Bharti Kisan Union (Ekta Ugrahan) will on Saturday hold dharnas outside the residences of three senior BJP leaders in Punjab on the fifth day of the farmers' protest over their various demands, including a legal guarantee for MSP. Apart from holding dharnas outside the homes of former Punjab chief minister Amarinder Singh, the BJP's Punjab unit chief Sunil Jakhar and senior leader Kewal Singh Dhillon, the union will also hold protests at toll plazas in the state, extending support to the



farmers' "Delhi Chalo" call. On the fifth day of their "Delhi Chalo" march -- called by the Samyukta Kisan Morcha (Non-Political) and the Kisan Mazdoor Morcha -- the farmers stayed put at the two border points of Punjab and Haryana as they press the Centre to accept their demands, including a legal guarantee of a

Minimum Support Price (MSP) for crops.

The farmers from Punjab began their march to Delhi on Tuesday but were stopped by security personnel at the Shambhu and the Khanauri points of Punjab's border with Haryana.

The protesters have stayed put at the two border points since then. The Gurnam Singh Charuni-led Bhartiya Kisan Union (Charuni), which is based in Haryana, will on Saturday take out a tractor rally in solidarity with the protesting farmers.

Heart attacks claim lives of protesting farmer, cop

AMBALA/PATIALA: A 78-year-old farmer from Punjab and a cop on duty in the ongoing farmer protests at Shambhu on the Punjab-Haryana border died Friday even as appeals went out to "bring JCB machines to uproot" police barricades. Gian Singh (78) of

Gurdaspur complained of breathlessness and low blood pressure. He died at Rajindra Hospital (Patiala). It seems to be a case of heart attack. Post-mortem report is awaited," said Dr HS Rekhi, medical superintendent of the hospital. Gian's nephew Kashmir

Singh alleged that tear-gas shells fired by Haryana police led to his death. The deceased cop was identified as SI Hira Lal. "Hira Lal suffered a heart attack on Feb 13. He was taken to civil hospital, Ambala Cantonment, where he died.

PM Modi to flag off first electric train in Kashmir



NEW DELHI: Prime Minister Narendra Modi will flag off the first electric train in Kashmir on Tuesday and will also inaugurate the 48-km recently completed rail link from Banihal to Sangaldan (a town near district headquarter of Ramban) section in the Valley. This will be PM's first public engagement in the region after nullification of Article 370 in 2019. Officials said the railways will script a new history of trains running on clean fuel in the Valley and also host

the biggest ever programme in its history next week for inauguration and foundation stone laying of nearly 2,000 projects in one go. These include

revamp of over 500 stations and construction of rail over bridges and under bridges. These two will be major programmes before the poll code is announced. Though the railway officials were hopeful of train operations beginning from Srinagar to Jammu before the Lok Sabha election—a long standing promise to connect the Valley by train—it may take another six months due to delay in the completion of two tunnels between Sangaldan and Katra. Officials said though the 18-km stretch between Dugga and Reasi is complete, trains can't be operated unless the two stretches on both sides are complete.

Farmers' protest: Talks on Sunday, farmers stay put at Shambu border

BJP's Sadhvi Pragya Thakur accuses Akasa Air of causing 'huge loss'; airline

● "I came to Delhi from Mumbai to Delhi Akasa Air flight number QP1120, duty manager Imran and his associates conspired and tried to cause huge loss"

NEW DELHI: BJP leader and MP Sadhvi Pragya Thakur on Friday alleged that Akasa Air staff attempted to create a "huge loss" for her at the Delhi Airport. The Bhopal MP accused the Akasa Airline staff of hurting her during deboarding at Delhi Airport while flying from Mumbai to Delhi on Thursday. The MP from Bhopal today in a post on social media platform X (formerly Twitter), addressed Union civil aviation minister Jyotiraditya Scindia and sought action into the matter. "Union Minister Scindia, when I came to Delhi from Mumbai to Delhi Akasa Air flight number



QP1120, duty manager Imran and his associates conspired and tried to cause huge loss to me. I hope you will definitely take action into the issue," the BJP MP posted on X. After the MP posted the incident on X, Akasa Air expressed regret and assured that it would probe the matter in detail.

