

# AKHAND BHARAT SANDESH

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इन्फोबॉक्स INFOBOX

## Belgian court clears Choksi's extradition

**New Delhi:** A Belgian court on Friday upheld the arrest of fugitive diamondaire Mehul Choksi by Belgian police on India's request and approved his extradition to face trial in Rs 13,000 crore bank fraud case. This significant development comes after Choksi's arrest in Antwerp in April this year. Choksi, uncle of another high-profile fugitive Nirav Modi who is in jail in UK, can appeal the order in a higher court in the next 15 days. However, officials in India expressed satisfaction over the development saying that Belgian court's order marked an important step towards his return to India. Declared a flight risk, Choksi was denied bail and has been lodged in an Antwerp prison. With his arrest upheld, he is likely to stay in prison until the Belgian judiciary decides India's case for him being sent back. Earlier in Aug, at least two Belgian courts rejected Choksi's bail plea after the Indian law enforcement argued that Choksi was a habitual absconder and was likely to flee to another country if granted bail. The CBI gave Belgian prosecutors with details of his involvement in economic offences in India and his escape from US and Antigua in the past besides the two open warrants against him.

## HC: 'Functional sight' enough for government job

**New Delhi:** Delhi HC has said "seeing" is not limited to physical sight, but extends to the ability to understand, reports Abhinav Garg. "The function of sight... is in fact largely performed by the brain... power of cognition and understanding vests in the brain, not solely the eye, which acts only as a recorder and transmitter," it said. "If a blind candidate, with the aid of assistive devices, is able to perceive what is necessary to discharge the functions of the JE (Law) post, they must be regarded as possessing the functional attribute of sight," HC said Thursday, partly allowing a plea by three candidates.

# SC seeks MHA, CBI plan to dismantle cybercrime mafia

Such acts constitute a direct assault on the dignity and majesty of this institution

**"We are aghast that the fraudsters fabricated judicial orders in the name of SC"**



**NEW DELHI:** Supreme Court on Friday sought to know from the ministry of home affairs and CBI what pan-India action was required to unearth cybercrime syndicates extorting money from people, especially senior citizens, by threatening them with digital arrest. "We are of the prima facie view that stern action on pan India basis with coordinated efforts between central (agencies) and state police is required to unearth the full extent of

this criminal enterprise involving forgery of judicial documents, cyber extortion and cyber arrest of innocent people, especially senior citizens," a bench of Justices Surya Kant and Joymalya Bagchi said. The order came in a writ petition registered suo motu by SC after a septuagenarian couple from Ambala alleged that fraudsters forced them to part with over Rs 1 crore by displaying forged SC orders

through WhatsApp and video conferencing. "We are aghast that the fraudsters fabricated judicial orders in the name of SC and various other documents," the court said. The bench said ordinarily it would have ordered the Ambala cyber cell to expedite the probe but when judicial orders and judge's signatures were forged with impunity, and the crime appeared to be spreading to many parts of the country,

coordinated investigation was required. It requested attorney general R Venkataramani to assist the court in the matter. "Forgery of documents and brazen criminal misuse of the name, seal, and judicial authority of SC or (Bombay) HC is a matter of grave concern. The fabrication of judicial orders bearing forged signatures of judges strikes at the very foundation of public trust in the judicial system, besides the rule of law," SC said. "Such acts constitute a direct assault on the dignity and majesty of this institution; therefore, such grave criminal acts cannot be treated as ordinary or routine offences of cheating.

## No eligible student in UP will be deprived of scholarship: Yogi

Lucknow

Ahead of Diwali, Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath gave a significant boost to the student's education in Uttar Pradesh by distributing over Rs 300 crore in scholarships to 10,28,205 students via Direct Benefit Transfer (DBT). The Chief Minister emphasized that the initiative aims to support talented students and remove financial barriers in their education, marking another milestone in the double-engine government's mission for educational empowerment under Prime Minister Narendra Modi leadership. Earlier, on Vijayadashami, a large number of students were also awarded scholarships. CM Yogi highlighted that in the past, the scholarship process was plagued by bias, delays and corruption. But with the adoption of the technology-based DBT system under PM Modi leadership, eligible students now receive funds directly into their bank accounts. He further announced that scholarships will now be distributed twice a year, in October and January, so that students receive timely assistance. In 2016-17, only



46 lakh students benefited from scholarships: today, that number has increased to 62 lakhs. CM Yogi said, "Over 3.56 lakh students from scheduled castes and scheduled tribes received Rs 114.92 crore, more than 97,000 students from the general category received Rs 29.18 crore, 4.83 lakh students from other backward classes received Rs 126.69 crore and 90,758 students from the Minority community received Rs 27.16 crore of scholarship through direct benefit transfer (DBT)." As PM Modi emphasizes, transparency defines good governance," he said. "The DBT system exemplifies this principle in action. The Chief Minister reiterated that no eligible student in the state will be left without a scholarship.

## We can't direct President not to act on governot-referred bills: SC

**Delhi:** Supreme Court on Friday spurned the Tamil Nadu govt's plea for a direction to the President not to take decision on two bills — one to establish Kalaingar University and the other amending the TN Physical Education and Sports University Act — which according to the state were "unconstitutionally" referred to her by the governor disregarding the advice of council of ministers, reports Dhananjay



Mahapatra. "We cannot pass an order preventing the President from taking a decision," said a bench of CJI B R Gavai and Justice K Vinod Chandran when senior advocate P Wilson

pleaded that the governor had acted in violation of the constitutional mandate to act in aid and advice of the council of ministers. Adjourning hearing on two writ petitions filed by TN challenging the governor's decision, the bench said, "You would have to wait at most for four weeks to get a clear picture." A five-judge bench led by the CJI had on Sept 11 reserved verdict on President's Reference.

## Mozambique boat tragedy: Three Indians dead, five missing

**NEW DELHI:** At least three Indian nationals have died, and five are missing after a launch boat capsized off Beira port in central Mozambique, the Indian High Commission said. The accident happened on Friday during a routine crew transfer to a tanker anchored offshore. Fourteen Indian nationals were on the boat when it overturned for reasons yet to be determined. The High Commission confirmed five people were rescued and are safe, with one receiving treatment in a Beira hospital. It



is coordinating with local authorities and maritime agencies to continue the search for the five missing Indians. Families of the deceased are being supported, and the mission expressed condolences over the loss of life. "We convey our heartfelt condolences on the loss of lives, including of three Indian nationals, in a boat acci-

dent off Beira port. Mission is in contact with families of those who have lost their lives in this unfortunate accident and is extending all possible assistance to them," the mission posted. The High Commission confirmed five people were rescued and are safe, with one receiving treatment in a Beira hospital.

## Trans rights reduced to dead letters': SC, appoints panel to frame job

**A bench of Justices J B Pardiwala and R Mahadevan expressed its anguish over the "lethargic" attitude**



**NEW DELHI:** It was 11 years ago that Supreme Court recognised transgender people as the 'third gender' and upheld their funda-

mental right to equality and dignity. Observing that discrimination still continued, however, the court on Friday appointed a

committee headed by a retired Delhi HC judge to frame a comprehensive equal opportunity policy for the community in the arenas of

employment and education. It also directed setting up of a transgender protection cell and a dedicated nationwide toll-free helpline number. A bench of Justices J B Pardiwala and R Mahadevan expressed its anguish over the "lethargic" attitude of the Centre and states to protect the communi-

ty's rights. It said the Transgender Persons (Protection of Rights) Act, 2019 — which sought to prevent social exclusion, discrimination, unemployment and lack of educational and medical facilities faced by transgender persons — remained in law books and was never implemented in true spirit.

## 'India won't be buying Russian oil': Trump doubles down on claim

**Trump repeated his stance on India's energy imports, saying, "India won't be buying Russian oil anymore"**



**US President Donald Trump** on Friday reiterated his claim that "India won't be buying Russian oil," a claim that has since been refuted by New Delhi. Speaking at a joint press briefing with Ukrainian President

Volodymyr Zelenskyy at the White House, Trump repeated his stance on India's energy imports, saying, "India won't be buying Russian oil anymore." While Trump has advocated using tariffs to curb Russia's war in

Ukraine, provided Nato countries stop importing Russian oil, he appeared to make an exception for Hungary. "Hungary is sort of stuck because they have one pipeline that's been there for years and years, and they're inland. I spoke with the very great leader of Hungary, and they are, you know, it's very hard for them to get oil. I understand it," he said.

## First Tejas-Mk1A from Nashik completes maiden flight

**NASHIK:** The first Tejas-Mk1A fighter aircraft produced at defence PSU HAL Nashik complex completed its maiden flight here on Friday. The aircraft was rolled out after defence minister Rajnath Singh formally inaugurated the LCA and HTT-40 assembly complexes here. The formal induction of Tejas-Mk1A into the IAF, however, will depend on the successful completion of ongoing weapon.

## Our commitment is 'Ek Bharat Shreshtha Bharat'; Congress-SP continue 'Divide and Rule': CM Yogi

Lucknow

On the occasion of Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel's 150th birth anniversary campaign, a state-level workshop was held at Atal Convention Center in the capital, where Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath sharply criticized opposition parties. He said, "The Congress, Samajwadi Party, and independent alliances continue to follow the British 'Divide and Rule' policy, creating divisions in society based on caste, community, and religion to undermine national unity and integrity." The



Chief Minister highlighted that when India was gaining independence, the British conspired to divide the country into multiple parts, ensuring that India could never be united. However, the Iron Man, Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel,

with his extraordinary vision and determination, merged 563 princely states into the Indian Republic, strengthening national unity. He stated that the United India, spanning from north to south and east to west, is a gift from Sardar Patel. To honour him, National Unity Day has been celebrated every year on 31 October under the leadership of Prime Minister Narendra Modi for the past 11 years. CM Yogi stated that the BJP, along with the central and state governments, is working to realise Sardar Patel's dream of 'Ek

Bharat Shreshtha Bharat.' He emphasised that when the opposition engages in divisive politics, it is the BJP's responsibility to spread the message of unity and integrity to every village and assembly. The Chief Minister announced that a 'Run for Unity' will be held across the state on 31 October. From 1 to 26 November, an 8-10 km long 'Ekta Padyatra' will take place in every assembly constituency. Retired army personnel, farmers, workers, BJP-affiliated organizations, NSS, NCC, and Scout & Guide members will participate.

## In reversal of colonial times, IAF instructors to train UK's RAF fighter pilots

**LONDON:** In a historic reversal of colonial times, two top guns from the Indian Air Force will soon be training Royal Air Force fighter pilots in the UK. The two IAF instructors will train



RAF aircrew officers

who are completing flying training at No. 4 Flying Training School in RAF Valley on the island of Anglesey, off the northwest coast of Wales. A senior RAF source told : "The start date remains to be

confirmed; however it will not be before Oct 2026. UK familiarisation and training may take up to a year or less, depending on experience." It is understood that their salaries will be

paid by India, while the UK ministry of defence will provide accommodation. The school is where the UK's next generation of fighter pilots get trained on the BAE Hawk TMk2.

