

AKHAND BHARAT SANDESH

Title Code - UPENG04488

NATIONAL ENGLISH DAILY

MORNING EDITION PRAYAGRAJ

Tuesday 22 October, 2024

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

'Situation now as it was in 2020': EAM Jaishankar on India, China patrolling deal

NEW DELHI: Foreign secretary Vikram Misri announced on Monday that India and China have come to an agreement regarding patrolling arrangements along the Line of Actual Control (LAC) in border areas.

"Over the last few weeks, Indian and Chinese negotiators have been in touch with each other," Misri said while addressing a press conference. "India and China have reached an agreement on patrolling arrangements along the LAC in border areas leading to disengagement and a resolution of the issues that had arisen in 2020 and we will be taking the next steps on this," Misri added while briefing the press. The foreign secretary made these remarks while addressing a special briefing on Prime Minister Narendra



PM Modi-Xi bilateral meet: India, China parry 'will-they-won't they' questions

NEW DELHI: With India and China reaching a significant breakthrough in their patrolling agreement along the Line of Actual Control (LAC), top officials from both nations faced a barrage of media inquiries regarding the possibility of a bilateral meeting between Prime Minister Narendra Modi and President Xi Jinping during the upcoming BRICS summit in Kazan, Russia, set to commence on Tuesday. "We will keep you posted if anything comes up," Chinese

Modi's upcoming visit to Kazan, Russia for

foreign ministry spokesperson Lin Jian while replying to a question at a press conference. Indian foreign secretary Vikram Misri, on the other hand, said that there were several requests for a bilateral meet from different countries, however no decision had been made so far. "We will update you on the bilateral as they evolve," Misri said. This came in the backdrop of India saying that two countries "have reached an agreement on patrolling arrange.

BRICS summit. Also read: 'China rap-

idly building infrastructure along LAC': IAF chief Amar Preet Singh External affairs minister S Jaishankar called it a "positive development" which he said would create a basis for peace and tranquillity along the border areas. "What foreign secretary has said is what I can also say, that we reached an agreement on patrolling and with that we have gone back to where the situation was in 2020. We can say that the disengagement process with China has been completed...There are areas which for various reasons after 2020 because they had blocked us so we had blocked them. So what has happened is we have reached an understanding which will allow the patrolling. I think the understanding to my knowledge is that we will be able to do the patrolling .

'Waited for his call ... ': Karwa Chauth celebrations end in grief after terrorist attack

NEW DELHI: Ruchi Abrol waited anxiously for her husband's call, dressed in her Karwa Chauth finery, fasting for his long life. Instead, what she received was news that would shatter her world — her husband, Shashi Abrol, had been killed in a terror attack in Kashmir's Ganderbal district late Sunday night. Shashi, an architectural designer, was one of seven victims in a deadly attack on a tunnel construction site on the Srinagar-Leh national highway. The attack occurred just after Shashi and his team had returned to their camp for the night, turning the festive occasion of Karwa Chauth into a nightmare for his family. "I spoke to him in the evening. He didn't mention any threats. I was going to the temple as part of my Karwa Chauth fast, and we had a brief conversation," recalled a devastated Ruchi, holding onto their three-year-old daughter, as quoted by PTI. "I tried calling



him after I returned, but he didn't pick up. After that, his phone was switched off." It wasn't until hours later that Ruchi and her family learned the horrifying truth—through the media. "Her life is shattered," said Divya, Shashi's sister. "Karwa Chauth has turned into a day of catastrophe for us. Our dear Shashi Ji was killed in a cowardly act by terrorists." Shashi had been working for six years with APCO, a construction company, and was the family's sole breadwinner. He had recently returned home to Jammu for his son's college admission. His dream was to see his son become an engineer. Now, his family's future is uncertain. "What have they

gained from this? How will she feed her children now? We curse them," Divya added, grieving for her brother. Shashi's father, J L Abrol, called for government support, pleading, "We demand a job for my daughter-in-law to feed the family. There is no breadwinner left in the family." Local authorities have assured that efforts to bring back Shashi's body for the last rites are being fast-tracked. "The loss cannot be compensated," said Shishir Gupta, additional deputy commissioner of Jammu, but the family remains inconsolable. Hundreds of neighbors and relatives have visited the family to offer their condolences, but the grief is palpable.

US Election 2024: Trump has 52% chance of winning, poll shows

Republican presidential candidate Donald Trump on Sunday surpassed Democratic nominee Kamala Harris in the Decision Desk HQ/The Hill election forecast for the first time this cycle. The forecast indicates that Trump has a 52% chance of winning the presidency, while Harris stands at 42%. Since late August, the model had consistently favored Harris, with her chances hovering around 54-56%, while Trump held about 44-46%. However, in early October, the gap began to close, and the candidates are now nearly even. This shift in the forecast aligns with Trump's improved polling averages in key battleground states like Wisconsin and Michigan, which had previously leaned toward Harris.

