

# AKHAND BHARAT SANDESH

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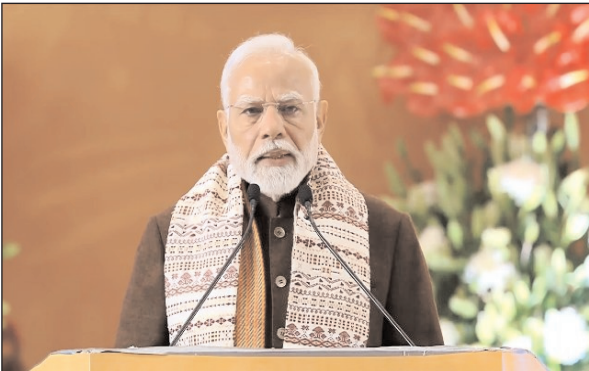
MORNING EDITION PRAYAGRAJ

Saturday, 07 December, 2024

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

## The country and the world will see the potential of the Northeast : PM Modi

**New Delhi Prime Minister** Narendra Modi, while inaugurating the Ashtalakshmi Festival at Bharat Mandapam on Friday, said that today Delhi has become Northeast-oriented. He said that the country and the world will get to see the potential of the Northeast in the three-day festival. The Prime Minister also released a postage stamp dedicated to the festival on this occasion. The three-day cultural festival being celebrated for the first time will continue till December 8. Prime Minister Modi said that there is enthusiasm for investment in the Northeast. In the last decade, we have seen an amazing journey in the development of the Northeast region, but reaching here was not easy. He said that we took every possible step to connect the Northeast with India's development journey. During the government of former Prime Minister



Atal Bihari Vajpayee, a separate ministry was created for the development of the Northeast. During the last decade, we also tried to reduce the gap between Delhi and the heart with the Northeast. He said that Union Ministers have visited the states of the Northeast more than 700 times in the last decade. The Prime Minister said that we are connecting the Northeast with the trinity of emotions, economy and ecology. Modi said, "We have given more budget to the Northeast in the last 10 years than the budget it received from the formulation of the policy for the develop-

ment of the Northeast in the 90s till 2014. In the last decade, more than Rs 5 lakh crore has been spent on the Northeast under just one scheme. This shows the priority of the current government towards the Northeast. Apart from this scheme, we also started special schemes for the Northeast." Targeting the previous governments over vote bank politics, the Prime Minister said, "For a long time we have seen how development was measured by the number of votes. The Northeast had less votes, less seats, so the development .

### How ex-CM Shinde played hardball before taking oath as deputy

**NEW DELHI:** The Mahayuti 2.0 government is finally in office with BJP's Devendra Fadnavis back as Maharashtra chief minister and Shiv Sena chief Eknath Shinde and NCP chief Ajit Pawar as deputy chief ministers. The Mahayuti trio took oath at a glittering ceremony in the presence of Prime Minister Narendra Modi. This marked the end of a 12-day-long political drama that gripped the state despite a sweeping mandate to the ruling coalition. With 230 seats in 288-member Maharashtra assembly, Mahayuti's return to power should have been smooth. But that was not to be. The run up to government formation after results were out on November 23 saw intense drama and hectic lobbying .

## Shivraj Singh Chauhan lashed out at the opposition in Rajya Sabha

**New Delhi Union Agriculture and Farmers Welfare and Rural Development Minister** Shivraj Singh Chauhan on Friday cornered the opposition while answering questions on many topics including MSP on crops and loan waiver of farmers in the Rajya Sabha. During this, Shivraj Singh Chauhan said that Congress refused to give MSP to farmers while in power, while the central government under the leadership of Prime Minister Narendra Modi has been contin-



uously increasing the MSP for the last 10 years. Shivraj Singh said that the central government will continue to buy the produce of farmers at MSP. Our government will fix the MSP by adding more than 50 percent profit on the cost and will also buy

the produce from the farmers. The government under the leadership of Prime Minister Modi is committed to giving beneficial prices to the farmers. He said that in 2015 this ministry was named Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare,

before this there was no connection with farmers' welfare. Farmers' beloved Rajya Sabha Chairman and Vice President Jagdeep Dhankhar has given a new name to Union Agriculture Minister Shivraj Singh Chauhan as "Kisanon Ke Laadle". On Friday, Shivraj Singh Chauhan was answering agriculture related questions during Question Hour in Rajya Sabha. During this, Chairman Dhankhar said that the man who is known in the country as the brother.

## The three-day provincial Ijtema of Tablighi Jamaat started at the Eidgah

**The three-day provincial Ijtema of Tablighi Jamaat** started on Friday after the Fajr prayers at the historic Shahi Eidgah ground located at Rani Jhansi Road in Kasabpura of the national capital. By evening, around 800

Jamaats have reached the Ijtema from Delhi and the surrounding areas of NCR and the process of arrival of the remaining Jamaats is continuing. Tomorrow, more than 200 people are scheduled to perform Nikah at the

Ijtema Gah. This provincial Ijtema of Tablighi Jamaat is organized every year at the Eidgah ground, in which Jamaats from Delhi and its surrounding areas come here. In this Ijtema program which lasts for three days,

Ulemas give religious discourses, talks on Quran and Hadith, solutions to all the problems faced in life in the light of Quran and Hadith, information about all the small things that are useful in Deen and Namaaz etc.

### The first indigenous macrolide antibiotic made in the country, naphithromyci

**New Delhi.** Pharmaceutical company Wockhardt has developed a new antibiotic drug called 'naphithromycin'. This drug is being seen as a strong option to existing antibiotics like azithromycin. It has been made to deal with the increasing level of resistance in humans. The Ministry of Chemicals and Fertilizers gave this information on Friday. The ministry said that antimicrobial resistance has long been a growing global concern. Pharmaceutical companies around the world are trying to develop new drugs to combat it. After three decades of research and hard work, India has paved the way for the manufacture of the country's first indigenous macrolide antibiotic naphithromycin. This remarkable achievement is an important step in the fight against antimicrobial resistance, demonstrating India's growing capabilities in pharmaceutical innovation. India's fight against antimicrobial resistanceAntimicrobial resistance (AMR) occurs when bacteria, viruses, fungi and parasites no longer respond to antimicrobial drugs. Drug resistance results in antibiotics and other antimicrobial drugs becoming ineffective and infections becoming difficult or impossible to treat, increasing the risk of disease spread, severe illness, disability and death. Antimicrobial resistance (AMR) has become a major global health problem, with nearly 6 lakh people losing their lives every year in India due to resistant infections. India is making significant progress in addressing AMR through the development of new drugs. Naphithromycin, developed with funding of Rs 8 crore under the Biotechnology Industry Research Assistance Council Biotech Industry Programme, is an important milestone in this effort, the ministry said in a statement.

## Finance Minister held first pre-budget consultation meeting with economists

**New Delhi: Union Finance and Corporate Affairs Minister** Nirmala Sitharaman has started preparations for the Union Budget for the upcoming financial year 2025-26. For this, she held pre-budget discussions with economists in New Delhi on Friday. The Finance Ministry shared the information about this meeting on 'X' post and said that



Union Finance and Corporate Affairs Minister Nirmala Sitharaman today chaired the first pre-budget consultation meeting with leading economists regarding the Union Budget 2025-26. Union

Minister of State for Finance Pankaj Chaudhary, Finance Secretary, DIPAM Secretary, Secretary of Department of Economic Affairs and Chief Economic Advisor also attended the meeting with the Finance Minister. Among the economists who attended the first pre-budget meeting were Dr. Suresh Babu, Director of Madras Institute.

## Allu Arjun to be booked for tragic stampede at 'Pushpa 2: The Rule' premiere: Report

**'Pushpa 2: The Rule,'** the pan-India movie has been creating headlines right from the word go. After the impressive success of its first part, fans couldn't wait to catch the second installment and thus, from pre-sale to early estimates, the movie broke records everywhere. However, amid this frenzy, a misfortune incident happened in Hyderabad on Wednesday, which left a woman dead.

Reportedly, the headliner of the movie, Telugu superstar Allu Arjun, and the theatre will be booked in the matter, stated Hyderabad Police. On Wednesday, the 'Pushpa 2: The Rule' star Allu Arjun, from famous music composer Devi Sri Prasad made a surprise visit to Hyderabad's Sandhya Theatre for the movie premiere ahead of the release on December 5. Chaos erupted outside the said venue as

fans were more than excited to catch a glimpse of their beloved star. Things took an ugly turn when the stampede resulted in the death of a 35-year-old woman, and left her nine-year-old son severely injured. Reportedly, the police mentioned that the theatre's main gate collapsed under the pressure of the crowd, and they had to charge lath to get the mob under control.

## Mobikwik's IPO will open on December 11, price band Rs 265-279 per share

**Mumbai / New Delhi,** December 06 (HS). One Mobikwik Systems Limited's initial public offering (IPO) will open for investors on December 11. The company has fixed the price band for this at Rs 265-279 per share. The company's shares will be listed on the stock market on



December 18. The company said in a statement issued on Friday that Mobikwik's IPO subscription will close on December 13. The company plans to raise Rs 572 crore through this IPO. The IPO of Gurugram-based

fintech company One Mobikwik System Limited is a completely new issue, which does not have an Offer for Sale (OFS). According to the company, investors can bid for a minimum of 53 equity shares and thereafter in multiples of 53 equity shares.

## Delhi violence: Arguments on bail of Umar Khalid completed, next hearing on 17 December

**NEW DELHI:** Arguments on the bail plea on behalf of Umar Khalid, accused of plotting the Delhi violence, were completed in the Delhi High Court on Friday. It was said on his behalf that there is no allegation of violence against him and his speech was inspired by Gandhian thoughts. Justice



Naveen Chawla's bench ordered the next hearing of the case on 17 December. During the hearing, lawyer

### We are keeping an eye on the developments in Syria and South Korea: Foreign Ministry

**New Delhi Reacting to the** clashes with the opposition in the northern cities of Syria and the imposition of martial law in South Korea, India has said that India is keeping a close eye on the situation. Foreign Ministry spokesperson Randhir Jaiswal said that we have taken note of the recent developments in the escalation of the conflict in northern Syria. We are keeping a close eye on the situation. At present, 90 Indians are in Syria and this includes Indians working in the United Nations Organization. Our embassy is in close contact with them and is working for their safety and protection. On South Korea, the spokesperson.

### Extension of Metro Yellow Line from Samaypur Badli



**NEW DELHI:** Vijender Gupta handed over a memorandum to Manohar Lal to extend the Metro Yellow Line running from Gurugram to Samaypur Badli to Narela. New Delhi, 6 December (HS). In a high-level meeting with Union Housing and Urban Development Minister Manohar Lal, Leader of Opposition in Delhi Assembly Vijender Gupta has demanded to extend the Metro Yellow Line running from Millennium City Center, Gurugram to Samaypur Badli to

Narela. In this regard, BJP MLAs under his leadership met Union Minister Manohar Lal and handed over a memorandum to him. BJP MPs Vijayant J. Panda, Atul Garg, State BJP President Virendra Sachdeva, former Delhi Minister Kailash Gehlot, Raj Kumar Anand, former MLA Kartar Singh, all BJP MLAs of Delhi Mohan Singh Bisht, Om Prakash Sharma, Jitendra Mahajan, Abhay Verma, Ajay Mahawar and Anil Vajpayee were present in the meeting. On this occasion.



## Bhoomi Pujan completed at Shankaracharya Camp Kumbh

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Prayagraj: On the occasion of Margashirsha Shukla Panchami, in the morning at an auspicious time for the upcoming Maha Kumbh, four Amnaya Shankar Peethas established by Lord Adishankaracharya in the south strip of Mori Marg by twenty one other Brahmins under the leadership of Shri Gangaprasad Shukla. Out of these, Bhoomi Pujan was performed by Brahmachari Shankar Swaroop ji in the

Paramdharmaadhi Uttaramnaya Jyotishpeethadhihishwar Jagadguru Shankaracharya Swamishree: Avimukteshwarananda: Saraswati '1008' in the presence of '1008' Ji Maharaj, preaches on religious subjects throughout the month. Supreme Parliament for decision on There will be many sessions in which Shankaracharya Ji Maharaj will give his decision on all religious contemporary topics. Swami



camps of Jyotishpeeth and Dwarkapeeth. . Camp in-charge of Dwarka Sharda Peeth, Mahant Shridharanand Brahmachari told that today the work has been started by worshipping at the best time, many religious rituals and sermons will be conducted in the camp of Dwarka Peeth during the entire festival. Everyone will get the benefit of the darshan of Pujyapad Dwarka Sharda Peethadhihishwar Jagadguru Shankaracharya Swami Shri Sadanand Saraswati Ji Maharaj. Kumbh Mela in-charge of Jyotishpeeth camp, Mukundanand Brahmachari told that this is the biggest festival for more than 100 crore Sanatan Dharmis, on this great festival, 'Paramaradhyat'

Vidyachaitanya ji, Swami Vichitrnanand ji, Additional Fair Officer Mr. Vivek Chaturvedi ji, Deputy Fair Officer Mr. Vivek Shukla ji, Sanjay Mangai Zonal Officer, Lavkush Maharaj, Devendra Tripathi Pilikothi, Awadhesh Tripathi, Anoop Tripathi, Rais Chandra Shukla, Ravi Upadhyay, participated in the Bhoomi Pujan program. Alok Pandey Raghunath Dwivedi, Ramchandra Shukla, Vidyakant Pandey, Many devotees like Sanjay Mishra, Ramsjeevan Shukla, Pashupatinath Panda, Neeraj Shukla, Advocate Chandan Tiwari Aryashekhar, Vikas Dubey, Rajesh Mishra, Udit Tripathi, Somji Shastri, Dashamedh Temple etc. were present.