## AI cabin crew robbed at Gurgaon hotel by intruders

**NEW DELHI:** In a shocker, intruders allegedly barged into a hotel in Gurgaon sector 42 where 4-5 cabin crew of Air India were staying on Wednesday (Oct 15) night. They were allegedly threatened

to remain silent as they were robbed. Air India says immediately after the same was reported to the airline, the staffers were shifted to another hotel. An AI spokesperson said: "We are deeply con-

cerned by an unfortunate incident of intrusion and theft at a Gurugram hotel where some of our crew colleagues were staying during a training programme. Crew safety is a top priority at Air India.



## Removed encroachments on NH 927



### Bahraich

In the border town of Rupaidiha, officials from the Land Records Department of Nanpara and Risia, officials and employees of NH 927 and the EO of Adarsh Nagar Panchayat Rupaidiha, along with their colleagues, only removed encroachments on NH 927. In the name of encroachment, only the tin sheets above the shopkeepers were removed, indicating no encroachment. The team did not visit Railway Station Road on Monday, despite the heavy encroachment on this road. The same situation is with Bajaja Market and Mal Godown Road. People have placed goods for sale on the public road in front of their shops. Customers' vehicles are parked in front of this road, causing traffic jams for hours. The Nagar Panchayat Azad Road is severely encroached. It was formerly known as Kachhi Line. Now it is Azad Nagar Ward No. 12. Encroachments have been removed several times in Rupaidiha, but no official or official has visited this road to date. Therefore, the shopkeepers here fearlessly keep their goods on the road. Some illegal shops on the primary school land were removed. However, three shops still stand illegally within the primary school boundary. Neither the Nagar Panchayat nor the SDM Nanpara paid any attention to this. According to information received from school sources, written and oral complaints were made to senior departmental officials several times, but no action was taken.

# MP Hema Malini's dance drama "Yashoda Krishna" created a wonderful confluence of devotion and love

### Mathura

On Tuesday evening, the tenth day of Braj Raj Utsav 2025, Padmashree MP Hema Malini unique performance filled the atmosphere with devotion and emotion. She presented her famous dance drama "Yashoda Krishna" on stage, in which she presented Mother Yashoda love and the captivating pranks of Bal Krishna in a highly emotional manner. The famous dance drama "Yashoda Krishna" performed by actress Hema Malini was staged at Braj Raj Utsav 2025, held at the Railway Ground in Dhaulipya. With every expression, posture and



rhythm of the dance, Hema Malini, along with her fellow artists, embodied the tenderness of motherhood and the mischievous nature of Krishna childhood, captivating the audience. When Krishna steals butter on stage and Yashoda lovingly scolds him, the scene felt so lifelike,

## Active engagement of security forces from both countries will curb border crime: Commandant Udavat

### Bahraich

A meeting was held between security personnel from Nepal and India to prevent crime and smuggling along the border. The meeting discussed the prevention of crime and human trafficking along the border. A counterpart meeting was held at the SSB 42nd Battalion headquarters in Aggaya, Nanpara, between Commandant Ganga Singh Udavat and Superintendent of Police Shobhahant Khanal of the Nepali Armed Police Force 30th Battalion, Bageshwari Headquarters. The meeting discussed in detail issues of mutual cooperation, coordination, and trust-building between security officials from both countries regarding border security. Specifically, crime control, smuggling, prevention of illegal activities, information sharing and joint efforts to maintain peace and security in the



border areas were discussed. The Commandant of the 42nd Battalion stated that friendship, mutual respect, and cooperation between Nepal and India are fundamental to stability and security and expressed confidence that such meetings would further deepen trust between the two countries. Similarly, Nepal Armed Police Superintendent Shobhahant Khanal stated

that cooperation between the two sides would play a vital role in border security, crime control and public safety. He also expressed confidence that regular coordination and dialogue would ensure timely resolution of problems arising in the border areas. The SSB Commandant also honored the Nepalese APF Superintendent of Police with a bouquet of flowers.



05 November, 2025

# STATE

## Nirankari devotees from Braj returned with divine teachings and joy from Satguru Mata Sudiksha Maharaj

Messages based on various aspects of self-introspection were given at the 78th Nirankari Sant Samagam

### Mathura

The 78th Nirankari Sant Samagam, filled with love, service, dedication and true knowledge, concluded successfully. Messages based on the main theme of the Samagam, "Self-introspection," were delivered continuously for all four days. Under the holy patronage of Satguru Mata Sudiksha Maharaj and Nirankari Rajpita Ramit, thousands of devotees from the Braj region, along with lakhs of devotees from across India and abroad, participated in the Sant Samagam, along with Mathura Zone Zonal Incharge H.K. Arora and benefited from the unique



joy of spirituality. Media assistant Kishore Swarn, who returned from Samalkha, reported that Sevadaar devotees from Mathura provided services at the gathering, including the Sevadal rally the Nirankari exhibition, the railway counter the press and publicity department the publici-

ty department and the Gyan Kaksha. The Shri Ramji Brajvasi Group from Mathura marked Braj presence by singing verse number 72 of Hardev Vani. Nirankari devotees from Mathura returned on Tuesday, carrying with them the divine teachings and joy received in the form of the Satguru blessings. A group of Sevadal devotees will return on Wednesday morning. Addressing the vast human community gathered from across the world, Satguru Mata Sudiksha Maharaj stated that introspection is not merely a process of reflection, but a practice of looking within, which can be facilitat-

ed by the realization of God. Introspection is truly a path to self-improvement. When the mind connects with the Nirankar God, both inner peace and outer behavior are filled with divinity. She said that being solely attached to material things or abandoning family responsibilities for spiritual progress are both extremes of life. Saints have always advocated for a balanced life, living in the world with detachment and following the path of philanthropy. If we perform every task in life while sensing the presence of the formless God, then that task becomes a service with a detached spirit, ful-

filling both aspects of life. Mata Sudiksha Maharaj said that there is only one formless God who will always remain eternal and true. He is the original source of everything. When we connect with this source and become absorbed in the feeling of oneness, no negative feelings arise in the mind. The main theme of the gathering, "Self-introspection," also leads to this. The self-introspection and the divine teachings received during the four days of the gathering should be incorporated into our lives day and night, throughout our lives, to achieve both our own well-being and that of others.

## SSB personnel apprehended a child and a human trafficker during a checkpoint

### Nabi Ahmed Bahraich

Intensive checking is being conducted at the SSB checkpoint on the India-Nepal border. People are being allowed to enter and exit after checking their ID. A Nepali child was apprehended at the checkpoint in connection with a child labor and human trafficking case, and the human trafficker was arrested. At 7 p.m. on Monday, at the SSB Rupaidiha BOP, SSB personnel became suspicious while interrogating a 12-year-old boy along with a 35-year-old man. During separate interrogations, it was determined



that the boy was being lured and taken to India. The res-

cued minor boy was identified as 12-year-old Jeevan, son of Karan Bahadur, village Sabha Lekhparsa Ward No. 2, Surkhet District, Nepal. 35-year-old Tirtha Bahadur Rijal, son of Bal Bahadur Rijal, of the same village was also apprehended. Tirtha Bahadur was handed over to the neighboring Nepali police station, Jamunha and the minor boy was handed over to the Peace Restoration Home, Nepalganj. The above information was given by Inspector Kumar Rituraj of Rupaidiha BOP SSB 42nd Battalion.

### Delhi

Lok Sabha Speaker Om Birla has conveyed greetings and wishes on the eve of Guru Nanak Jayanti. In his message Shri Birla said: "Heartfelt greetings and best wishes on the occasion of the Prakash Parv of the founder of Sikhism, Sri Guru Nanak Dev. Guru Nanak Dev illuminated the world with the ideals of humanity, equality and truth. His teachings awakened in society the spirit of compassion, service and coexistence and made religion a means for the welfare of humankind. He



conveyed the message of uniting humanity beyond caste, creed and discrimination and taught that righteous action and good deeds are the essence of life. May the sacred teachings of Guru Sahib continue to guide us for ages to come on the path of truth, love and selfless service."

## BSP leader Suresh Singh provided financial support to the victim's family and promised free education for the child

### Mathura

A child and an elderly woman died when the roof of a house collapsed in Nagla Deviya village in the Govardhan area. This accident occurred suddenly and sent shockwaves through the entire area. The families of the deceased and villagers appealed to the government and administration for help. A BSP delegation, led by senior leader and former Lok Sabha candidate Suresh Singh, reached the village to meet with the victim family. He provided ₹51,000 in cash as financial assistance. The Baba Kadhara School family promised to provide the child with free education.



He stated that the party always stands with the needy and must fulfill its responsibility to society in such a tragic time. Attendees included Veerpal Pradhan, Prahlad Singh, G.S. Satanand, Krishna Kumar, Lakhn Singh, Ramanlal, Jalsingh, Kuvarjeet, Radhe Pradhan representative, Sukhveer, Harichand, Puran and Jeevan.

## Raids on seed selling establishments collected 12 suspicious samples

### Bahraich

The enforcement team of the District Agriculture Officer, Bahraich, conducted surprise raids on 15 seed selling establishments in the Risiya area. During the raids, 15 shops, including Maqsood Seed Store, Ajmat Seed Store, Thakur Agricultural Service Center and New Khushali Agricultural Service Center, collected 12 suspicious samples and sent them to the laboratory for testing. District Agriculture Officer Dr. Subedar Yadav stated that a show-cause notice has been issued to Maqsood Seed Store, Risiya, due to incomplete records and



irregularities in issuing cash memo receipts to farmers. If a satisfactory response is not received, strict action will be taken against the concerned under the Seed Control Order 1983 and the Essential Commodities Act 1955. The District Agriculture Officer issued a stern warning to all seed sellers in the district, directing them to

issue cash memo receipts to all farmers at the time of seed sale and to sell only quality seeds to farmers. Dr. Yadav advised farmers to obtain cash memo receipts from shopkeepers when purchasing seeds, so that if any problem arises with the quality of seeds, action can be taken against the seed company and seller concerned.

