

AKHAND BHARAT SANDESH

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MORNING EDITION PRAYAGRAJ Wednesday, 03 September 2025 UNIQUE GIFT OF KRIYAYOGA ASHRAM AND RESEARCH INSTITUTE TO GIVE IMPETUS TO WORLD BUILDING AND HUMAN DEVELOPMENT.

India will become a full stack semiconductor nation: PM Modi

India will achieve self-reliance in every process from design to manufacturing: Prime Minister Narendra Modi

New Delhi: Prime Minister Narendra Modi today said that India will become a full stack developer nation in the field of semiconductor manufacturing with the help of its young talent and will achieve self-reliance in every process from design to manufacturing. The Prime Minister was addressing the function after inaugurating Semicon India 2025 at Yashobhoomi, New Delhi on Tuesday. The Prime Minister also unveiled the first chip made in India on this occasion. On this occasion, Union Minister for Electronics and Information Technology Ashwini Vaishnaw presented Vikram 32-bit processor and four test chips to the Prime Minister. Addressing the function, Prime Minister Modi said that India will no longer be limit-



Simplify industrial processes: Modi

PM said that the government is working to give new energy to the industry by simplifying the processes. He expressed confidence that the day is not far when the world will say - 'Designed in India, Made in India, Trusted by the World.' (Designed in India, Made in India and Trusted by the World). The Prime Minister highlighted that twenty

ed to only backend work in the field of semiconductors, but is

percent of the semiconductor design talent in the world is Indian. The youth of the country represent the largest human capital for the semiconductor industry. He urged young entrepreneurs, innovators and start-ups to come forward and assured that the government stands shoulder to shoulder with them. Referring to the concept of oil being called black gold.

rapidly moving towards becoming a full stack nation.

The people of Bihar will not forgive the insult to my mother: Modi

New Delhi: Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Tuesday launched a scathing attack on the Congress and the Rashtriya Janata Dal (RJD) saying that they have insulted my late mother and this is not only an insult to my mother but also to crores of mothers, sisters and daughters of the country. The Prime Minister said that he



can personally forgive political rivals, but the people of Bihar will never tolerate the

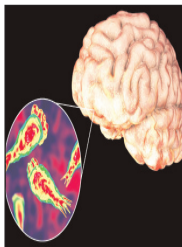
insult of my mother. Prime Minister Modi launched the Bihar State Jeevika Nidhi

Credit Cooperative Union Limited through video conferencing. On this occasion, he also transferred an amount of Rs 105 crore to the bank account of the institution. Lakhs of women were present in the program, while interacting with them the Prime Minister became emotional many times. At the beginning

of his address, the Prime Minister said that the land of Bihar is the land that worships the mother power. Here traditions like Chhath Mahaparva and Satbahini Puja are symbols of respect for women. In such a sacred state, derogatory words were used for his late mother from the platform of Congress and RJD.

Outbreak of 'brain eating amoeba' in Kerala

Kerala: After the entry of monsoon, a strange disease has also knocked in Kerala. Many people have died due to this disease which attacks people's brain. In the last 1 month, three such cases have come to light in which people who fell prey to 'brain eating amoeba' lost their lives. Recently, a 3-month-old girl died due to this disease. At the same time, in August, a 52-year-old woman and a 9-year-old girl lost



their lives. Kerala government launched a campaignDue to the increasing threat of 'brain eating amoeba', the Kerala government has launched a "water is life" chlorination campaign. Under this campaign, wells, water tanks, public bathing places are being cleaned.How does this disease spread'Brain eating amoeba' thrives in fresh water places like ponds, lakes, wells, rivers and



Dera head of 'Radha Soami Satsang, Beas' Baba Gurinder Singh Dhillon visited the Chief Minister's Jan Seva Sadan in Delhi on Tuesday. Chief Minister Rekha Gupta shared information about this meeting on X.

'Aadhar card alone is not proof of citizenship'

New Delhi: The Supreme Court has given a big decision on the Aadhar card on Monday. The Supreme Court says that the Aadhar card cannot be presented as a proof of citizenship. It would be better if the status of Aadhar remains within the ambit of the law. The Supreme Court has made this comment during the hearing on the



petition filed on the Special Intensive Revision going on in Bihar. The bench of Justice Suryakant and Justice Joymala Bagchi earlier said that Aadhar card can be considered

as a proof of identity along with the documents recognized by the Election Commission, but Aadhar card alone cannot be a proof of citizenship. According to the Supreme Court, "Aadhar can be included in the documents for verification, but Aadhar can be used only within the ambit of the Aadhar Act.We cannot go beyond the decision.

People are now speaking openly about the irregularities in the voter list: Venugopal

New Delhi. Congress General Secretary KC Venugopal has launched a scathing attack on the Central Government and the Election Commission over the special intensive revision of the voter list in Bihar and the alleged vote theft. He said that after Rahul Gandhi's recent press conference, people across the country have started understanding the irregularities in the voter list.

Talks on India-US trade deal continue

New Delhi. Union Commerce and Industry Minister Piyush Goyal on Tuesday said that India is negotiating a bilateral trade agreement (BTA) with the US. He also said that India-China relations are gradually moving towards normalcy. As the border issues are resolved, the tension will reduce. Union Minister Goyal said this while addressing the 20th Global Sustainability Summit of the Confederation of



Indian Industry (CII) in New Delhi. His statement came just days after the Trump administration doubled the tariff on Indian goods in response to New Delhi's

continued purchase of Russian oil. Goyal said, we are negotiating with the US for BTA. India and the US have been negotiating this agreement since March. So

far five rounds of talks have been completed.After the imposition of 50 percent duty from August 27, the US team has postponed its visit to India for the next round of talks, which was to start from August 25. No date has been fixed for the sixth round of talks yet. Goyal said India has already signed free trade agreements with Australia, the United Arab Emirates, Mauritius, the United Kingdom and EFTA.

Next generation GST reforms will make us transparent: Nirmala

Chennai: Union Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman on Tuesday said the next generation GST reforms will make the economy 'completely' open and transparent. This will further reduce the compliance burden and benefit small businesses. The Union Finance Minister was addressing the 120th foundation day celebrations of Tamil Nadu-based City Union Bank. President Draupadi Murmu attended the event as the chief guest. Sitharaman said that in the last 11 years, more than 56 crore Jan-Dhan accounts have been opened, with a total deposit of Rs 2.68 lakh crore.She said that 67 per cent of these accounts have been opened in rural or semi-urban areas, with 56 per cent accounts held by women. The Finance Minister said that a bank account is not just a passbook, but it is a passport of opportunities, which enables access to credit, savings, insurance and dignity.



Sitharaman said that India's scheduled commercial banks have recorded a huge improvement in their asset quality, resulting in a reduction in NPAs. He said Prime Minister Narendra Modi has recently announced the formation of a task force for next generation GST reforms with a clear objective to simplify rules, reduce compliance costs and create a more enabling ecosystem for startups, micro, small and medium enterprises (MSMEs) and entrepreneurs.

"Supreme" hearing held on SIR

Hearing

□ We will ask you some questions regarding the facts and figures related.

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



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

voters. During this, the Election Commission told the Supreme Court that it is natural to have some flaws in such an exercise. Earlier, the Commission had told the Supreme Court that under the law, it does not need to make a separate list of the names of those missing from the draft list. Nor is there any need to share the list or publish the reasons for

not including their names for any reason.'The opposition is only protesting in Parliament and on the streets 'Earlier, the Election Commission said on Monday that the opposition is only protesting in Parliament and on the streets. the rules, not a single objection has been received so far regarding.

Supreme Court strict on climate change

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

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

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

Disaster

'Himachal Pradesh has suffered a lot due to the natural disaster

The govt. will help the disaster-affected by cutting down its expenses: CM



Shimla. Chief Minister Sukhvinder Singh Sukhu has said that Himachal Pradesh has suffered a lot due to natural disaster. The state government is standing shoulder to shoulder with the disaster affected families. He said that the government is helping the people with its limited resources. He said that after the implementation of the Disaster Management Act, necessary steps will be taken to help all the

affected people in the coming time and for this, if we have to cut our expenses to gather resources, then cuts will be made for this

and the arrangement for cuts will also be seen in the coming days. The Chief Minister was answering the original ques-

tions of MLA Sanjay Awasthi and supplementary questions of Sanjay Ratan, Vivek Sharma, Kuldeep Rathore and Ram Kumar during the Question Hour in the Assembly on Tuesday. The Chief Minister said that his government is trying to get permission from the Center so that the state government can provide one bigha forest land to the people who have become landless due to the disaster.

He said that the government is ready to give one bigha of land to the landless people who became homeless in the disaster to build houses, but this matter is under the Government of India and efforts will be made to get approval of FRA and FCA from there.MLA Sanjay Ratan said that due to FCA and FRA, the disaster affected are not getting land to build houses yet.

Revolutionary 'e-pind daan' service and vacation packages

Delhi : Bihar State Tourism Development Corporation (BSTDC) has introduced its "e-pind daan" service and a new tour in conjunction with the forthcoming Pitripaksh Mela in Gaya, an important Hindu festival where rites are performed for the ancestors who have passed away. The festival is scheduled to take place from September 6th to the 21st. Anyone unable to go to the holy locations of Vishnupad Temple, Akshayvat, or the banks of the Falgu River can have the rituals conducted by a priest at these locations as part of the "e-pind daan" service, which costs Rs 23,000. In addition to collecting offerings, the officiant will give individuals who schedule the service a pen drive with a video recording of the full ceremony, including chants and other ceremonies. Accommodations range from inexpensive motels to luxurious three-star establishments, and the



VB accuses Majithia in 40,000-page chargesheet

Delhi: In the matter of disproportionate assets (DA), the Punjab Vigilance Bureau (VB) filed a 40,000-page chargesheet against Bikram Singh Majithia, a leader of the Shiromani Akali Dal (SAD) and a former minister, in a Mohali court. In the court of additional judge Hardeep Singh was presented the chargesheet, which was enclosed in four sealed trunks.

physical travel packages are priced to suit a variety of budgets,

The chargesheet has been filed in court, according to public prosecutor Ferry Sofat.

On June 25, as part of the DA case that supposedly deals with the laundering of 540 crore of "drug money," the VB had taken Majithia into custody from his Amritsar residence. While incarcerated in Patiala's Nabha jail, Majithia had her bail application rejected by a Mohali court on August 18.

beginning at Rs 13,450. Pilgrims can combine

Delhi: After receiving eviction warnings, most of the 433 families illegally occupying over 100 bighas of Village Grazing Reserve (VGR) land in Biswanath district of Assam have vacated and demolished their homes. Since they are landless, Baghmari village residents wanted government rehabilitation upon departing their land. "The government can evict on its land. To avoid property damage, we left alone. Where shall we go? A man who left the farm and moved to Nagaon, where his family live, urged the government to rehabilitate the families.