BJP faces charges of nepotism over ticket distribution; 'some resentment natural

NEW DELHI: The BJP, which uses dynasty politics as a weapon to attack its political opponents, is facing charges of nepotism in ticket distribution in Jharkhand from its own leaders and workers. Kin of several prominent leaders, including three former chief ministers, have been given tickets to contest the assembly elections leading to discontent among a section of state leaders. Prominent politicians whose kin have been given tickets include:

Meera Munda: Wife of former chief minister and Union minister Arjun Munda

Babulal Soren: Son of former chief minister Champai Soren

Purnima Das: Daughter-in-law of former chief minister Raghubar Das

Shatrughan Mahto: Brother of BJP MP Dullu Mahto

Roshan Lal Choudhary: Brother of Chandra Prakash Choudhary

Ragini Singh: Wife of former MLA Sanjeev Singh

BJP has also given tickets to several leaders who quit other parties and some who had lost the Lok Sabha elections earlier this year. Sita Soren, who is the daughter-in-law of JMM patriarch Shibu Soren and had joined the BJP ahead of Lok Sabha elections, has been given ticket from Jamtara. Sita had lost the Lok Sabha elections to JMM candidate Nalin Soren. Similarly, Sameer Oraon and Geeta Koda, wife of another former chief minister Madhu Koda, have also been given tickets despite their loss in Lok Sabha elections. Several leaders who have left other parties to join the saffron party have also been accommodated by the BJP. Lobin Hembrom, who quit JMM and is close to Champai Soren, has been given ticket.

'One of the biggest wickets in Test cricket': Glenn Phillips on dismissing Virat Kohli

NEW DELHI: New Zealand's Glenn Phillips expressed his excitement after dismissing modern-day great Virat Kohli, terming it as 'one of the biggest wickets in Test cricket'.

Tom Latham-led New Zealand became the first Kiwi side in 36 years to defeat India in a Test match in India. They chased down the 107-run target in the fourth innings of the first Test at M



Chinnaswamy Stadium, eventually beating India by 8 wickets in Bengaluru. Kohli, who was dismissed on duck in the first innings, played a vital innings of 70 runs in the second essay. However, his

stint at the crease came to an end on the last ball of the third day's play when he was dismissed by Phillips, which ultimately turned out to be the game-changing moment. IND vs NZ: Decoding what

went wrong for Rohit Sharma & Co. | Injury Updates: Pant, Gill & Shami Phillips acknowledged Kohli's stature as one of the greatest batsmen of the modern era, making the dismissal even more special for him. "Yeah, he is probably one of the biggest wickets in Test cricket going around at the moment. To be able to produce something special on the last ball of the day.

Cab driver's "No Romance" warning: This is not your ...

Hyderabad A Hyderabad cab driver's humorous note urging passengers to avoid romance in the backseat has gone viral on social media. The playful message warns that the cab is not a private place, sparking laughter and diverse reactions online. Recently, similar passenger decorum rules from a Bengaluru cab driver also gained traction, highlighting common expectations for respectful behavior. Cab driver's "No



Romance" warning: This is not your ... A Hyderabad cab driver's 'humorous' plea for passenger decorum has gone viral, sparking laughter across social media.

The note playfully warns against romance in the backseat,

reminding passengers that "this is a cab, not your private place." According to a photo shared on X, quickly gaining attention and sparking laughter across the internet. The warning reads: WARNING !! NO ROMANCE THIS IS A CAB NOT YOUR PRIVATE PLACE OR OYO SO PLEASE KEEP DISTANCE AND STAY CALM Internet reacts to "romance" warning @oyorooms have got this reputation now.

'Toxic liability': How Canada has fallen into a 'Trudeau trap'

Canada Prime Minister Justin Trudeau's popularity in Canada is plummeting due to unmet public expectations on immigration, housing, and climate policies. His Liberal Party is experiencing rapid decline, with internal dissent intensifying. Trudeau's moral stance on social issues now seems disconnected from Canadians' daily struggles, paving the way for opposition leader Pierre Poilievre to gain momentum. 'Toxic liability': How Canada has fallen into a 'Trudeau trap' The political landscape in Canada is increasingly fraught as Prime Minister Justin Trudeau faces mounting criticism and declining sup-



port, leading the UK-based magazine the Economist to describe the situation as a "Trudeau trap". If Canada held elections today Driving the news Justin Trudeau's once-glowing reputation is losing its lustre in Canada, and many believe his political reign is nearing its tumultuous end. His Liberal Party is seeing a rapid decline in popularity, and frustration is growing as his poli-

cies, including immigration, housing, and climate measures, fall short of public expectations. While his party has been in power for nearly a decade, Trudeau now faces internal dissent, with some calling for his resignation as Canada nears a national election within a year. Trudeau's moral posturing on climate change and social issues, once an asset, now appears disconnected from the daily

struggles of average Canadians. This has created a political vacuum that opposition leader Pierre Poilievre has capitalized on, promising to scrap the carbon tax and offer practical solutions, the Economist report said. Trudeau's approval rating

Why it matters As per the report in the Economist, Trudeau's election in 2015 marked the dawn of a modern, multicultural, climate-conscious Canada, providing a stark contrast to the political turbulence seen in other parts of the world. Trudeau's leadership, particularly in the face of a truculent Donald Trump in the US, seemed to offer a beacon .