## Ambedkar's contribution towards nation will be remembered for ages: BJP Party workers remembered Baba Saheb on Mahaparinirvan Diwas

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Prayagraj: On the day of Mahaparinirvan of Bharat Ratna Baba Saheb Dr. Bhimrao Ambedkar, BJP workers remembered him. On this occasion, Baba Saheb's portrait was garlanded and saluted at all 1216 booths of all 15 divisions of Prayagraj metropolis. Under the leadership of Metropolitan President Rajendra Mishra, the workers garlanded the statue of Dr. Bhimrao Ambedkar at High Court Square, remembered his work and paid tribute to him. On this occasion, the Metropolitan President said that the fundamental rights that the citi-

zens of the country enjoy today are the result of the Constitution given to the country by Baba Saheb. The country will always be indebted to him. Mayor Ganesh Kesarwani garlanded the portrait of Baba Saheb at the camp office in Kydganj.

On this occasion, the Mayor said that Baba Saheb's contribution will be remembered for ages. The Constitution has a special contribution in the development of India and the Constitution is the gift of Baba Saheb. Under the leadership of General Secretary Ravi Kesarwani and



spokesperson Rajesh Kesarwani, workers garlanded the portrait of Dr.

Bhimrao Ambedkar in Muthiganj and Khuldabad divisions. In the divisions

like University, Pritam Nagar, Shivkuti, Bhardwaj, Venimadhav, Civil Line,

Naini, Rajruppur etc. and at the booths, Baba Saheb was paid homage to him by garlanding his picture. Kunj Bihari Mishra, Varun Kesarwani, Rajesh Kesarwani, Manoj Kushwaha, Rajesh Patel, Deep Dwivedi, Rajesh Gond, Sanjay Singh, Nawab Khan, Anand Jaiswal, Rakesh Bharti, Anand Sonkar, Media in-charge Vivek Mishra, Sanjay Srivastava, Ramesh Pasi, Prashant Shukla, Anand Dubey, Natwar Lal, Ajay Hela, Shiva Tripathi, Pramod Modi, Raju Pathak, Vivek Gaur, many others. Workers were present.

## Revati takes jab over Mahakumbh prep, claims grandness due to Chinese Jhalar, wall painting Says permanent construction negligible

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Prayagraj: Mahakumbh work is lagging behind, public is facing traffic jam due to negligence of officials and contractors. Prayagraj 6 December. Prayagraj's senior political former MP and former minister Kunwar Revati Raman Singh said that even after only a month left for the bathing festival of Maha Kumbh, he expressed his displeasure over the digging of roads continuing till date and said that the officials came from outside without taking the opinion of the local public representatives. How will they understand the pulse and needs of Prayagraj? They will get the work done by paying only attention to their own convenience and

that of the contractors. The result is that more than a year ago, houses have been



demolished in the name of road widening. Shops were left demolished, deep sewer line which has been working at a snail's pace for a year, even today digging is being done by closing the roads due to which the

common people have to face the problem of traffic jam, the authorities do not care. Had to. He said that the Chief Minister held the Mahakumbh preparation meeting for the 10th time in two years and issued deadlines with warnings every time but the result was zero.

The MP said that if the opinion of the local public representatives had been taken then the huge budget released in the name of Maha Kumbh would not have been wasted and there would have been some permanent construction work so that after the end of the Kumbh Mela, the people of Prayagraj would have benefited from it and tourism would also have been promoted. But nothing like this

happened, now on the pretext of shortage of time, whitewashing of tax works started and to show grandeur, painting on the walls and preparations to cover the slums and cheap Chinese chandeliers. Propaganda for the grand Mahakumbh event will be done by dazzling the pillars and LED light poles. SP State Secretary Vinay Kushwaha said that Allahabad city was a symbol of greenery but lakhs of trees were cut in the name of road widening and now whatever is left has been cut in half for the last one week in the name of trimming the branches of shady trees on the roadside. If trees are cut on the roadside, people will yearn for shade in the summer.

## Baba Saheb's death anniversary remembered Dr. Ambedkar not only Constitution maker but also voice of neglected people: Ashfaq

Prayagraj: In Bhardwaj Gurukulam Institute Rudapur on the death anniversary of Bharat Ratna Baba Saheb Dr. Bhimrao Ambedkar a floral wreath was placed on his portrait and a heartfelt tribute was paid to him and he was remembered. Addressing the children of the school family on this occasion, Indian National Congress member Ashfaq Ahmed said that Baba Saheb was not only the maker of

the Constitution but he was the voice of the exploited, deprived and neglected people of the country, the country will never forget his contribution. Ahmed said that the maker of the Constitution, Baba Saheb Bhimrao Ambedkar, has also got the honour of creating the biggest Constitution of the country. Baba Saheb was an educationist, a legal scholar and a symbol of the country's identity. His principle of equality and brotherhood is and will always remain relevant for the country. That is why the country is grateful to him and we all are paying tribute to him. Mainly Devraj Upadhyay, Vinay Upadhyay, Sanjay Sharma, Pramodit Yadav, Rajan, Shikha, Nargis, Savita Gupta, Saraswati Kushwaha and children were present in the program.



## On 62nd anniv of Civil Defense Day, DM hoisted flag Flagged off public awareness rally

DM gave President's Medal to Rajeev Bhanot, Ravi Shankar Dwivedi, Arun Singh Zakar, Hamid Ansari for their commendable services

AKHAND BHARAT SANDESH

Prayagraj: On the 62nd anniversary of the Civil Defense Foundation Day. District Magistrate/Controller Shri Ravindra Kumar Mandat DCP Protocol Pankaj Kumar hoisted the flag in the presence of ADM City Madat Kumar City Magistrate Vinod Kumar Singh. Thereafter, the Oath of Civil Defense was administered by the District Magistrate. The District Magistrate read out the messages received from the Honorable President, Honorable Prime Minister, Honorable Home Minister, and Home Secretary, Director General Civil Defense, Government of India. Introduction of Civil Defense by Deputy Controller Neeraj Mishra presented the details of the local wardens' tireless



cooperation with the emergency services throughout the year. Chief Warden Anil Kumar, Deputy Chief Sadiq Hussain Siddiqui welcomed the

guests by giving them flower bunch and memento. Civil Defense Wardens were honored by the District Magistrate by giving them certificates for their selfless service throughout the year. The District Magistrate praised the commendable work done selflessly by the Civil Defense and said that unlike other districts, the Civil Defense here is working shoulder to shoulder with the administration. The District Magistrate flagged off the voter awareness and plastic polythene cleanliness awareness rally in which the police band, horse riders, civil defense wardens, NCC cadets and women fire fighters participated. On this occasion, senior ADCM Rakesh Tiwari, Mahendra Saxena, Rajiv Bhanot, Ravi Shankar Dwivedi, LK Aherwar, Sudhir Saxena, Raunak Gupta, Rajiv Bhanot, Shri Krishna Tiwari, Raunak Gupta, Dnyaneshwar Sharma, Nagendra Asthana, Poonam Gupta, Ravi Gautam and wardens volunteers of all divisions were present. The program was conducted by Ranjana Tripathi.

## Sai Life Sciences Ltd's IPO of Equity Shares to open on Dec 11

Varanasi: Sai Life Sciences Limited ("Sai Life" or "TheCompany"), proposes to open the Bid / Offer Period in relation to its initial public offer of the Equity Shares ("Offer") on Wednesday, December 11, 2024. The Offer comprises a fresh issue of such number of Equity Shares by the Company aggregating up to Rs. 9,500 million (The "Fresh Issue") and offer for sale of up to 38,116,934 Equity Shares ("Offer for Sale") by certain existing shareholders of the Company (the "Selling Shareholders"). (The "Total Offer Size") The Company proposes to utilise the Net Proceeds towards repayment/prepayment, in full or part, of all or certain outstanding borrowings availed by the Company estimated to be ₹7,200 million and balance amount towards general corporate purpose. (The "Objects of the Offer")

The Offer for Sale comprises up to 6,454,780 Equity Shares by Sai Quest Syn Private Limited (the "Promoter Selling Shareholder"), up to 23,159,368 Equity Shares by TPG Asia VII SP Fte Ltd, up to 6,210,186 Equity Shares by B2M Private Equity India (collectively, the "Investor Selling Shareholders") and up to 650,000 Equity Shares by Bharathi Srivari, up to 500,000 Equity Shares by Anita Rudraraju Nandyala, up to 500,000 Equity Shares by Raju Pennmasta, up to 250,000 Equity Shares by Dr. Dirk Walter Sartor, up to 245,100 Equity Shares by Jagdish Viswanath Dore, up to 62,500 Equity Shares by Rajagopal Srirama Tatta, up to 80,000 Equity Shares by K Pandu Ranga Raju and up to 5,000 Equity Shares by Venkata Narasimha Sastry Renduchintala (collectively, The "Other Selling Shareholders").

The Anchor Investor Bid/Offer Period opens and closes on Tuesday, December 10, 2024. The Bid/Offer Period will open on Wednesday, December 11, 2024 for subscription and close on Friday, December 13, 2024. (The "Bid Details") The Price Band of the Offer has been fixed at ₹522 to ₹549 per Equity Share (the "Price Band"). Bids can be made for a minimum of ... Equity Shares and in multiples of ... Equity Shares thereafter. (The "Bid Lot"). This Equity Shares are being offered through the Red Herring Prospectus of the Company dated December 5, 2024 filed with the Registrar of Companies, Telangana at Hyderabad.

## Mahakumbh, excellent exhibit of India's rich culture & Sanatan Dharma: Ex-MP Joshi

Prayagraj: Mahakumbh is an ideal display of India's rich culture and Sanatan Dharma. This festival is not only a big platform for religious activities but also provides an opportunity to understand astrology, yoga, meditation and Hindu rituals scientifically. This view was expressed by former MP Rita Bahuguna Joshi. She was speaking as the chief guest at the Conclave on Diversity of Mahakumbh, a program organized by HUDSA at Samadriya School on Friday.

Inaugurating the exhibition organized by the students, Professor Joshi said that this is a golden opportunity for children to learn innovation and develop scientific thinking. Through this, they come closer to reality.

Through model making, children developed the skill of finding solutions to problems, which in turn increases their confidence in research. Special guest State Information Commissioner PN Dwivedi said that Kumbh has the greatest diversity in that it not



only encompasses various socio-cultural and spiritual traditions but also connects economic and scientific vision with social concerns.

Director of the institute, Dr. Mani Shankar Dwivedi welcomed the guests with Angavastam, memento and flower bunch. The program was conducted by Dr. Ambika Pandey and vote of thanks was delivered by HUDSA's Chief Executive Officer and Life Coach Dr. Vaishali Jain.

The performance of rangoli and band party made by the children was very attractive. On this occasion, the prominent people present were block pramukh Chaka Anil Singh, Brijesh Bharatiya, Lalmani Mishra, Ramanand Tripathi, JP Choubey, Rajesh Shukla, Abhishek

Tripathi, Dr. Pradeep Sharma, Dr. Alok Tripathi, Dr. Rajesh Kesarwani, Pradeep Kumar Dubey, RP Singh, MP Singh, Bhagwat Kushwaha, Prabhat Shukla, Dr. Vinod Tiwari, Dinesh Yadav, Harnam Singh etc. were present.

## NSDC Int'l and Sompo Care Collaborate to enhance Caregiver Training

Varanasi: NSDC International and Sompo Care Inc. are thrilled to announce their collaboration aimed at establishing a sustainable training and facilitating international opportunities for quality caregivers in India. As part of this partnership, a state-of-the-art training lab has been set up in NSDC Greater Noida training centre, designed to enhance practical caregiving skills and Japanese language education programs. This facility will enable trainees to build a solid foundation in both Japanese language proficiency and caregiving skills, ensuring they meet the de-

mands of care operations effectively. Through this initiative, NSDCI and SOMPO Care aim to equip Indian caregivers with the necessary tools to excel in the global healthcare landscape, particularly in Japan, where there is a pressing need for skilled professionals.