Akhilesh, Stalin, Soren to join Rahul's poll yatra

Delhi : The ongoing 'Voter Adhikar Yatra' of Rahul Gandhi-Tejashwi Yadav is set to become a show of opposition unity, with senior netas of regional parties scheduled to join the 16-day roadshow ahead of its culmination in Patna on September 1. While Tamil Nadu CM and DMK chief MK Stalin will join the yatra on Aug 27,



Baghmari village evictions will commence soon. Over 300 households were evicted from 175 bighas of VGR land in Japariguri hamlet in Biswanath district on August 17. In Nagaon, district commissioner Devasish Sharma reviewed the encroachment on the Kolong

river, a major Brahmaputra tributary. "The banks of the Kolong river have now become filthy as the people residing on the river banks have connected their septic tank outlets with the river, and the entire septic tank waste goes into the river," he stated.

SP chief Akhilesh Yadav will be part of the show on Aug 30. Congress general secretary KC Venugopal said Jharkhand CM Hemant Soren and other opposition netas will also join the yatra in coming days. Among Congress CMs turning up for the roadshow are Karnataka's Siddaramaiah, Telangana's Revanth

Reddy and Himachal's Sukhwinder Sukhu. MP Priyanka Gandhi Vadra will be part of the yatra for two days on Aug 26 and 27. The roadshow designed to take forward opposition's offensive of "vote chori" came after a rare unity in anti-BJP ranks which even led to a washout of proceedings in the just-concluded Monsoon session.

Assam Govt. Approves Inter-Religious Land Transfer SOP

Delhi : Assam's government authorized a SOP for inter-religious land transfer. In a briefing, Assam Chief Minister Himanta Biswa Sarma said "all such transfers will come to the government". Assam is sensitive, this land transfers must be handled carefully. We will review all transfers that come to the government. "The District Commissioner will make the final decision based on the buyer's source of funds, whether the land sale will affect the local community's social fabric, and whether any national security threats are involved," Mr. Sarma added. "The Nodal Officer in that Department would forward it to the Assam Police Special Branch. The Assam Police Special Branch will



review the plan for fraud, coercion, illegality, source of funding, social cohesion, and national security. He said the idea would be returned to the government, with the District Commissioner making the ultimate decision. This is another daring move by the Assam government to

stop indigenous people from transferring land to illegal settlers. "NGOs outside Assam sought land to establish institutions, we will examine similar land sale prospects for national security purposes, no such procedure for local NGOs" said the chief. A framework in the SOP

59K applicants affected by technical difficulties will be able to retake the SSC exam

Delhi : S Gopalakrishnan, the chairman of the Staff Selection Commission (SSC), stated that over 59,000 applicants who experienced technical difficulties during the examination will be given a special re-exam in three sessions. In order to "resolve the matters, retest the solution and improve operational matter," he said, the SSC Combined Graduate Level (CGL) exam, which was originally planned for August 13, has been pushed back to mid-September.

ensures thorough verification of inter-religion land transfers.

Cabinet ratifies bid for 2030 CWG

Delhi : Union Cabinet gave its approval to Ahmedabad, India, as the site of the 2030 Commonwealth Games. Under Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi's leadership, the Union Cabinet has given the green light to the Ministry of Youth Affairs & Sports' plan to submit a bid for the Commonwealth Games (CWG) 2030. As part of its decision, the government also authorized the signing of the Host Collaboration Agreement (HCA), which includes the necessary guarantees from relevant ministries, departments, and authorities, as well as



the approval of any necessary grant-in-aid to the Government, should the bid be accepted. Ahmedabad was touted as the perfect host city, boasting state-of-the-art training facilities, a fervent sporting culture, and world-class venues. "The Narendra Modi Stadium, the largest stadium in the world, has already demonstrated its capability by success-

fully hosting the 2023 ICC Cricket World Cup Final." The 2010 Commonwealth Games were held in Delhi, India. India is actively pursuing hosting the 2036 Olympics and is in a "continuous dialogue" process with the International Olympic Committee. The 2030 CWG bid is viewed as a stepping stone towards this goal.

Contingent members,

Shadow education is on the rise, with 33% of students enrolling in private lessons

Delhi : The most recent Comprehensive Modular Survey (CMS) on education that the Indian government issued found that about one-third of school-aged children now use private tutors, with the trend being even more pronounced in metropolitan regions.

The results provide a picture of a system in which public schools play a pivotal role in rural India but private schools and paid tutoring are becoming more popular among urban families. As part of the 80th round of the National Sample Survey, the ministry of statistics and programme implementation surveyed 52,000 households and around 58,000 pupils to determine how much money families spent on education. Although public



schools still make up the majority of schools in the country (55.9%), they have a much larger impact in rural areas (where 2/3 of students attend). Only 30.1% of urban students attend public schools, with parents clearly favoring private, non-public schools. In metropolitan locations, where disposable wealth and aspirations influence choice, private schools make up a disproportionately large portion of enrolments (nearly a third of the total) of students.

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.

Delhi: The Pradhan Mantri Jan Dhan Yojana (PMJDY), established by Narendra Modi in 2014, has become the world's largest financial inclusion program with 56 crore accounts and 2.68 trillion deposit balances achieved in 11 years. PM Modi wrote on "X": "When the last mile is financially connected, the nation advances. The PM Jan Dhan Yojana did that. People had more respect and control over their fate." Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman: "Financial inclusion drives economic growth and prosperity.



Universal bank accounts allow the poor and marginalized to engage fully in the formal economy." She noted in the FinMin press statement that PMJDY is an important avenue for DBT, credit, social security, and savings mobilization. Over

the past 11 years, over 56 crore Jan Dhan accounts have been established, resulting in a 2.68 trillion deposit amount. "Over 38 crore free RuPay cards enable digital transactions," Sitharaman stated. The statement states that

An expert's advice on avoiding contracting hepatitis A and E as cases surge

Delhi : According to physicians, the intake of contaminated water and sanitation issues have contributed significantly to the increase in Hepatitis A and E cases in Delhi. The liver-affecting virus can spread quickly during the monsoon because sewage is likely to mingle with drinking



water. In many overcrowded areas, the condition is exacerbated by street food and open sewers, according to Sudeep Khanna, Senior Consultant Gastroenterology at Indraprastha Apollo Hospitals. Not enough individuals get the virus vaccine, he added, and many more don't recog-

nize the symptoms until it's too late to get care. "Hepatitis A has surged to levels not seen before the monsoon... The majority of our patients develop acute hepatitis through contaminated food or drink. Rest and a healthy, regular diet are crucial for getting well.



In Hindu Rashtra, there is no Hindu vs. non-Hindu division

Delhi : Mohan Bhagwat, chief of the Rashtriya Swayamsevak Sangh (RSS), stated that a Hindu Rashtra cannot be described in terms of the western idea of a nation state since it is equitable and does not discriminate based on religion or language. While the Sangh does hold talks on "Achar, Vichar, Sanskar" (behavior, ideology, and values), he claimed that it does not push its perspective on anyone, emphasizing its independent identity and autonomy from the government. It is thought that Bhagwat was trying to emphasize the BJP's autonomy and independence, albeit he did not specifically mention any organization. Despite staying out of electoral politics, the Sangh is thought to be essential in the BJP's intellectual foundation, policy formulation, and organizational appointments, as well as the party's political strategy and policy. Speaking on the first day of the Sangh's three-day lecture series 'New Horizons,' which is part of its centenary commemoration, Bhagwat emphasized once again that the RSS, which has triumphed against "challenges and false allegations" throughout its history, was not established in response to or in opposition to anyone.



Under the chairmanship of the DM , a review of preparations and training program was organized with a view to conduct the PET safely

● In the meeting, the District Magistrate instructed all the officers to discharge their responsibilities with responsibility and sensitivity and conduct the examination safely

Petition

He said that the district administration is fully prepared and committed to conduct

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Services Selection Commission on 06 and 07 September safely, without cheating and in a fair manner as per the prescribed procedure. In the meeting, the District Magistrate instructed all the officers to discharge their responsibilities with responsibility and

sensitivity and conduct the examination safely, fairly and transparently. He said that any kind of negligence or indifference in this is not forgivable. He said that strict action will be taken against those who create any kind of disturbance in the fairness



of the examination. The District Magistrate said that if any complaint is found regarding affecting the sanctity of the examination, then strict action will be taken against such people. He said that any kind of negligence or indifference in conducting the

examination will not be tolerated. He said that the district administration is fully prepared and committed to conduct the examination in a safe manner. Strict action will be taken against those who try to affect the sanctity of the examination.



Lucknow tops in settling the maximum number of revenue cases, Jaunpur wins in district courts.

New Society Act to further strengthen financial discipline and the auditing framework

Lucknow: Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath has stressed the urgent need to replace the colonial-era Society Registration Act, 1860, with a modern and practical law in Uttar Pradesh. introduce contemporary provisions to strengthen registration.

Kumbh Mela stampede: Principal Secretary (Home) made party in compensation case

The petitioner says that his father died in the stampede at the Kumbh Mela



Petition

The petitioner says that his father died in the stampede at the Kumbh Mela

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the Kumbh Mela in Prayagraj. This order was given by the division bench of Justice Manoj Kumar Gupta and Justice Ram Manohar Narayan Mishra while hearing the petition of Vikas Kumar.

The petitioner says that his father died in the stampede at the Kumbh Mela and he is demanding compensation.

The next hearing in this case will be on 17 September 2025.

Firing on GT Road spread panic

A case of firing near Varanasi Prayagraj Marg police booth



Concern

Court has expressed deep concern over male gym instructors

Akhand Bharat Sandesh

dispute going on between the bank seizure and a vehicle owner since two days. On Tuesday, the vehicle owner came to know that the seizure was present near the police booth, then the vehicle owner came with his three companions on a Bullet and spread panic by abusing and firing two rounds, when people started gathering, all fled from the spot and the police present at the booth kept watching. Let us tell you that on Monday also there was a dispute between both the sides and bricks and stones were also used along with sticks, rods, the police is investigating.

UP holds 12-hour special drive in municipal corporations to enhance civic services

Lucknow: On the directive of Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath, a 12-hour special campaign was conducted in municipal corporations across Uttar Pradesh under the leadership of the Urban Development Department. Focused on cleanliness.