In a statement, Akasa Air spokesperson said, "We regret the de-boarding experience that Member of Parliament Pragya Thakur had on our flight QP1120 on February 15, 2024. We apologise for any inconvenience caused to her. While we will investigate the incident in detail, we take this as an opportunity to learn and to continue improving on our services."

NEW DELHI: After meeting overnight in Chandigarh for their third round of discussions, Centre and farmers will meet again on Sunday to discuss a way forward at a time when talks are stuck primarily on three key demands - legal guarantee to MSP, using comprehensive cost formula (C2+50%) to arrive at it & farm loan waiver. The protest is expected to expand with SKM deciding on Friday to "immediately intensify" the stir. Farm stir likely to expand as SKM decides to join protest. Though the govt side — Union ministers Arjun Munda, Piyush Goyal and Nitin Gadkari — assured farmer leaders they would get back to them for the fourth round of talks on Sunday evening after consulting higher-ups, the protesters decided to continue with their 'Delhi Chalo'.

CAPSULES

NHAI drops Paytm from FASTag list

NEW DELHI: National Highways Authority of India (NHAI) has issued a fresh alert urging people to buy FASTags from authorised banks and the name of Paytm has been omitted from the list. In a social media post, NHAI has put out a list of 32 banks from where commuters can buy FASTags for vehicles. Sources said people who have got Paytm tags need to surrender them and buy new ones from authorised banks for hassle-free travel on NH network.

Indian Naval Warship reaches Chennai after rescuing hijacked Bulk Carrier MV Lila Norfolk

CHENNAI: Indian Naval Warship INS Chennai which rescued the hijacked Bulk Carrier MV Lila Norfolk on January 5, successfully reached Chennai, Tamil Nadu on. Indian naval warship INS Chennai on January 5 reached the hijacked vessel MV Lila Norfolk off Somalia coast and issued a warning to the pirates on board to abandon the vessel, military officials told ANI. The Indian warship has also launched its helicopter and the Marine Commandos (MARCOS) are ready for operations. All the Indian crew on board are safe, the officials added. Earlier, the officials had informed that Merchant vessel MV Lila Norfolk was hijacked by pirates 300 nautical miles east of Somalia, while it was sailing from Port Du Aco in Brazil and was bound for Khalifa Bin Salman in Bahrain. The Indian Navy's Mission Deployed Platforms responded swiftly to the hijacking attempt on board a Liberian-flagged bulk carrier after it received a message on the UKMTO.

Apple will source and manufacture all of its mobile devices in India

Delhi : While stating that Apple "has decided to source and produce all its mobile phones in India in the years to come," telecom minister Jyotiraditya Scindia made the claim that India has become a dependable and cost-effective manufacturing partner for smartphone manufacturers worldwide. At the Bharat Telecom event, Scindia stated that investing in India right now is not only a gesture of goodwill but also economically prudent for all original equipment manufacturers. Thanks to the government's production-linked incentive program, the minister noted, the telecom equipment industry has grown multiple times.

Sales of Rs 80,000 crore, exports of Rs 16,000 crore, and the creation of 25,000 jobs were all outcomes of an investment of Rs 4,000 crore—half a billion dollars in and of

itself. With that in mind, he went on to say that India's telecom equipment business has also expanded tremendously. According to him, India is currently at the forefront of technological innovation and has not only caught up to the rest of the world in areas such as 4G and 5G, but is also forging its own future through massive reforms. A recent announcement by Apple CEO Tim Cook stated that for the June quarter, the bulk of iPhones sold in the US will be sourced from India, while the majority of smartphones for other markets will be produced in China.

BluSmart hoping to acquire Ja's stake and seize control

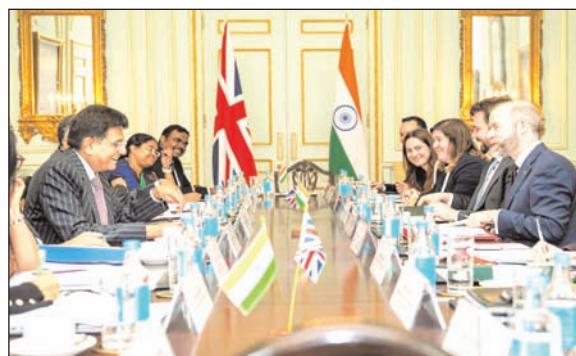


would also be a consequence of this. Investors were spearheaded by Jaggis's other company, BP Ventures Engineering Ltd. As of February 2025, investors such as Softbank Mayfield India Fund, 100 Unicorns, Responsibility