'They kept trying to bring in migration': UK's ex-minister claims blocking India

NEW DELHI: UK's ex-minister claims blocking India FTA over visa demands, says reports Former UK minister Kemi Badenoch, who is the leading candidate to replace Rishi Sunak as Conservative Party chief and opposition leader, has said that she blocked the India-UK free trade agreement (FTA) due to demands for additional visas, according to UK media reports. The shadow minister of Nigerian heritage suggested that one of the reasons the Sunak-led government could not finalize the FTA was because India was seeking greater concessions regarding migration. "As business secretary, even as I was trying to do things to limit immigration.

Double-standard a mild word': Jaishankar slams Canada over diplomatic standoff



NEW DELHI: External affairs minister Dr. S. Jaishankar on Monday criticised certain western nations for struggling to adapt to the emerging multi-polar world order, where the Global South is gaining influence. Speaking at summit, the minister specifically condemned Canada's "double standards" regarding the expectations placed on Indian diplomats in Canada compared to what Canadian diplomats can do on Indian soil. "Canada asked us to subject our High

Commissioner to a police inquiry and we chose to withdraw the High Commissioner and diplomats. They seem to have a problem if Indian diplomats are even trying to make efforts to find out what is happening in Canada on matters which directly pertain to their welfare and security. But look what happens in India. Canadian diplomats have no problem going around collecting information on our military, police, profiling people, targeting people to be stopped in Canada.

Army paid rich tributes to braveheart

Prayagraj: Mortal remains of Lance Havildar Umesh Kumar Sahu, who made Supreme Sacrifice in the line of duty in Ladakh, were received with military honours at Raipur Airport on 20 Oct 2024. Rich tributes to the



Braveheart were paid by the Army, in a solemn ceremony held at the Airport. The funeral ceremony on 21 Oct 2024 at native village Kодиya, Durg was attended by serving Army personnel, Ex-servicemen along with various Civilian & Political dignitaries of Chhattisgarh with unwavering reverence. Indian Army stands firm with the bereaved family in this hour of grief.

Nandgaon Colony residents point out towards Nagar Nigam scam

Prayagraj: Residents of Kasari Masari Awaz Yojana Phase 2 have shot off a letter to zonal officer Khuldabad Zone One. In the letter, they have mentioned that there is a park of 23 bighas in this colony which has been transferred by Prayagraj Development Authority to the Municipal Corporation Prayagraj on 19 September 2020 along with Rs 17 crore for the development of park.

Payment was made to the Municipal Corporation Prayagraj for the beautification of the park but till date no work related to beautification has not been done nor the road drains of the colony have been developed due to which the appearance of the park has gone from bad to worse. And the drains and roads of the colony are in a dilapidated condition, hence, they have demanded from zonal officer to do proper investigation and take legal action against the concerned officials and provide co-operation in beautification of the park.

Ravi Verma, Satyendra Singh Advocate, Saroj Tiwari Advocate, Yogesh Tripathi Advocate, Tinku Kumar Mata Chauhan all residents of Kasari Masari Awaz Yojana Phase 2 Nandgaon Colony have raised their voice against continuous apathy towards Nandgaon Colony by Nagar Nigam authorities.

Bhupendra Kr Srivastava "Piyush" winning hearts on campaign trail

Prayagraj: Ex-AU student leader and lawyer's brother Bhupendra Kumar Srivastava "Piyush" has hit the campaign trail with a visit to District Court, Pratapgarh district and met all the advocate colleagues in the elections



for the upcoming Bar_Council_of_Uttar_Pradesh polls. He is seeking election for the Post of member Bar_Council_of_Uttar_Pradesh and winning hearts of one and all with his unique personality and compassion for legal profession. After campaigning in Allahabad, Fatehpur and Kaushambi, he sounded the poll bugle by visiting pratapgarh court and sought their cooperation and blessings and first preference (1) vote in the elections. Bhupendra Kumar Srivastava "Piyush" is a former Student Leader AU, Advocate High Court Allahabad, Minister - Prayag Advocates Association and Candidate - Upcoming Bar Council of Uttar Pradesh.

SMPP limited files DRHP with SEBI

Varanasi: SMPP limited, an Indian designer and manufacturer of defence equipment including ammunition components, personal protection products and protection kits for land, air and sea platforms has filed its Draft Red Herring Prospectus ("DRHP") with market regulator Securities and Exchange Board of India ("SEBI"). The Company plans to raise funds through offer of equity shares (face value ₹2 each) through initial public offerings aggregating up to ₹40000 million (₹40000 Crore).

The offer comprises of fresh issue of equity shares aggregating up to ₹5800 million (₹580 crore) (The "Fresh Issue") and offer for sale by Selling Shareholders aggregating up to ₹34200 million (₹3420 Crore) (The "Offer for Sale"). The Equity Shares that will be offered through the Red Herring Prospectus are proposed to be listed on the BSE Limited ("BSE") and National Stock Exchange of India Limited ("NSE"). (The "Listing Details") Axis Capital Limited, ICICI Securities Limited, IIFL Securities Limited, JM Financial Limited & Motilal Oswal Investment Advisors Limited are the Book Running Lead Managers to the issue. (The "BRLMs")

Integrated manufacturing cluster will be built on BPCL Naini land

Prayagraj: Uttar Pradesh Government's Industrial Development Minister Nand Gopal Gupta Nandi conducted a detailed review of the development works of Uttar Pradesh State Industrial Development Authority (UPSIDA) at Pickup Bhawan Auditorium, Lucknow on Monday.