Yogi govt approves 948 new posts in 3 state universities to boost higher education in UP

Positions

468 temporary non-teaching and 480 outsourced positions to be filled



Lucknow: The Yogi Adityanath government in Uttar Pradesh has taken a significant step forward in higher education with the approval of 948 new posts across three newly established universities, including Guru Jambheshwar University in Moradabad, Maa Vindhyavasini University in Mirzapur, and Maa Pateshwari University in Balrampur. This includes 468 temporary non-teaching positions and 480 outsourced posts. The government expects these appointments to strengthen the administrative and opera-

tional framework of the universities, enhance educational quality, and create new employment opportunities for the state's youth. Higher Education Minister Yogendra Upadhyay said: "Under the visionary leadership of Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath, Uttar Pradesh is setting new benchmarks in higher education. The approval of new posts is a major step towards strengthening universities and positioning the state as a leader in education." Notably, the Chief Minister has consistently emphasized

the government's commitment to ensuring both quality education and employment opportunities for the youth. The creation of new posts in universities is a concrete move to empower higher education and make the youth self-reliant," he added. Each of the three universities has been allocated 156 temporary non-teaching posts, effective until February 28, 2026, with provisions for early termination if required. The positions span a wide range of roles, including pharmacist, electrician, junior engineer, stenogra-

pher, assistant accountant, junior assistant, lab technician, lab assistant, deputy registrar, assistant registrar, personal assistant, accountant, chief assistant, medical officer, and staff nurse. Recruitment for these posts will be conducted through the Subordinate Services Selection Commission, as well as through direct recruitment, promotions, and deputation. In addition, each university will recruit 160 personnel through outsourcing, bringing the total to 480 positions across the three institutions. These roles include computer operator, cleaner, security guard, gardener, peon, driver, and library attendant. The outsourcing process will be conducted in a fair and transparent manner via the GEM portal.

Tharwai police entered the house of the advocate without any crime

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Prayagraj. Allahabad High Court has taken seriously the complaint of Tharwai police station entering the house without any FIR, search or arrest warrant and arresting advocate's son Sanjay, snatching money and gold chain and Additional Chief Permanent Advocate Arvind Singh has sought

information whether the police station received the complaint of the petitioner's son. If received, then submit the complaint letter. Also, whether the investigation was completed on the basis of the letter written to DCP Gangapar of DCP Prayagraj on 29 May or not. The investigation report should also be presented. Also tell what is the disputed place and

Complaint

The court asked for complete information from the government lawyer

with what authority did the police enter the petitioner's house. The next hearing of the petition will be on 19 September. The court clearly said that if the

complete information sought is not given then the court will consider summoning the Police Commissioner. This order was given by the division bench of Justice Saral Shrivastava and Justice AK Singh Deswal while hearing the petition of Raj Kumar Singh. Advocate Deepak Kumar Shrivastava argued on the petition. He said that the police entered the

petitioner's house without authority. They did not inform him about any FIR lodged against his son and neither did the police have an arrest or search warrant. The police took cash and gold chain and threatened him. The son was arrested and taken to the police station. A complaint was made to the police administration. The High Court has been approached as no action

was taken. The petitioner's advocate said that on the neighbour's complaint, the police misbehaved with the petitioner's family and interfered illegally. The court had sought information. The government informed that an inquiry has been ordered into the petitioner's son's complaint. The court has sought full information as further information was not provided.

Appeal filed against SC-ST Special Court's sentence of five years imprisonment and 41 thousand rupees fine

Bail granted to 32 accused in 35-year-old caste violence case in Agra

Akhand Bharat Sandesh

Prayagraj. Allahabad High Court has accepted the bail of 32 accused in 35-year-old caste conflict in Agra. Single bench of Justice Shekhar Kumar Yadav has given this order. Court has said that the accused will have to deposit the fine imposed by the trial court within 15 days from the date of release. Advocate Rajiv Lochan Shukla, on behalf of appellant

Jaidev and 31 others, said that they were falsely implicated. Argued that about 27 witnesses have been questioned by the prosecution but there are contradictions in their statements. Which the Sessions Court did not consider. Most of the appellants are above 65 years of age and are suffering from various diseases. The lower court misread the evidence and convicted the appellants. However, the prosecution also failed to

prove the case beyond reasonable doubt. The court was told that the appellants were on bail during the trial and did not misuse the liberty at any stage. All are in jail since May 28, 2025. There is no possibility of early hearing of the appeal in future, hence eligible to be released on bail till the appeal is pending. The court said that appellant number 21 Devi Singh has been released on short-term bail by order dated August 4, 2025. Devi

Singh, about 95 years old, is admitted in the jail hospital in Agra. The court said, keeping in mind that the final disposal of the appeal may take some time, the appellants should be released on bail without making any comment on the merits of the case. **This was the case:** After the conflict in village Panwari of Sikandra on June 21, 1990, there was also a caste conflict in Akola village of Kagarol on June 24, 1990. The

mob attacked the Jatav colony. On May 30 this year, the SC-ST court sentenced 32 accused to five years of imprisonment and a fine of Rs. 41,000 each. On June 21, 1990, Bharat Singh Karmad's sister Mundra's wedding procession came to village Panwari. In this Jat dominated village, the bullies opposed the wedding procession. The dispute turned into communal violence. Some people also lost their lives. On June 24, 1990, the fire of vio-

lence reached Akola village. Around 1 pm, two hundred to two hundred and fifty people attacked the Jatav colony. The then police station in-charge Kagarol Ompal Singh registered the case. On June 4, 1991, a charge sheet was filed in the court. 79 people were made accused in it. After the decision of the SC-ST court, the regional MLA Choudhary Babulal filed a bail petition in the High Court.

Girl jumped from Shastri Bridge, divers engaged in searching

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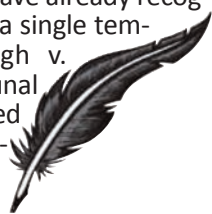
Jhansi: Late on Tuesday evening, a girl jumped into the deep waters of Ganga from Shastri Bridge of the local police station area. Police reached after getting the information and searched for her with the help of water police and divers but she could not be found. She was swept away due to strong current. Late on Tuesday evening, a girl jumped into the deep waters of Ganga from Shastri Bridge. According to the family members, she was suffering from mental illness for a long time, she was undergoing treatment. On Tuesday

morning, she left home and did not return till evening. Her search began. Meanwhile, she called her brother-in-law and informed him that she is on Shastri Bridge and she is going to jump into Ganga to end her life. On getting this information, brother-in-law and family members hurriedly reached Shastri Bridge. When the girl saw the family members, she jumped into Ganga from the bridge without wasting any time. The family members informed 112 about this. The police reached the spot and searched for her with the help of water police and divers but could not find anything.

Editorial

Tax terror and India's same-sex couples

When a homemaker and a lawyer went to the Bombay High Court this month, they were not asking for the right to marry; they were asking for the right not to be taxed for giving gifts to each other. In their petition, they argued that Section 56(2)(x) of the Income Tax Act exempts gifts between spouses from tax, but does not extend that exemption to same-sex couples since the law does not recognise them as spouses. In their case, the absence of marriage recognition meant the presence of a tax bill. It is a reminder that even without entering the debate on marriage equality, the law is already punishing same-sex couples in small and large ways that are rarely discussed. This tax case is not an isolated problem. It is one of the many points in a web of laws where the word 'spouse' decides who is entitled and who is excluded. Inheritance laws under the Hindu Succession Act, 1956 or the Indian Succession Act, 1925 give priority to a legally recognised spouse, leaving partners as legal strangers. Many states also offer concessional stamp duty for property transfers between spouses, but same-sex couples pay the higher rate because they cannot produce a marriage certificate. In practice, it can mean paying significantly more for the same transaction. These gaps are not just about money; they appear in moments of crisis. Research on discrimination in Indian hospitals has shown that queer people are often denied recognition of their chosen partners as next of kin. In emergencies, this can mean being refused entry to an intensive care unit (ICU) or being blocked from giving consent for urgent treatment. The Surrogacy (Regulation) Act of 2021 and the Assisted Reproductive Technology (Regulation) Act, 2021 go further, excluding same-sex couples from surrogacy and restricting adoption to single individuals or married heterosexual couples. In effect, the laws treat them as incapable of raising a child together, no matter their stability or commitment. Employment rules reinforce the same pattern. In government service, Leave Travel Concession (LTC), medical reimbursement, and family pension benefits are tied to a recognised spouse. Private companies may choose to extend coverage, but the default language in most HR manuals mirrors the government's. Studies of India's insurance sector show that traditional group health insurance schemes frequently exclude same-sex partners, and even where some progressive companies extend coverage, it is not guaranteed by law. The Employees' Provident Fund allows broader nominations, but pension rules under the Employees' Pension Scheme, 1995 limit eligibility to spouses or children. Even when a company accepts a same-sex partner as a nominee, it is a discretionary gesture, not a right protected by law. Immigration policy adds another layer of instability. A foreign national married to an Indian citizen can apply for a dependent visa or be registered as an Overseas Citizen of India, but same-sex partners cannot. They rely on tourist or business visas that require regular renewals, creating a constant risk of separation if paperwork lapses or rules change. These are invisible forms of insecurity that heterosexual couples rarely have to confront. The lack of recognition also weakens legal protections when relationships end. The Protection of Women from Domestic Violence Act, 2005, while covering women in domestic relationships, leaves uncertainty about its application to same-sex couples. Maintenance and alimony provisions in personal laws and the Criminal Procedure Code apply to spouses, shutting out partners who may have been financially dependent for years. Without these remedies, breakups can mean abrupt eviction, loss of shared assets, and no legal recourse. India's own courts have already recognised that families do not fit a single template. In the *Deepika Singh v. Central Administrative Tribunal* judgment, the court observed that such atypical manifestations of the family unit.



GST reform is pointless if it doesn't simplify tax slabs

No single power—be it the United States, China, Russia, Iran, or India—can fundamentally change the reality of Balochistan or the lives of its inhabitants on either side of the border. Borders always divide; they are never as “organic” or as “natural” as we imagine them. Balochistan remains a complex geographical and ethnographic conundrum. In Interviews I have conducted with Baloch human rights activists, a stark reality often emerges: the people are not regarded as citizens, and their lives are not valued. This is not merely a humanitarian crisis—it is a strategic condition. For security analysts,

mastering the terrain is half the battle—after all, geopolitics is quite literally the politics of geography. The shared challenge facing India, China, Pakistan, and Iran is that, contrary to the neat abstractions of the nation-state, their borders stretch into regions better described as frontiers—zones of transition rather than lines of separation. These areas are dynamic, expansive, and marked by extreme poverty and shifting norms. The issue is not the rule of law, but the absence of it. This civilisational challenge defines Balochistan, as it does Kurdistan and, for decades, Afghanistan. How India engages with this liminal-

ity carries strategic consequences. Baloch militancy can be broadly divided into two ideological currents: First, the Baloch Liberation Army (BLA), a secular ethnonationalist insurgency opposing both Pakistan and China, echoes the outlook of the People's Defense Units (YPG) in Syria. Second, Jaysh al-Adl (Army of Justice), a Sunni-Jihadi group operating from the Iranian side of the border and a successor to Jundallah, resembles Al-Nusra Front in its tactics and ideology. Despite their ideological differences, both the BLA and Jaysh al-Adl groups engage in similar tactical operations.