On inauguration of the lab, Shri Ved Mani Tiwari, COO (Officiating CEO), NSDC & MD, NSDC International said, "We are excited for our partnership with Sompo Care Inc., marking a significant milestone for NSDC International. This collaboration enables us to provide specialized

training programs for Indian nursing care personnel, enhancing their skills and preparing them for valuable



opportunities in Japan's healthcare system. Together, we aim to address the growing demand for skilled nursing professionals in Japan while strength-

ening the ties between India and Japan in the healthcare sector. Through this initiative, we are com-

mitted to bridging the gap in healthcare services and supporting the global need for qualified caregivers." During his address, Shigeru Ando, Corporate

Director of SOMPO Care said, "Today, those of you who have gathered here are about to embark on a nine-month journey to study Japanese language and nursing care in India. We are also delighted to celebrate the opening of the Nursing Care Lab. SOMPO Care is the No. 1 nursing care operator in Japan, focusing on establishing an education system through our in-house training centers. Experienced trainers from SOMPO Care will be dispatched here to share the nursing care skills and knowledge we have developed over 20 years. You have passed a severe selec-

tion process and have gathered here with a strong determination to pursue this path. We are fully committed to supporting your efforts as you prepare for a future in Japan's nursing care sector."

Discussions between NSDCI and Sompo Care commenced in November 2023, leading to the signing of an agreement in July 2024. The collaboration includes a comprehensive nine-month Japanese language training program and caregiver domain training designed for Indian caregivers, before being employed at Sompo Care facilities in Japan.

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# CM to inspect Kumbh projects over preparations for Mela TO DISCUSS PREPS FOR PM'S PROPOSED VISIT

## Chief Minister will meet party officials and senior workers at Circuit House

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Prayagraj: Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath is coming to Prayagraj today on 7 December regarding the proposed program of Honorable Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi on 13th December. BJP District Spokesperson Rajesh Kesarwani informed that Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath will leave from Varanasi in the afternoon. He will come to Prayagraj Police Line at 1:00 pm and will go to Circuit House and

meanwhile will meet senior party leaders and from 1:40 to 2:40 pm will discuss the Prime Minister's proposed program and review the Mahakumbh and at 2:45 pm Will inspect Alopi Bagh flyover between 2:55 pm to 3:10 pm Will inspect and inaugurate the facility center of the fair area from 3:15 pm to 3:25 pm Will inspect the lost and found center And will inaugurate, after that he will address the police personnel in the



parade police line till 4:00 pm and will establish dia-

logue with the saints in the temporary office of the fair authority from 4:05 to 4:50 pm. After that, Arai Dam will be held at 5:10 pm. Road 5:15 to 5:20 pm Triveni Pushp 5:25 to 5:30 pm Naini Fecal Sludge Treatment Plant STP 5:40 Will inspect Shivalik Park Naini till 5:45 pm and then will leave for Lucknow from Bamrauli Airport from 6:15 pm. MP Praveen Patel, District Panchayat President VK Singh, Mayor Ganesh

Kesarwani, MLA Harshvardhan Bajpai, MLA Guru Prasad will be accompanying him on the tour. Maurya, MLA Deepak Patel, MLC Surendra Chaudhary, MLC KP Srivastava, Regional Vice President Awadhesh Chandra Gupta, Kamlesh Kumar Gautam, Metropolitan President Rajendra Mishra, District President trans-Ganga Kavita Patel, District President trans-Yamuna Vinod Prajapati etc.

## Cong pays homage to Dr. BR Ambedkar

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Prayagraj: The prominent Congressman of District and City paid homage to the Architect of Indian constitution Bharat Ratna Dr. Bhim Rao Ambedkar on his 69th Mahaparinivan Diwas. The former Spokesman of U.P. Congress Committee, Kishore Varshney, UPCC Member Fuzail Hashimi, Harikesh Tripathi, Rajesh Rakesh, Arshad Ali, Ajay Srivastava, Parvez Siddiqui, Shashawat Mishra, Sartaj Mohammed, Kameshwar Sonkar, Mehfooj Ahmed, Ajay Mishra, Mukhtar Ahmed, Zajid Neta and others garlanded the statue of great statesmen at High Court crossing in the evening. They said he was the great intellectual who fought whole life for the uplift of Dalit and down trodden people. Varshney said, He was minister of Law and Justice, an Indian economist, Jurist, social reformers and political leader. He struggled for the equality, untouchability and believed for education of poorer; he added. Varshney exhorted the youths to take inspiration from his life.



## Kisan Mela at SHUATS KVK on Dec 7

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Prayagraj: Kisan Mela will be organized at SHUATS Krishi Vigyan Kendra Prayagraj on Saturday. The fair will be inaugurated by Dr. Seema Yadav, Senior Scientist of Agricultural Technology Application Research Institute (ATARI) Kanpur at 11.30 am. The chief guest on the occasion will be Pro VC (Admin.) Prof Dr Bishwarup Mehra while Director Extension Dr Praveen Charan will preside over the function. KVK incharge Dr Mukesh P. Masih will supervise the Farmer's fair.

Exhibition of small agricultural equipment, different seed varieties etc. will be made available in the Kisan Mela and technical information will also be given to the farmers. Farmers will also be made aware of various schemes provided by the government and their benefits. Around 300 farmers from Kaundhiyara Pratappur Jasra Soraon Shankargarh Saidabad Mauaima Blocks will participate in the Mela.



## Chairman Dinesh Singh honoured

AKHAND BHARAT SANDESH

Prayagraj: On the occasion of Civil Defense Day, Chowk Division Chairman Dinesh Singh was honoured by District Magistrate and Additional District Magistrate Madan Kumar with a citation for his excellent work in the field of social service. Also, Deputy Divisional Warden Mani Mehra of Division Chowk Division was honored by wearing the disc medal received by the Government of India, on



the 62nd foundation day of Civil Defense Day on Friday, Chief Warden Anil Kumar, Deputy Chief Warden Sadiq Hussain Siddiqui, Deputy Controller Neeraj. Mishra, Additional Deputy Controller Rakesh Kumar Tiwari and City Division Head Warden Raunak Gupta. Congratulated the Chairman and Deputy Divisional on being honoured.

## Huge mourning procession of Fatmia taken out from Dargah Hazrat Abbas

Prayagraj: On the third day of the Islamic month Rabi Us Sani i.e. on Friday, on the martyrdom of Bibi Fatma Zahra Binte of Prophet Muhammad Sahib, a huge mourning procession was taken out from Dargah Hazrat Abbas which reached Dargah Maula Ali Dariyabad graveyard. Maulana Syed Azim Baqri Sahab Qibla of Faizabad Arabic College, while addressing the Majlis, narrated the story of the atrocities inflicted on Janabe Fatma Zahra, the only



daughter of Rasool Akram. He said that because of breaking the door and setting fire to the house, Shikme Fatma was growing up. Mohsin also got martyred due to oppression. The mourners took out a procession in the midst of the Sadas of Fatma Zahra. Najeab Allahabadi arranged the procession taken out on behalf of Momneen Allahabad. Whereas on behalf of Sabir Hussain Rizvi, Syed Rameez Rizvi, Maulana Aamirur Rizvi, a martyrdom majlis was held in Baitul Hamedin in which Faiz When Jafri suggested Maulana Syed Jawadul Haider Rizvi Sahib Qibla presided over the Majlis. In Bakshi Bazaar Imambara Nazir Hussain, Zaigham Abbas read the Marsiya and Maulana Syed Razi Haider Sahib Qibla presided over the Majlis. The Naukhwans of Anjuman Guncha-e-Qasimya Bakshi Bazaar read Purdard Nauha. In the procession, Imam-e-Juma Wal Jamaat Syed Hasan Raza Zaidi, Maulana Meraj Saheb, Maulana Sarfaraz Hussain, Maulana Mohsin Saheb, Syed Azad Hussain, Shafqat Abbas Pasha. Hasan Naqvi, Raunaq Safipuri, Shaikat Bharti, Baqar Naqvi, Rizwan Jawwadi, Maqsood Rizvi, Syed Mohammad Askari, Mirza Azadar Hussain, Adnan Raza, Qibla Naqvi, Shabih Hasan, Shabbar Naqvi, Zaigham Abbas, Nazmul Hasan etc.

# Candle light service prog held at St. John's Church

## Christians went around church and sang songs of Jesus' arrival

AKHAND BHARAT SANDESH

Prayagraj: On Friday, the candle light service program at St. John's Church on Katju Road was conducted by the church's pastor Shashi Prakash. On this special occasion, the chief guest was Bishop Morris Edgar Dan of Diocese of Lucknow and the special guest was Pastor Ajit Oliver Francis. The program began with a reading from the Gospel of Matthew 5:16. May your light shine before men in such a way that they may see your good deeds and glorify your Father who is in heaven. Reflecting on this,

Bishop Morris Edgar Dan said that God has given a special gift to Christians, that is, their simple and loving life can provide an example to the society. He told that God sent Lord Jesus Christ into the world at a time when the whole world was infected with sin. He also told that no matter what the religion may be, God came into this world in the form of a human being so that humans can understand that God also suffers the same troubles as humans.

Finally he explained that the coming of the Lord Jesus



Christ as a light of hope was a plan of God that brought about the salvation of mankind. A special qawwali \*Mes-

siah is about to come....was presented in the program. Choirs from other churches also participated in this pro-

## Attack on judge's spouse & businessman with explicit threat to kill

AKHAND BHARAT SANDESH

Prayagraj: Manoj Gupta, resident of Allapur, told that he had gone to Industrial Area Naini Prayagraj for his personal work, where after reaching there, unknown people suddenly attacked him with weapons and started abusing. Elaborating the incident, he explicated and revealed that an attempt was made to kill him. Luckily, the watchman tried to stop the attackers, the attacker also threatened him, then the watchman ran inside. "The attackers were saying that if you go to the land in front of the Industrial Police Station again, we will not leave you," the complainant narrated while recalling the unending ordeal, he underwent. He also told that even before this incident, he had given an application in the Industrial Police Station area, on which no action was taken. After this incident, Manoj Gupta gave an application to the police station industrial area requesting them to take



legal action. He quickly informed his wife on the phone, who is serving as District Judge in Rewa district. Even before this, the attackers had threatened to kill him, the video of which is also available. In the same video, the name of his spouse, who has nothing to do with this matter and is working as a District Judge in Rewa district, are mentioned. And in this video, Amit Shukla, son of Shambhu Nath Shukla, resident of 73 G CY George Town, Chintamani Road, Prayagraj, is openly threatening the complainant. Moreover, the accused is supported by local residents Sandeep Mishra, Sonu Mishra and Sanjay Mishra. Due to which, threats and attempts are being made to kill the complainant. "Amit Shukla also said that if I make any kind of complaint in the police station, then I will have to pay the price with my life," he concluded and asked authorities to take legal action against him.

# With demolition on Dec 6, India became Sanatan Hindu nation: Omkar

AKHAND BHARAT SANDESH

Prayagraj: Jai Shiv Sena Bharat National President Omkarnath Tripathi, while worshipping the Hindu Rashtra Jyoti Kalash at Pujyapad Vedarakshit Dharmaguru Trishul Bhagwan Temple Kotwaleswar Baba Dham here today, said that India has been a country with Sanatan religion and culture since ancient times. Before the country got independence in 1947, the governance system continued under the rule of heretics for a long time (about 800 years). But after independence in 1947, the country got only political independence and on 6th December in 1992, the old structure of Shri Ram temple of Shri Ram Janmabhoomi, Ayodhya was demolished by Shri Ram Kar Sevaks, which is a day of eternal pride. Now the Government of India has given permission for the construction of a new Shri Ram temple there after the order of the Supreme Court and now with public cooperation various religious organizations have built a new temple at

the birthplace of Shri Ram. On behalf of Jai Shiv Sena, after the then Uttar Pradesh government opened fire on Karsevaks in 1990 and killed them in large numbers, Jai Shiv Sena organized Shri Ram Karsevak Hindu Hutatma Sammelan on Oc-

Omkarnath Tripathi told that the founding members of the area Late Pt. Kashinath Tripathi, National Vice President, Sanjay Nagiya, Presiding Manager of Shri Anand Bihari Temple, Prayagraj, Priest Mahant Pt. Digambar

ister Birju Sonkar, former President Ram Sajeewan Kushwaha, Hindu Rashtra Foundation Day Jyoti Kalash Yatra is taken out continuously every year since December 6, 1993. Jai Shiv Sena officials Anup Verma, Rajeev 'Bunty',



tober 30, November 1 and November 2, 1991. In which former Legislative Assembly Speaker Pt. Keshari Nath Tripathi (now late) and former MP Honorable Shyamacharan Gupta (now late) participated in the program and paid tribute to the martyrs. Tribute was paid to Shri Ram Kar Sevaks.