Investments, and celebrities like Deepika Padukone and M.S. Dhoni owned the remaining 70.9 percent of BluSmart, according to Tracxn. The promoters held 23.98% of the company. image.png

The UK and India close key trade deal in 'new age' of Trump tariffs

Delhi : Britain and India signed a long-awaited free trade agreement as tariff upheaval caused by U.S. President Donald Trump accelerated commerce in whisky, cars, and food. After three years of stop-start negotiations, the world's fifth and sixth largest economies reached a deal to boost bilateral commerce by 25.5 billion pounds (\$34 billion) by 2040. The Reuters Tariff Watch newsletter provides daily global trade and tariff updates. Join here. Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi called the trade accord "ambitious and mutually beneficial". British PM Keir Starmer said the enhanced partnership would lower trade obstacles in a "new era for trade". Nations are



seeking new trade partners and UK-savvy individuals because of Trump's tariffs. India discussions claimed the turbulence had heightened the desire to reach an agreement. The accord will decrease whisky tariffs, allow British enterprises to compete for Indian contracts, and make it easier for Indian workers to work in Britain, benefiting both economies. It shows India opening its long-guarded markets, notably automobiles,

providing an early model for its anticipated approach to major Western countries like the U.S. and the EU. It is Britain's biggest trade deal since leaving the EU in 2020, but its predicted economic production rise of 4.8 billion pounds a year by 2040 is tiny compared to its 2.6 trillion pounds GDP in 2024. The pact will reduce tariffs on 90% of Britain's tariff lines and zero charge on 99% of Indian goods, including textiles.

Indian Department of Telecom Approves Starlink to Roll Out Satellite Internet

Delhi : A major milestone in India's developing satellite broadband scene has been reached: Elon Musk's Starlink has received crucial regulatory approval to operate in the country. After Starlink agreed to meet India's updated security standards, the Department of Telecommunications (DoT) granted the business licenses for GMPCS, VSAT, and Internet service provider (ISP) operations. To corroborate the news, a government official informed MoneyControl, "Yes, Starlink has been issued a LoI by the DoT... the LoI came after it gave an



undertaking to meet license conditions and security protocols under the new revised security guidelines." Once the company has fulfilled all license responsibilities, final approval is anticipated. A greater crackdown on satellite internet companies in India followed the licensing process of Starlink. The

government revised the standards for lawful interception, data localization, gateway security clearance, and local manufacturing compliance the day before the LoI was announced. Starlink will soon receive In-SPACe authorization, according to a source.

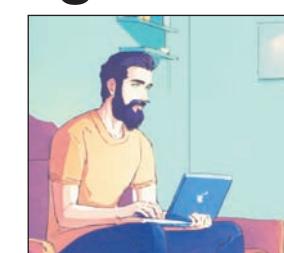
Govt is considering expanding US fertiliser imports to address US President concerns

Delhi: After LNG, the government is considering expanding US fertiliser imports to address US President Donald Trump's concerns over India's trade surplus. India will also become less dependent on China and Russia, its key shipping partners.

After the Ukraine war, sanctions on Moscow increased Russian fertilizer imports, like oil. India's trade deficit with Russia grew. Indian fertilizer imports totaled \$8.3 billion in the past financial year, with the US contributing \$300,000. India import-

ed \$86.5 billion in commodities from the US last year and had a \$41 billion trade surplus. The planned bilateral trade agreement with the US will cut tariffs to close the trade gap, but the government also wants to buy more American defense.

HR issues Some work from home during travel advisories



with the government directive," said Panasonic Life Solutions India CHRO Adarsh Mishra. Travel recommendations from HDFC Life advise employees to be vigilant, especially near borders. The company has told its teams to postpone or cancel off-site meetings until the situation improves.

"Our administration team and travel desk have been instructed to prioritize cancellations," said HDFC Life CHRO Vibhash Naik.