Across Balochistan, irregular forces compete with Pakistani and Iranian security services for control over territory, populations, smuggling routes, and revenue. Control remains fluid. The US designation of the BLA as a Foreign Terrorist Organization (FTO) ostensibly responds to attack patterns. Yet, the focus on secular insurgents rather than jihadist actors creates a paradox—especially given the tactical symmetry across the border—emerging from overlapping identities, pulls and pressures. Baloch groups are held together by tribal, kinship, religious, and paramilitary networks.

Bihar is a state of opportunities, not challenges. Land record portal to water atlas



As the Minister of Revenue and Land Reforms in Bihar, I am honoured to lead a department that forms the bedrock of our state's socio-economic framework under the dynamic leadership of Chief Minister Nitish Kumar and the visionary guidance of Prime Minister Narendra Modi. Land is not merely an asset in Bihar; it is the foundation of livelihoods, heritage, and progress. Since assuming this role in February 2025, my team and I, in alignment with the state government's commitment to transformative governance, have prioritised reforms to modernise the land management system. These initiatives, rooted in digital innovation and citizen-centric policies, aim to eliminate inefficiencies, reduce disputes, and empower millions with secure property rights. They resonate with PM Modi's ambitious vision for a Viksit Bharat by 2047 and Nitish Kumar's relentless pursuit of a prosperous, inclusive Bihar. In this article, I highlight our key achievements, their impacts, and how they contribute to the shared vision of a developed India. PM Modi's Viksit Bharat 2047 vision, articulated in his historic 103-minute Independence Day speech on 15 August 2025 from the Red Fort, envisions India as a \$35 trillion economy by its centennial independence, leading globally in technology, defence, and inclusivity. He urged every institution and individual to work toward this goal, emphasising self-reliance (Atmanirbhar Bharat), innovation, and citizen empowerment. In Bihar,

Nitish Kumar's government has embraced this vision, driving policies that blend technological advancement with grassroots development. His leadership has been instrumental in transforming Bihar from a state of challenges to one of opportunities, with land and water reforms serving as critical pillars. Our initiatives in the Revenue and Land Reforms Department align seamlessly with PM Modi's call for a developed India and Nitish Kumar's focus on equitable growth, ensuring Bihar contributes significantly to the Viksit Bharat mission. Under the state government's digital-first approach, championed by Nitish Kumar, we have accelerated the Bihar Bhumi portal, a flagship platform that reflects PM Modi's Digital India vision and Bihar's commitment to ease of living. This portal enables landowners to access, verify, and update records remotely, streamlining processes like mutation and ownership verification. In February 2025, we extended the self-declaration window for plot details until February 2026, allowing citizens to provide their ownership details, plot numbers and areas to update Khatian

(record of rights) and online land record. This has allowed the processing of thousands of applications while reducing corruption and backlog, mirroring the state government's focus on transparency and PM Modi's success with national schemes like Direct Benefit Transfer (DBT). Bihar's pioneering Integrated Land Record Management System with Spatial Mutation portal, the first in India to automatically update land maps with property transactions, enhances transparency and reduces disputes, contributing to the Viksit Bharat goal of efficient governance. A statewide toll free helpline — 18003456215 — for land related issues has also been launched, facilitating information and complaint redressal and bringing government close to masses. The Rajaswa Maha Abhiyan, launched on 16 August and running until 20 September, is a testament to Nitish Kumar's emphasis on grassroots governance. This door-to-door campaign, which has seen the distribution of over 23 lakh Jamabandi (land register) copies and correction forms so far, leverages GIS mapping and drone surveys for precision. Panchayat-level camps

with laptops ensure real-time data entry, making services accessible in remote areas and embodying PM Modi's last-mile connectivity ethos and Bihar's inclusive development model. Integrated with the Bihar Bhumi portal, the campaign allows citizens to track applications, fostering trust and participation, which are the key tenets of both Viksit Bharat and Nitish Kumar's citizen-led governance. To amplify outreach, we engaged PR professionals to leverage social media platforms like X and Meta aligning with PM Modi's innovative communication strategies and Nitish Kumar's focus on public engagement. This has educated Biharis on land rights, driving transparency and participation, much like the state's successful awareness campaigns for schemes like Saat Nishchay. On 7 May this year, Bihar, under Nitish Kumar's visionary Jal-Jeevan-Hariyali Mission, became the first Indian state to launch the Gazetteer-cum-Atlas of Water Bodies, mapping over 550 rivers, 4,500 wetlands, and 1.06 lakh ponds with Unique Identification Numbers (UIDs). This initiative, inspired by water body depletion in Darbhanga, supports PM Modi's Jal Jeevan Mission and Viksit Bharat's sustainability goals, as well as Nitish Kumar's environmental agenda. Enriched with historical, socio-economic, and environmental data, the atlas aids anti-encroachment efforts, plans new ponds in water-scarce areas, and strengthens water conservation.

It aligns with PM Modi's praise for the Jal

Jeevan Mission's success in providing tap water to about 15.7 crore rural households and Nitish Kumar's focus on sustainable rural development, positioning Bihar as a model for water resource management. Beyond digitalisation, the state government has prioritised structural reforms to support PM Modi's vision of a streamlined, self-reliant governance framework and Nitish Kumar's goal of administrative efficiency. The Bihar Amin Cadre Rules, 2025, enforced in August, reorganise amins' cadres with seniority lists and performance-based promotions, ensuring a skilled workforce for land surveys. This supports the statewide survey, extended to December 2026, covering 661 villages with GPS and drone technology to update cadastral maps and resolve disputes. These efforts echo PM Modi's push for institutional reforms, as seen in his Task Force for Next-Generation Economic Reforms, and Nitish Kumar's focus on disciplined governance. Our district-wise ranking system, introduced in April 2025, evaluates performance on mutation efficiency and revenue collection, with Sheikhpura leading the state. This fosters competition and efficiency, aligning with PM Modi's call for accountability and Nitish Kumar's emphasis on performance-driven administration. We have also addressed disruptions like the recent survey workers' strike, reflecting the state government's resolve for uninterrupted progress, a principle shared with Viksit Bharat.

India-China ties — improvement signs are loud, problems sliding under the radar

External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar recently warned journalists against linking present trends in India-China relations with India's more recent frustrations vis-à-vis the US. There is a strong degree of truth in this warning. Contrary to the prevailing analysis that Trump has induced India and China to improve and repair ties, the bilateral relationship has shown little to no sign of improvement and arguably has even deteriorated under the calmer surface. Let me explain. At present, the quantum of trends as well as indications of 'improved' ties in the bilateral relationship can be divided into four categories. First, a return to diplomatic and economic 'normalcy' such as the resumption of flights, religious pilgrimages and border trade. Second, increasing talk of economic convergence amid a gradual return of Chinese investments. Third, growing peace and tranquillity at the border. And finally, strategic/geopolitical convergences in the age of

Trump. Across all these four domains, 'improvement signs' are loud but misleading or chimeral, while 'deteriorating' trends are getting more entrenched under the radar. This entails signs such as resumption (or planned resumption) of direct flights, exchange of journalists, enhanced people-to-people ties, issuing of visas for businesspersons, resumption of border trade and the sharing of hydrological data. The drip-feed of small but persistent and incremental news pertaining to these developments shapes and reinforces the idea that ties are improving over time. However, this is based on a false causal theory. The two countries are aiming to reinstate exchanges and processes that were the norm until 2019. However, no one was ever of the view back in 2019 that relations were positive and improving because such exchanges existed. In other words, the resumption of these processes says very little about real improvement in ties.

India must move Japan from 'old friend' trap to real partners

After months of diplomatic turbulence, Prime Minister Narendra Modi is finally embarking on a bilateral visit that matters. It's not Washington, not Moscow, not Beijing, but Tokyo. Japan has always been a natural partner for India. It's a relationship anchored in shared democratic values, economic complementarities, and maritime imperatives. Yet despite this “naturalness”, India-Japan ties have rarely lived up to their potential. This visit, the first by an Indian Prime Minister in seven years, comes at a moment of strategic fluidity: after a heartbreak with the United States, a misconstrued reset with China, and an even more misconstrued rebound with Russia. Against this backdrop, turning to Japan is not only timely but necessary. The timing itself is deliberate. The visit pre-empted India's participation in the Shanghai Cooperation Organisation (SCO), a grouping increasingly dominated by China, backed by Russia, and including Pakistan, which is ever more entangled in Beijing's orbit. If India is to remain relevant in this shifting regional balance—and beyond—anchoring its partnership with Japan provides an indispensable

counterweight. The India-Japan story is often told with nostalgia. Conferences, policy papers, and panel discussions frequently dwell on the sentimental—the Azad Hind Fauj, the elephant gifted to Japan, or Rabindranath Tagore's exchanges with Japanese thinkers. Even in more contemporary discussions, Shinzo Abe's landmark “Confluence of the Two Seas” speech in 2007 often dominates, credited with inspiring the vision of a free and open Indo-Pacific and, eventually, the Quad. These legacies are important, but excessive reliance on them has created a trap. When a partnership is framed primarily through the lens of “past goodness”, it risks obscuring the urgency of present opportunities. Too much of India-Japan engagement has either been anchored in historical frameworks or subordinated to the Quad, leaving bilateral possibilities underexplored. For a relationship described as “natural”, its underperformance in tangible outcomes is striking. India and Japan's partnership has underdelivered because New Delhi has played it too safe. For one, it has not kept pace with Tokyo's transformation into a more assertive security actor,

leaving defence technology cooperation underexploited and co-development opportunities on the table. Trade too has been disappointing—stuck around \$22 billion despite decades of Japanese investment. Japan's vast development footprint in South Asia through the Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA) has barely been woven into India's regional playbook. Most importantly, India still clings to a narrow view of security, ignoring Japan's sharper recognition that the Euro-Atlantic and Indo-Pacific are now inseparably linked. By staying cautious instead of ambitious, India has allowed a “natural partnership” to remain underwhelming, missing the chance to shape the regional order alongside one of its most reliable allies. To be sure, there are visible positives with the latest visit. Japan is expected to invest around \$68 billion in India's semiconductor and other tech sectors, part of its strategy to diversify away from China. For decades, Japan's overseas development assistance (ODA) was its primary foreign policy tool, compensating for constitutional restrictions on military engagement. I

CBSE-AIIMS Delhi launch MATE teacher and counselor training

Delhi : Project MATE Training was launched by the Central Board of Secondary Education and AIIMS Delhi. The offline program trains CBSE school counselors and wellness teachers. Training will go from August 26–30, 2025. The pioneering teenage wellness program MATE, developed by AIIMS Delhi, aims to improve resilience, teach pupils coping skills, and foster meaningful peer connections through "MATE-5." CBSE's announcement adds, "Psychiatry, psychology, and communication professionals will guide the 26-30 August 2025 training program.