National President of Jai Shiv Sena Bharat

Tripathi, Rajesh Kesarwani, Minister Jai Shiv Sena Bharat, Abhishek Thakur, State Incharge, Uttar Pradesh, Shri Parag Seth Ji Maharaj Peethadhishwar Shanidham, Babban Singh Range Officer, National Under the management of Minister Anup ji and Rajeev "Bunty ji", District President Monu Seth, Prem Prakash Yadav, State Min-

Pandit Digambar Tripathi, Rajesh after the worship of Lord Vedrakshit Trishul. On the proposal of Kesarwani, Abhishek Thakur, Birju Sonkar, Santosh Agrahari, Abhilash Kesarwani, Sushil Jain, Shatrughan Jaiswal etc., a demand has been made from the national and state governments to declare December 6 as a national holiday.

## Lakhs of eye patients will be able to see colourful world shining

Netra Kumbh will be organized from Jan 12 to Feb 26 in Sangam: Dr. Kirtika Aggarwal

AKHAND BHARAT SANDESH

Prayagraj: This time Prayagraj will also be known for Netra Kumbh 2025, the world's largest spiritual gathering Mahakumbh 2025. Lakhs of people will get new light in this Netra Kumbh to be held on the Sangam banks from 12th January to 26th February. They will be able to see this colorful world shining with their own eyes. About five hundred expert doctors of the country will contribute to this great service work. Chairman of Netra Kumbh 2025 Organizing Committee and former senior police officer KP Singh said that this will be a good opportunity for the devotees. By taking bath in the confluence of Ganga, Yamuna and Antasaila Saraswati, they will become partakers of virtue and will also get relief from eye diseases. This will be a golden opportunity especially for those living in rural areas. He said that this time the eyes of about five lakh devotees will be examined free of cost. Free spectacles will be given to three lakh people. Meanwhile, National Organization Minister of 'Saksham' Chandrashekhar ji said that more than 1 crore 25 lakh people in the country are suffering from the problem of eye diseases. A large number of people lose eyesight due to lack of awareness. This is blindness which can be cured by proper treatment. The reality is that lakhs of people in the country are suffering from blindness due to defect and non-availability of cornea. With public awareness the country can be completely free from corneal blindness. General Secretary of the Organizing Committee, former senior administrative officer Sarvagya Ram Mishra said that before Kumbh 2019, Netra Kumbh was organized in Prayagraj. In this, the eyes of more than two lakh devotees were examined. About one lakh fifty-five thousand patients were given spectacles. More than twenty-three thousand people had undergone eye surgery after the Kumbh. After this, Netra Kumbh was also organized in 2021 Haridwar Kumbh. Renowned gynecologist and media coordinator of Netra Kumbh, Dr. Kirtika Aggarwal is very excited about Netra Kumbh.

She says that if there is any most important organ in the body of an animal, it is the eye. That is why the motto of Netra Kumbh has been kept as 'Pashayem Sharadah Shatam'. The meaning of this sentence is - Let us look at this beautiful creation created by God for a hundred years. Netra Kumbh has been planned with this concept in mind. In Netra Kumbh, not only vision related patients will get the benefit of treatment but they will also get a direct glimpse of the divine experience of human sensitivity. He told that many voluntary organizations are supporting Netra Kumbh. Prominent among them are 'Saksham', 'The Hans Foundation', 'Swami Vivekananda Health Mission', 'Shri Bhaurao Deoras Trust', 'Shri Rajju Bhaiya Seva Trust', 'National Medicos Organisation' and 'Rashtriya Seva Bharti' etc. The specialty of Prayagraj Netra Kumbh 2025 is that this time, along with the Netra Kumbh and even after that, arrangements have been made to undergo eye surgery for more than fifty thousand people in an eye hospital near their permanent residence.

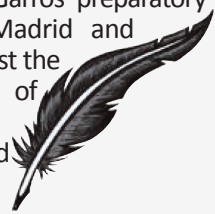


## Editorial

### A younger lot: On the French Open

For nearly two decades, a champion other than Rafael Nadal at Roland-Garros has been as elusive as a shadow at high noon on solar equinox. Ever since he made his debut in 2005, the legendary Spaniard has won the event a record 14 times, losing just three of his 115 matches. The occasional uprisings against his ironclad rule, mainly from Novak Djokovic, were crushed with characteristic menace; Nadal leads the Serb 8-2 on Parisian clay. French Open 2023, however, is set to herald a shift, for Nadal will miss the event for the first time since 2004 because of the hip injury that has kept him out since January. There are signs that a change of guard is in the offing in men's tennis in general. With Roger Federer retired and Djokovic out of form, the once vice-like hold of the 'Big Three' is at its weakest. Djokovic is a two-time champion and will be motivated to break the tie with Nadal on 22 Majors. But Carlos Alcaraz, the reigning World No.1 and winner of the French Open tune-up events in Barcelona and Madrid, seems primed to occupy centre stage. The 20-year-old has already established his Slam-winning credentials (2022 US Open), and a follow-up act will only embellish his status as the game's chosen one. Challenging him will be the Scandinavian duo of No.4 Casper Ruud, who lost the 2022 summit clash to Nadal, and No.6 Holger Rune, finalist at both Monte Carlo and Rome recently. Daniil Medvedev has developed a new-found love for the red dirt following his success in Rome last week, but the Russian No.2 is at best a wild card, alongside Stefanos Tsitsipas, Andrey Rublev, Jannik Sinner, and Alexander Zverev. In contrast — and in a departure from the past — it is the women's field that wears a settled look, with Iga Swiatek, Aryna Sabalenka, and Elena Rybakina forming a dominant troika. They have swept the last four Majors and the Roland-Garros preparatory tournaments in Stuttgart, Madrid and Rome. If anything, Swiatek is just the first among equals, by virtue of being the World No.1.

, a two-time winner in Paris and a three-time Major champion.



### Studios claim ownership of rights

It was since foreign companies entered the Indian film market that filmmakers in the country, especially in the Hindi film industry, took huge strides. Films with budgets in lakhs suddenly started costing crores. With projects being underwritten by big-time backers, the films with stars started costing over Rs 100 crore. Actors wanted to be paid in crores and so did the director. Soon, the stars started asking for Rs 100 crore or more and the ones with just a single success wanted Rs 10-15 crore. Female artistes started demanding in crores, even though their films, at best, collected Rs 5 crore or less in lifetime business. Somewhere along the line, the filmmaking happened with no sense of the economics. The prices the stars demanded were artificial, much against their draw or potential to recoup. This continued for a long time because the companies which backed these films opened their purse strings generously. The producer had nothing to lose and stood only to gain. Nobody cared for what a star charged or a director did. Ridiculous budgets were presented and sanctioned by the new corporate entrants who were under the impression that they were producing films when, in fact, they were actually outsourcing the film production activities.



## Everyone benefits from the Lok Sabha election

Everyone benefits from the 2024 Lok Sabha election.



Though unhappy by its drop from 303 seats in 2019 to 240 this time, the ruling Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) is relieved to have won three consecutive terms for the first time in over 60 years. The Congress-led Opposition's 2024 numbers may be lower than the BJP's, but it seems to have found a weakness in Prime Minister Narendra Modi. After three general elections in a succession of two-digit votes, the Congress under Rahul Gandhi had its third-worst Lok Sabha performance, but its supporters are celebrating keeping the BJP below 272. Same with their supporters: Hindu BJP voters are thrilled that their party is back in power, but Muslim voters believe they have returned their

'veto power' in Indian politics. The Congress-led Opposition may be celebrating, but the BJP should be relieved. After all, it realized the party is in trouble without losing power in Raisina Hill. The party has five years to clean up. A vote where everyone has something to be thrilled about makes it easier to misread the outcome, which is the BJP's problem. First, the BJP should view the Lok Sabha results with cautious optimism, as three consecutive terms are exceptional. The Modi government has defeated anti-incumbency and the post-pandemic tendency of Covid-19 being a graveyard for ruling dispensations globally. Most incumbents have failed to recover from the enormous coronavirus outbreak. Taking the wrong medication is more dangerous for the BJP than not taking any cor-

rective actions. Unfortunately, politicians' egoistic tendency to blame voters rather than party leadership for recent political defeats makes the latter more likely. One can understand how Uttar Pradesh voters, especially Ayodhya, were villainized after the poll. Dubious political commentators have already given their verdict, exposing Hindutva's declining returns in Indian politics! Such feel-good, part-dubious analysis should not be accepted by the BJP. The party may also view the results as localized and one-time. Localized because while losing approximately 50% of seats in Uttar Pradesh, the party swept Madhya Pradesh. Uttar Pradesh, unlike Madhya Pradesh, has a viable opposition with a strong M-Y vote-bank for anyone who can defeat the BJP. The

Opposition troubled the BJP wherever it had a party infrastructure, albeit a basic one, and vote-banks, whether in Uttar Pradesh or Maharashtra. Naturally, the Opposition distributed tickets smartly, notably in Uttar Pradesh, where Akhilesh Yadav generously offered SP tickets to Dalits and OBCs and less than 10 seats to M-Y candidates! In contrast, the BJP had ticket distribution troubles. Misfits, incompetent, and corrupt candidates were common, as were imports from other parties. This sparked party discontent and heartburn. The Ayodhya BJP candidate was unpopular before the election, and he was on sticky ground. Of course, his loose statements on reserves and the Constitution made matters worse for himself and the party. Ideological fluidity in the BJP compounded its

problems. A party that earns 18–20% of votes for being a Hindutva vehicle is bound to boomerang when its national president publicly distances itself from "bhagwa" during the election campaign. In an interview with a Delhi daily, JP Nadda said the "BJP and bhagwa (saffron) are not synonymous" and that the BJP might win the 2024 elections.8 without the RSS! He overlooked that when a Hindu doesn't see himself as a Hindu, he's tempted to adopt caste identities. The BJP must realize that any ideological compromise has led to political hara-kiri. In 1984, the BJP, fresh from the Jana Sangh, burned its fingers by openly supporting Gandhian socialism and won only two Lok Sabha seats. When the Jinnah-fied BJP downplayed its Hindutva identity in 2004 and 2009, the party suffered similarly.

## Mob and justice: On the Alwar lynching case verdict

The thin line between culpable homicide and murder under Indian penal law is a subject of endless analysis, but it is not easy to accept this nuanced distinction in a case of mob lynching. A Sessions Court in Alwar district of Rajasthan has sentenced four men to a prison term of seven years for the lynching of a Muslim dairy farmer in July 2018. However, it acquitted Naval Kishore, a Vishwa Hindu Parishad functionary, for want of sufficient evidence. If one recalls the acquittal of all those tried for the 2017 murder of Pehlu Khan,

who was also a victim of cow vigilantism, there is a semblance of justice for Rakbar Khan, 31, who was attacked by a mob while transporting two cows along with a friend near Lalawandi village in Alwar. The police had found Rakbar Khan with serious injuries, to which he succumbed later, presumably due to the delay in taking him for medical treatment. If one takes into account the number of attacks, some of them fatal, involving so-called cow protection gangs in various States in recent years, the record of the criminal justice system in

successfully prosecuting those involved in such incidents is quite dismal. In this backdrop, the fact that the police in Alwar managed to obtain a conviction is noteworthy. However, that the assailants were found guilty only of culpable homicide not amounting to murder and wrongful restraint does raise some concern. A conviction for murder would have entailed at least life imprisonment.

Rakbar Khan's family is justly aggrieved both over the acquittal of one suspect, who they believe was the main

accused, and the seven-year prison term. The police relied on some telephone conversations between the acquitted VHP leader and the assailants to rope him in as a key suspect.

However, the court did not consider this adequate proof. While deciding that the fatal attack did not amount to murder, the trial court has concluded that the assailants neither intended to cause death nor knew that their assault may cause death. The prosecution is likely to take up both the "inadequate" sentence awarded

to the four and the acquittal of one on appeal. Organised cow vigilantism poses a major threat to the safety and security of minorities, as well as to the maintenance of the rule of law.

Despite the Supreme Court deprecating the bigotry and hate propaganda that underlie such activities, incidents of sectarian violence and vigilantism seem to go on. Both preventive and punitive measures are needed to arrest the trend, and one cannot emphasise enough the need for efficient investigation and prosecution.