## Bhajans resonated in the pilgrimage city of Amroha- Arun Rawal's team gave a captivating performance



**Mathura**  
The Tigri Ganga Mela was celebrated with great pomp in Amroha with the support of the Directorate of Culture, Uttar Pradesh and the district administration. On this occasion, spectacular cultural performances were presented on the banks of the Ganga, showcasing artists from India and abroad. Akashvani artist Arun Rawal team won the hearts of the audience with a captivating rendition of bhajans. The team included Jitan Sisodiya, Chandrakant, Pawan Thakur, Arun Sharma, Prakash Sharma and Nitin Wal Brijvasi. Chief guest Dr. Brijesh Kumar, Additional District Magistrate, Amroha, honored the team from Mathura by presenting them with a memento and a sash of Lord Shiva. The cultural atmosphere on the banks of the Ganga was filled with devotion and the essence of Braj.





## District Magistrate Inspects Preparations for Dev Deepawali Issued Necessary Instructions to All Concerned Officials

Akhand Bharat Sandesh

**Prayagraj.** District Magistrate Manish Kumar Verma, along with Additional Police Commissioner Dr. Ajay Pal Sharma, Municipal Commissioner Seelam Sai Teja, and Prayagraj Development Authority Vice Chairman Rishi Raj, traveled by boat to Baluaghat, Gaughat, and the Sangam area on Tuesday, November 5th, in anticipation of the Dev Deepawali and Kartik Purnima celebrations. He then visited the venue to review the preparations and provided necessary guidance to all concerned officials. He instructed all concerned officials present there to discharge their assigned responsibilities responsibly to ensure a



grand and safe conduct of the Dev Deepawali program. The District Magistrate directed proper sanitation arrangements at the Sangam and other ghats. He also directed the concerned officials to ensure adequate arrangements for mobile toilets, drinking water, and lighting. He directed the police department to ensure proper arrangements for

the entry and exit routes and parking for the Dev Deepawali program in the Sangam area. He also directed the electricity department to ensure the installation of generators, lighting, and decorations.

He directed the Public Works Department to arrange checkered plates and roads. He directed the deployment of adequate



numbers of water police and divers, along with barricading at deep water boundaries. He directed the fire department to ensure the availability of fire engines at the venue, and the Chief Medical Officer to ensure the availability of ambulances. The District Magistrate also directed signage to be installed on the routes and strict security arrangements to

be ensured. He directed the sector magistrates to ensure proper lighting of lamps in their sectors during the Deepdan program. He also directed the authorities to organize sand art, selfies, and laser shows in the Sangam area during the Dev Deepawali program. Officers of the concerned departments were present on this occasion.

## An innocent girl's death after falling into an open drain has caused family uproar

Akhand Bharat Sandesh

**Kaushambi.** The gross negligence of the Manjhanpur Municipal Council has once again claimed the life of an innocent girl. A 2-year-old girl tragically died after falling into an open drain. The death has caused widespread dismay among her family. The accident has sparked outrage in the area, and people are demanding action against the municipal administration. The accident occurred on Tuesday in Hazratganj, Manjhanpur Municipal Council area, when a 2-year-old girl was playing outside her home. While playing, she suddenly fell into an open drain near the house. After some time, when the mother did not see her nearby, she began searching for her. Then, she spotted the girl in the drain. The mother somehow pulled the girl out of the drain and immediately rushed her to Manjhanpur Medical College, but doctors declared her dead. The girl's father, Wasim, works as a laborer in Mumbai. The family is devastated by the news



of their daughter's death. Local residents say the municipal corporation's negligence led to this accident. The drain was covered, but after cleaning it, it was left open. Now, young children frequently fall into the open drain. Numerous complaints have been made, but the administration has yet to take any concrete action. On Monday, an 80-year-old woman fell into an open drain in front of the SBI Bank, but people rescued her in time. The people of Manjhanpur are terrified by such frequent incidents. The question now is: when will the municipal administration wake up and when will these death drains be closed?

## DM inspects Kuberi Ghat and Kaleshwar Ghat in view of the Kartik Purnima bath



Akhand Bharat Sandesh

**Kaushambi.** District Magistrate Dr. Amit Pal inspected Kuberi Ghat and Kaleshwar Ghat today to review the arrangements for the Kartik Purnima bath. During the inspection of Kuberi Ghat, the District Magistrate gathered information on the number of devotees expected on Kartik Purnima and directed the Executive Officer, Daranagar, to install more changing rooms and ensure better sanitation. He also directed lighting and the installation of adequate mobile toilets. He directed the Sub-District Magistrate, Sirathu, and the Executive Officer to ensure the safety of devotees, including the provision of floating barriers, divers, and sufficient boats, to prevent

any drowning incidents. During the inspection of Kaleshwar Ghat, the District Magistrate directed the Executive Officer to deploy more sanitation workers to ensure the cleanliness. He instructed the Sub-District Magistrate Sirathu and the Executive Officer to install mobile toilets, ensure adequate divers and boats. He said that it should be ensured that the boatmen have sufficient life jackets. He also instructed the Executive Officer to assign duties to the employees along with their names. On this occasion, Additional District Magistrate Prabudh Singh and Sub-District Magistrate Sirathu Yogesh Kumar Gaur along with other officers and Arun Kesarwani, Vinay Panda etc. were present.

## Police encounter with cow smugglers: Two arrested, one injured

Akhand Bharat Sandesh

**Kaushambi.** On Tuesday morning, in the Sandipan Ghat police station area, the Sandipan Ghat police station and the SOG in-charge had an encounter with cow smugglers near Bhita. Police arrested two cow smugglers. One cow smuggler was injured by a bullet and admitted to the district hospital for treatment. On Tuesday morning, police received information that some cow smugglers were transporting beef in an auto-rickshaw near Bhita. Acting on this information, the Sandipan Ghat police station and the SOG in-charge, along with a police team,



reached the spot and cordoned off the area to try to apprehend the criminals transporting the beef. Seeing themselves surrounded, the accused opened fire on the police team. The police team returned fire in self-defense, hitting one accused in the leg. Another accused was chased and apprehended on the spot by the police team. The injured accused has been admitted to the district hospital Manjhanpur for treatment. The accused

injured in the police encounter gave his name as Zafar Ahmed son of Vakil Ahmed resident of Syed Sarawan police station Charwa and the arrested accused gave his name as Nabiullah son of Amanat Ullah resident of Jalalpur Boriyon police station Sandipan Ghat. Both of them used to transport beef in auto and sell it in retail, the police is busy interrogating the accused. The police have not found any previous criminal history of the arrested

accused. CO Chail Abhishek Singh said that for the past few days, information was continuously being received about people selling beef. On the information of the informer, the police team tried to arrest those who were carrying beef in an auto and selling it, on which the police had an encounter with the cow smugglers. During the encounter, the accused fired at the police team. In the retaliatory firing by the police, one accused got shot in the leg, while another accused was caught after a chase. The injured accused has been admitted to the district hospital for treatment. The accused is being interrogated.

## Student dies after being hit by a train; father says daughter left for computer class and never returned

Akhand Bharat Sandesh

**Prayagraj.** A 17-year-old girl was killed after being hit by a train in the Puramufi police station area. The girl's body was found at Manauri railway station around 6 p.m. Police informed the family and sent the body for post-mortem. Mahesh Kumar Kushwaha, a resident of Mahagaon in the Kaushambi Sandipan Ghat police station area, supports himself and his family through farming. He has five children: three sons and two daughters. His daughter, Khushboo (17), has completed her intermediate education and was currently taking a computer class in Manauri. Father Mahesh

Kushwaha said his daughter had gone to Manauri for a computer class on Saturday. When she did not return home by late evening, he called the computer operator to inquire. He learned that his daughter had left for home. Relatives and acquaintances searched for her, but no trace of her was found. When Puramufi police called the police to the scene to identify the body, the daughter was identified. According to Inspector Puramufi, the body was recovered and identified based on information from local residents. The family has not expressed any suspicions in their complaint. Further legal action will be taken based on the post-mortem report.

## Frustrated by a dispute with his wife, a young man blew his father's head off

Akhand Bharat Sandesh

**Kaushambi.** On Tuesday morning, in Ramdayalpur village, a hamlet of Kaju village in the Charwa area, a young man who had returned from Delhi after a dispute with his wife shot himself. His death caused chaos



among his family members. Hearing the gunshot, villagers rushed to the scene, spreading panic

throughout the village. Police arrived after the incident, inspected the scene, took possession of the

body, sent it for post-mortem, and have launched an investigation. According to information, Dharampal Singh, a resident of Ramdayalpur village, a hamlet of Kaju village in the Charwa police station area, has five sons who live in Delhi with their families and work in

private jobs. His youngest son, Jai Babu, 30, had been in a love relationship with Karishma, daughter of Sanjeet Singh, from Kaju village, his hamlet, for about six years. His girlfriend was married to Pankaj Singh from Chhimi Purain village in Fatehpur district. However, she began

living with Jai Babu in Delhi. Two months ago, when they returned to the village, their families arranged a court marriage. However, Karishma continued to speak with her first husband. This sparked a dispute between the couple, leading them to decide to live separately.

ACP Tharwai Chandrapal Singh, BEO Soraon Suman Mishra, and the Mission Shakti team were present

## Girls were made aware of the importance of Mission Shakti at Ganga Rishikulam School

Akhand Bharat Sandesh

**Phaphamau.** Today, girls feel safe and are fearlessly leaving their homes and pursuing their education. Keeping in mind the safety and respect of girls, the Mission Shakti campaign is being run. Mission Shakti centers have been established in every police station, where female police beat officers have been appointed. Currently, the Mission Shakti cam-



ampaign is proving to be a success. On Tuesday, a grand program was organized at Ganga Rishikulam School in Phaphamau as part of Mission Shakti

ized at Ganga Rishikulam School in Phaphamau as part of Mission Shakti

Campaign Phase 5.0. In which ACP Tharwai Chandrapal Singh, Block Education Officer Soraon Suman Mishra and all the guests were honored with badges and robes. The program was inaugurated by lighting a lamp. The girl students gave their melodious presentations on Mission Shakti in a grand manner. The children gave presentations in Hindi and English language to empower women regarding their safety and respect

under Mission Shakti. During this, the children also recited poems on Mission Shakti. ACP Tharwai Chandrapal Singh, present on the occasion, taught the lesson of women power. He told that education plays an important role in today's time and if one wants to achieve the goal, then hard work and true dedication are required. ACP Tharwai highlighted the importance of education, stating that if anyone obstructs their edu-

cation in any way, they can report it. She also advised that if daughters and girls leave their homes and are harassed on the streets, they should not panic and use the helpline numbers provided. She also provided information about government-run schemes such as the Kanya Sumangala Yojana, Sukanya Samridhi Yojana, Destitute Women's Pension Scheme, Chief Minister's Labor and Chief Minister's Mass Marriage.

## Thieves fled with gold, silver, and cash worth lakhs

Akhand Bharat Sandesh

**Kaushambi.** Unknown thieves targeted the home of Karan Singh, son of Ramchandra Lodhi, in Mahendra village, under the Karari police station area, last night. The thieves broke into the house at midnight and stole gold and silver jewelry, along with cash. Goods worth lakhs were missing from the house.