Minister Nandi instructed the officials to increase the land bank and allot it to entrepreneurs for the development of industries to make Uttar Pradesh a state with one trillion dollar economy under the leadership of Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath. Minister Nandi said that in order to make Uttar Pradesh a one trillion dollar state, a target has been set by Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath to acquire 50 thousand acres of land this year and allot 25 thousand acres of land for setting up industries, which will be achieved. It is everyone's responsibility to do so. For which start working from now on. Speed up land allotment. Also try for allotment of old land. Apart from Principal Secretary Industrial Development Anil

Kumar Sagar and Chief Executive Officer UPSIDA Mayur Maheshwari, all the senior officers and regional managers of industrial areas were present in the review meeting.

In the review meeting, officials told that according to the plan of the Central Government, integrated manufacturing clusters are to be created in Agra and Prayagraj. For which 231 acres of BPCL land located in Naini, Prayagraj has been identified, which will be developed and industries will be established there. On which Minister Nandi gave instructions to the officials to set up an EV plant in Naini. In the review meeting, Minister Nandi expressed his displeasure over the closure of a large number of factories in all the industrial areas of the state and their lands lying vacant. He also warned the regional managers that negligence in this work will not be tolerated at all. Minister Nandi said that a large number of lands are lying vacant in all the industrial areas. The industry is closed, entrepreneurs should be

informed about the buyback policy to use such lands and efforts should also be made to get reallocation done. Minister Nandi

Instructions were also given to bring OTS scheme for the convenience of entrepreneurs.

Industrial areas are no

state government has implemented Article 243Q in industrial areas. Under which now all industrial areas will not be under the



said that the buyback policy has been made only to restart the closed factories and to minimize the loss to the entrepreneurs. Under which the entrepreneur can return the closed factory to UPSIDA, in return for which UPSIDA will pay 60 percent of the current rate to the allottee. On one hand, this will utilize unused land, while on the other hand there will be no loss to the allottee.

longer under the civic body for basic facilities. Minister Nandi said that due to the industrial areas being under the Municipal Corporation, Municipality and various civic body areas, basic facilities were not being developed in the industrial development areas. Along with roads, electricity, water and sewer, there was a problem of cleanliness every day. To end this, the

jurisdiction of Municipal Corporation, Municipality and related bodies for the development of basic facilities. Rather, now UPSIDA itself will have to make arrangements for roads, electricity, water, sewer, sanitation and other basic facilities in industrial areas. Along with collecting taxes from entrepreneurs, they should be provided better facilities. Negligence will

not be tolerated in this work.

Officials could not answer when asked questions about industries operating without passing the map. During the review meeting, Minister Nandi pointed out that a large number of industries in Agra, Kanpur, Bareilly, Lucknow, Varanasi, Jhansi as well as in all the industrial areas were located without lease deeds and when asked about the industries operating without passing the map, no regional manager could answer. On which Minister Nandi expressed strong displeasure and directed all the regional managers that such negligence will not be tolerated at all. Act with strictness and take action against the industries operating without passing the map. Minister Nandi directed the officials to complete the pending investigations within two months. He said that the problems of entrepreneurs should be resolved immediately. Besides, it should also be monitored. Instructions were also given to immediately resolve the complaints coming on IGRS.

Fortune demands oil price transparency with GramBhiDekho campaign

Varanasi: Leading Edible Oil & Food brand Fortune has unveiled a campaign, '#SirfDaamNahiGramBhiDekho', to build customer awareness around a new practice amongst some other edible oil brands, that are packing less than 1 litre which is 910 gm oil in a pack and declaring only the weight of the oil but skipping mentioning the volume. This practice began after the government allowed non-standard packaging of edible oil in 2022. While it may be legally above board, without consumer awareness some consumer may end up buying a smaller quantity of oil while assuming the pack to contain one litre of oil. For example, some soybean oil brands have started packs of around 850 gms that can look deceptively similar to a 910gm pack, 1-litre pack. Fortune clearly states both, the weight at 910 grams and the volume at 1-litre on its packs.

Elaborating on the situation, Prashant Pandey, Group Product Manager, Fortune Edible Oils, said, "While cooking in our kitchens, we measure oil by volume, be it through the usage of spoons or ladles or the depth of oil in a kadhai while deep frying. It is misleading to mention only the grammage and not the volume of oil on a particular pack." Fortune is stepping forward to highlight the non-disclosure of volume by certain oil brands on packs that look similar to 1-litre packs. "You do not expect consumers to do a volume-weight calculation for edible oil when buying a product. We believe in full disclosure of both volume and weight of our edible oils and expect all brands to do so to help consumers make an informed decision. Not only weight, but there have also been concerns around the quality of edible oils. Our brand follows more than 100 stringent quality checks before a product reaches to the market." Mr Pandey added.