## The OTT space wars

Similarly, Shemaroo was in the video renting business initially, and later, acquired the video rights distribution business and always made sure it collected the best of the repertoire from top production houses. Zee and Shemaroo, when they entered the OTT business, possessed ample content. There were some big business and media houses that entered the field because it was the thing to do in the name of expansion or, in some cases, not to be left out of the changing world. There are so many OTT platforms today, that one has lost count. But, talking of the Jio Cinema, it has adopted the same disruptive practice it did while launching the JioPhone:

free talk time! To start with, Jio Cinema aired the Indian Premier League (IPL 2023) cricket matches free sans subscription charges while Star Sports held the telecast rights. This could very well have affected the revenues of Star Sports, but what after IPL? An OTT platform is not something a viewer gets addicted to. It is the content that attracts a viewer, even if it is the paid kind. So what is the company promoting, Jio Cinema, or the JioPhone. Looks like, primarily, it is the phone. The Jio mobiles and Rs 3,000, and, now, a smart phone comes for around Rs 4,000. But, then, there are available in the similar price range.

## A year of crucial importance

India's Presidency of G20, the challenge posed by the rise of minority politics at home and the concerted campaign of opposition parties including the regional entities against the ruling dispensation, all cumulatively add to the need for effective and firm governance in the country in the pre-election year. India presently is in the midst of efforts by the Narendra Modi government to reach a new high in building international relations, maintain domestic peace in the face of a planned attempt of hostile forces within and abroad to push the country towards a serious communal divide and establish once again - in the run-up to the next General Election - the image and strength of India as the world's largest democracy. India's Presidency of G20, the challenge posed by the rise of minority politics at home and the concerted campaign of opposition parties including the regional entities against the ruling dispensation, all cumulatively add to the need for effective and firm governance in the country in the pre-election year. Prime Minister Modi's foreign policy initiatives have enhanced India's image abroad and have also delivered on trade and economic relations, but the regime seems to be facing an increasing challenge in the area of internal security and stability because of divisive and disruptive politics at home and the organised attempts of anti-India forces within and outside of the country to build a narrative that India was moving towards an authoritarian, majoritarian and non-secular rule.

Since the Modi government's development agenda is in full swing and its schemes for the less privileged have also

made an impact, the opposition was taking to finding fault with the democratic content of the present dispensation at the Centre and alleging misuse of coercive instruments of the state by the regime to selectively run down the leaders of other parties.

India however, is used to the 'wisdom of the crowd' asserting itself in all critical situations and there is little doubt that in a national poll, people would make a sound judgement on the integrity of the Modi government, its political will in safeguarding national security and the sincerity of its efforts to develop the country economically. India has made its G20 Presidency an event with a difference- its motto 'Vasudhaiva Kutumbakam' or 'World is one family' setting the note for a global mission that India wished to pursue on this forum. On the initiative of Prime Minister Modi various international conferences in the run-up to the G20 Summit in September are being held at different locations across India to give the visitors a feel of the vastness, cultural richness and development, of this country and to spread the awareness among the people here, of the big strides India was taking to make its presence felt internationally.

The rise of India as a major power in the world with considerable influence on issues of global peace and development, the continuity of the policy of bilateral relations extended to a multilateral format that guaranteed mutually beneficial outcomes for both security and economic advancement and the designing of G20 events in a manner that would promote domestic growth.

## Prioritising the road ahead for the Indian industry

Seventy-five years after independence, becoming the fifth largest economy in the world and poised to be the third largest economy by 2030, India has indeed surpassed many significant milestones. But the moot question here is what has fuelled India's growth, the services or the manufacturing sector, and what should be its future plan of action. The last nine years have proved to be a period of immense economic and commercial gains for India businesses, partly helped by the government's new policy initiatives and also the charged-up Indian businessmen ready

to take-up new challenges and claim their due place under the sun. Seventy-five years after independence, becoming the fifth largest economy in the world and poised to be the third largest economy by 2030, India has indeed surpassed many significant milestones. But the moot question here is what has fuelled India's growth, the services or the manufacturing sector, and what should be its future plan of action. The economic reforms ushered-in by the Narasimha Rao government in 1990s, and the subsequent unshackling of chains bounding the private sector ill then,

proved to be a boon for the Indian businessmen. But more or less these economic reforms ushered in the groundwork for future transformation of the Indian businesses, which were able to lead the growth curve with the services sector. Currently G-20 Sherpa and former head of the Niti Aayog, Amitabh Kant in his book, 'Made in India: 75 Years of Business and Enterprise', offers an insiders peep in to the second-generation reforms which began in 2014 and delves deep into the policies and people behind the new age start-ups and their novel businesses versions that

are unleashing the entrepreneurial zeal among the Indian youth. Kant's ringside view as a top policy maker have added immensely to the book, besides highlighting his out of the box campaigns such as Make In India, Start-up India, God's Own Country.

and policy changes like Performance-Linked Incentive Scheme (PLI), Aspirational Districts, e-Mobility, Green Hydrogen, and Ease of Doing Business reforms. However, the book has also given an opportunity to the top business leaders and policy makers to air their views about the



## Oct Vehicle Registry, MV Revenue Highs

**Delhi:** The transport department registered about 86,000 new vehicles in October, breaking all records. It collected over Rs 366 crore in motor vehicle (MV) tax, its biggest monthly revenue. The record MV tax collection will assist Delhi increase its revenue collection, which was Rs 1 crore lower in the first two quarters of 2024-25 than the previous fiscal. New automobile sales surged throughout the festival season compared to previous year, but scooter and bike registrations fell. In Oct, an auspicious festival month, 86,075 new cars were registered in Delhi. This includes 55,959 non-transport two-wheelers and 22,375 lighter autos. In November 2023, a festival month, 80,854 new cars were registered. It had 18,635 cars and 57,223 non-transport two-wheelers. With higher incomes and economic standing, more people may prefer four-wheelers over two-wheelers. The transport department regis-



tered 5.8 lakh automobiles and earned Rs 2,592 crore by October. Delhi sold over 6.6 lakh cars in 2023, and MV tax revenue from registration fees and other levies and penalties totaled Rs 2,917 crore. In 2024-25, the government's MV tax revenue has been disappointing. Delhi generated Rs 1,770 crore in MV tax in the first seven months of the current fiscal, compared to Rs 1,660 crore in 2023-24. MV tax brought in Rs 3,242 crore in 2023-24. Delhi's MV tax earnings were Rs 1,710 crore in 2019-20, Rs 1,424 crore in 2020-21, the year Covid-19 struck, and Rs 2,075 crore in 2021-22 and Rs 2,692 crore in 2022-23. Delhi set a Rs 76,000 budget.

### Domestic demand boosts GST collection 9%.

**Delhi:** The finance ministry reported gross GST receipts of Rs 1.87 lakh crore for October, up 8.9% from the previous year. October 2023 collection: Rs 1.72 lakh crore. Central GST, State GST, IGST, and cess increased year-over-year. The January–October 2024 GST receipts were Rs 12.74 lakh crore, up 9.4% from Rs 11.64 lakh crore in 2023. GST receipts peaked at Rs 2.10 lakh crore in April 2024. Total gross GST for 2023-24 was Rs 20.18 lakh crore.

## Discounts Help Ola Electric Regain Market Share

**Delhi:** Ola Electric Mobility Ltd.'s best monthly sales this fiscal were driven by discounts despite many obstacles. According to VAHAN portal vehicle registration statistics, retail sales of India's largest electric two-wheeler jumped 68% to 41,605 units in October 2024 from 24,710 units in September. That gave it 30% market share on Nov. 1. Competitors Bajaj Auto, TVS Motor Co., Ather Energy, and Hero MotoCorp. Ltd. also experienced monthly sales rise in an expanding market. In October, VAHAN and SMEV data showed retail sales of electric two-



wheelers jumped 53.98% to 1,39,031 units, the most since March, when the FAME-II EV subsidy scheme was terminated. Volumes rose 85% annually. Following two months of reductions and a growing chorus of complaints about its after-sales service, Ola Electric's sales rose in October. Due to customer complaints, the

government has issued a show-cause notice and requested an audit of the Bengaluru-based EV maker. The company founder's fight with a stand-up comedian exacerbated matters. Ola Electric offered substantial discounts during the key festival season, including selling an electric scooter at Rs 50,000, much below the subsidy.

## Swiggy Q-comm may top meal delivery

**Delhi:** Sriharsha Majety, Swiggy co-founder and group CEO, claimed quick commerce might grow bigger than food delivery due to its wider market opportunity. The company will launch its Rs 11,327 (nearly \$1.4 billion) IPO, the second largest this year after Hyundai Motor India's Rs 27,870 crore offer and the sixth-largest.

"Quick commerce has a greater TAM than food delivery and is expanding quicker. We may expect it will surpass food delivery in the next five years. Swiggy, founded in 2014, is going public three years after Zomato's Rs 9,375 crore IPO. Swiggy's IPO bidding will begin on Nov 6 and end on Nov 8 at Rs 371-390 per share.

The firm's indicated valuation at the top of the pricing band is \$11.3 billion, down from its earlier target of \$13 billion. Pricing affects many things, including investor sentiment and our performance trajectory. Macro is involved, and there was recent softening "CFO Rahul Bothra stated.

## Suzuki will sell Toyota an Indian-made e-SUV

**Delhi:** Japanese automaker Suzuki, which owns Maruti, will sell its India-made electric car to Toyota for global markets as the two businesses expand beyond fuel products. The two businesses are already cross-badging certain models in India and are now doing so for EVs to obtain economies of scale and expand their global markets. Suzuki and Toyota will collaborate more on supplying a battery EV (BEV) SUV vehicle. The businesses claimed Suzuki Motor Gujarat in India will start making this new model in early 2025. "This is the first BEV OEM partnership between the two companies. It will be offered globally, offering a BEV option in the SUV sector, which is growing rapidly. The vehicle featured had a 60kWh battery and 550 km single-charge range. "The new model is a BEV-only. A BEV-like SUV with a long range and a luxurious cabin. With 4WD, it handles rough roads better and has greater power. Suzuki, Toyota, and Daihatsu Motor Corporation developed this model's BEV unit and platform using their strengths," claimed the automakers. Daihatsu is a Toyota subsidiary.



### Domestic demand boosts GST collection 9%

**Delhi:** The finance ministry reported gross GST receipts of Rs 1.87 lakh crore for October, up 8.9% from the previous year. October 2023 collection: Rs 1.72 lakh crore. Central GST, State GST, IGST, and cess increased year-over-year. The January–October 2024 GST receipts were Rs 12.74 lakh crore, up 9.4% from Rs 11.64 lakh crore in 2023. GST receipts peaked at Rs 2.10 lakh crore in April 2024.

## TGI Fridays, a bar and restaurant business, declares bankruptcy

**Delhi:** According to a business statement, TGI Fridays, a casual American dining franchise, filed for Chapter 11 bankruptcy in the US state of Texas. As part of the restructuring process, the firm said its restaurants in the US and overseas would stay open while it "explores strategic alternatives in order to ensure long-term viability of the brand." TGI Fridays Inc., which owns and runs 39 restaurants in the US, declared bankruptcy. According to the company, 56 franchise locations in the US and 40 other countries that are separately held are not covered by the Chapter 11 procedure. According to



**"TGI Fridays Inc., which owns and runs 39 restaurants in the US, declared bankruptcy. According to the company, 56 franchise locations in the US and 40 other countries that are separately held are not covered by the Chapter 11 procedure"**

executive chairman Rohit Manocha, the company's COVID-19 epidemic were the main causes of its financial problems.

### AI push boosts PC market

**Delhi:** There weren't many bright spots in 2020, but the PC market's strong sales momentum has only recently slowed.

As AI-powered PCs and Copilot+ PCs emerged, PC makers remained confident. Apple refreshed their iMac, Mac mini, and MacBook Pro product lines this week, introducing the Apple Intelligence suite based on their new M4 CPUs. Global PC shipments fell 2.4% YoY to 68.8 million units in Q3 2024, according to IDC. If you adopt the general definition of AI PC, business is 5%–10% of the PC market.

## September saw WhatsApp ban over 85 lakh Indian accounts

**More than 85 lakh "bad" WhatsApp accounts in India were banned in September by Meta-owned WhatsApp for breaking its standards. According to the social media platform's monthly compliance report under the new IT Rules 2021, 8,584,000 accounts were banned between September 1 and 30, 1,658,000 of which were proactively banned before user notifications. More than 600 million Indians use the popular mobile messaging platform, which**



received 8,161 grievances and "actioned" 97. WhatsApp remedied complaints on the "Actioned" account. WhatsApp also followed two Grievance Appellate Committee decisions in the country, according to its monthly compliance report. Abuse detection occurs at account registration, during messaging, and in response to user reports and blocks. They are enhanced by analysts to assess edge cases and improve our effectiveness over time.