The family learned of the theft in the morning, causing panic in the entire area. Villagers allege that thefts are continuously increasing in the Karari police sta-

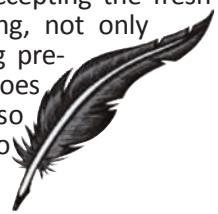
tion area, but the police have yet to solve any of the cases. Locals are angry with the police station's handling of the case. The victim's family has filed a complaint with the police. As in previous incidents, the police are investigating this case as well. The villagers have demanded to tighten the security arrangements and increase continuous patrolling in the area. Earlier, the police had not yet disclosed the theft incident that took place in Lahna and Rasulpur Soni villages of Karari police station area, then another theft took place.



## Editorial

### It's curious even scientists discard spirit of science in daily life, become unscientific: Nehru

In the course of less than four months, we have put up, declared open, or are going to declare open, three national laboratories. I suppose before this year is out, some more national laboratories will also be started. This is a great venture testifying to the faith which our scientists and, I hope, our Government have in science. I suppose the putting up of fine and attractive buildings does some service to science; nevertheless, buildings do not make science as Dr. Raman has often reminded us. It is human beings who make science, not bricks and mortar. Properly equipped buildings, however, help the human being to work efficiently. It is, therefore, desirable to have these fine laboratories for trained persons to work in and for persons to be trained for future work. You, Sir, referred to the spirit of science. I wonder what exactly that spirit is and to what extent we agree or differ in our ideas of it. Is science, as is often supposed, a handmaiden to industry? It certainly wants to help industry, though not merely for the sake of helping industry but also because it wants to create work for the nation, so that people may have better living conditions and greater opportunities for growth. That I suppose will be agreed to but there is something more to it. What ultimately does science represent? You, Sir, just referred to scientists declaring war on nature. May I put it in a different way? We seek the co-operation of nature, we seek to uncover the secrets of nature, to understand them and to utilise them for the benefit of humanity. The active principle of science is discovery. Now, what is, if I may ask, the active principle of a social framework or society? Usually, it stands for conservatism, remaining where we are, not changing and carrying on, though, of course, with some improvement and further additions. Nevertheless, it is a principle of continuity rather than of change. So, we come up against a certain inherent conflict in society between the co-existing principles of continuity and of conservatism and the scientific principle of discovery which brings about change and challenges that continuity. So the scientific worker, although he is praised and patted on the back, is nevertheless, not wholly approved of, because he comes and upsets the status quo of things. Normally speaking, science seldom really has the facilities that it deserves except when some misfortune comes to a country in the shape of war. Then everything has to be set aside and science has its way, even though it is for an evil purpose. It is interesting to see this conflict between the normal conservatism of a static society and the normal revolutionary tendency of the scientist's discovery which often changes the basis of that society. It changes living conditions and the conditions that govern human life and human survival. I take it that most people who talk glibly of science, including our great industrialists, think of science merely as a kind of handmaiden to make their work easier. And so it is. Of course, it does make their work easier. It adds to the wealth of the nation and better conditions. All this science does. But surely science is something more than that. The history of science shows that it does not simply better the old. It sometimes upsets the old. It does not merely add new truths to the old ones but sometimes the new truth it discovers disintegrates some part of the old truths and thereby upsets the way of men's thinking and the way of their lives. Science, therefore, does not merely repeat the old in better ways or add to the old but creates something that is new to the world and to human consciousness. If we pursue this line of thought, what exactly does the spirit of science mean? It means many things. It means not only accepting the fresh truth that science may bring, not only improving the old but being prepared to upset the old if it goes against that spirit. It also means not being tied down to something that is old.



## Indians ruled the Gulf through Hormuz

Though an uneasy ceasefire between Israel and Iran continues, just two days ago, on 24 June, the Iranian parliament threatened the closure of the Strait of Hormuz. But this was not the first time that Hormuz, situated at the narrowest point of the Persian Gulf, has turned into a flashpoint between Iran and the West. Since at least 1300 CE, Hormuz has been the hinge of Eurasian trade, where thousands of Indians, Arabs, Iranians, Mongols, and Turks made their fortunes. Goods poured through Hormuz, to and fro the Mediterranean, West and Central Asia, South and Southeast Asia, and China. But in the 16th century, the Portuguese adventurer Alfonso da Albuquerque took control of the port. The shockwave rippled through the Western Indian Ocean; the decades after saw the end of Hormuz's prominence, the development of Iran's first maritime policy, and the immigration of tens of thousands of Indian traders and investors into the Gulf and Iran. This is the story of how Hormuz shaped the history of India and the world. Just as the Gulf's geography offered opportunities throughout time, it also created challenges. Its character was utterly unique, nothing like our world of monolithic nation-states. Sam Dalrymple, historian and author of *Shattered Lands: The Five Partitions of India*, described Gulf towns to me as "trading islands/oasis towns wedged between the sand sea and the salt sea. They make less sense as states and more as oases filled with traders." Their population was never



consistent: it waxed and waned with the trading seasons, which in turn depended on the monsoon. Outside these ports, weather conditions were extreme: storms, unseasonal winds, scorching heat and humidity. The Gulf's northern edge, shielded from the Iranian Plateau by a mountain range, allowed little room for coastal states to grow. In the south, the vast Arabian desert was home to small tribes that occasionally preyed on sea traffic. Hormuz rose to prominence because it was able to offer safe ground for international trade, without the risk of piracy. This wasn't what one would expect from looking at it. Barely a few kilometres across, sweltering Hormuz was encrusted in salt, with only one freshwater source. Its rulers solved this problem by importing water on barges from the shore. Markets were kept open all night to avoid the daytime

heat. In *The Persian Gulf: A Political and Economic History of Five Port Cities*, historian Willem Floor further explains that the rulers of Hormuz imposed an embargo on timber, oars, coir, iron and steel, which prevented their rivals from building ships. They then took control of nearby ports, establishing a chokehold on the Gulf. Though Hormuz's rulers were Muslim, the island made no segregations on ethnic or religious lines. The second-largest ethnic group on the island were Indians, who conducted a roaring trade in horses in the 13th century CE. In 'India's Sea Trade with Iran in Medieval Times', historian Shireen Moosvi discusses the Somanatha-Veraval inscription, recording the construction of a mosque in Somnath in 1264 by the Hormuz merchant Nuruddin Firoz. The Sanskrit portion of the inscription describes the

mosque as a dharma-sthanam, and mentions the direct involvement of Gujarat's ruling Chalukya king and his officials in the grant. If this Hormuz merchant had such influence, writes Moosvi, "Hormuz merchants must surely have formed an elite group of some importance... in the Chalukya kingdom of Gujarat." For the next century, Hormuz continued to flourish. According to Moosvi, Hormuz's networks extended as far as Uzbekistan and Turkey. Goods shipped from Hormuz reached, in relays, all the way to China. The Chinese admiral Zheng He brought his vast armada there multiple times in the 15th century, where he exchanged ceramics and silks for the luxuries of Western Eurasia. Strategic resources such as horses were shipped to India from Hormuz; in return, India provided necessities such as rice

to the Gulf ports, as well as cloth, metals, woods, and spices. In his edited volume *India and the Indian Ocean, 1500-1800*, MN Pearson notes that exchanges overwhelmingly favoured India. Vast quantities of silver and salt were required to balance the trade. In the early 1500s, the Portuguese erupted into the Indian Ocean. From their galleons—artillery platforms designed for deep-sea and coastal voyaging—they attempted to take control of trade gateways in the Indian Ocean, including Hormuz. They stationed a permanent garrison on the island in 1515, but immediately ran into problems. At the same time, the Mughal Empire of the Indian subcontinent consolidated its reach into Afghanistan. Conquering Kandahar, the Mughals stabilised overland routes from India to Central Asia, further weakening the appeal of Hormuz. According to Floor, the Ottoman Empire, which controlled Iraq, attempted to get rid of the Portuguese in 1552 but failed. It would be an Iranian power which finally expelled them and restored some normalcy to the Gulf trade.

But Hormuz would never again be independent. Up to this point, riven by internal strife, the Safavid dynasty of Iran had paid little attention to events in Hormuz—though they were technically its overlords. However, Shah Abbas I (r. 1587–1629), a contemporary of the Mughal emperor Jahangir, eventually consolidated power. He was alarmed by the loss of both Kandahar and Hormuz, crucial to Iran's trade with the steppe and the ocean.

### Delhi's new fuel policy is forcing people to buy new cars. It won't reduce pollution

There is an old saying in English—'missing the woods for the trees'. It means getting so focused on the minor details that you overlook the bigger picture. And honestly, this is what I feel about the new 'fuel policy.' Starting 1 July, all end-of-life vehicles (EOL) in the national capital will be denied fuel and can also face deregistration, impounding or scrapping. Reportedly, many Delhi residents have been lining up at car showrooms, panic-buying new vehicles. A very close friend's mother called me up and asked, "Beta, should we buy a new car?" Let me tell you a bit about aunty—she's a retired government service officer and lives comfortably with her husband on a decent pension in one of those societies in Greater Noida. Other than the twice-a-week run to the shops and the occasional drive to meet friends in Delhi, their 11-year-old Hyundai i10 barely gets used. Yet because of the new fuel policy announced by Delhi Chief Minister Rekha Gupta—where

older vehicles will not be allowed to refuel, first in Delhi and later across the entire National Capital Region (NCR)—she is genuinely wondering what to do. Now, let me make it clear that money is not a problem in this case. This retired couple can easily afford a new car. It is just that they don't see the need for one. And they shouldn't have to. You can think of thousands of cases like this of retired folks with perfectly functional and perfectly maintained vehicles that will now have to be junked because of this new policy. This is a waste of resources. If it is pollution reduction that we are chasing, the policy doesn't consider the massive carbon cost of building a new car from the ground up. I've read a few arguments in favour of shared mobility, the governments like Karnataka are trying to ban it altogether. And honestly, with how expensive and unreliable cabs have become, I've decided I'd rather just drive to the airport and pay the usurious parking fee myself.