For 2025-26, I-T Department notifies ITR forms 1, 4

Delhi: Individuals and companies with income up to Rs 50 lakh must file ITR forms 1 and 4 for assessment year (AY) 2025-26 with the income tax department. Anyone with long-term capital gains up to Rs 1.25 lakh in a fiscal year can submit ITR-1. Previously, they had to file ITR-



2. With the notification, individuals, HUFs, corporations with income up to Rs 50 lakh, and

those with business and professional incomes in 2024-25 (April-March) can file I-T returns. ITR Form 1 (Sahaj) and ITR Form 4 (Sugam) are easier forms for many small and medium taxpayers. Sahaj can be filed by a resident with an annual income of up to Rs 50 lakh from

salary, one residential property, other sources (interest), and agricultural income up to Rs 5,000. Individuals, Hindu Undivided Families (HUFs), and firms (other than LLPs) with yearly income up to Rs 50 lakh and business and profession revenue can file Sugam.

PM Narendra Modi's resolve made India a digital leader: Jyotiraditya Scindia

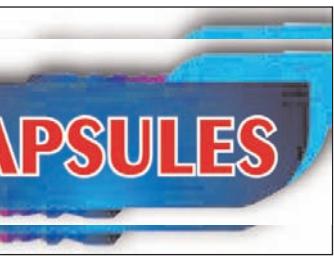


Delhi : Union Minister of Communications Jyotiraditya Scindia said Prime Minister Narendra Modi's bold vision and unrelenting resolve had changed India from a digital follower to a global digital leader, converting dreams into infrastructure and policy into progress. The minister told more than 130 foreign delegates from 35 countries at the launch of 'Bharat Telecom 2025' in the national capital that the conference is a declaration of India's intent to shape

global connectivity through innovation, collaboration, and inclusive growth. "When ideas, innovation, and intent come together in harmony, they create not a cacophony but a symphony, and 'Bharat Telecom' is that symphony of global collaboration and opportunity," the minister told the

audience, underlining India's export potential. The Telecom Equipment and Services Export Promotion Council (TEPC) and the Department of Telecommunications (DoT) organize the event, which helps India become a global telecom manufacturing, services, and export

hub. This is about connecting futures, not just villages. Every tower we build, every byte we send, provides 1.4 billion people opportunity, said Scindia. We deployed 470,000 towers to connect 99 percent of our villages and 82% of our population to 5G in 22 months.



Free trade deal between India and the UK finalized

Delhi : India and the United Kingdom have finalized a free trade agreement (FTA), which will increase the export of textiles, leather, and engineering goods from India while reducing tariffs on British whisky, cars, and medical devices. The agreement, according to Prime Minister Narendra Modi, will facilitate trade, investment, and the creation of jobs. After three years of negotiations, the FTA between the world's fifth and sixth biggest economies was finally finalized.



Modi and Boris Johnson had originally aimed to conclude the accord by October 2022. Differences on a variety of subjects, including alcohol and automotive tariffs, the mobility of Indian professionals, and political unrest in the UK, have since impacted the negotiations.

Concluded amidst worldwide economic uncertainty caused by US President Trump's tariff policies, the accord may pave the way for future pacts of a similar kind with other countries, the US included. With the United States, the European Union, Oman, Peru, and New Zealand, India is presently in the midst of free trade agreement negotiations. Since Britain's departure from the EU in 2020, the FTA has been its most substantial trade agreement.

Ola Electric's 'consumer rights infractions' to ARAI

Delhi: The Ministry of Heavy Industries (MHI) instructed vehicle testing agency ARAI to investigate whether Ola Electric violated consumer rights as a recipient of the government's EV incentive scheme. After the Central Consumer Protection Authority (CCPA) issued Ola Electric a show cause notice for consumer rights violations, misleading advertising, and unfair trade practices, MHI took action. Charges during free service period or warranty, car delivery delays, and service/repair delays are additional cited infractions. Old Electric is a FAME-II and PM E-DRIVE beneficiary under ARAI's eligibility requirements. Thus, MHI must get your opinions on the issue promptly "The ministry's letter to the testing centre stated. It further stated that under two EV incentive schemes, all OEMs, including Ola Electric, must maintain service centres to address con-