## High-tech investment encouraged by commerce minister Piyush Goyal

**Delhi:** After visiting Saudi Arabia, Union minister for commerce and industry Piyush Goyal urged global investors to invest in India's fast-growing high-tech sectors—artificial intelligence, renewable energy, digital infrastructure, and advanced manufacturing—the ministry said. During his visit, Goyal stressed the importance of international partnerships and economic diplomacy in promoting global cooperation, innovation, technological advancement, and investment. He attended the Future Investment Initiative (FII) plenary session with representatives from global governments and the industry. In Riyadh, Goyal co-chaired the second ministerial meeting of the India-Saudi Strategic Partnership



Council (SPC) economy and investment committee with Saudi energy minister Prince Abdulaziz bin Salman Al-Saud. The SPC was established in 2019 after prime minister Narendra Modi's visit to Saudi Arabia to strengthen economic cooperation in vital sectors. During his Saudi Arabia visit, Goyal visited energy, industry, mineral resources, and investment ministers. "These collaborations centered on trade, energy, and technology.

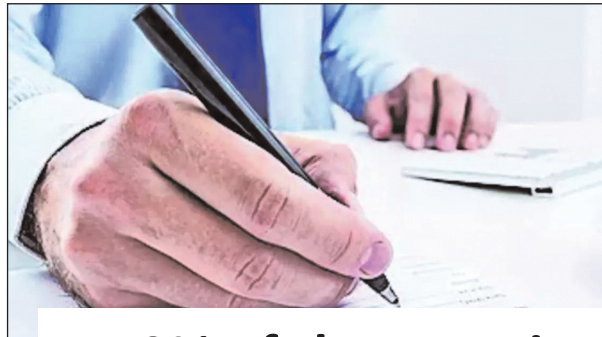
### Adani Enterprises net profit expands eightfold

**Adani Enterprises Ltd., the flagship firm of billionaire Gautam Adani's conglomerate, nearly eight-folded net profit on robust earnings from airports and new energy units that offset coal trading business impact. A corporate statement claimed net profit of Rs 1,741 crore in July-September the second quarter of 2024-25 fiscal year was up 663 percent from Rs 228 crore last year.**

## Can ICAI regulate audit firm quality?

**Delhi:** The Institute of Chartered Accountants of India's (ICAI) argument on the recently announced Standard on Quality Management (SQM) covering audit firm services differs from its disciplinary case in the Delhi High Court. ICAI claims that the corporations Act determines audit standards, which the minister of corporate affairs notifies based on NFRA recommendations. NFRA regulates auditors and audit firms for listed and big corporations. SQM 1 and 2 are quality management standards, not auditing standards. SQM 1 and 2 apply to all firm services.

These guidelines aim to improve and assure firm-level quality for all services "In response to a recent query, it told



## 50% of the questions on the class X and XII board exams are competency-focused

**Delhi:**

Modifications to the question paper pattern for the 2025 board exams for Classes 10 and 12 have been notified by the Central Board of Secondary Education (CBSE). The National Education Policy (NEP) 2020, which prioritizes competency-based learning, is in line with these modifications. The most important change is a move toward questions that evaluate students' application of ideas in practical contexts. This



indicates that a larger proportion of "Competency-Based Questions" will be asked on the tests. Class 10: In 2025, the percentage of competency-based questions stays at 50%. Class 12: In 2025, the percent-

age of competency-based questions will increase from 40% to 50%. These questions can be case-based, source-based integrated, or multiple-choice (MCQ) questions, among other formats. Additionally, the

updated style seeks to promote deeper comprehension and move away from rote memorization. Short answer and long answer structured response questions lose some of their weight in both groups.



## BJP membership drive in full swing under the leadership of Chief Minister and State President: Ashok Gurjar

**Kaithal:** BJP State Executive Member and former Kaithal District President Ashok Gurjar Dhand said that under the able leadership of Haryana Chief Minister Naib Singh Saini and BJP State President Mohan Lal Badoli, BJP membership campaign is being run very well in all the four assembly constituencies of Kaithal district, in which thousands of people have been made primary members of BJP so far. Under this membership campaign, the Bharatiya Janata Party works to add new members and activate the existing members. He said that during this campaign, the party leaders and workers should set up camps at various places, contact people through social programs and events and make them members of BJP by giving them



information about the party's policies and programs. Ashok Gurjar, while talking at his residence in the town today after meeting Haryana Chief Minister Naib Singh Saini at his Chandigarh residence yesterday, said that all the workers should celebrate this campaign like a festival, so that people feel proud of joining BJP. The workers are full of enthusiasm for the membership campaign and are working to make it successful. Under this campaign, all the new workers and leaders will join BJP. He said that the BJP organization in

district Kaithal has to be strengthened from booth executive to state level, so all the BJP officials and workers from district Kaithal area should participate as much as possible in this membership campaign and make as many people as possible members of BJP, under which BJP workers have to make 250 new members at each booth and this membership work has already started. Bharatiya Janata Party has set a target of making 50 lakh members in Haryana state, which will be completed soon.

## Flipkart boosts supply chain capabilities

**GURUGRAM / PANIPAT:** Flipkart, India's home grown e-commerce marketplace, has launched a state-of-the-art Fulfillment and Sortation Center (FSC) in Indore, Madhya Pradesh, spanning 1.59 lakh sq. ft. This strategic investment will accelerate delivery speeds across the state, create over 600 new local jobs, and serve all pin codes in the region, highlighting Flipkart's commitment to infrastructure development and regional growth. The event was graced by Shri Shankar Lalwani, Honorable Member of Parliament and Rajneesh Kumar, Chief Corporate Affairs Officer, Flipkart Group, among other dignitaries, marking a significant milestone in Flipkart's expansion efforts in Madhya Pradesh. The new FSC spans 1.59 lakh sq. ft., equipped with advanced conveyor automation technology. With a monthly dispatch capacity of over 18 million orders, the facility will accelerate delivery speeds across pin codes in Madhya Pradesh. This initiative is set to create over 600 jobs, with inclu-



sive hiring for over 100 female contractors and 11 persons with disabilities. Speaking on the occasion, Mr. Rajneesh Kumar, Chief Corporate Affairs Officer, Flipkart Group, said, "Flipkart is committed to driving inclusive growth and digital empowerment across India. The launch of our new fulfillment center in Indore, Madhya Pradesh along with our engagement with rural communities, reflects our dedication to fostering sustainable development and supporting MSMEs and creating new local jobs. By equipping communities with the necessary tools, market access, and a strong supply chain, we are helping them build sustainable livelihoods and play an active role in India's broader economic

development." As part of its Flipkart Samarth initiative, Flipkart, in collaboration with the National Rural Livelihood Mission (NRLM), hosted a workshop in Indore for over 70 rural women and Self-Help Groups (SHGs) in the presence of Shri Shankar Lalwani. This initiative empowers local communities by providing access to Flipkart's e-commerce platform, promoting sustainable livelihoods and digital inclusivity. The program held at Ahilyabai Holkar Auditorium featured Shri Shankar Lalwani, Honorable Member of Parliament, who, while discussing the achievements of Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi, emphasized that the country cannot progress unless women are empowered.

## Dettol Banega Swasth India – Dettol Climate Resilient School launches Dettol School Radio Podcast to create force of inspiring young climate advocates



**GURUGRAM :** Reckitt, world's leading consumer health and hygiene company, along with partner Plan India and OHO radio under its flagship campaign Dettol Banega Swasth India, announced the India's first School Radio Podcast focusing on climate change. A dedicated platform promoting Mission LiFE- sustainable lifestyles for health and climate resilience is co-created with the kids from schools across Uttarakhand. The podcast was launched at Raj Bhawan, Dehradun, in the presence of Honorable Lt. General Gurmit Singh, Governor, Uttarakhand. Ravi Bhatnagar, Director of External Affairs and Partnerships, SoA, Reckitt, said, "At Reckitt, we believe that true transformation comes when individuals, especially young people, take ownership of the issues that impact them and their communities. Bearing the flag of Mission LiFE, Dettol School Radio Podcast by Dettol Climate Resilient Schools will allow us to combine awareness with action and inspire the next generation to adopt healthy, sustainable practices that benefit society and the planet alike. Dettol Banega Swasth India is committed to fostering these values, and I am honoured to see this vision come to life. Together, with the support of the Uttarakhand government and our future advocates, we hope to create a powerful movement for a cleaner, greener future."

## Louis Philippe Presents "Royal Wedding Treasures" for this Wedding Season in GURUGRAM

**GURUGRAM:** Louis Philippe, India's leading premium menswear brand from Aditya Birla Fashion and Retail Limited, proudly announces the launch of its latest Royal Wedding Treasures collection, crafted for the modern groom who desires to honor tradition while embracing contemporary style. This collection is a testament to the brand's legacy of exceptional craftsmanship and refined sophistication, designed to ensure that the groom exudes confidence and charisma on his special day. The exclusive "Royal Wedding Treasures" collection by Louis Philippe embodies the grandeur and cultural richness of traditional wedding



ceremonies while seamlessly integrating modern design elements. Each piece is a work of art, skillfully crafted from premium fabrics such as velvet and detailed with exquisite embellishments. The Bandhgalas are adorned with

intricate embroidery and sequins, inspired by royal motifs, and reflect a level of craftsmanship that elevates the groom's attire to regal status. Speaking about the collection, Ms. Farida Kaliyadan, Chief Operating Officer, Louis

Philippe, remarked, "At Louis Philippe, we believe that weddings are as much about personal expression as they are about tradition. This collection has been crafted to honor that sentiment, offering grooms an unparalleled fusion of elegance, grandeur, and contemporary fashion." To commemorate this special launch, Louis Philippe is hosting an exclusive contest for its customers. With purchases worth INR 20,000 or more at any Louis Philippe exclusive store or on the website/app between 4th November and 30th November, customers can enter for a chance to win exciting prizes

## CBSE Cracks Down On Dummy Admissions

**Delhi:** Officials said the Central Board of Secondary Education (CBSE) removed affiliation of 21 institutions and demoted six from senior secondary to secondary in a crack-down on 'dummy' admissions. They said the decision follows a September surprise visit of Rajasthan and Delhi schools that identified serious violations. "Dummy or non-attending admissions undermine the mission of school education and students' foundational growth. CBSE Secretary Himanshu



Gupta said the organization is taking decisive efforts to battle dummy schools and send a clear message to affiliated institutions to resist dummy or non-attending admissions. He added the surprise inspection committees reported the anomalies found during inspections to the schools. The Board carefully

reviewed school responses. He stated that 21 schools were withdrawn and six were degraded from senior secondary to secondary level based on inspection results and video graphic proof. Sixteen of the 21 schools that lost their affiliation are in Delhi, while five are in Kota and Sikar, Rajasthan's coaching hotspots.

## Changes in JEE Main exam pattern may prevent 'grade inflation'

**Delhi:** JEE Main is a major milestone for Indian engineers, opening doors to top universities and launching a successful career. However, the exam is famously difficult due to its design and heavy competitiveness. Over 14 lakh applicants applied for JEE Advanced this year, but 2.5 lakh qualified. The National Testing Agency (NTA) recently announced a JEE Main 2025 exam format change. The NTA announced on Thursday that Section B's optional question structure, introduced in 2021 to ease the COVID-19 epidemic, will be withdrawn. The first JEE Main 2025 application period will commence soon, including details on the NTA's website. JEE Main 2025 test pattern revised JEE Main, a national engineering



### Ayurveda-Biology in NET worries experts Vida Suhlan

admission exam, covers Physics, Chemistry, and Mathematics. From 2021 to 2024, candidates answered 90 questions in three hours. Every subject had 30 questions in two parts: Section A has 20 MCQs and Section B 10 numerical questions. Candidates could choose 5 of 10 numerical problems from Section B. of each subject. It remained in place until the JEE 2024 exam to help students overcome pandemic challenges. JEE Main Section B will return to its prandemic

**Delhi:** The University Grants Commission (UGC) announced that the UGC-National Eligibility Test now includes Ayurveda Biology. "The Commission, in its 581st meeting held on 25th June 2024, has agreed to include "Ayurveda Biology".

format in 2025. with only 5 numerical questions per subject.

## Inner Wheel Chandigarh City Beautiful and NA Cultural Society celebrated Children's Day with students



**Chandigarh:** Inner Wheel Chandigarh City Beautiful and NA Cultural Society celebrated Children's Day with children in a new way at Maharishi Dayanand Public School, MDAV Bhawan, Dariya Chandigarh. They gave sweets to all the children of the school. On this occasion, they provided school shoes to the needy children.