Chala Piya Hamai Ke Shilpa Mela Ghumay Da... Gave message of victory of good over evil by presenting Mahishasur Mardini dance drama

Prayagraj: Cultural evening dance drama was held on Monday, the fifth day of Diwali Crafts fair organized by NCZCC, Ministry of Culture, Government of India. In the name of singing bhajans singer Archana Das started the program by presenting Parvati's Lal, incarnation of Shiva, Raghuvhar Tumko Meri Lal, Benefactor of your devotion, Kunjan Kunak Mandir Mandir Are Ganga Tori Lahar and Saja Do Ghar Ko Gulshan Sa Mere.... Got a lot of applause from the audience. In the second episode of the program, Sapna and the team enthralled the audience by presenting Ganesh Vandana, Vihn Vinashan Haar Ho Kari Toh Ke Namanwan Pratham Pujya Suvichar Hi Kari Tohke Namanton and folk song Chala Piya Hamai Ke Ghumaya Da. After this, Shweta Srivastava and the team started the dance drama with Shiv Sati Katha, in which the feelings of love, devotion and anger were displayed through dance. Shweta Srivastava's dance drama and Mahishasura

Mardini form kept the audience sitting in the pandal mesmerized. She presented dances in many forms including Ganga dance, Parvati, Naudurga form, Chandi, Mahishasura slaying, Durga riding on a lion. During this, the marriage of Shiva-Parvati and the killing of



Mahishasura were shown complete with songs, music and classical dance, while Rahul Nishad and fellow artists presented a dance drama based on Kali Swang. During this time the spectators sitting in the pandal could not leave their chairs. Fellow artistes included Jayant Bose on altapad, Akhilesh Chandra Gautam on tabla, Janhvi Mishra on dholak, Himanshu Mishra, Anshita Tripathi on

harmonium, Riddhima Dubey on chorus, Arya Pandey, Sameer Raj, Aniket Yadav and Vishal Vaish on keyboard. The program was conducted by Abhijeet Mishra. On this occasion, a large number of spectators including all the officers and employees of the center were present.

Discussion held on unjust and unfair policies in booking of NCZCC Auditorium

Prayagraj: On the request of the organization Swarg Rangamandal regarding the recent decisions related to the operation and accessibility of North Central Zone Cultural Center (NCZCC), Prayagraj, about fifty people of the city. Heads of more organizations participated in the discussion organized in the office of Swarg Rangamandal. Senior theater artist Rakesh Verma (Secretary Samayanantar) presided over the discussion. Throwing light on today's discussion, General Secretary of Swarg Rangamandal Atul Yaduvanshi ji talked about the recent decisions regarding the auditorium of NCZCC and expressed deep concern about it. Everyone unanimously agreed that this decision is proving to be detrimental to the art and cultural community. NCZCC has always been an important center for preserving, promoting and promoting traditional folk and cultural arts. However, some recently implemented changes are creating difficulties for artists and cultural organizations. The institution heads discussed the following issues:

1. Increase in booking fee: According to the information received, the booking fee of NCZCC Auditorium is being increased from 300 pc to 400 pc. This increase is being attributed to restoration work, but the main objective of the NCZCC is to facilitate the conservation, protection and promotion of indigenous and other art forms. This type of commercialization trend is unfair.2. Mandatory 6-hour booking slot NCZCC Mandating 6-hour booking slot for auditorium is impractical and puts excessive pressure on arts organizations. Instead a 12-hour booking window from 9:00 am to 9:00 pm will suit the needs of the artists.3. GST Charges on Booking: GST charges are being levied on booking of NCZCC Auditorium. These fees are unreasonable, especially when the programs are free to all. However, NCZCC may maintain separate slab for commercial/corporate shows.4. Commercialization of NCZCC facilities It is worrying that increasing commercialization of NCZCC is being witnessed, with additional charges being imposed for the use of

blocks, podiums, cots and additional lighting and sound equipment. NCZCC is a center for artists, for artists, and should not impose unreasonable fees that hinder cultural presentation.5. Classification of Sponsored and Non-Spon-

AC charges is sufficient). Do not impose unnecessary booking slots of 6 hours (it should be reduced from 9:00 am - There should be a rule of reservation till 09:00 pm so that enough time can be spent for pre-performance set construction, light-

podiums, plinths, light-sound equipment etc. can be booked in any auditorium) There should be no classification of sponsored and non-sponsored programs in the booking (every performance is sponsored by some government

development Society), Dr. Shlesh Gautam (Kailash Gautam Srijan Sansthan), Meena Khanna (Punharu Training Institute), Tejendra Singh (Sarvasva Lok Kalyan Voluntary Institute), Subodh Kumar Singh (Sangam Sanstha), Alok Nair (The Third Bell), Ritika Awasthi (Arambh Rangamandal), Jumar Mushtaq (The Golden Awake), Kunwar Tejmanu. Singh (Adarsh Lokkala Samiti), Monu Khan (Satvik), Nazim Ansari (Dedicated Trust), Pankaj Gaur (Sneh Sanstha), Sanju Sahu (Dedicated Institution), Ramesh Kumar (Indian Folk and Modern Art Academy), Vinay Srivastava (Madhyam Rangamandal), Kamlesh Chandra Yadav (Shri Krishna Lok Seva Sansthan), Deshrak Pataria (Saraswati Lok Sangeet Samiti), Mewalal Bindu (Maa Sharda Folk Art Society), Omprakash (Sonam Lok Naty Kala Samiti), Deepchandra Prajapati (Adarsh Folk Art Institute), Gulabchandra Maurya (Utkarsh Folk Art Institute), Shivalal (Sonam Lok Natya Kala Samiti), etc. were present.