Govt. cancels employee leaves amid India-Pak tensions

Delhi: Delhi administration cancelled employee leave due to escalating tensions between India and Pakistan and emergency readiness. Punjab closed all schools, colleges, and institutions for three days, as did Panchkula in Haryana. Gurugram's

sumer issues and provide warranties. Earlier, Union consumer affairs secretary and CCPA chief commissioner Nidhi Khare confirmed that the National Consumer Helpline (NCH) has been receiv-

ing complaints for about a year. The company didn't answer problems effectively." CCPA can open a "class action" under the Consumer Protection Act if comparable complaints affect a 'class' of

PAO, and revenue data. Officials said the IT department is creating a Unified Data Hub to centralize data across divisions. Data analytics, cross-referencing, real-time updates, and better governance will result. For this project, Delhi government departments like food and supplies,

Delhi : All

departments in Delhi have been ordered to deploy mist or water sprinklers on power poles and anti-smog cannons along central verges and roads in pollution hotspots. Environment minister Manjinder Singh Sisra said DDA and NDMC have piloted such pollution control methods, and duplicating them on a large scale would help control particle pollutants, especially in winter.

The government recommends micro or mist-type jets with 50-100 micron droplets and 0.45-0.65 units of operating pressure. "Electric



poles in the central verge of roadways could provide structurally suitable and geographically distributed places for mist spraying systems without extra roadside infrastructure. Sisra said the move aims to reduce road dust, a major contributor to Delhi's PM2.5 and PM10 levels. Delhi's air pollu-

tion campaign requires daily strategy and execution. We use science and accountability. We intend to reduce particulate matter emissions at the source using equipment and enforcement" said the minister. Delhi has 13 air pollution hotspots. "In view of the deteriorating air quality levels and high levels of particulate matter in the ambient air in Delhi, there is an urgent need to take innovative control measures," it said. The departments must submit a 15-day action plan to install such sprays or comparable systems on power poles outside the hotspots

Delhi authorities target unlawful encroachments on highways to improve public areas

Delhi : The authorities have found illegal encroachments on over 100 major highways, including Outer Ring Road, Mathura Road, Mehrauli-Badarpur Road, and Okhla Estate. PWD minister Parvesh Verma, district magistrates, and civic body officials

assessed the problem and identified some of these portions as persistently problematic. Rao Tularam Marg, Ring Road between Hyatt Regency and Moti Bagh, Bhikaji Cama Place-Ber Sarai intersection, and Vasant Vihar metro station area are also affected. Many

of these encroachment lawsuits include illegal car parking and street vendors. Temporary flower and fruit shops have appeared on footpaths, open spaces, even over sewers. Furniture businesses, tyre repair shops, and mechanics have too.

Over 5,600 Delhi government employees on ration subsidy list



PAO, and revenue have exchanged records with IT. Preliminary research showed that 5,621 food and supply beneficiaries match Delhi government employee PAO data. According to an official, 395 recipients were placed as family heads in ration cards. The food and supply services,

DTC will launch e buses connecting three Delhi ISBTs with Noida

Delhi : Delhi Transport Corporation (DTC) have announced that electric bus services will begin connecting the capital to the soon-to-be-built Noida International Airport (NIA) in Jevaw. Despite the airport's probable failure to meet the May operational deadline, buses will depart from three Inter State Bus Terminals (ISBTs) in Delhi: Maharana Pratap ISBT at Kashmere Gate, Swami Vivekanand ISBT at Anand Vihar, and Veer Hakikat Rai ISBT at Sarai Kale Khan.

Hospitals in Delhi must be prepared for emergencies



Delhi : The Delhi government has ordered all government hospitals and health facilities to increase emergency preparedness, including painting a Red Cross sign on hospital rooftops to signal medical facilities from the air amid the growing military tension with Pakistan. In light of recent events, the guidelines require immediate action to ensure patient care and emergency readiness. They must also stockpile important drugs and consumables, maintain generator sets with fuel backup, and test emergency services including ICUS, oxygen delivery systems, and ventilators.

To enable 24-hour trauma care, hospitals must cancel surgeon, orthopaedic, and burn care specialist leaves. In addition, institutions must update ICU bed and equipment data on the ICU portal, secure hospital websites, and keep canteens and mess services stocked with food.