During the program, children were inspired to adopt a healthy lifestyle. They told the students to wash their hands with soap from time to time. Different techniques of washing hands were also told. It is to keep the wash-room clean while using it.

Both the NGOs said that school shoes will be provided to other needy

children as well. The school's Vice Principal Anju Modgil expressed her gratitude to NA Cultural Society and Inner Wheel Chandigarh City Beautiful. On this occasion, President Anita Midda, Treasurer Monika Gupta, Payal from NA Cultural Society Kulwinder, Suman Gupta and Palak were present in the program.

## IIT-Delhi surpasses IIT-Bombay as India's top university



**Delhi:** The 2025 QS Asia University Rankings placed IIT-Delhi first among Indian universities. In one year, the Delhi institute rose two places to 44th in the continent, surpassing IIT-Bombay, which fell eight places to 48th. Asia's top 100 universities include six Indian institutes. IIT-D's rise is due to research, academic reputation, and a growing number of PhD-holding faculty. "There's a lot of emphasis on tech advancement, startups, and solving problems that help society," said IIT-D ranking cell director and planning dean Prof. Vivek Buwa. Following IIT Delhi, IIT Bombay ranks second among Indian colleges in 48th place, down eight spots from last year. Several additional Indian colleges made the ranks, however many fell. IIT Madras declined from 53rd to 56th, IISc Bangalore from 58th to 62nd, and IIT Kanpur from 63rd to 67th. The Core Ultra makes strides IIT Delhi topped India's QS Rankings due to advances in numerous categories. Its performance in 'citations per paper,' a criterion that measures research impact by assessing the average number of citations per published paper, was particularly impressive. 'Papers/publications per professor' was another important criteria that the institute got 95 out of 100. With nearly 640 regular faculty.



# Army Service Corps & Rajasthan Polo Club won their matches on opening day

**Chandigarh:** The Army Service Corps (ASC) and Rajasthan Polo Club won their inaugural matches on the opening day of the Maharaja Ranjit Singh National Polo Trophy being played at Chandigarh Polo Club, Khuda Lahora under the aegis of Indian Polo Association (IPA). Army Service Corps (ACS) kicked off their campaign on a winning note when they outclassed Hyderabad Polo and Riding Club (HPRC) 8 - 4.5. Sepoy Mukesh Gurjar of Supply Corps, the top scorer with four excellent goals controlled the game for Services while Sepoy Ravinder Mang smashed three



targets to the goal post. Major Qaramat Ali scored one goal. Salim Azmi managed three goals for the losing side. Earlier, Rajasthan Polo Club (RPC) defeated host Chandigarh Polo Club (CPC) 12.5 - 4. The trio

of Shubham Gupta, Alan Shaun Michael and Yuvraj Singh Ranawat from RPC took the command over the game from second round with the final scoreline in thier favour.

Season will

witness the General Zorawar Singh Trophy matches for Young Riders scheduled on Tuesday.

Host Chandigarh will take on neighbouring Panchkula in the opening encounter.

Meanwhile Remount and Veterinary Corps will play against 61 Cavalry on the second day of the Maharaja Ranjit Singh Trophy while Army Service Corps will lock horns against Hyderabad Polo and Riding Club.

## Campa starts cola price war

**Delhi:** Reliance is Jio-ing Campa Cola. PepsiCo and Coca-Cola are worried about the brand's disruptive pricing. Campa Cola sells 200 ml bottles for Rs 10, cheaper than Coca-Cola and PepsiCo's Rs 20 (only for PET bottles). Campa Cola offers a Rs 10-20 discount on practically all pack sizes. Distributors in South and East India informed that Coca-Cola and PepsiCo are not lowering prices but are taking other tactical approaches. In Kerala, Coca-Cola is working to improve store margins. Retailers exclusively promote brands with high profits. Retailers used to pay Rs 75 for

# RIL DOING A JIO?

Campa Cola	Coca-Cola, PepsiCo	
200ml   ₹10	250ml   ₹20	<p>➤ While Coca-Cola and PepsiCo haven't slashed product prices yet, they are <b>deploying other tactical measures</b></p> <p>➤ Coca-Cola is working on giving <b>better margins</b> to retailers in parts of markets like Kerala</p> <p>➤ PepsiCo might push <b>lower-priced packs</b> into the market, a distributor of the brand said</p>
500ml   ₹20	600ml   ₹40	
2L   ₹80	2.25L   ₹100	
		

\*Source: co, distributors; Prices only for PET bottles

2.5-litre Coca-Cola bottles (MRP Rs 100). This time, before Onam, they cut it to Rs 65. According to a Kerala-based Coca-Cola distributor, Campa's entry may be to blame. The difference between a retailer's purchase price and its retail price is called retailer margin. However, a PepsiCo distributor claimed the company may release cheaper packets. In a recent

earnings call, PepsiCo's India bottling partner Varun Beverages warned they would "fight" Campa's pricing if the market demands. Campa is being promoted by Reliance on the ground and distributors are sought. Distributors stated they want to copy Jio. PepsiCo declined to comment, while Coca-Cola and Reliance did not.

## RBI's rosy growth forecast baffles economists

**Delhi.** The Reserve Bank of India's upbeat growth estimates for the world's fastest-growing major economy is causing both confusion and concern among economists. The central bank has stuck to its forecast that India's economy will expand 7.2% in the year ending March 2025 despite recent



evidence showing activity is starting to taper off. The RBI's outlook is far more optimistic than the 6.5%-7% growth projected by Prime Minister Narendra Modi's government.

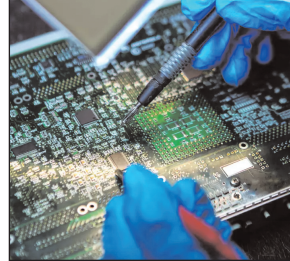
Investment banks like Goldman Sachs Corp have already downgraded growth projections to as low as 6.5%. The RBI's bullishness is underpinned by its view that rural spending is improving and private investment is picking up. Economists, though, point to sluggish urban consumption and weakening .

### PVT telcos lose subscribers as BSNL gains

**Delhi:** The state-owned Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited (BSNL) has seen a significant increase in its subscriber base in recent months, which is good news for the corporation. The corporation, which has been lagging behind the private telecom carriers, would feel more confident after hearing this news. Many customers are now choosing BSNL as a result of recent rate increases by Jio, Airtel, and Vodafone Idea. The most recent statistics from telecom watchdog TRAI indicates that BSNL's user base has increased during the previous two months.

## Mostly PCs and telecom parts drive Chinese imports

**Delhi:** The increase in Chinese imports may be due to computers, communications equipment, and their components, whereas pharmaceutical compounds have fallen. April-August Chinese imports into India surged approximately 11% to \$46.6 billion from \$42 billion last year. The commerce department reported a \$1.5 billion increase in computer and machinery shipments and \$3.2 billion in electrical machinery, electronics, and telecom goods entering India. GTRI found that these 10 groups accounted for 83.8% of India's Chinese imports and grew 14.7% from April to August



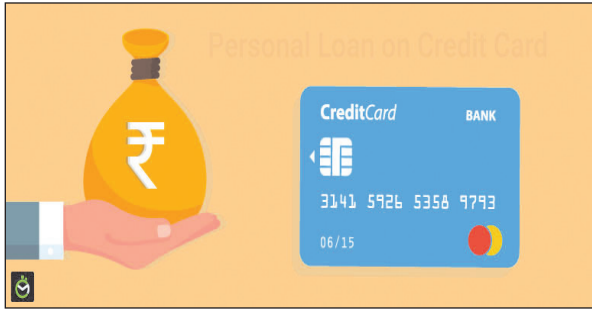
2024. Electronics, machinery, and organic chemicals make up two-thirds of India's imports from its neighbor. India's trade imbalance with China rose to \$40.8 billion in April-August 2024 from \$35.7 billion a year earlier as imports rose and exports declined 8% to \$6.3 billion. Mobile components and phones rose 63% to \$2.7 billion, mostly due to parts

used in Indian phone manufacturing. Smartphone imports from China fell to \$76 million in the first five months of the fiscal year from \$187 million. LDP STARTING @ 1999\* Computer and laptop imports rose 13.5% to \$2.5 billion while the government reviewed the import regulations to focus on domestic imports and most Chinese items. Solar modules, cells, and panels imports rose 50% to \$1.1 billion. HF Piluwe Start ROI at 5.99% ???o GIFT HF. Peluxe Antibiotic imports stayed unchanged at \$700 million, but lithium ion cell imports fell 20% to \$837 million.

## Private lenders see credit card, personal loan stress

**Delhi:** Rising stress in Kotak Mahindra Bank's personal loans, credit card, and microfinance portfolios has hurt quarterly earnings. In the September quarter, the fourth largest private sector lender's net income rose 4.8% to Rs 3,344 crore. Street brokerages expected at least Rs 3,494 crore in net profit, but the statistics were far lower. The stress in the personal loan book, microfinance, and credit cards surprised management, led by CEO Ashok Vaswani and CFO Devang Gheewalla, who were optimistic about the quarter. They claimed 40% of the new stress is in the credit card book and ascribed it to the RBI bank enrolling new clients through digital channels, which has de-grown the book in the quarter.

The surge in delinquencies is dis-



### Rising inventory levels in India's domestic vehicle market are shown by monsoon discounts

**Delhi:** You can't help but see brochures for the recently released Dream Series edition as soon as you walk into a Maruti Suzuki India Ltd (MSIL) outlet in West Delhi. Additionally, the dealership offers exclusive monsoon discounts on a few models of up to Rs 1 lakh. Similar cir-

cumstances may be found at the dealerships of Mahindra & Mahindra and Tata Motors where, in the face of growing competition, discounts of up to ~1.4 lakh are available on certain models, such as the XUV700, Tata Harrier, and Tata Safari.

proportionate. The crucial net interest income was Rs 7,019.3 crore, exceeding brokerage projections of Rs 6,977 crore. The bank's net interest

margin fell to 4.91 percent from 5.22 percent year-over-year. The bank cut gross NPAs to 1.49 percent from 1.72 percent.

## Shapoorji Pallonji Group's Afcons Infra IPO receives 10 pc subscription on Day 1 of offer

**Delhi:** The initial public offer of Shapoorji Pallonji Group's flagship infrastructure engineering and construction firm Afcons Infrastructure Ltd received 10 per cent subscription on the first day of subscription. The initial share sale received bids for

85,94,016 shares against 8,66,19,950 shares on offer, as per NSE data. The portion for Retail Individual Investors (RIIs) fetched 14 per cent subscription while the quota for non-institutional investors got subscribed 11 per cent. The Qualified Institutional Buyers

## Delhi plans to plant 2.3 lakh trees and 3.8 lakh bushes in parks

**Delhi:** To reduce dust pollution and increase green cover, the Municipal Corporation of Delhi plans to plant 2.3 lakh trees and 3.8 lakh bushes in parks, schools, open spaces, and roadsides this year. In 2023-24, the city planted two lakh trees and 3.25 lakh plants. The horticulture department requested zonal office requirements to complete the assignment. "We will plant when the details are acquired. An officer stated schools, hospitals, parks, and below flyovers are used for this. He stated that the government will continue roadside tree planting in some colonies at homeowners' request.

MCD plans to carpet or repair 50 km of interior roadways by Oct. to reduce dust. A civic council wants to resurface 180km of roads by Oct. Road maintenance and resurfacing are ongoing. After winter, we started dense carpet work on damaged areas. Work is being done with MLA or Mukhyamantri Sadak Punarnirman Yojna non-plan head funding "said the official. Our 52 mechanical road sweepers are for PWD roads. He added that 195 water sprinklers, jet machines, and 30 mobile anti-smog guns are reducing dust pollution on roadways. PWD gave MCD 60 anti-smog weapons to reduce dust near construction sites. In highrises, 15 smog cannons are deployed. The official claimed these work as needed. In response to summer fires, MCD has limited unauthorised entry and the carrying of cigarettes, bidis, lighters, and matchboxes. "Supervisory staff must notify Delhi Fire Services immediately of fires. Junior engineers and supervisors have SOPs for 24/7 landfill supervision. The official stated fresh solid garbage is unloaded, compacted, and coated with bio-cover to prevent fires.