sored Events Every cultural event organized requires sponsorship at some level, and this classification puts additional financial burden on the artists. Keeping the above points in mind. NCZCC should ensure that: The increase in booking charges from 300 pc to 400 pc is unjustified (the current rate of Rs. 8500/- including

sound setting and costume make-up etc. and after the presentation, time is also needed for removing the set and costume make-up.

GST should not be applicable on booking (nothing is sold or bought in these productions, the productions are free for all) The center should not commercialize its facilities (blocks,

or non-government organization). Everyone was unanimous that NCZCC was established to promote art and culture. It was done with the aim of preserving and promoting creativity, and not to impose financial barriers to hamper creativity. Today's discussion will include Sushil Rai (Scientific Empowerment and De-

Electronic Interlocking (EI) commissioned at Prayagraj Jn Station

New EI with 825 routes to ensure seamless and safe operations on New Delhi-Howrah route

Prayagraj: North Central Railway achieved yet another milestone in the leadership of Shri Upendra Chandra Joshi GM/NCR by commissioning new Electronic Interlocking in connection with Prayagraj Jn yard remodelling and Prayagraj Jn-Prayagraj Rambagh doubling work on 20.10.24. Prayagraj is second biggest yard in North Central Railway. Kyosan make Electronic Interlocking has been commissioned at Prayagraj Jn station thus providing 825 routes for better flexibility in train operations. The new interlocking will help in ensuring safe and seamless train operations.

Today on 21.10.2024 Shri Pranjeev Saxena Commissioner Railway Safety, North Eastern Circle inspected the newly commissioned Electronic Interlocking and the newly doubled Prayagraj- Prayagaraj Rambagh section. Initially in the morning he held a discussion about the project and its commissioning with Shri Himanshu Badoni, Divisional Railway Manager, Prayagraj, and other divisional officers along with the officers of executing agencies viz Construction

Organization of the zone and Rail Vikas Nigam Limited. This was followed by the inspection of newly commissioned Electronic Interlocking and the site inspection at Niranjn Bridge. Thereafter he did motor trolley inspection from Prayagraj to Prayagaraj Rambagh and lastly he conducted speed trial between Prayagaraj Rambagh & Prayagraj.

The commissioning of this new electronic interlocking is a major achievement in the history of development of this very crucial and strategically located station which started its journey in the service of nation in 1859 as the first station of Northern India to have train operations. This station since then has served as the link between Delhi-Howrah and Howrah-Mumbai routes and facilitates multi directional traffic emanating from here. The current Route relay Interlocking was working since 1993 and was more than 30 years old. The new interlocking will ensure smooth and availability of additional operational capacity for the upcoming and future Kumbh Melas and the ever-increasing traffic in



the future. Approx 500 of-ficers and staff of Signal & Telecom, Civil Engineering, Electrical & operations worked round the clock to get this very major and complex infrastructural task accomplished with immaculate planning and precise implementation.

This complex work included 20 lines, 206 signal (58 -main, 95 Shunt signals including dependent & independent, 53-calling on signals), 172 Point machines. Total 09 Visual Display Units have been provided including 03 each for operating, stand by and maintenance purpose. 05 Data loggers have also been provided to enhance safety

in train operations.

The new state of art system will facilitate Safety in train operation increased manifold due to advanced Electronic Interlocking. It will also enhance efficiency and will enable reduced detention times for Varanasi, Lucknow, Deendayal Upadhyay, and Satna bound trains. It will also provide increased flexibility in train movement. There will be Simultaneous movement of trains possible i.e. reception from Prayagraj Rambagh to Line No. 11 at Prayagraj Jn and departure to Naini from Line No. 10. It will also resolve dispatch issues from Line No. 1-8 to Prayag & enable departure

of trains from Line No. 18 & 19 of Prayagraj Jn to Prayag Jn station of Northern railway. It will also allow reception of trains from Prayag station to Line No. 13-17 of Prayagraj Jn. It will also Increase running lines availability in Prayagraj yard.