IGIA raises app-based cab pickup cost



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.

among the most expensive in the country after the increase. Rider airport charge includes airport pick-up fee, toll tax, driver profits, and commission. Riders will pay more due to the airport fee hike. The toll tax and airport pick-up fee will average 50% of the entire fare and go to the airport, not the driver or aggregator. DIAL did not respond immediately. Uber said that all airport trips on the cab aggregator include a pick-up cost as part of our commercial agreements with airports. This cost goes to the airport.

Delhi's new EV policy aims to create 20,000 jobs; targets 95% electric vehicle registrations



Delhi : Manjinder Singh Sisra, the environment minister of Delhi, stated that the new electric vehicle policy might generate 20,000 employment through the construction of a citywide network of charging and interchangeable battery stations.

To lessen environmental damage, this strategy promotes the use of electric vehicles. The goal is to convert mass categories to electric vehicles, which includes two-wheelers, buses, three-wheelers, and cargo carriers. He

announced that during the policy time, the Delhi government will strive to create 20,000 jobs related to electric vehicles. To drastically cut down on pollution, the government has set a goal of having 95% of new car registrations

be electric by 2027. It is our intention to make charging and battery changing infrastructure widely available to the public. Our goal is to have charging stations available at all times by the year 2030," he added.

During India-Pakistan tensions, Delhi tests air sirens

Delhi : The national capital heard air raid sirens as part of a simulated practice amid rising tensions between India and Pakistan and two rounds of missile and drone attacks from across the border. The Delhi government warned that the Directorate of Civil Defence would test air raid sirens at the Public Works Department (PWD) headquarters in ITO before the rehearsal and not to panic. Testing will begin at 3 PM and last 15-20 minutes. The statement demanded significant social and electronic media publicity to advise the people to be calm and not panic throughout the exercise. District Magistrate (Central) G Sudhakar advised people to stay calm when sirens sound.

In addition, the policy calls for the construction of charging and swappable battery stations all across the city, as well as battery collection centers.

Delhi golfers seek DGC practice rights, threaten Jantar Mantar protest



Delhi: Two-time Asian Tour winner Rashid Khan and numerous Delhi caddie-professional golfers will sit-in at Jantar Mantar on May 5 to win the right to practice at the Delhi Golf Club (DGC). Delhi caddie-pros and the DGC have been at odds for years. Long-running conflict has prompted

many pros to go to other courses or quit the sport, damaging their livelihoods. The affected golfers are seeking DGC practice authorization in the Delhi High Court. The case has been listed 30 times since February 4, 2020, without a hearing. Eight years before the contract expired,

the government renewed the DGC lease until 2050 in September 2012. DGC stopped allowing caddie-pros to practice in 2012. The protesting golfers argue that the club is on government land and serves to promote and advance golf, thus they should be allowed to practice there.

CAPSULES

One helpline for all rain problems in Delhi is 311

Delhi : The Delhi government will launch a unified helpline (311) and establish a central command center at Palika Kendra, the New Delhi Municipal Council headquarters, to handle monsoon-related concerns such as waterlogging and tree collapses. Delhi PWD minister Parvesh Verma stated this after seeing the NDMC's integrated command and control centre (ICCC) on Monday. All three Delhi governments are from the same party and coordinate well. "No blame game," Verma stressed. The rains four days ago swamped each department's complaint center with calls. The Smart City-created NDMC command center is functioning. We want to unite NDMC, MCD, PWD, DDA, the flood department, and the Jal Board under one command center. A single number for reporting waterlogging cases will follow. Verma noted that residents are confused about departmental jurisdictions, saying, "People don't know whether a street falls under PWD, MCD or DDA. With this new approach, they'll phone 311 and the complaint will be immediately forwarded to the right department. The chief minister should be able to access live camera feeds from across Delhi to identify waterlogged areas during an inspection. This was a step toward "One Delhi, One Number," said Verma. He stated, "Citizens won't need to worry about who's responsible—they'll just call 311, and action will follow."