## Airtel partners with Google Cloud to provide Indian businesses cloud and gen-AI solutions

**Delhi:** Bharti Airtel and Google Cloud are partnering to offer Indian businesses cloud and generative-AI solutions. The telecom company will use Google Cloud products to accelerate cloud adoption and modernization through the agreement. Airtel will offer cloud-managed services to its corporate customers, including over 2,000 large organizations and a million developing businesses. This partnership targets India's big and rising public cloud services industry, which IDC predicts will be worth \$17.8 billion by 2027. Bharti Airtel managing director and CEO Gopal Vittal said, "Cloud and AI solutions will drive India's digital transformation. We're excited to collaborate with Google Cloud to provide safe and scalable cloud solutions for government, companies, and startups. Our collaboration will speed the implementation of generative AI in the country and uncover its potential to solve challenges. Airtel will also use Google Cloud's generative AI to improve its mobile, broadband, and digital TV consumer experiences and internal processes. Airtel will also offer similar services to its Indian and global B2B customers. According to Google Cloud CEO Thomas Kurian, "Our strategic partnership with Airtel is a major step for accelerating cloud and AI adoption in India. We want to develop disruptive solutions to improve Airtel's customer experience through our relationship."

Airtel will train artificial-intelligence and machine-learning solutions on its enormous dataset using the two businesses' strengths—connectivity and AI technology.



## Maharishi Dayanand Public School's Pre Primary and Primary classes Annual function concluded

CHANDIGARH:

Maharishi Dayanand Public School, MDAV Bhawan, Daria, Chandigarh's Pre Primary and Primary classes Annual function concluded. The program was inaugurated by NRI Sudarshan Garg who had come from Chicago, USA and Area Councilor Bimla Dubey. NRI Sudarshan Garg was present as the chief guest said that study should not be done with stress but with the spirit of learning. Presence of mind is necessary to remain alert towards the events happening around. Knowledge helps a person to progress towards greatness. Life should be lived with laughter. It is necessary to love the younger ones and respect the elders while being disciplined. Study teaches the art of living. He said that he will always keep making efforts for the upliftment of the school as



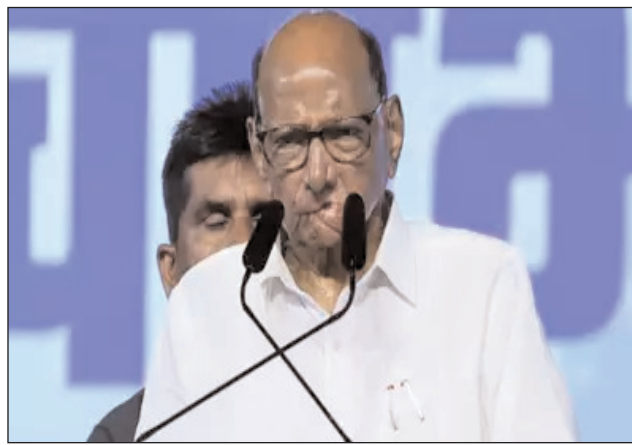
before. Councilor Bimla Dubey was as Guest of Honour. She motivated the students and praised the efforts being made by the school for the spread of education in the rural area. He said that parents also have an important responsibility in the upliftment of children. It is important to take out time for them. He said that children should also not forget their duties. They should also leave laziness and do their work themselves. Appreciating the achievements of the

students, she inspired them to move forward with dedication and confidence. NRI Sudarshan Garg and Bimla Dubey were honored with the school's memento for doing commendable work for the upliftment of education in rural areas. Pre-primary children dressed in colorful costumes gave their charming performance on different songs. Expressing concern about environmental imbalance, students of primary classes gave the message.

## Sharad Pawar questions EC's role, says democracy is in danger

PUNE: NCP (SP) chief Sharad Pawar on Saturday said some people had raised red flags on possibility of "30% vote manipulation" ahead of the recent assembly polls in Maharashtra, and the election outcome prima facie showed there was truth to the claims. "Before elections, some people made a presentation that it is possible (to increase votes through manipulation), and they also raised a red flag saying it will be done in the elections. It was our shortcoming that we did not pay heed to them," Pawar said, questioning role of EC.

"We never thought that EC would go to that extent in taking a wrong stand. After the poll results, however, prima facie it appears that the red flags raised by those people held some truth," he said when asked about opposition's take on EVM issue. Pawar was at Pune's Mahatma Phule Wada to meet 95-year-old social worker Baba Adhav, who is on a hunger strike against



the alleged corruption and use of money in the recent elections. After the meeting, the veteran politician said, "Parliamentary democracy looks in danger, given the current situation. Those in govt have no interest in this." "Opposition has been raising the issues in Parliament for the last six days, but not even for a minute has the discussion happened on issues of national interest," Pawar said. Despite EC's repeated assertions denying the possibility of EVM tampering, opposition parties have been alleging manipulation of voting machines in the assembly polls, questioning the spurt in number of votes polled in the last

hour of voting. During his interaction with Adhav, Pawar said some people had claimed 30% of votes could be added to increase the vote count. On Congress's plan to launch a nationwide movement over the EVM issue, he further said, "The issue was raised in Congress Working Committee's meeting, where it was suggested that it should be raised by members of the INDIA bloc at national level. A decision on the issue is expected either on Monday or Tuesday." Speaking about Adhav's hunger strike, the veteran politician said, "Adhav's agitation has given voice to concerns of common people.

## CAPSULES

### Bangladesh carriers cancel 3 daily flights as flyer count nosedives

KOLKATA: At least two daily flights between Kolkata and Dhaka and one between Kolkata and Chittagong have been cancelled by airlines operating between the two countries as passenger count continues to nosedive in the wake of continued unrest in Bangladesh, attacks on minorities and curbs on travel due to Indian visa restrictions.

Bangladesh's flag bearer, Biman Bangladesh, has cut operations between Kolkata and Dhaka from twice daily to a single flight a day. The country's private carrier, US-Bangla Airlines, has reduced the frequency to Dhaka from twice daily to once and has discontinued the flight to Chittagong.

Indian carrier IndiGo still continues to operate its twice-daily schedule, but sources said the airline was closely following the situation in Dhaka. The dip in passenger loads over the past few months, which has further accentuated in recent days, was a cause for concern, they said.

The number of flights from Kolkata to Dhaka/Chittagong has dipped from 125 in Sept to 97 in Nov. Consequently, the count of departing passengers has reduced from 15,479 in Sept to 12,747 in Nov. The number of arrivals to Kolkata from Bangladesh has dipped from 114 in Sept to 96 in Nov, resulting in a drop in passenger count from 12,540 in Sept to 10,121 now.

Kolkata: Bangladeshi carriers have been the worst-hit due to the crisis in the country. Biman Bangladesh flights from Kolkata are down from 59 in July to 28 in Nov while US-Bangla Airlines has fared worse with flight departures down from 84 in July to 24 now.

## EC to meet Congress team, hear out poll process complaints

NEW DELHI: Election Commission, in its interim response Saturday to concerns raised by Congress regarding "arbitrary deletion and additions of voters" and increase in voting percentages between 5pm and 11.30pm on polling day in the recent Maharashtra and Jharkhand elections, reiterated that electoral roll updation is a transparent process conducted with the involvement of all political parties. The commission also agreed to meet a Congress delegation to hear the



party's concerns regarding the polling process, EC sources said. While ruling out any discrepancy in turnout data, EC clarified - just as it had when similar doubts were raised by Congress during the 2024 Lok Sabha elec-

tions - that the gap in the 5pm data and the final voter turnout was on account of procedural priorities, as presiding officers perform statutory duties near the close of polling before updating voter turnout data. EC underlined in the letter sent

to Congress's law, human rights and RTI department, that the poll panel has, starting with the 2024 general elections, made it a standard practice to put out a press statement with updated voter turnout figures as of 11.45pm on polling day, as an "additional disclosure measure". Congress had flagged the twin concerns despite the varied results in Maharashtra and Jharkhand - while the BJP-led Mahayuti alliance won a landslide in Maharashtra, UPA recorded a spectacular win in Jharkhand.

## Two accused arrested with consignment of banned drugs, 2400 capsules and 5400 tablets recovered

Karnal: Under the able guidance and leadership of Superintendent of Police Karnal, taking forward the Karnal Drug Free Campaign, the Crime Unit Anti Narcotics Cell team of the District Police, on the basis of secret information, raided in a planned manner on 29.11.2024 from Lalupura Mod Mangalaura and arrested two accused Arf son of Irfan and Ans son of Inam residents of Ward No. 17 Gulshan Nagar, Shamli Uttar Pradesh. The police team recov-



ered 2400 banned Tramadol capsules and 5400 banned Alprazolam tablets from the possession of the accused. Incharge Anti Narcotics Cell Sub Inspector Himmat Singh said that

a case has been registered against the above accused in Madhuban police station under sections of NDPS Act. On interrogation, the accused revealed that this consignment of drugs was given to

them by an unknown person and they were told through WhatsApp call that they have to supply this consignment in Mangalaura area, for which they were to get a huge amount. He said that today both the accused will be produced before the honorable court and police remand will be obtained and during the remand, the accused who provided them the consignment of drugs will be traced and he will also be arrested as soon as possible.

## Congress: Ex-CJI opened Pandora's box on Places of Worship Act

NEW DELHI:

Congress general secretary in-charge communications Jairam Ramesh on Saturday said the Places of Worship (Special Provisions) Act, 1991 is in the news these days because of certain oral observations

made in 2022 by then Chief Justice of India D Y Chandrachud that have since opened a "Pandora's box". On May 20, 2022, the top court had made oral observations while hearing a dispute involving the Gyanvapi mosque in Varanasi saying that the PoW Act does not bar ascertaining the religious character of a structure as on August 15, 1947. In his post on X, Ramesh said, "On September 12, 1991, the Rajya Sabha debated the Bill that subsequently became the Places of Worship (Special Provisions) Act, 1991. This is in the news very much these days because

of oral observations made by the just-retired Chief Justice of India D.Y. Chandrachud on May 20, 2022 that has since opened a Pandora's Box." "On the occasion of this Parliamentary debate, perhaps one of the greatest speeches in the Rajya Sabha's history was made by the distinguished author Rajmohan Gandhi who was then Janata Dal MP representing UP," he added. "It was a masterclass in Indian culture, traditions, history, and politics as well. His brilliant speech, with that lovely excerpt from the Mahabharata, has continuing relevance," the

## Injecting drug users are inviting death: Dr. Ashok Kumar Verma

Karnal: The World Health Organization has launched many such campaigns from the health point of view across the world so that humans can live a healthy life. Among these, a special campaign has also been launched regarding AIDS. 1 December is celebrated as World AIDS Day all over the world. It started in the year 1988. Its main objective is to create awareness about AIDS, research on this subject and brainstorming about its eradication. The full form of AIDS is 'acquired immune deficiency syndrome'. It is a virus named HIV (Human immunodeficiency virus). In the 1980s, people had a lot of fear and various beliefs and misconceptions about AIDS. To remove this, awareness programs were conducted in India through television and newspapers so that people become aware about this subject and this disease can be controlled. This is a global problem. Let us tell you that HIV is not spread by eating, drinking, touching, shaking hands or kissing, nor is it spread through air, water or insect bites. When does this actually happen? Let us shed some light on this.



(Human Immunodeficiency Virus) i.e. (HIV) seriously damages the immunity of the human body. It weakens the human body so much that the human body loses its ability to resist diseases. This is the reason why the body of such a person gets infected. The HIV virus is a chronic and life threatening condition. According to experts, AIDS disease is caused by HIV. There are various reasons, but today where the problem of drugs is becoming serious in the world, the use of illegal injections is becoming one of the reasons for this. Injecting many people with the same needle is one of the main reasons for this. Although now it is completely banned, but the drug addicts are

not able to get needles or the medical store owners cannot sell it to anyone, so in such a situation, the people injecting drugs use the same needle again and again and not only this, if many people inject drugs with one needle, then the risk of becoming HIV positive increases a lot. Its prevalence and use among the youth is a matter of concern. Such drug users are becoming victims of HIV. Many diseases are arising among the youth who take drugs. Many such cases have come to light in which the youth took two injections simultaneously and died on the spot. The Indian government is working on a war footing for the drug-free campaign, on the other hand, many states are also working in this field, but awareness can prove to be the most useful weapon because due to lack of awareness, the youth are moving in this direction. The most important need is to spread awareness among the people living at a low level. Although the government has taken many measures for the reform of such drug users. Free treatment is possible in the de-addiction centers run by the government.

### Delhi's government is surveying registered retirees

Delhi: Delhi's government is surveying registered retirees after "fake" beneficiaries received "women in distress" funds. The drill involves anganwadi personnel, officials say. They verify beneficiaries' ancestors at their registered addresses. Final reports are expected before the end of the month. The pensioner list will be updated to remove "fake" beneficiaries found during verification. A top Delhi government official said the department of women and child development had received allegations that some women had faked paperwork to acquire the monthly allowance for distressed women. The government randomly found ineligible women receiving pensions under the plan. "The verification drive is being carried out to ensure that financial assistance under the scheme is extended only to genuine beneficiaries and to identify.