The initiative initially features 50 CBSE-affiliated Delhi-NCR school counselors." The biopsychosocial model of health, anxiety-coping skills, parental sensitization, impact assessment tools, and positive peer support systems will be covered in five



days of workshops for school counselors and wellness teachers. It will assist children develop emotional resilience, conflict resolution, digital well-being, and social connectedness while destigmatizing mental health in the school ecosystem." Project MATE gives school counselors and educators the skills to intervene constructively, according to CBSE Chair Rahul Singh, IAS. The press statement described the effort as part of AIIMS & CBSE's mission for comprehensive child development and future-ready education.

Hindu University establishes public policy institute

Delhi: Hindu College at Delhi University has set itself apart from other Indian universities by creating a public policy lab. Officials have stated that the goal is to include real-world policymaking into both undergraduate and graduate programs. With the goal of democratizing and decentralizing the process of knowledge generation, the lab is designed to serve as a hub for policy simulations, applied research, and field-based insights. This will bring

Sift Kaur completes a hat trick in the Asian Championships in the rifle event

Delhi : At the Asian Shooting Championships, Olympian Sift Kaur Samra achieved history for India by winning gold in the solo women's 50m rifle three positions event and also contributing to the team triumph. In the final, world record holder Samra shot 459.2 to defeat Yang Yujie of China. Samra, veteran Anjum Moudgil, and Ashi Chouksey finished in first, second, and third place, respectively, with 1753 points. Samra achieved a new level of performance in the Asian Championships, winning her fourth gold medal overall. Her 589



was good enough to qualify her for the eight-shooter final, where she placed first. Since she was playing for "Ranking Points Only," another Indian, Shriyanka Sadandi, who had topped the qualification round, was unable to participate in the final. Competition for medals is not open to RPO shooters. Both the

kneeling and prone postures yielded scores of 151.0 and 156.2 for Samra, respectively. She dominated the standing-elimination round and maintained her lead until the very end, even though her Chinese opponent mounted a late comeback and ultimately finished fourth, trailing the Indian by only 0.4 points.

Assess UV technology in sewage treatment, NGT directs IIT Delhi

Delhi : National Green Tribunal (NGT) asked IIT Delhi to examine the effectiveness of UV technology in sewage treatment and directed the DPCC to take punitive action against 14 STPs, which, as per a report, failed to meet the standards.

A tribunal

bench, headed by NGT chairperson Justice Prakash Shrivastava, in an order took notice of a report by Delhi Jal Board (DJB).

The report stated that of 37 STPs in the city, seven were yet to be installed with a disinfection system, four had not installed any sys-

tem, while among others, 15 had deployed UV and 11 had chlorination-based disinfection systems to treat bacteria in sewage before discharging the treated water into drains. For those yet to be installed, the process was initiated or tenders awarded.

NCERT Unit Assigns Partition Blame to Congress, Jinnah, and Mountbatten

Delhi : In a special module published by the National Council of Educational Research and Training (NCERT), which implicates the Congress, Md Ali Jinnah, and Louis Mountbatten in the Partition, the Congress has voiced its strong disapproval in New Delhi. Separate editions have been created for Classes 9-12 and Classes 6-8 to commemorate the Partition Horrors. Remembrance Day. Partition was not the brain-child of a single person, but rather three entities, as stated in the module: "Jinnah, who had been propagating the partition; the Congress, which accepted the partition; and Mountbatten, who had been sent to implement the partition."Another point made is that Kashmir became a new national security concern after Partition: "Since then, one of our neighbouring countries has been using this problem to put pressure on India in different ways."Due to its dishonesty, Congress spokesperson Pawan Khera has requested that the module be burned. He claims that the Muslim League and the Hindu Mahasabha were involved in the Partition. Muhammad Ali Jinnah asserted in the 1940 Lahore Resolution that Hindus and Muslims were "two different villages, philosophy, social customs, and literature." This paper alludes to the resolution.

Colleges are advised by DU to adhere to the notified syllabi

Delhi: College administrators are being instructed by Delhi University to adhere strictly to the registered syllabi, following the university's contentious removal of Manusmriti from the Sanskrit curriculum. The university was made aware of "several instances where the colleges have taught either the wrong courses or unapproved or unnotified syllabi of courses to students due to which students are put at unnecessary inconveniences" in the communication from the registrar about the university.

Congress's Gaurav writes to BCCI over India-Pak Asia Cup match

Delhi : In a letter to the Board of Control for Cricket in India (BCCI), Gaurav Gogoi, the deputy leader of the Congress party in the Lok Sabha, expressed his disapproval of the India-Pakistan cricket match in the forthcoming Asia Cup 2025 in the United Arab Emirates. The match in Dubai is set to take place on September 14th, during the group round. Going off the current bilateral situation, Gogoi stated that playing cricket with Pakistan would be "contrary to the national interest" in light of the recent Pahalgam terror assault in Jammu and Kashmir, which killed 26 lives on April 22.

He wrote to the secretary of the BCCI, Devajit Saikia, saying, "While cricket has always been a sport that brings joy



among people, in the context of current India and Pakistan relations, such engagements should not be prioritised over national interest.

He brought attention to "cross-border tensions still persist and we all are aware of the sacrifices of our armed forces," and he noted "in such

circumstances, playing bilateral cricket with Pakistan appears contrary to the national interest."Gogoi demanded that the BCCI "clearly stand" and refrain from dealing with Pakistan "until conditions are favourable and conducive to the nation's interest."

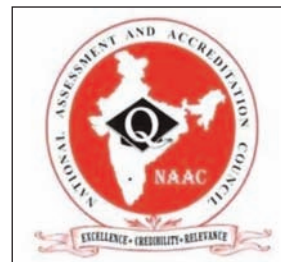
Companies in the electronics industry are the most welcoming to LGBTQIA+ apprentices.

Delhi : A whopping 71% of businesses in the electronics sector have shown a great desire to hire LGBTQIA+ apprentices, making it one of the most welcoming sectors for this demographic. Overall, 64 percent of Indian companies are welcoming of LGBTQIA+ apprentices, so this is just one more example of a larger trend. The January–March TeamLease Degree Apprenticeship Outlook Report emphasizes this change. The majority of electronics and telecom firms (71%) are eager to hire LGBTQIA+ apprentices.

NAAC adopts e-inspections for new accreditation

Delhi: To eradicate corruption and speed up accreditation, the National Assessment and Accreditation Council (NAAC) has stopped physical college inspections.

Accreditation teams will now perform evaluations exclusively online, replacing on-cams visits with virtual examinations. But for colleges, the changeover will be hybrid; most inspections will be remote, but some reviewers will still visit campuses to retain some monitoring. The decision follows the CBI's recent arrests in the



case involving Andhra Pradesh's Koneru Lakshmaiah Education Foundation (KLEF), where management reportedly bribed NAAC peer visit inspectors for good ratings. "We chose to do whatever it takes to eliminate corruption. Stopping in-person visits will greatly reduce the issue," stated NAAC executive

committee head Prof Anil Sahasrabudhe. "With so many weekly inspection visits, it was hard to track what happened. Now, all this is recorded."NAAC head Ganesan Kannabiran hailed the switch to online inspection a "surgical strike" against corruption. The latest CBI lawsuit challenged NAAC's peer review system. He remarked, "These are unwelcome in higher education, and NAAC, a quality assurance agency, is committed to eradicating them."The K Radhakrishnan

ED unearths NRI quota admission racket in private medical colleges

Delhi : A large-scale NRI admission racket was uncovered in an investigation by the Enforcement Directorate (ED), with the help of the Ministry of External Affairs (MEA) and its embassies and foreign missions. The racket involved private medical colleges offering admissions on approximately 18,000 reserved MBBS undergraduate and postgraduate seats under the quota, but applicants had to use fake documents. It has been confirmed by India's diplomatic missions abroad that the NRI credentials that were confiscated by the Enforcement Directorate (ED) from many private medical colleges and utilized to provide admissions were fraudulent. Additionally, these admissions were accompanied by counterfeit stamps issued



by US-based notaries. Over the past few months, the ED has seized vital evidence through raids at multiple medical colleges in Odisha and West Bengal. The confiscated NRI certificates were thereafter transferred to Indian missions and embassies for verification by the agency. It was discovered that the majority of them were counterfeit. These medical schools were paying middlemen to get false NRI paperwork made, according to the investigation.

DU teachers raise issues of unoccupied reserved seats

Delhi: Teachers from Delhi University brought up issues with professor recruitment in front of a Parliamentary Committee, claiming that the SC/ST populations were marginalized on a systematic level. Committee on the Welfare of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes. They paid a visit to DU and had in-depth interviews with eighty people, including faculty, stu-

HC issues notice from pushing EWS students to buy non-NCERT books

Delhi : The Delhi High Court issued notice in a plea to stop private unaided schools from forcing economically disadvantaged students (EWS) and disadvantaged groups (DG) to acquire expensive private-publisher books and unnecessary educational material. In Jasmit Singh Sahni's plea, chief justice DK Upadhyay and justice Tushar Rao Gedela asked the Delhi government, CBSE, and NCERT to respond and scheduled the next hearing for November 12. Notify. Give responders four weeks to respond. List on November 12," the court ordered. The petition comes days after the Council of Ministers approved the Directorate



Education's (DoE) request to switch from in-kind school uniforms to Direct Benefit Transfer financial assistance on May 10. The 2025-26 academic year will see the change due to "operational difficulties" in directly supplying uniforms. On June 10, updated prices were announced, with pupils in grades 1-5 receiving 1,250, 6-8 receiving 1,500, and 9-12 receiving 1,700.

It will apply to government and aided school pupils and EWS and DG students in private schools under the RTE and freeship quota. Advocate Amit Prasad argued that private schools, despite mandates for inclusive and equitable education using NCERT books, force students to purchase expensive books and kits costing over 10,000 per child annually.

Pradhan urges IIT students to lead innovation journey in India



Delhi : Following Prime Minister Narendra Modi's Independence Day message of national independence, Education Minister Dharmendra Pradhan urged students at the Indian Institute of Technology (IIT) in Delhi to spearhead the country's innovation drive towards "Atmanirbhar Bharat." During his time interacting with the institute's undergraduates, graduate students, and doctorate researchers, Pradhan spoke about the "unique opportunity" to advance national priorities and realize the goal of a Samridhh Bharat by 2047.