Teachers improve their skills with an app to engage students

Delhi: Union Minister for Education Shri Dharmendra Pradhan launched the TeacherApp in New Delhi today to improve education in India by empowering educators with 21st-century classroom abilities. Bharti Airtel Foundation, Bharti Enterprises' philanthropy arm, created the platform. Vice Chairman of Bharti Enterprises Shri Rakesh Bharti Mittal, CEO of Bharti Airtel Foundation Smt. Mamta Saikia, education luminaries, school principals, teachers, and B.Ed. students attended. In his speech on "Elevating Teachers, Elevating India," Shri Dharmendra Pradhan said this app will empower teachers through continual capacity building using creative course content, technology, and community-building elements.

This user-centric, free app designed with teacher input is available on the Web, iOS, and Android, enabling smooth



Key DU committee to discuss Gita, Viksit Bharat courses

Delhi: Officials said Delhi University's (DU) standing committee will review proposals for numerous value addition courses (VAC), including four Bhagavad Gita-based and one An Introduction to Viksit Bharat. The committee's agenda emphasizes incorporating contemporary Indian philosophy and development issues into the curriculum.

The Bhagavad Gita is featured in four of the six VACs, including "Gita for Holistic Life."

access for educators nationwide. Over 260 hours of high-quality courses, learning bytes, short videos, podcasts, and interactive webinar formats like thematic fests, webinars, competitions, and quizzes are available on the platform to improve future readiness, pedagogy, and student engagement. Live expert sessions provide practical teaching ideas, and the app highlights instructors' remarkable impact stories to develop a community of teachers. The app transforms education with tech and 12 state partnerships. Teaching Kits, 900 hours of content, is unique to this platform.

The PhD program at IIT-D is launched in Abu Dhabi

Delhi: At its new international campus in Abu Dhabi, the Indian Institute of Technology (IIT) Delhi has begun offering a PhD program in energy and sustainability. Interviews will take place following the deadline of December 31, 2024, for online applications. It is anticipated that chosen applicants would begin work by the final week of January 2025. The energy and sustainability program will concentrate on tackling innovative issues associated with achieving net-zero goals. According to an official, this includes studies on renewable energy, decarbonization, process intensification, sustainable process engineering, micro-



"For their doctoral dissertations, students will work on cutting-edge subjects that tackle global issues in environmental sustainability, energy transition management, and technology"

grids and power distribution in the changing energy landscape, and the application of artificial intelligence and data science to support the energy transition.

Credit courses from AICTE drone labs

Delhi: AICTE and AVPL have signed an MoU to create AVPL AeroVision Drone Labs in AICTE-approved colleges nationwide. This strategic alliance will first establish 50 AVPL AeroVision Labs to improve technical education and give students and faculty hands-on experience with innovative drone



Exam centers to get CCTVs from NIOS to reduce malpractices

Delhi: To ensure transparent and seamless assessments, the Board of Secondary Education (BSE) will use AI-powered CCTV cameras and webcasting of the annual High School Certificate (HSC) exam 2024. Pauses, violations of rules, such as logistical issues in storing or distributing question papers, cheating, malpractice, invigilator incompetence, or cell phone use in HSC exam centers, can now be identified quickly.

DU students may soon finish a semester of international university finals

Delhi: Delhi University (DU) seniors may soon be able to study abroad for a semester. Twinning programs will be discussed at the December 27 academic council (AC) meeting. The National Education Policy (NEP) 2020 and UGC regulations for twinning programmes with international universities support this approach. The plan would have students spend the semester abroad and earn 12-26 credits. They'd graduate from DU when they returned. A committee determining the twinning degree arrangement will offer its suggestions during the council meeting. Students can study abroad for a semester under this program. Some educators say this proposal benefits pupils. Students who studied abroad while doing their primary course could not merge their credits. Students will choose a university



"Despite its appeal, the idea lacks details. To complement the twinning concept, DU will launch a one-year postgraduate (PG) program in 2026. A draft proposal will be discussed during the academic council meeting"

and field depending on DU's MoUs with international institutions. After picking a university, students can apply to DU, where a committee will assess their applications and determine feasibility. Economically disadvantaged meritocratic students can also join the twinning program. "This does not limit it to EWS pupils. Other students who match eco-

nomic criteria will be considered. We will encourage low-income students to accept full scholarships from overseas universities. Just one example. The dean noted the approach is flexible. However, several academic council members have called the initiative "disastrous" and criticized its unclear execution.