This Non Interlocking work is part of first phase of Prayagraj Jn yard remodelling which covers, Provision of new EI, Doubling between Prayagraj Rambagh and Prayagraj, Insertion of a new cross over between Prayagraj - Prayag UP & Down line for movement from line No.1 to 8 of Prayagraj to Prayag , Extension of Niranjn bridge in Civil line side,

Remaining proper connection of Malaka shunting neck from Down yard over Niranjn bridge for smooth shunting and avoiding detention of PRG bound trains, Conversion from single slip to double slip diamond crossover No.277 for simultaneous movement from and to Prayag & Prayagraj Rambagh, Conversion of engine line No.9 & 12 into coaching fit running lines, Extension of Branch washing and stabling line to accommodate full coaching rakes, Provision of Sand hump in Howrah end of line No.27 (PF No.6) to facilitate simultaneous movement on line No.27 (PF No.6) and line No.18 & 19 (PF No.9&10), Provision of both side signalling movements of ARME & ART lines Provision of Crane line and Crane shed near ART line by converting engine line into ARME line and ARME line into Crane line with crane shed facility, connecting one Diesel shed line to Electric Loco shed line to accommodate more Electric loco , Track circuiting of short sidings for safe movements and enable Extension of Lina Shah Baba FOB towards Civil line side.

SHUATS inaugurates Kritagyata Mahotsav

To commemorate 150th b'anniv of its founder

Prayagraj: Sam Higginbottom University of Agriculture, Technology and Sciences (SHUATS) inaugurated the Kritagyata Mahotsav to commemorate the 150th birth anniversary of its founder, Dr. Sam Higginbottom. The ceremony began with a prayer by Dr. Lalchung B. Gangte. Additional Registrar Prof. C.J. Wasley highlighted Dr. Sam Higginbottom's life and visionary work. He narrated how Dr. Sam established the Allahabad Agriculture Institute, which is now known as SHUATS. Dr. Bishwa



Roop Mehra, Pro Vice Chancellor Administration, spoke about Dr. Sam's generosity and contributions to agriculture. Dr. Ashish Alexander, Chairman, Special Event Committee, remembered Dr. Sam and stated that the week-long programs at SHUATS are a tribute to his life and ideas. The ceremony concluded with a vote of thanks by Dr. Hira Bose, who expressed gratitude to all dignitaries, students, and organizers.

This was followed by the inauguration of the three-day chess tournament, which was inaugurated by Director HRM Dr. Abhilasha J. Lal, Dr. Ashish Alexander, Mrs. Puja Ashish Alexander. The tournament aims to promote intellectual development among students and will continue from October 21 to 23. The Kritagyata Mahotsav will continue throughout the week, with various programs organized by SHUATS students and faculty.

The inauguration ceremony was held at the Central Auditorium of SHUATS, and was attended by prominent dignitaries including Pro VC (Academics) Prof. (Dr.) Jonathan A. Lal, Prof. C.J. Wasley, Dr. Bishwarup Mehra and other esteemed guests.

Condolence meeting of ex-councillor Basant Lal Azad held

Prayagraj: A condolence meeting was held on behalf of Tulsi Vivah Samiti for late Basant Lal Azad, who died on 14.10.2024. A condolence meeting was held at Ram Mandir Event Road in which dignitaries of the city were present. The people who came said that Basant Lal was a good



person who respected all religions. He did a lot of work in the social field and while being a former councillor, he did a lot of work for the society. On the occasion Anil Gupta Annu Bhaiya, Vijay Vaishya, Irshad Ullah, Santosh Mishra, Amar Vaish, Rajiv Krishna Srivastava, Harishchandra Gupta, Ravindra Pandey, Krishna Bhagwan Kesarwani, Ratan Kesarwani, Rajesh Kesarwani, Gopal Ji Chaurasia, etc. were present. Ravindra Pandey conducted the proceedings during the meet, which was presided over by Harishchandra Gupta.

Anger among traders due to arbitrary work of Municipal Corporation & PDA

Prayagraj: An important meeting of All India Industry Trade Board was held at the Metropolitan Office Shahganj. While presiding over the meeting, District President Lalu Mittal strongly condemned the Municipal Corporation's decision to confiscate the carts of poor shopkeepers who earn their living by setting up shop on the footpath, challan them and breaking their sheds and said that the street vendors are under the Prime Minister Swanidhi Samman Yojana. Under this, they are supporting their families by taking loans from banks and doing small business, but some officials from the Municipal Corporation are leaving no stone unturned to defame the government by taking arbitrary action against the rules, they do not even care about the orders of Mayor Ganesh Kesarwani. The poor small shopkeepers who set up shop in front of Company Bagh for 3 hours in the morning are also being harassed; the vandalism at the

traffic police line intersection is also a proof of this. Metropolitan President Animesh Aggarwal similarly opposed the Tughlaqi decree by the Prayagraj Development Authority. The



traders themselves want to make their city beautiful and are supporting it in every way, but threatening the traders by sending notices will not be tolerated. During the festival season, small shopkeepers also earn their living from the festival income throughout the year. Regional in-charge Vipin Gupta said that such action during the festival time is not in the interest of the traders.