### UDF must look beyond Muslim votes to win 2026 polls

There is a new 'captain' in Kerala. After the Congress-led United Democratic Front wrested the Nilambur seat from the Left Democratic Front, the state media lavished praise on Leader of the Opposition VD Satheesan for helming a crucial electoral win. On 23 June, the day of the Nilambur bypoll verdict, Satheesan watched the proceedings from the District Congress Committee (DCC) office in Ernakulam. As soon as the UDF ensured its victory, Congress leaders vied among themselves to shower praises on the LoP, led by MP Hibi Eden. It was a mark of appreciation for Satheesan, who didn't bow down to former Nilambur MLA PV Anvar's diktats and ensured a win despite the latter re-entering the fray. It was PV Anvar's resignation that facilitated the by-election in the first place, even if he sought to extract his pound of flesh for extending his support to the UDF. Leaders within the Congress—such as Ramesh Chennithala and ally Indian Union Muslim League (IUML)—advocated Anvar's accommodation, with the by-poll becoming a bellwether ahead of the 2026 assembly election. Nevertheless,

Satheesan stood his ground and took ownership of the decision to keep Anvar out. It was a marked departure from the consensual ways that have defined the Congress in recent times. The consensual approach was necessitated on account of the party's weakening organisational apparatus, leaving it at the mercy of various stakeholders and its supporters frustrated. The UDF's morale-boosting win and the credit to Satheesan prompted former LoP Ramesh Chennithala to come out publicly, stating how nobody hailed him as 'captain' when he led the UDF to bypoll victories in the past. Power struggles in the Congress aside, the UDF seems to be taking the wrong lessons from the bypoll by extrapolating it to 2026. On the contrary, the ruling Communist Party of India-Marxist (CPI-M) is leveraging even the loss to build its narrative for the upcoming assembly election. The Left's route to a solitary seat in successive Lok Sabha elections in 2019 and 2024 was marked by a shift in its Hindu vote base to the Bhartiya Janata Party (BJP). The Left has traditionally been the 'Hindu party'

in Kerala, whereas the UDF has been anchored by minority communities. Unlike the 2019 elections—held in the wake of the BJP-fuelled Sabarimala agitation—the 2024 loss made the switching of Hindu voters a perpetual phenomenon. If the CPI-M initially concentrated on carving out sections of UDF's minority votes to counter the loss of its Hindu base, the 2024 loss demonstrated the urgency to hold on to its Ezhava vote bank. This prompted the Left to double down on its strategy of portraying the UDF as a front backed by communal elements.

such as Jamaat-e-Islami. CPI-M deployed the same tactic in last year's Palakkad and Wayanad bypolls—alleging that the Social Democratic Party of India (SDPI) and Jamaat were responsible for UDF's victory. After the setback in Nilambur, CPI-M state secretary MV Govindan resorted to the same game plan, almost like a reflex action. The potency of this strategy has swelled on account of the polarisation between the Muslim and Christian communities in Kerala lately. The CPI-M, perhaps, believes that it can attract additional Christian votes.

## Europe's factories to African startups—how India can act as a bridge between economies

Not long ago I heard a global CEO joke that India's payment apps impress the world, yet our biggest export deals still settle in dollars. The comment stayed with me because it captured the paradox of modern India: a country with the tools and talent to bridge East and West, but not choosing to think bigger. Today's global landscape is splintering. Rising tensions between the United States and China have prompted supply-chain realignments from Vietnam to Mexico. Political blocs, tariff walls, and digital standards

are being remade in real time. In this environment, many countries must choose sides. India, by contrast, can carve a third path: a true bridge economy that unites disparate markets through aligned infrastructure, finance, and digital networks. The first piece of this bridge is production. India's Production Linked Incentive-driven factories are churning out smartphones, solar panels, and auto components on a scale unseen a decade ago. Exporters in Pune now ship precision parts as easily to Stuttgart in Germany

as they do to Lagos in Nigeria. Our manufacturing base overlaps the needs of advanced economies (where quality matters) and the rising purchasing power of the emerging economies. That dual fit is rare, and it underpins India's unique value proposition. Digital rails reinforce this bridge. UPI's transaction volumes surpassed global giants like Visa, turning wallets into gateways. Early UPI trials in the UAE and Singapore show how a rupee-linked digital corridor can settle micropayments instantly, without inter-

mediary banks. If India extends these rails to East Africa, Southeast Asia, and the Gulf, small businesses from Nairobi to Jakarta could transact with Indian partners as effortlessly as they do with local vendors. Digital payment networks are the plumbing of the 21st-century bridge. With our digital rails in place, the next step is ensuring those goods move as smoothly across ports and borders. Yet infrastructure alone is not enough. Logistics bottlenecks still cast a shadow on our ambition.



## More than 257 govt. schools have their vocational programs approved by the DoE

**Delhi:** Starting this school year, 257 additional government schools in Delhi will be offering vocational courses, an initiative by the Directorate of Education (DOE) to incorporate career-oriented, hands-on learning into the curriculum.

Designed for students in grades 9 and 10, the curriculum will provide practical experience in areas like health-care, retail, information technology, and beauty and wellness. According to officials, the total number of government schools offering a skill-based topic has already surpassed 800, thanks to this expansion.

In addition to a traditional education, kids participating in the Samagra



Shiksha program can now take vocational courses that will help them get a leg up in the job market. This program aims to represent the larger goal of the National Education Policy 2020 by making education more relevant and in line with real-world employment markets, as stated in an official circular. These practical courses will now be available to pupils in grades 9 and 10, with school officials estimating that each topic may hold up to 50 students.

### Tejaswini's 25-meter pistol gold lets India top the medal tally

**Delhi:** India took first place in the shooting sport with eleven medals, thanks to Tejaswini's victory in the women's 25-meter pistol event at Monday's ISSF Junior World Cup 2025 in Suhl, Germany. India took home the most medals at the junior ISSF World Cup with nine total, including three golds, four silvers, and the same number of bronzes. China came in second with three golds and one bronze.

## IIT-Roorkee joins institutions which have cut Turkiye links

**Delhi:** IIT-Roorkee has cancelled its Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with Inonu University, Turkiye, becoming the third central university after Jawaharlal Nehru University (JNU) and Jamia Millia Islamia to end academic ties with a Turkish university. Lovely Professional University (LPU), a private university, has terminated six MoUs with universities in Turkey and Azerbaijan. Signed in Jan 2025, the MoU had enabled research collaboration and student and faculty exchange. IIT-Roorkee said the decision aligns with national interest.



"Our global partnerships must reflect the values, priorities, and security considerations of our country," said Kamal Kishore Pant, director of the IIT. Chhatrapati Shahu Ji Maharaj University (CSJMU), Kanpur, a state-government run university, has also ended similar

MoUs, while there are many others reviewing their international agreements with higher education institutions from Turkiye.

LPU cited the two countries' pro-Pakistan stance during recent Indo-Pak tensions as the reason for ending collaborations.

### Degree of Freedom: IIT Delhi Learns Future-Ready

**Delhi :** IIT Delhi has revamped its curriculum for the first time in 12 years to improve flexibility, hands-on learning, and alignment with global trends and sustainability. An integrated MTech lets undergraduates earn a bachelor's and a master's in five years. Students can petition for an MTech degree in any available program after their third

year. "We updated our curriculum to prepare graduates for the future. IIT Delhi director Rangan Banerjee said the new curriculum gives students freedom and hands-on learning "following considerable stakeholder feedback. The revisions will be introduced in 2025-26 as part of a 2022 curriculum revamp. The previous IIT Delhi cur-

riculum review was in 2013. The institute considered student suicides and academic stress. Credit requirements were lowered and first-year class numbers were reduced from 300 to 150 students. "These concerns are always at the back of our minds when we undertake such initiatives," she said.

## DOE issues guidelines for direct entry to Class XI in govt schools



**Delhi:** Delhi Directorate of Education (DOE) has issued guidelines for direct admission to Class XI in govt schools under the non-plan admissions category for the academic session 2025-26. The online registration process begins and is open to students residing in Delhi who did not study in govt or govt-aided schools under DOE in 2024-25. The admission process will be conducted in three cycles from May 27 to June 9 (cycle I), July 1 to July 10 (cycle II), and Aug 1 to Aug 11 (cycle III). Students can register online at DoE's website, and help desks at schools will assist applicants who need support with the form. Applicants must meet specific academic criteria for their chosen stream. For example, students seeking admission in the Science stream with Mathematics must have at least 55% overall, with 50% in English, Mathematics, and Science. Relaxations of up to 5% in one subject are available for students belonging to SC/ST, OBC (non-creamy layer), minorities, Kashmiri migrants, or those excelling in national-level sports.

### School eco clubs will be rebranded and given more resources

**Delhi:** As part of a statewide push to improve environmental education among students, all Delhi schools have been ordered to rebrand their current Eco Clubs as "Eco Clubs for Mission LiFE" and reinstate them by August 31. An official release said that this project.

## Concerns raised regarding proposed universal seniority policy before the DU Executive Council meeting

**Delhi:** High-level group recommended a standard approach to streamline promotions and appointments by eliminating persistent ambiguities in academic seniority, notably among assistant professors (Level 10). The panel included college principals, EC members, and SC, ST, and OBC representatives. After five meetings from July 2024 to April 2025, it made its final recommendations. The suggested policy places the first-appointed department ahead of the others. Where no common seniority list is established, faculty age is utilized to assess seniority among first-ranked



candidates across categories within a department. These parallel lists ensure impartiality and clarity in internal appointments, academic committees, and statutory organizations. However, DU Academic Council member and policy committee member Prof. Maya John has

voiced major concerns. John warned that the policy's limitations, such as restricting seniority review to appointments made after April 2022 and refusing to use the reservation roster to calculate inter se seniority, would deepen DU faculty discontent.

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

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

## Maintain pre-2010 7% OBC quota

**Delhi :** Calcutta high court ordered the West Bengal University of Health Sciences (WBUHS), a government medical university in Kolkata, to enroll students with 7% reservation for 66 OBCs notified in the state before 2010. In its ruling, justice Kausik Chanda noted that a division bench of the high court had set down the state's reservation policy in May, which divided OBCs into A and B categories and offered 10% and 7% quota, respectively. The state must apply OBC reservations solely to the 66 backward classes recognized by



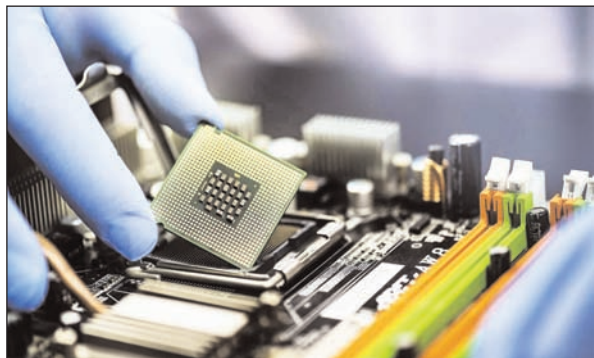
the backward class department before 2009. Justice Chanda noted that the state's OBC reservations should be 7% per November 6, 1997 notification. Caste certificates for 66 grades produced before 2010 have been preserved and 7% reservation maintained, the decision stated. The government suspended quota-based recruit-

ment and admissions after a division bench of the high court revoked OBC designation for 77 Muslim communities granted by the state since 2010. Supreme Court challenge by TMC government. West Bengal offered 17% OBC reservation in public sector jobs and state-run schools before the May ruling. It was divided into two brackets:

## Anxieties over politics to dampen employment for semiconductor design

**Delhi:** The number of job postings at India's Global Capability Centers (GCCs) for semiconductor design fell by 15% in 2024-25, a research said, mostly as a result of continuing geopolitical concerns and interruptions in the global supply chain. According to data compiled by CareerNet, a provider of talent solutions, the number of available jobs reached a high of 3,760 in May 2024. From there, it dropped to 3,040 in January 2025 and 3,181 at the end of the year.