Find unlawful Bangladeshis: MCD

Delhi: Delhi schools must detect unlawful Bangladeshi migrant children and deny birth certificates. All zones were ordered by the MCD to remove illegal Bangladeshi encroachments.

The extra commissioner and deputy commissioner represented the MCD Commissioner at a December 12 virtual meeting led by the senior secretary (Home), GNCTD, to discuss these directions. As decided in the VC meeting, MCD department heads and zonal officials were asked to take precautionary steps. If illegal Bangladeshi migrants are admitted to munic-



ipal schools, the education administration must take precautions. The undocumented Bangladeshi migrant children in schools should also be identified and verified. "B P Bhardwaj deputy commissioner MCD stated. "Public health department should take all precautions while reg-

istering and issuing birth certificates and ensure no unlawful Bangladeshi migrants are awarded birth certificates. They would also identify/verify Birth Certificate registrants issued to unlawful Bangladeshi migrants" MCD added.

UGC creates RPL to enable candidates to use informal learning

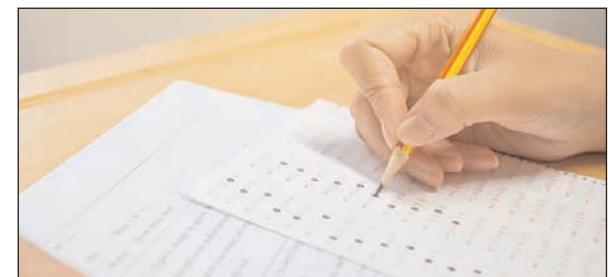
Delhi: The University Grants Commission (UGC) announced draft guidelines for prior learning recognition, a critical component of the NEP 2020. RPL recognizes informal, non-formal, and experiential learning abilities and competencies. Students can earn up

to 30% of their degree credits using RPL. RPL for university admissions and job placements is planned by UGC for 2026. A BCom graduate with work experience can join in a one-year PG study with exemptions in a few areas after being examined for skills. "RPL

connects real-world experience to formal education. UGC chairperson M Jagadesh Kumar said it boosts career chances. Portfolio assessment—work samples, projects, coursework, certificates, standardised tests, interviews, skill demonstrations,

NTA returns to NEET UG format

Delhi: To do well on the NEET UG 2025 exam, candidates must answer 180 questions in 180 minutes. The NTA has reverted to its pre-Covid exam design, which is expected to increase competition in the May 2025 exam. As per the modified pattern, section B which consisted of optional questions have been removed which has decreased the exam time from 200 minutes to 180 minutes. The NTA declaration made candidates and experts anxious, as it may reduce the overall competition. Health Ministry officials say question paper difficul-



ty will determine competition levels. The NTA cut the extra 20 minutes and optional questions to restore regularity in the exam schedule.

Because the pandemic is finished, candidates must return to the original exam format. The adjustment isn't frightening as the syllabus is unchanged. Additionally, we need to enhance our time

IIT to teach Gen AI

Delhi: The Indian Institute of Technology (IIT) Delhi offers a diploma in generative AI to meet the growing demand for AI competence. Through the institute's Continuing Education Programme (CEP), this six-month advanced AI course teaches professionals broad AI skills. Today's IT, entertainment, healthcare, and finance industries want this expertise. Developing generative AI skills boosts career opportunities.



The programme also gives students hands-on exposure with practical tools and algorithms to stay competitive and meet the growing demand for AI-driven innovation. "An official added. The new project examines advanced AI techniques, focusing on Large Language Models (LLMs) including GPT, BERT, and T5. Modern issues including Reinforcement Learning with Human Feedback (RLHF), Vision-Language Models (VLMS), and responsible AI deployment are covered. The curriculum offers six specialized modules: mathematical foundations for machine learning, machine learning, natural language processing, generative AI for text, vision, and responsible AI. Students will also use industry-leading Python, NumPy, Pandas, PyTorch, and TensorFlow. The Indian Institute of Technology (IIT) Delhi has launched a certificate program in generative AI to meet the growing need for AI expertise. This six-month advanced AI course from the institute's Continuing Education Programme (CEP) prepares professionals.

The new project examines advanced AI tech-