In an address to the student body, he said, "keep hustling until we achieve self-reliance in every sphere" and promised that the government will back their efforts to turn their theories into practical, internationally applicable solutions. "Our youth's talent, determination, and self-reliance will empower Bharat's capabilities and strengthen her technological and economic sovereignty," the minister stated, stating that the IITs are the "bedrock" of this goal. To cement India's position as a world leader in technology, he emphasized the importance of the country's innovators and researchers.

The NGT has rejected DJB's plan to redirect sewage to DSTPs

Delhi : The NGT has ruled against the Delhi Jal Board's (DJB) plan to link 43 stormwater drains that empty into the Barapullah drain to DSTPs, describing it as a "temporary solution" that won't solve the underlying problem of pollution. A court led by Justice Prakash Shrivastava issued an order directing various authorities, including the DJB and the Delhi government, to develop a long-term strategy to stop sewage from going into stormwater drains. These stormwater drains are not suitable for sewage flow. While tapping and redirecting the drains to the DSTP might work as a stopgap solution, it will eventually lead to overflowing when it rains because the stormwater drains won't be able to handle as much water. Because these DSTPs are susceptible to flooding after rainstorms, the bench noted that untreated sewage will once again reach the water supply. These instructions were given during a hearing on various petitions,



MCD sub-committee, RWAs to jointly decide stray dog feeding spots

Delhi : Officials from the Subcommittee on Community Dogs of the Municipal Corporation of Delhi (MCD) have determined that Sanitary Inspectors in each zone will collaborate with Residents Welfare Associations (RWAs) to find specific areas where stray dogs can be fed. This comes after a

one of which was from the Nizamuddin West RWA, which was requesting immediate action to stop the inflow of sewage. The petitioners contended

change in the Supreme Court's stance on stray dogs; in that case, the court ordered that sterilization and vaccination might lead to the release of non-aggressive dogs, but it also prohibited public feeding and mandated the MCD provide specific areas where dogs could be fed.

that waterlogging had already occurred in significant portions of South Delhi due to the non-desilting of drains during the monsoon.

Delhi : A new study by the International Council for Clean Transportation (ICCT) suggests that India could soon become the global leader in electric bus production and deployment. This could be due to the Centre's PM E-Drive initiative, which seeks to electrify 40 national highways and set up dependable intercity e-bus routes spanning 250-350 km. Policymakers, industry leaders, and international experts gathered for the third day of the two-day summit, which was organized by ICCT with Norway as the partner country and supported by the Union



minister of heavy industries. Electric vehicle (EV) manufacture, component production, and the shift to EV batteries could provide millions of employment opportunities and entice investment from around the world, according to the study's launcher, Amitabh Kant, a former

G20 sherpa from India. Up to one million buses could be procured through the scaling up of e-bus bids. He emphasized that the heavy industries and road transport ministries should work together to spearhead the change.

Trans-Yamuna Area, Gandhi Nagar Mkt To Be Developed

Delhi : Chief minister Rekha Guptamade her first public appearance since the attack on her, saying that the trans-Yamuna area will be brought to the forefront of the city's growth. She made these remarks at Vastrika-2025, held in the Ashok Bazaar of Gandhi



Nagar, Asia's largest ready-made garments market. Gupta said she will allocate the requisite budget

for the development of the region - derisively called Yamunapaar and that she will strive to take Gandhi Nagar's garment market to the international stage. She also announced Gandhi Nagar MLA Arvinder Singh Lovely as the chairman of the Yamuna Paar Vikas Board.

Vehicle Renewal Fee for Vehicles Over 20 Years Old Raised to Rs 10,000 by Government

Delhi : To discourage the retention of vehicles older than 20 years, the transport ministry has increased the registration renewal charge. A notice from the Ministry of Road Transport & Highways (MoRTH) states that the renewal charge for LMVs older than 20 years is now Rs 10,000, up from Rs 5,000. A motorcycle's renewal charge would increase from 1,000 to 2,000 rupees as stated in the notice, if the bike is more than 20 years old. The renewal cost for three-wheelers and quadricycles will go up from 3,500 to 5,000 rupees. The renewal of the registration certificate for imported two- or three-



wheelers would cost Rs 20,000, while imported vehicles with four or more wheels will incur a fee of Rs 80,000. The revision was finalized on August 21 after being released in February as a draft. The ministry raised the price of registering and renewing vehicles, motor-

bikes, and tricycles in October 2021. The owners of diesel vehicles older than 10 years and petrol vehicles older than 15 years in Delhi-National Capital Region were recently directed not to be subjected to coercive action by the Supreme Court.

DJB proposes new groundwater contamination rules

Delhi : Jal Board (DJB) submitted an affidavit to NGT on rainwater harvesting pit groundwater contamination. Among other ideas, the board suggested banning stormwater drain collection systems. DJB claimed that a joint committee expert meeting was convened on July 31, 2025, to identify groundwater contamination from RWH structures in Delhi when developing new rules. Separators were needed to prevent the first rain from entering. In 2023, a Dwarka homeowner complained that rainwater collection pits were polluting.

Delhi : Officials said the Delhi government unveiled a 170-crore scheme to turn 15 government Industrial Training Institutes (ITIs) into technology centers with AI, EV, and robotics modules. Manjinder Singh Sirsa, industries minister, said the program will train students for new businesses. Integrating EV, AI, robotics, and green energy modules into the ITI curriculum gives our kids a launchpad to make Delhi and Bharat future-ready. He blamed previous governments for postponing central welfare



projects and claimed these enhanced ITIs will teach students 21st-century skills so they can create jobs. DTTE, led by education minister Ashish Sood, will oversee implementation. Three hub institutes—Pusa (Central Delhi), Shahdara (east Delhi), and Mangolpuri (north-west Delhi)—will advise up to four

speaking ITIs on infrastructure enhancements, faculty training, and industry links. "Smart classrooms, simulation labs and blended learning content will be introduced alongside mandatory internships and apprenticeship enabled diploma pathways," she stated. Delhi Skill and Entrepreneurship University (DSEU) and Delhi Technological University will shortly provide apprenticeship-linked degrees. "Women and disabled people will get a \$1,000 stipend during quarterly

Govt allows removal of dangerous trees that pose danger to life, infra.

Delhi: The government of Delhi has responded to concerns raised about hazardous trees by publishing a gazette notice that lays out the specific circumstances under which the removal of a tree is an urgent necessity in order to prevent damage to infrastructure, human life, property, or traffic. Anyone can take these measures—individuals, RWAs, land-owning agencies, or concerned agencies—without needing prior clearance, as long as they notify the tree officer within 24 hours and provide proof, such as photographs taken from three different perspectives, of the incident. The order was issued by Lieutenant Governor V K Saxena in June,



and the notification followed suit. The Delhi government issued this directive to tree officers in accordance with its authority under Section 33 of the Delhi Preservation of Trees (DPT) Act, 1994. "No tree shall be cut down, removed, or disposed of without the prior approval of the tree officer," states Section 8 of the DPT Act. "But there's a caveat for situations where a tree is a direct threat to people, property.

The Capital Sees a Surge in Hepatitis Cases During the Monsoon Season

Delhi: On World Hepatitis Day experts warned that hospitals in the Delhi-National Capital Region (NCR) have seen an alarming increase in hepatitis A and E cases since the rainy season has begun. Children, pregnant women, and individuals with liver illness are particularly vulnerable to this seasonal rise, which doctors attribute to unclean water.

Delhi Pollution Control Committee introduces construction environmental compensation SOP

Delhi: Delhi Pollution Control Committee has created a new criterion for assessing environmental compensation on building and demolition projects. The Commission for Air Quality Management's June 5 and July 29 orders asked DPCC and state pollution boards to determine the actual number of violation days before imposing environmental compensation and to consider credible project proponent evidence for a realistic calculation. The commission previously requested Delhi and the Rajasthan, Haryana, and



Uttar Pradesh pollution control boards to standardize environmental compensation rates for norm violations in the region. It said that this was necessary because each state had different fines for the same violation. States have to dou-

ble compensation under the Graded Response Action Plan (GRAP). DPCC authorities will now assess numerous sources of documentation proof to determine project site compliance or closing dates, per the SOP. These include

Roshanara Bagh gardening school opens next month

Delhi: MCD authorities announced that the horticulture department of the Municipal Corporation of Delhi (MCD) has finished its first gardening school at Roshanara Bagh in North Delhi, which will open next month. Besides the high-tech nursery and a new arboretum, the school is in the Mughal-era garden nursery. A senior municipal official said the school's development and furnishings installation are complete. Next month, we'll teach multi-task staff (MTS) who do gardening. They will learn grafting, trimming, landscaping, and seasonal plant care.

inspection reports signed by senior officials, email or registered mail correspondence with CAQM and DPCC, geo-tagged and time-stamped pho-

tos validated by the project proponent, and log-books and invoices checked by authorized in-charges.

Seven sites in Delhi to be developed by PWD as mixed-use complexes

Delhi: Seven sites in the nation's capital have been selected for the massive reconstruction project that the Public Works Department (PWD) is getting ready to launch. According to the government, NBCC Limited has been shown various pieces of land that might be developed into apart-



ments, offices, and commercial spaces in the style of General

Pool Accommodation (GPRA) colonies. Probyn Road, Timarpur, Gulabi Bagh, Sindhora Khurd and Sindhora Kalan, Kalyanvas, Vikas Bhawan-I, and Bahapur are the locations where official documentation pertaining to the project were sighted. The des-

ignated parcels are under PWD's purview and have been forwarded to NBCC in order to facilitate the proposal-writing process. In order to help with the planning stage, NBCC has been given details of the land area, the number of buildings with stories, and the plinth area.

Flipkart Under Investigation for GST Billing Loophole

Delhi : Walmart-owned Flipkart is under a preliminary tax probe for allegedly changing its invoicing processes to lessen its GST tax due. Investigators claimed the corporation disguised seller marketplace fees as "transportation costs" to claim reduced GST rates for small road transport operators. It would lower the company's tax bill. Online marketplace activities like buying, selling, charging vendors commission, listing, and facilitating payments normally incur 18% GST. The article said the Directorate General of Goods and Services Tax Intelligence (DGGI) is investigating Flipkart accusations. Mint said that regulators will submit a show-cause notice for prosecution if they have comprehensive proof against the corporation. A Madras High Court lawyer wrote to Union Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman on Flipkart's invoicing practice. The



Federation of International Trade Investor Gunodaya Association raised the issue in a press statement on August 23, the article said. The Supreme Court of India monopolistic heat hit the company earlier this year. The apex court said the e-commerce giant created market monopolies and worried about smaller businesses' future. Flipkart's apparent use of its dominant position prompted the bench to notify the company's counsel of their monopoly investigation. The investigating Amazon and Flipkart's alleged anti-competitive actions in 2020, including subsidizing some e-retailers.