This shows a measured drop in active involvement across India's top 50 semiconductor design GCCs of over 15% year-on-year. Even with this slowdown, the demand for specialized knowledge in areas like RF/analog design,



embedded systems, and VLSI (Very Large Scale Integration) was still high, and medium-sized GCCs were more nimble when it came to hiring, it said. Since semiconductor design is a specialized field with a relatively small workforce in comparison to other technological jobs, shifts in recruiting attitude, particularly among a handful of large companies, can have a disproportionately large impact on the semiconductor design employment market as a whole.

### India will host campuses of five prestigious international institutions

**Delhi:** India's ambitions to become a world-class education destination are gaining steam, as five international universities have recently received letters of intent to set up shop in the nation. Officials in the Indian government have stated that by the beginning of the next school year, over a dozen foreign universities will have established campuses in the country.

## Scholarships offered by University of Hong Kong to outstanding students

**Delhi:** The University of Hong Kong (HKU), which was rated seventeenth in the QS World University Rankings 2025, has launched a scholarship program for exceptional students from the Central Board of Secondary Education (CBSE). Under this program, high-achieving CBSE students interested in majoring in HKU's undergraduate programs that promote innovation, technology, and interdisciplinary learning will be offered full-ride scholarships that pay for everything. On a national level, CBSE operates. It consistently produces a large number of students who get into professional colleges through entrance exams at the national and state levels. Not only do these students thrive in their professional and social lives,



"It consistently produces a large number of students who get into professional colleges through entrance exams at the national and state levels. Not only do these students thrive in their professional and social lives, but they also excel in professional colleges. CBSE has increasingly prioritized competency-based education "

but they also excel in professional colleges. The Central Board of Secondary Education (CBSE) has increasingly prioritized competency-based education and assessment since the New Education Policy—2020 came into effect. Higher education institutions overseas are providing several exemptions and support to our students as

a result of the high-quality education they receive from connected schools and their performance in STEM and other areas.

The CBSE notification detailed the exemptions and support, and it instructed schools to notify pupils about them so that they might reap the benefits.

### India's Mahendra sets world record in World Para Athletics Grand Prix



**Delhi:** Roberto Floriani Edenilson of Brazil had previously held the world record of 59.19 meters, but the 27-year-old beat him in 2022. Following throws of 56.11 and 55.51 meters, he set a new world record with a throw of 61.17 meters on his third try. Throws of 58.54, 57.25, and 58.07 meters were his final three on Sunday. Field athletes who experience mild limitations in the use of one leg should consider F42. Sumit Antil, who has won gold at the Paralympics twice and holds the world record for the men's javelin F64 category, also placed first with a throw of 72.35 meters. Athletes competing on the field who have little or no movement in either leg can use F64. But Gurjar was one of many para-athletes from the F40, F57, F63, and F64 categories who competed in a combined event. Competition was open to para-athletes from all different classifications because it was a mixed event. The Swiss coach of Gurjar, Samarjeet Singh Malhi, informed that his charge set a world record in the F42 category and also won the gold medal. Having para-athletes from multiple categories compete in a combined event is "normal practice," he continued.



# 'I'm very much a humanist'

**H**uma Qureshi, who is set to reprise her iconic character of Rani Bharti in the season four of *Maharani*, has said that her journey as an actor has strengthened her connection with humanity rather than altering her political outlook.

Having played diverse roles in women's leadership, how has this evolution shaped her own understanding and has she developed any curiosity about leadership, politics, or governance in real life, Huma told IANS: "No, my political views have not changed."

She added: "I think I'm very much a humanist, and I think hu-

manity is above all. In fact, doing the show has made me connect with my humanity on a much deeper level."

With the industry changing dramatically in terms of storytelling and representation of women, the actress says that she always wants to play real and three dimensional strong women on screen.

"I always want to play real, living, breathing, three-dimensional, strong women, and I think my career is a testimony to that," she said.

"I want to continue doing that in all the subsequent films and roles that I'm doing - whether it's Rani Bharti in *Maharani*, Meena in *Delhi Crime*, or *Single Salma*.

I think, for me, being strong and being a

woman are synonymous," she added.

Huma will be seen in the fourth season of *Maharani*. The new season has brought in two new names Rajeshwari Sachdev and Darshel Safari.

Directed by Puneet Prakash, produced by Kangra Talkies Pvt. Ltd., and created by Subhash Kapoor, *Maharani 4*, stars Huma Qureshi, Shweta Basu Prasad, Vipin Sharma, Amit Sial, Vineet Kumar, Shardul Bhardwaj, Kani Kusruti, and Pramod Pathak.

*Maharani 4* will stream from November 7 on Sony LIV.

Huma Qureshi talks about her journey as an actor has strengthened her connection with humanity rather than altering her political outlook

## FILMY SHOTS

### Madhuri Dixit faces backlash for arriving late at Toronto event

**B**ollywood actress Madhuri Dixit is facing major backlash after several fans lashed out at her for arriving three hours late to an event in Toronto, Canada, on Sunday, as part of her ongoing The Golden Diva of Bollywood tour. Fans expressed outrage and demanded refunds, claiming that, despite arriving late, Madhuri performed for only an hour, spending most of the time seated and dancing to her iconic songs for only 10-15 minutes, leaving the audience frustrated and many walking out of the venue.



### Karan Kundrra to host Splitsvilla X6 with Sunny Leone

**A**ctor and reality TV star Karan Kundrra is set to co-host the upcoming season of *Splitsvilla X6* alongside actress Sunny Leone. After weeks of speculation, the channel confirmed on Tuesday that Karan will be seen as the host or the King of Hearts. The actor also shared his enthusiasm about returning to the channel after six years and called it "homecoming." "Coming back to MTV after six years feels like homecoming, and *Splitsvilla* has such an iconic place in the channel's legacy," Karan said.



As per report, Dakota Johnson finds new love five months after her breakup with Coldplay's Chris Martin

## Dakota finds new love

**A**ctress Dakota Johnson seems ready to move on after her breakup with Coldplay frontman Chris Martin about five months ago. Dakota, 36, and Chris, 48, ended their nearly eight-year relationship in June 2025. The couple, who started dating in 2017, were last seen together publicly on May 16.

According to a report in PEOPLE, the actress has been "slowly dating" again and she's happy. A source informed the news portal that her relationship with Chris was "often hot and cold," and though she had hoped things would work out, she now seems "lighter and more at peace" since the breakup became final.

The source added that Dakota is currently "in a great place," focusing on her work and personal growth. "She's busy, fulfilled, and she's moved on," the insider shared. However, details about her boyfriend are not known yet.



### IS CHRIS MARTIN DATING SOPHIE TURNER?

A few days back, it was reported that Coldplay's lead vocalist is dating *Game of Thrones* star Sophie Turner. According to The Daily Mail, Chris and Sophie also went on a 'secret date'.

### Chris and Dakota's relationship

**T**hey began dating in 2017 and made their first public appearance as a couple in 2018. In 2024, reports suggested they were engaged, though an insider had noted they were "in no rush to get married." Earlier this year, Dakota accompanied Chris on Coldplay's Music of the Spheres World Tour in India, attending three concerts: January 19 and 21 at Mumbai's Mahalaxmi Racecourse, and January 26 at Ahmedabad's Narendra Modi Stadium, showing her support for the singer. Chris was previously married to Oscar-winning actress Gwyneth Paltrow. The couple separated in 2016 but continue to co-parent their two children, daughter Apple and son Moses.

**T**he makers of director Maruthi's much-awaited horror entertainer *The Raja Saab*, featuring actor Prabhas in the lead, have now trashed rumours doing the rounds on social media that claimed that the film's release was likely to be postponed. People Media Factory, the production house that is producing the eagerly awaited film, issued a statement in which it made it clear that there was no truth in such rumours and that the film was all set for a grand worldwide theatrical release on January 9, 2025, as a Sankranti attraction.

### Prabhas' The Raja Saab makers deny release delay rumours



## Abhishek talks Jana evolution

**A**ctor Abhishek Banerjee, who has reprised his beloved character Jana across the Maddock Horror Comedy Universe, said that it's been a "truly special journey" watching the simple, quirky man from *Stree* evolve into a pivotal thread connecting multiple stories.

Abhishek in a conversation with IANS said: "What's been truly special about playing Jana is how organically he's grown with every film in the Maddock Horror Comedy Universe. When I first played him in *Stree*, none of us imagined that this simple, quirky guy would go on to become such an integral thread connecting so many stories."

The actor credits Amar Kaushik, Dinesh Vijan, Niren Bhatt and the entire writing team for making Jana an important character in all films including *Stree* franchise, *Bhediya*, *Munjiya* and *Thamma*. "They've managed to keep Jana's soul intact while fitting him seamlessly into different worlds, tones and timelines. Each time I come back to him, I'm amazed at how they find a way to make him relevant to the story, always funny without

Actor Abhishek Banerjee calls playing Jana across Maddock Horror Comedy Universe a special journey, praising team for keeping character relevant, funny & organic

it being a force fit," said Abhishek.

He feels Jana just belongs everywhere in this universe. "As an actor, it's rare to live with one character across so many films, and I feel incredibly lucky that the audience still wants to see more of him. Jana's journey is as unpredictable and entertaining as the universe itself," said Abhishek.



A still from *Stree*



## Meezaan shares full-circle moment

Meezaan Jafri reveals sharing dance floor with dad Javed Jaffrey in *3 Shaukk* was a full-circle moment for him



**A**ctor Meezaan Jafri has opened up about his special experience of sharing the dance floor with his father, Javed Jaffrey, in the song *3 Shaukk*. Calling it a "full-circle moment," the young actor expressed how surreal it felt to perform alongside his father - a celebrated dancer and performer - and described the moment as one of the most memorable highlights of his career.

Speaking about shaking a leg with his father, Meezaan told IANS, "*3 Shaukk* song is an absolute blast, and all of us had incredible fun shooting for it. The song is loud, and it's brimming with Punjabi feels - so the energy was absolutely high." "But there was something entirely different about sharing the dance floor with Dad. We've always danced together, but doing it together in front of the camera, for the film, was a full circle moment for me. And it's something that I'd never say no to!"