PM to inaugurate SEMICON India 2025

Delhi : The administration boasted that the fourth edition of SEMICON India 2025, which has grown double the size of last year's edition, will be inaugurated by Prime Minister Narendra Modi on September 2. New Delhi's Yashobhoomi (IICC) will host the gathering from September 2-4, 2025. Singapore, Malaysia, Japan, and South Korea will all have their very own pavilions during SEMICON India. The United States, Malaysia will each host one of six country-specific roundtables. The number of states

In a \$235 million lawsuit against Byju's CEO, QIA

Delhi : Qatar Investment Authority (QIA) subsidiary Qatar Holding has petitioned the Karnataka high court to enforce an arbitral award of \$235 million (Rs 2,060 crore) against Byju Raveendran and Byju's Investments. From Feb 28, 2024, the claim includes 4% annual interest compounded everyday, totaling over \$14 million (Rs 123 crore). The disagreement began in September 2022 when Qatar Holding loaned BIPL \$150 million. Raveendran personally insured the debt to buy 17.8 million Aakash Educational Services shares. The funding terms prohibited the transfer of those shares, but Raveendran trans-



ferred them to another Singapore corporation, breaking the agreement. Qatar Holding wanted \$235 million early payments after repeated failures. Arbitration in was held in March 2024 when BIPL and Raveendran failed to comply. An emergency arbitrator froze assets up to the disputed amount worldwide, which the

Singapore high court confirmed. Finally, on July 14, the panel ordered \$235 million plus interest paid immediately. The enforcement suit seeks recognition of the award as a court judgment and an injunction on transfers and attachment of Raveendran and BIPL's Indian moveable and immovable assets.

The CCI approves Adani's plan to acquire JAL

Delhi : A regulator for fair trade If Adani Group is successful in its effort to acquire debt-ridden Jaiprakash Associates during the current insolvency process, the deal would be sanctioned in principle by CCI.

In a press release, the regulator described the proposed combination as involving the

acquisition of up to 100% of Jaiprakash Associates Ltd (JAL) shares by Adani Enterprises Ltd (AEL), Adani Infrastructure and Developers Pvt Ltd (AIDPL), or another entity within the Adani Group.

The Adani Group's acquisition of JAL has been authorized by the Competition

Commission of India (CCI). The firm in question must obtain the competition watchdog's approval before submitting a resolution plan, as a result of a recent Supreme Court decision pertaining to the interpretation of the Insolvency and Bankruptcy Code (IBC).



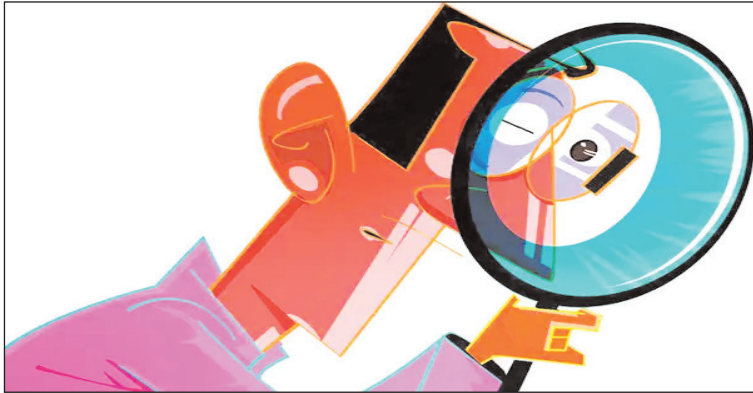
Samsung partners with India R&D for next-gen phone speech AI



Delhi : Samsung is counting on its India research hub to drive a global push toward voice-first AI, putting its engineers at the center of the Galaxy AI ecosystem. At a media roundtable, Samsung R&D Institute India - Bengaluru (SRI-B) representative Mohan Rao said India is one of the company's main AI locations outside Korea. "When it will be voice-first relies on research discoveries. Current research is extensive." Rao stated. "We faced numerous hurdles in making AI models run in the gadget. Native platforms must develop and operate natural language ASRs well. We can then consider voice-only phones." Multiple ecosystem stakeholders say voice will be the main way consumers connect with AI. In an interview, IndiaAI Mission CEO Abhishek Singh said the organization was creating voice-first AI models for Indian languages. Tech companies like Google and OpenAI will favor voice interfaces globally. Voice-first AI could help Samsung's phones stand out from competitors, as it sells its AI directly in consumer hardware.

CAG report criticizes income tax department's arrears

Delhi : The CAG report on Income Tax department performance, tabled in Parliament, raised concerns over non-sharing arrears and outstanding demand data with the audit team. The report (No. 14 of 2024) found that the I-T department failed to furnish information for over 42% of requisitioned instances, restricting audit scope. "The I-T dept did not provide data on cases closed after March 2020, preventing verification of the correctness of the closure of these cases," noted. On March 2021, CAG reported that the I-T outstanding demand, raised but not achieved, was Rs 14.41 lakh crore, with Rs 10.58 lakh crore 'under dispute', 73% of the total. "Audit noticed instances of exaggerated tax demands



raised by the I-T dept, such as not allowing credit for taxes already paid by the assessee, levying incorrect interest, and committing mistakes while giving effect to the appeal orders," the CAG said. The report also found that nullified demands remained in outstanding demand, and the delay in implementing appeal orders delayed refunds, result-

ing in the I-T department issuing refunds for the inflated demands with interest and harassing assessee. Audit found incorrect reporting of outstanding demand, failure or delay in recovery of outstanding demand, and systemic issues like lack of granular data, risk scoring technique in setting targets, dossier report non-maintenance.

DGCA approves IndiGo's 6-month extension of agreement with Turkish Airlines

Delhi: The Directorate General of Civil Aviation (DGCA) has approved IndiGo's request to extend its agreement with Turkish Airlines, subject to regulatory conditions, the airline confirmed. Sources confirmed that the extension has been granted for 6 months, till February 28, 2026. The present extension was supposed to expire on August 31. In a statement issued by IndiGo, it said, "We acknowledge the acceptance of IndiGo's request for extension to its wet lease arrangement with Turkish Airlines, subject to conditions laid down by the regulator.

Distributors want bottled water, aerated drinks and GST lowered

Delhi : Before the 56th GST Council meeting next month, a key consumer products distributor association has called for a reconsideration on classifying aerated beverages as "sin" commodities and a reduction in the 18% GST on bottled water. The All India Consumer Products Distributors Federation (AICPDF) said taxing aerated beverages as "sin" goods at 28% with cigarettes and tobacco ignores the fact that over 70% of sales come from small packs of 10-20 drinks, mostly consumed by



low-income groups. These products are in the highest GST slab (28%), plus a 12% compensatory cess. "Listing these with dangerous products like cigarettes and tobacco is unjust and disproportionate. It reduces affordability and demand in a sector that sustains millions of

shopkeepers "AICPDF national president Dhairyaashil H Patil stated. Over 450,000 wholesalers and 13 million are represented by the federation. The federation also claimed lowering GST on bottled water from 18% will increase compliance, affordability.

Suzuki commits to investing Rs 70,000 cr in India

Delhi : While speaking at the e-Vitara launch, Toshihiro Suzuki, President of Global Suzuki, announced that Suzuki will spend Rs 70,000 cr in India over the course of five to six years. According to the head of the manufacturer, the investment would help boost production, introduce new models, and protect the company's position in the world's third-largest automobile market. More than 11 lakh people have found direct employment in the value chain thanks to the Japanese company's investment of more than Rs 1 lakh crore in India. Production of the e-Vitara electric SUV will begin in Gujarat, India, and will go to 100 different nations. Nevertheless, e-Vitara's launch in India has not yet been scheduled. The business plans to



Flight deck of Airbus helicopters to be manufactured by Mahindra

Delhi: An additional supplier for the main fuselage of the H125 helicopter, Mahindra Aerostructures (MASPL) has been given a contract by Airbus Helicopters, which is a boon to the "Make in India" aviation industry. Industrialization is scheduled to commence at the MASPL site in Bengaluru as per the contract, with the first fuselage delivery anticipated for 2027. After MASPL was awarded the contract to manufacture the fuselage of the H130 helicopter in April 2025, this work package was initiated. "This new contract

tories on the 640-acre property, with a total annual capacity of 750,000 units. image.png

Cotton imports were duty-free till year-end

Delhi : The Centre has extended a cotton-import duty exemption until the end of the year to make the domestic garment sector more competitive, especially with the US's 50% tax on Indian exports. The Centre suspended 11% customs charges on raw fibre imports from August 19 until



September 30. The tax break would last until December 31, the finance minister declared.

Srijit Misri, a member of the Apparel Export Promotion Council, praised the decision, saying, "Council chairman Sudhir Sekhri wrote to Prime Minister Narendra Modi requesting a policy initiative to save the sector and livelihoods due to the business environment and US tariffs. This move

is welcome." Tiruppur Exporters Association general secretary and Esstee Exports India Pvt Ltd chairman N Thirukumaran stated the exemption "stabilise the cotton prices in India to be at par with international prices". "The extension has come as a timely relief for the textile industry.

Three Bangladesh-India border land ports to close

Delhi : Though the news of a decrease in the goods and services tax (GST) has brought joy to consumers and businesses alike, it has also created an unusual dilemma for brick-and-mortar and online stores. According to businesses, festive demand, which typically starts with the Ganesh holiday in Maharashtra and Onam in the south, is being subdued while consumers wait for the GST rates to truly decrease, leading to a decline in retail prices. In the days leading up to Dussehra and Diwali, the festive opening is typically a very busy time, so this



is causing us concern. Companies selling automobiles and consumer products, as well as retailers, are sitting on their hands until a decision is made on the ground, due to the news of a GST rate cut and the imminent fall in retail prices. Stores selling white goods, such as televisions, air conditioners, and dishwash-

ers, have the same challenge. Customers are already contacting us in droves to find out when they may expect to see price reductions. According to the CEO of a leading consumer products company, buyers are now saying they will wait for the price cut before taking delivery.

Gangwal sold his 3.1% share in Indigo for more than Rs 7,000 crore.

Delhi : Interglobe Aviation (Indigo) promoter Rakesh Gangwal and the family trust are selling 1.2 crore shares, or 3.1% of the company's equity, for a minimum of Rs 7,028 crore, or \$801 million. 11 Improvements to the Cloud in 2025. The sale's term sheet said that the Indian branches of JP Morgan, Goldman Sachs, and Morgan Stanley are in charge of the block deal, which is set to conclude on Thursday at a floor price of Rs 5,808

per share, which represents a 4% discount to Interglobe Aviation's Tuesday closing. In September 2022, when he and Rahul Bhatia, another co-founder and promoter of the company, resolved their disagreement, Gangwal, one of the founding-promoters of India's leading airline, began selling his stake in the business. This will be Bhatia's eighth round of stake sale in Indigo, according to statistics from 2022.

Privatized entities can employ Aadhar authentication

Delhi : The ministry of electronics and IT (Meity) announced that the Union government has amended the Aadhaar rules to allow private entities to use Aadhaar authentication for service delivery. The amendments aim to give residents "ease of living" and "better access to services". Ministry Notified Aadhaar Authentication for Good Governance (Social Welfare, Innovation, Knowledge) Amendment Rules, 2025, revising 2020 rules. "The amendment allows government and non-government entities to use Aadhaar authentication, promoting trusted transactions for both providers and users," stated the announcement. It stated that the amendment will make non-government e-commerce, travel, tourism, hospitality, and health services easier to use.

The 2020 rules allowed the Centre to



allow Aadhaar authentication only "in the interest of good governance, preventing leakage of public funds, promoting ease of living of residents and enabling better access to services for them" to use digital platforms for good governance, social welfare benefit dissipation prevention, and innovation and knowledge dissemination. The amendments removed "in the interest of good governance, preventing leakage of public funds access to services for them" and added "promoting ease of living of residents and enabling better access to services for them" as the fourth purpose, expanding the reasons for authentication.

Prasanna S, the Supreme Court's advocate-on-record who challenged Aadhaar's constitutionality, called the expansion the "spectre of a surveillance state", "unwarranted" and in violation of the top court's ruling that struck down Section 57 of the Aadhaar Act, 2016 to bar private entities from using authentication services. The 2025 Rules change contradicts the five-judge Supreme Court ruling in Puttaswamy v Union of India (2018). Section 57 of the Aadhaar Act, 2016 prohibiting private entities from employing authentication services was overturned. He claimed this amendment practically re-legislates what was ruled down.

Women own almost 50% of small manufacturing businesses

A survey found that 58% of manufacturing businesses were owned by women in 2023-24, up 4% from the previous year.The Annual Survey of Unincorporated Sector Enterprises (ASUSE) 2023-24 found that 28.1% of workers were women. More than one-third (33.7%) of OAES' workforce is female in OAEs (owned a c c o u n t enterprises). Female-owned businesses rose to 26.2% in 2023-24 from 22.9% in and 9.7% to 14.2% in other services. Female workers comprised 18.5% of recruited workers. Female workers were



most prevalent in manufacturing (46.5%), followed by other services (22.5%) and trade. West Bengal has the most female workers (12.7%), followed by Uttar Pradesh (10.4%) and Maharashtra (9.7%) in ASUSE 2023-24. West Bengal and Maharashtra have the most rural and urban female workers, at 16% and 13%,

respectively. Non-incorporated non-far establishments are not registered under the Companies Act 1956 or the 2013 Act.

Every fourth proprietary establishment in India was owned by a woman. Women run one-third of private businesses in Gujarat, Karnataka, Telangana, and West Bengal.

Health and wealth benefit from flexible work hours

Delhi: The Economic Survey supports allowing manufacturers to average legally capped working hours over three weeks or longer rather than week-by-week. Industry captains want larger hours. It claims that agile regulations will assist management satisfy production

demands and grow."New Labour Laws are an improvement. With flexible legislation and competent implementation, firms may develop and create more jobs. "They protect labor rights and boost wages," it stated. The Survey complained that labor laws like the

Factories Act (1948) limit working hours to 48 per week, whereas other nations "allow these caps to be averaged over multiple days and weeks". It said India's working hour laws impede manufacturers from satisfying demand and competing globally.



Sebi to attract rural investors with MF-life insurance



Delhi: Sebi chief Madhabi Puri Buch stated that the regulator will offer mutual fund schemes with term life insurance. She added the FDA will soon release a combo product consultation paper. Puri Buch said the MF-insurance combo targets investors, particularly rural ones, where SIPs have great potential but low investment values. "We are now proposing to come out with a consultation paper again, to try and include insurance pure and simple vanilla life, term life insurance, along with our mutual funds, which is our main product for financial inclusion, and so that we are able to go, including to people where we have very, very low value SIPs coming from the hinterland, and to be able to offer them a combo product of term life insurance along with the mutual fund investment," said Buch. UTI Mutual Fund offers life insurance and tax savings. This 1971 program has a portfolio value of Rs 5,434 crore in December 2024. Even if existing investors can invest, UTIMF's website revealed no new applications for the schemes.

IT panel to propose TV, print, online media umbrella

Delhi: The Parliamentary panel on communications and information technology, led by BJP lawmaker Nishikant Dubey, will recommend that the Union government form the Media Council of India to regulate print, television, and online media, sources said. A senior panelist suggested an umbrella body because the same content occurs across platforms. You work for a paper. The Press Council of India oversees your newspaper articles. No regulation exists for the identical story in the paper's online edition." There is no central regulator for online material, but two groups regulate print and electronic media. The Press Council of India, a statutory quasi-judicial



autonomous authority established by Parliament, protects press freedom and improves newspaper and news agency standards. Among other major media regulatory reforms, the panel, which addressed fake news extensively will recommend this. In the discussion,

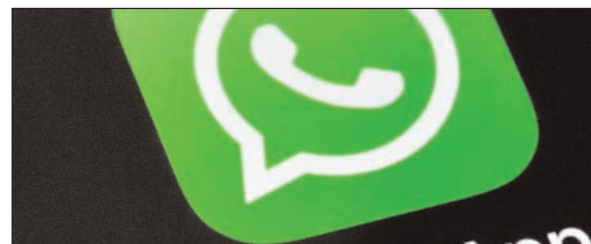
Dubey added, "Paid news is rampant. Illiterate and gullible individuals think alike. Without strict regulations, ethical boundaries are crossed. Investigative journalism is discouraged by expensive and lengthy legal fights for journalists and media corporations.

Foreign insurers gain ownership via 100% FDI

Delhi: 100% FDI will attract new capital, as multinationals can now invest without worrying about control or Indian partners. The capital gains tax rate of 12% applies to ULIP proceeds, which do not benefit from tax exemptions, instead of the higher marginal tax rate of 30%. Crop cover reinsurance is exempt from service tax, and the threshold for tax deduction at source on insurance commission has risen from Rs 15,000 to Rs 20,000. M Nagraju, financial services secretary, said the FDI relaxation was one of the suggested insurance measures, and the modifications would

WhatsApp claims Israeli spyware Paragon targets users

Delhi: After the hack, WhatsApp issued Paragon a cease-and-desist letter. WhatsApp stated it "will continue to protect people's ability to communicate privately." Paragon wouldn't comment. WhatsApp officials reported a hacking attempt on 90 users. A number of civil society and media figures were targeted, although the official did not specify who or where. He said WhatsApp has stopped the hacking and was referring targets to Citizen Lab. Officials would not reveal how they determined



Paragon was responsible for the hack. He claimed law enforcement and industry partners were informed but declined to elaborate. Paragon sells high-end surveillance software to government clients, claiming it is essential to combating crime and defending national security. However, journalists, activists, opposition

politicians, and at least 50 US officials have found surveillance capabilities on their phones, raising fears about the technology's unregulated expansion. Paragon, which was apparently acquired by Florida-based investment group AE Industrial Partners last month, has strived to identify as a responsible industry actor.

Public infrastructure spending rises, but private sector participation falls

Delhi: The 2024-25 Economic Survey delivered to Parliament found that India still struggles with infrastructure development despite government efforts. The union government's capital investment on major infrastructure sectors grew 38.8% from FY20 to FY24, although private sector participation in these areas remained flat. According to the survey, India needs to continue to step up its infrastructure investment. Printed at PRAKASHI OFFSET, Kalyan, Maharashtra. Published by AKHAND BHARAT SANDESH, UPENG04488. The survey also noted that the government's infrastructure spending has increased significantly, but private sector participation has declined. The survey also highlighted the need for more public-private partnerships to boost infrastructure development. The survey also noted that the government's infrastructure spending has increased significantly, but private sector participation has declined. The survey also highlighted the need for more public-private partnerships to boost infrastructure development.



The National Critical Mineral Mission gets 16,300 crore from the cabinet

Delhi : The Union Cabinet, led by Prime Minister Narendra Modi, launched the National Critical Mineral Mission (NCMM) with a 16,300 crore expenditure and a projected 18,000 crore investment from PSUs and other businesses. "Several crucial decisions have created new scientific and technology prospects for our children, future generations, and the economy. Minister told a Cabinet briefing that PM Modi the National Critical Minerals Mission today.

ing dropped to 0.60 lakh crore from 0.66 lakh crore in July-November 2024. Railway network expansion

remained constant at 2,000 kilometers, with 17 Vande Bharat train pairs and 228 carriages added.

Price pressure caps senior citizen health premium hikes at 10%

As medicare policy rates skyrocket for seniors over 60, Irdai has ordered insurers not to raise senior people's health premiums by more than 10% without approval. Before canceling senior health coverage, insurers must get regulator clearance. As healthcare prices rise, insurers are



advised to standardize hospital empanelment and negoti-

ate package rates like the government's PM Jan Arogya Yojana. Irdai reported a large increase in prices for various health insurance policies for subscribers over 60. Premium rates depend on projected claims, administrative expenditures, and acquisition costs, the regulator said. Private

insurance doesn't standardize hospitalization expenses, unlike PMJAY, which negotiates consistent package rates, which drives these rises. Seniors have reported virtually doubling their costs when entering a higher age category during an insurer's pricing change.

Redesigning agri export policies

Delhi: Three sources intimately involved in the process said India's six-year-old Agricultural Export Policy (AEP) will be overhauled as export destinations vary and the country's farm export basket diversifies. The planned study will improve Indian agricultural products' competitiveness, assure global standards compliance, and promote value-added products. The officials quoted above added on condition of anonymity that it will also aim to enhance commercial links with emerging countries while main-



taining strong partnerships with old partners. "Our agricultural exports have grown over the past five years. We must examine the policy to match export targets with market demands. One of the three persons cited above claimed

the agriculture ministry will assist with the review and set a deadline. India was the eighth-largest agricultural exporter in 2023 despite a drop from \$51.12 billion to \$48.77 billion in FY24. Recently, changing global demand pat-

Norms to stop annoying calls and surrogate advertisements next month

Delhi: Thirteen businesses, including significant producers of alcohol, tobacco, and paan masala, have received notifications from the Central Consumer Protection Authority (CCPA) for using surrogate advertising. The dishonest practice of using the

same brand name to promote products that are prohibited from direct advertising is known as "surrogate advertising." Pralhad Joshi, the union minister of consumer affairs, stated that the CCPA is creating regulations to control the issue.

terns, trading partners, and agricultural technology have changed how and where agricultural products are sold. Two newly appointed MPC members have revived the Economic Survey's dis-

cussion on removing food inflation from monetary policy. Q2 GDP growth and November food inflation may have unnerved MPC outsiders.