On Tuesday, the makers released the new peppy track *3 Shaukk* from *De De Pyaar De 2*. The foot-tapping number features Meezaan showing his amazing dance moves by resembling Ajay Devgn's signature *Singham* entry.

Sharing the song on Instagram, the actor wrote, "Daler Punjabis in the house! #3Shaukk Song Out Now #DeDePyaarDe2 in cinemas on 14th Nov." *3 Shaukk*, sung by Avvy Sra, Karan Aujla and Jyotica Tangri, is penned by Jaani and Karan Aujla.

*De De Pyaar De 2* stars Ajay Devgn, Rakul Preet Singh, Meezaan Jafri and Javed Jaffrey and R Madhavan.



## Zomato's Q4 net profit falls 77% to Rs 39 crore

**Delhi :** Eternal Ltd. (previously Zomato) announced a 77% drop in overall net profit to Rs 39 crore in Q4 FY25 from Rs 175 crore the year before. Zomato, which owns Blinkit, lost 33% of its quarterly net profit to Rs 59 crore in October-December. Overall expenditures rose 67% to Rs 6,104 crore from Rs 3,636 crore. QoQ, costs rose over 10%. Food delivery company consolidated income from operations rose 64% to Rs 5,833 crore from Rs 3,562 crore in the January-March quarter of the previous financial year. Zomato earned Rs 6,201 crore in the quarter, up from Rs 3,797 the year before. Its expenses rose from Rs 3,636 crore to Rs 6,104 crore. Zomato shares finished at Rs 232.5 on the BSE, up 0.58 percent. According to its stock exchange filing, Blinkit opened 294 net new stores in Q4 and is on track to reach 2,000 by



December 25. Deepinder Goyal, Founder and CEO, Eternal, said, "We don't see any long-term structural reason for this slowdown, as the fundamentals – low penetration of restaurant food and increasing urbanisation and per capita income in India – remain unchanged." The company has several promising initiatives in the pipeline and hopes some will work and lead to higher growth without compromising profitability. The company began reporting NOV and GOV for its B2C activities (food delivery, rapid commerce, and going-out) in Q4 FY25.

### Wagah closure hurts Afghan dry fruit imports

**Delhi:** The closing of the Attari-Wagah border has hampered the movement of dry fruits from Afghanistan to India, which may raise domestic prices by 10 to 25%. Afghanistan is India's greatest dried fruit supplier despite war and civil upheaval. Anil Mehra, National President of the Federation of Grocery and Dry Fruit Commercial Association, when the Attari-Wagah border closed, no trucks transporting dry fruits from to Attari had come. "50 trucks are at the Pakistani Wagah border.

## Private sector capex may fall 25% to Rs 4.88 lakh cr in FY26: Govt survey

**Delhi:** A government survey research estimates private business capital spending will drop 25% to Rs 4.88 lakh crore in 2025-26 from Rs 6.56 lakh crore in FY25. The Ministry of Statistics & Programme Implementation's Forward-Looking Survey on Private Sector CAPEX Investment Intentions between November 2024 and January 2025 found that private corporate capex was Rs 3.94 lakh crore in 2021-22, Rs 5.72 lakh crore in 2022-23, and Rs 4.22 lakh crore in 2023-24. To establish a fixed panel, 2,172 firms provided complete infor-



mation for all five years of the reference period. The government said the aggregated (unweighted) capex data from this panel of firms is credible for five-year capital expenditure trends. Over four years from 2021-22 to 2024-25, aggregate capex (unweighted) increased 66.3%. Of the

3,064 responding companies, 2,172 planned 2025-26 capex. The data suggests respondents are cautious when revealing capital spending plans. The research advised caution when interpreting 2025-26 Capex data due to the conservative stance and fear of responding firms.

## Possible goal of India-US trade deal: equal access to technology

**Delhi:** According to insiders, as part of the intended bilateral trade agreement (BTA), India is expected to request that the United States relax export controls and provide it with access to vital technologies on par with important American

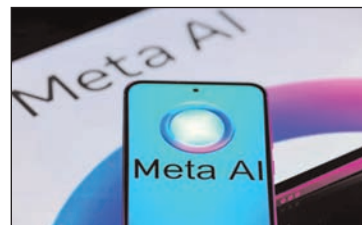
allies such as Japan, Australia, and the United Kingdom. Furthermore, they mentioned that India might be interested in pursuing these kind of concessions in the following industries: semiconductors, biotechnology, artificial intelli-

gence (AI), pharmaceuticals, quantum computing, and telecom equipment. Textiles, gems and jewelry, leather goods, clothing, plastics, chemicals, shrimp, oil seeds, chemicals, grapes, and bananas are among the labor-intensive sectors.



## Meta releases standalone AI app to challenge ChatGPT

**Delhi:** competing with ChatGPT creator OpenAI with a standalone AI app. Meta said that its new AI assistant will use Llama AI. The Discover stream shows how others are using the tool and provides prompts. The AI arms race pits Meta's new software against ChatGPT and other AI platforms. Claude, Grok, and Gemini from Anthropic, xAI, and Google are also leading contenders. In September 2023, Meta debuted an AI chatbot as a generative AI-powered digital assistant that can respond to user questions and produce graphics in its apps. Meta AI became prominent in April when it replaced Facebook, Instagram, WhatsApp, and Messenger's search feature with a chatbot. Zuckerberg claimed in January that 2025 "is going to be the year when a highly intelligent and personalized AI assistant reaches more than 1 billion people, and I expect Meta AI to be that leading AI assistant." Meta finance head Susan Li said Meta AI has 700 million monthly active users in January. It rose from 600 million in December. Meta launched a standalone AI app after Google and Elon Musk's xAI. Both firms released Gemini and Grok applications recently.



## ATM withdrawals cost more: All about the new fees

**Delhi :** ATM users in India will incur revised transaction rates starting May 1, 2025, under the RBI's amended fee regime. The revisions aim to simplify ATM usage charges and promote digital banking for both financial and non-financial activities. Under the new guidelines, metro consumers will get three free ATM transactions each month and non-metro customers five. Free transactions include cash withdrawals and balance checks.

After this limit, banks can charge Rs 23 per transaction, excluding taxes. This applies to ATM and CRM transactions, although CRM



cash deposits are free. Many big banks have revised their client policies: HDFC said, "With effect from 1st May 2025, the ATM transaction charge rate beyond free limits will be revised from Rs 21 + taxes to Rs 23 + taxes."

Bank emphasized that only cash withdrawals at HDFC Bank ATMs exceeding the free limit will be charged, while non-financial transactions are free. Other banks' ATMs count both sorts of transactions toward the free limit.

### Amazon Launches Project Kuiper Satellite Internet Service

**Delhi:** A United Launch Alliance Atlas V rocket launched the payload into Low Earth Orbit from Cape Canaveral Space Force Station.

Amazon claimed it had contacted all 27 satellites by morning and was activating them "nominally." Amazon launched two test satellites in 2023, but this is its first full-scale deployment. The corporation expects to launch over 3,200 satellites using ULA's Atlas V and Vulcan rockets, Blue Origin, and others. Amazon thinks it needs 580 operating satellites to supply internet connectivity.

## Promoters of Prudential, HCL to form health insurer

**Delhi:** Prudential and HCL Group promoters announced a separate health insurance joint venture. Prudential Group Holdings, Prudential's UK affiliate, would own 70% of the joint venture, while HCL Group promoter Vama Sundari Investments will own 30%. HCL founder Shiv Nadar gave his daughter Roshni Nadar Malhotra large shares in Vama Sundari Investments, giving her power. Prudential had its first branch in Kolkata in



1923, making India a critical market, according to CEO Anil Wadhvani. "Today, we have a significant presence with life insurance and asset management businesses providing a comprehensive offering of insurance and wealth products," Wadhvani. ICICI Bank has partnered with Prudential, a FTSE 100

company, for over two decades in life insurance and asset management. The Prudential cooperation intends to provide quality health insurance in India, according to Vama executive director Shikhar Malhotra. "Through this collaboration, we aim to advance our common mission to enhance access to quality health insurance and drive greater penetration across the country," stated. If approved by regulators, Amar Joshi will lead the joint venture.

## The government raises sugarcane FRP by 4.41% to Rs 355 per quintal for 2025-26

**Delhi:** The government raised the fair and remunerative price (FRP) of sugarcane by 4.41 percent to Rs 355 per quintal for the 2025-26 season in October.

An official statement said the Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs (CCEA) chaired by Prime Minister Narendra Modi made this decision in the interest of sugarcane farmers. Sugarcane FRP is Rs 340 per quintal for 2024-25. Sugar mills must pay sugarcane growers FRP, the minimum price set by the Indian government. I&B Minister Ashwini Vaishnaw told the media after the meeting that the FRP of Rs 355 per quintal for a 10.25%



basic recovery rate was approved. "The FRP for sugar season 2025-26 is 4.41 per cent higher than current sugar season 2024-25," says the report. Farmers will receive Rs 3.46 per quintal for each 0.1% sugar recovery increment above 10.25%. FRP decreases by Rs 3.46 per quintal for every 0.1% recovery rate decline. The government also agreed

not to deduct sugar mills with recovery below 9.5%. These farmers will receive Rs 329.05 per cent for sugarcane in 2025-26. The statement states that sugarcane production costs Rs 173 per quintal in 2025-26. The 2025-26 FRP of Rs 355 per quintal at 10.25% recovery is 105.25% higher than manufacturing cost.

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

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



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

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

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

## Q4 Adani Enterprises net profit jumps 7.5x to Rs 3,845 crore, incubating enterprises thrive

**Delhi :** Adani Enterprises Ltd. (AEL), the flagship firm of the Adani Group, reported strong financial results, with net profit rising 7.5 times to Rs 3,845 crore in Q4 FY25 from Rs 449 crore in FY24. Adani Wilmar Ltd.'s 13.5% stake sale in Q4 gave AEL an outstanding gain of Rs 3,946 crore. Revenue rose 2% to Rs 1,00,365 crore and consolidated PBT rose 16% to Rs 6,533 crore in FY25. Incubating firms' solid operational performance drove EBITDA up



26% to Rs 16,722 crore last fiscal, the company said. Gautam Adani, Chairman of Adani Group, said Adani Enterprises is establishing firms that will shape India's infrastructure and energy sector. Our scale, speed, and sustainability drove our strong FY25 success. The billionaire industri-

alist said disciplined execution, future-focused investments, operational excellence, innovation, and sustainability drove impressive development across our incubation businesses. Adani New Industries Limited (ANIL) began expanding solar cell and module operations

### WB: Oil prices might drop 17% and commodity prices 12%

**Delhi:** Commodity prices, according to the World Bank, could drop 12% this year, with the oil index possibly falling 17%, as a result of slowing economic development. "If realised, these declines will end a period of ele-

for 6 GW in Q4 FY25 with financial close. Improved realization and operational efficiency drove solar module sales up 59% to 4,263 MW and greater

vated inflation-adjusted commodity prices in the aftermath of the Covid-19 pandemic and Russia's invasion of Ukraine," recent commodities Markets Outlook. Reports indicate that supplies might be higher this year.

EBITDA margins. The company reported that ANIL wind business expanded capacity to 2.25 GW in Q4 FY25 with 5.2 MW, 3.3 MW, and 3.0 MW WTG.



### SA actress Thanja praises India, slams own country

South African actress and writer Thanja Vuur, who proudly calls herself a "cricket nerd," has slammed South Africans for not supporting their women's cricket team during the ICC Women's World Cup. In a video shared on Instagram, Vuur lauded Indians for their love for the sport and their visible support for the women's team, both online and in the stands. "India, you win this World Cup. Your congratulations are coming. Just give me a few minutes because first I'm gonna tell you why. The reason is you," she said, addressing Indian fans.

She said how Sachin Tendulkar, Rohit Sharma, and VVS Laxman, showed up at the stadium to cheer, contrasting it with the lack of similar support from South African icons. "Who the hell showed up from South Africa? These ex-cricket players that you love from South Africa, the men... where were they? Oh, this event was not high profile enough for them," she said.



# HUMARI CHORIYAAN CHORON SE KAM HAI KYA?

Amitabh Bachchan, Ajay Devgn, Riteish Deshmukh & other celebs congratulate Women In Blue for World Cup win

**"H**umari Chhori Chhore Se Kam Hai Ke" This iconic line has taken over social media as India's women's cricket team made history by winning their first-ever ICC Women's World Cup title. From cricket fans to Bollywood stars, the entire nation is celebrating the remarkable victory with pride.

Bollywood celebrities took to social media to share their excitement and send their love to Team India for this historic win.

Actor Ajay Devgn wrote on X, "A night we'll never forget. Thank you, champions. This team has shown the world what true grit and belief can do!"

A night we'll never forget. Thank you, champions ♥ This team has shown the world what true grit and belief can do!

Abhishek Bachchan also joined in the celebration and shared, "COME ONNN!!!! INDIAAAAA!!! World champions. Well done ladies."

Actor Anil Kapoor praised the players' performance and posted, "From dream to dominance, our women just owned the world! What a statement, what a legacy in the making!"



From dream to dominance, our women just owned the world! What a statement, what a legacy in the making!

Riteish Deshmukh shared a heartfelt note along with a video. He wrote, "Humari choriyaan, choron se kam hai kya? History bows. Daughters rise. This is India's pride, forever. This moment will be engraved in our country's consciousness forever. This will inspire generations of young women to play for India!! Great victory by Team India."

हमारी चोरियाँ, चोरों से कौम है



Malayalam superstar Mammooty also congratulated the team and wrote, "Congratulations to our incredible Women's #TeamIndia! You've made history and filled an entire nation with pride. This triumph is more than a win, it's a story of spirit, resilience, and belief. Proud of you, Champions."

Congratulations to our incredible Women's #TeamIndia! You've made history and filled an entire nation with pride. This triumph is more than a win, it's a story of spirit, resilience, and belief. Proud of you, Champions

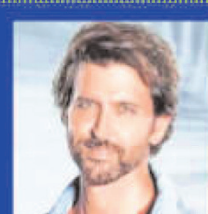
Lyricist and writer Javed Akhtar also praised the champions and said, "Congratulations and thank you our cricket team. Girls you have made all of us proud beyond words." Congratulations and thank you our cricket team. Girls you have made all of us proud beyond words.



Here's how other celebs reacted: T 5552 - जीत गये !!!

India Women Cricket ... WORLD CHAMPIONS !! So much pride you have brought for us all ...CONGRATULATIONS CONGRATULATIONS CONGRATULATIONS !!!

Jeet gayell HISTORIC! Congratulations Team India on our first Women's Cricket World Cup win. To the beginning of many more... All my love & respect



### Filmy Shots



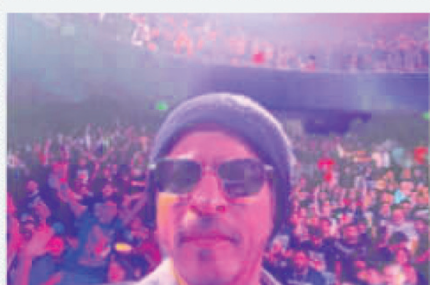
### Allu Arjun honoured at DFIFFA

National Award-winning actor Allu Arjun has added yet another prestigious honour to his career, being named 'Most Versatile Actor of the Year' at the Dadasaheb Phalke International Film Festival Awards 2025.



### Priyanka Chahar Choudhary is the new Naagin

After months of speculation and fan theories, the wait is finally over as the makers of Ekta Kapoor's Naagin 7 officially announced actress Priyanka Chahar Choudhary as the new lead of the upcoming show. The revelation was made during the latest Weekend Ka Vaar episode of Bigg Boss 19. Ekta herself appeared as a special guest on the reality show and introduced Priyanka as the new Naagin in the presence of host Salman Khan. It marked a full-circle moment for Priyanka, who first gained national recognition in Bigg Boss 16, where she was among the top three finalists.



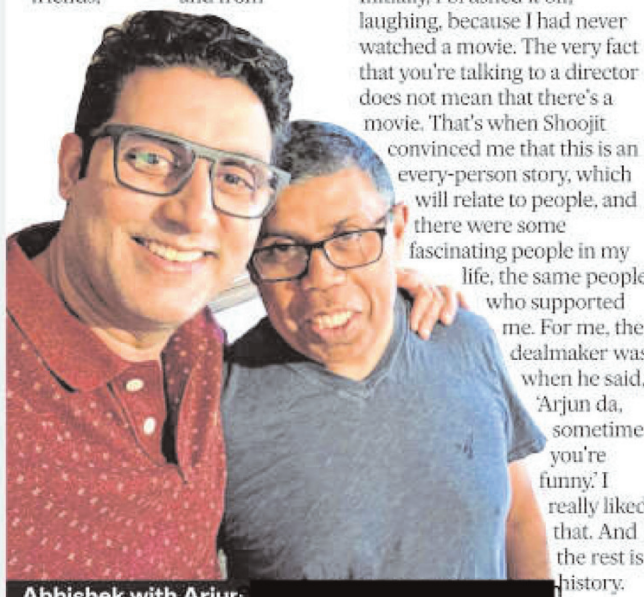
### 'Full of gratitude': SRK gives a glimpse of his fan meet

Shah Rukh Khan celebrated his 60th birthday by meeting his fans at a special gathering in Mumbai, despite being unable to greet them from his residence Mannat's balcony due to police restrictions. The Bollywood superstar attended a private fan event where admirers had gathered to catch a glimpse of him and celebrate the occasion. While fans had hoped to see him on the balcony, authorities had implemented strict measures for crowd control and public safety.

Shoojit Sircar's *I Want To Talk* starring Abhishek Bachchan was released in 2024. The film was based on the life of Arjun Sen, and recently, interacted with Sen, and spoke to him about the movie, Abhishek winning the Best Actor award, and more...

**W**hen was the first time you were approached to make a film about your life?

Shoojit Sircar and I were on a podcast. After the podcast, we became friends. Then COVID came, and we had conversations. During this process, we became really good friends, and from



Abhishek with Arjun.



## 'I wish he would win all the awards'

'director sir', Shoojit became a dear friend. And for him, from 'Arjun Sen', I became 'Arjun Da'. After that, one day, randomly, Shoojit reached out to me and talked about how he wants to make a movie about my life. Initially, I brushed it off, laughing, because I had never watched a movie. The very fact that you're talking to a director does not mean that there's a movie. That's when Shoojit convinced me that this is an every-person story, which will relate to people, and there were some fascinating people in my life, the same people who supported me. For me, the dealmaker was when he said, 'Arjun da, sometimes you're funny.' I really liked that. And the rest is history.

### Before I Want To talk, did any other filmmaker approach you to make a film?

No. Just to be very clear, I never saw a movie being made about my life. It was never in my subconscious, on my bucket list, or in my vision anywhere. I was living my life in my corner of the world, going through every day. I'm so glad Shoojit chose to make the movie.

### What was your reaction when you watched the movie?

You know, especially as the movie was being made, I was in Hemet, California, seeing the filming, and what hit me was, number one, all the people in my life. I'm so grateful that even in the toughest of days, these people would never give up on me, and the superpower that I have is these amazing people in my life. Secondly, I was a little envious of Shoojit Sircar, Rising Sun Films, and the team,



because they were reassured, seeing me standing there, and knowing how the movie ends, Arjun will be there, alive. I didn't have that luxury.

The film did not perform well at the box office and was released with minimal promotion. Did that disappoint you?

No, not really. To me, the success of the movie was its storytelling, and Shoojit is a master storyteller. And we all know how he has reshaped Hindi movies and built a bridge between good stories that come from the heart and commercial success. I was amazed by the number of people who were reaching out to me, inspired in their lives. So, the box office and everything else are for Shoojit and everybody else to worry about. For me, I'm just happy with the number of people who have reached out, sharing their

'unquilt' stories.

Recently, Abhishek Bachchan won the Filmfare Best Actor award for his performance in the movie. What do you have to say about it?

I'm very proud. I also think there's a mega learning for all of us, which has happened in front of us. In 2000, this young man came into the movie industry with the movie *Refugee*. Since then, he has done some amazing movies and portrayed amazing roles, but somehow, it could be luck, or it could be because others had better performances that year; I don't know. I'm not an expert, but he never won a major best actor award. But he never gave up. And I'm so glad it happened with *I Want to Talk*, the movie about my life, for which he won Best Actor. He won one of the big awards in India, Melbourne, and now Filmfare. First of all, he deserves the award. I am a little biased, of course. There is a bigger story for us here: if you have a dream, even if it takes 25 years, keep at it. And make sure that the most recent effort is your best effort. That's what he did. His best effort was saved for the most recent effort.

A lot of people are saying he also deserves a National Award. Do you think he will win?

I'm not an expert. I also want to stay in the present and celebrate the present. He gave me the greatest gift by choosing to portray Arjun Sen and being the face of my not-giving-up story on the big screen. For that, I'm eternally grateful to him. I'm happy. Not just the National Award, I wish he would win all the awards that are on this planet. But whether he wins it or not is not in my control. And I do not think any success can be taken from him in the future.

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