Corporation officials should follow the orders of the Mayor. District Women President Ratna Jaiswal said that if shops are not set up then people will not come out of the house and

tional improvements should be made and action should be taken against the guilty officials, otherwise the trade body will be forced to take to the streets and agitate. The development authority

online business will increase. District President Lalu Mittal, Metropolitan President Animesh Aggarwal, Regional In-charge Vipin Gupta, District Women In-charge, Ratna, Metropolitan Women President Apoorva Chandra, District Vice President Raman Jai Hind strongly condemned this action on the festive season and said that the Municipal Corporation Immediate opera-

will also have to withdraw the notice sent in writing and not orally. Traders appealed to the city residents not to do business online. A large number of dignitaries including Vipin Gupta, Ravindra Jain, Umashankar Kesari, Rajkumar Kesarwani, Antas Abhinav Aggarwal Ratna Jaiswal, Apoorva Chandra Raman Jai Hind Satish Jaiswal Ashok Aggarwal RK Tilak were present in the meeting.

AU Alumnus Ankit Wins Young Philosopher Award

TRIUMPHS OVER SCHOLARS FROM 12 STATES

Prayagraj: Ankit Dwivedee, an alumnus of Allahabad University, was honored with the Pandit Ramvilas Mishra Young Philosopher Award at the 20th Annual National Convention of the Madhya Pradesh and Chhattisgarh Philosophy Council, organized at Awadhesh Prasad Singh University, Rewa, Madhya Pradesh, and sponsored by the Indian Council of Philosophical Research, New Delhi. This prestigious award is presented annually for the best research paper. This year, the award was given to Ankit Dwivedee for his paper titled "The Role of Buddhism in Global Peace."

Ankit Dwivedee shared that research scholars from

12 states participated in this competition, but his name topped the list as per the evaluation committee's decision. In the context of



"Developed India 2047," he emphasized the relevance of Buddhist philosophy, stating that Buddhism can aid in establishing positive re-

lations not only with South-east Asian countries but with the entire world. Ankit also expressed his gratitude to the Department of Phi-

seeds of philosophy in him. He mentioned that it was at Allahabad University that he first encountered the subject of philosophy after the 12th grade, which he studied for two years.

Notably, Ankit completed his Bachelor of Arts degree at Allahabad University from the 2017-20 session and was a resident of the Hindu Hostel. Currently, he is pursuing research under the guidance of Dr. Mukesh Kumar Verma, Head of the Department of Buddhist Studies at Nava Nalanda Mahavihara (Ministry of Culture). Additionally, Ankit has been a student at both Delhi University and Jawaharlal Nehru University.

CORE organized street theater for cleanliness awareness

Prayagraj: Central Railway Electrification Organization, Prayagraj under the special campaign 4.0 of Swachhta Pakhwada under the chairmanship of Yatendra Kumar Chief Administrative Officer on Monday, from 16:00 to 17:00 in the evening, a street theater was organized by "Nukkad Natya Abhinay Sansthan Prayagraj" to promote cleanliness related awareness in the premises



of the Core Office. In the program R. N. Singh Principal Chief Signal and Telecommunication Engineer/Principal Chief Personnel Officer, Narendra Singh-Principal Chief Engineer, Kalyan Singh-Deputy General Manager and Vimal Kumar Public Relations Officer and other officers and employees were present. The Chairman of the program, Chief Administrative Officer, made the officers and employees aware about cleanliness and called upon everyone to cooperate in keeping the headquarters premises clean and also inspire the people around them so that the cleanliness campaign of the Government of India can be made successful. The vote of thanks was given by Kalyan Singh, Chief Public Relations Officer.

Azad Park being neglected post-name change from Company Bagh: Vinay Kushwaha

Track, lake destroyed, weeds in place of flowers

Prayagraj: Company Bagh, located in the center of Prayagraj and producing the majority of oxygen for Prayagraj people, is named after Chandrashekhar Azad, who was slain at the site. It was done by the BJP, which is a fantastic thing, but the park is today screaming over its predicament.

Vinay Kushwaha, SP State Secretary and MP Representative, stated that it is a subject of debate among people when walking in the morning. The Akhilesh government created a beautiful lake in Company Bagh with colorful fountains that captivated people and children who used to practice running and morning walks on the synthetic track; all of this was free; however, when the Yogi government took power in 2017, Company Bagh was renamed and bestowed as a gift to city residents. A charge was enforced for a free morning walk in the park. He stated that senior BJP politicians visited and informed the people that this levy would be removed, but it is still being charged today. The State Secretary stated that whenever a charge is imposed, people expect an increase in services and facilities, but the contrary has occurred in this case. The park's state worsens by the day. The lake has dried up, the fountains are gone, the jogging paths have fallen down, and there were gardens throughout the park, including one with roses. There was just one bloom, and many valuable trees and plants had been replaced by weeds and grasses. He also stated that it is important to consider which bungalow the gardener working there is growing the flowers in.



Mayor Ganesh Kesarwani takes active membership of BJP

Prayagraj: BJP Metropolitan President Rajendra Mishra made Mayor Ganesh Kesarwani take active membership of Bharatiya Janata Party and he Congratulated on this occasion, Mayor Ganesh Kesarwani, while once again taking active membership of BJP, said that becoming a soldier of Bharatiya Janata Party is a matter



of pride in itself and said that he is proud to become an active member of Bharatiya Janata Party, dedicated to the service of the nation and society. District spokesperson Rajesh Kesarwani said that on this occasion, Mayor Ganesh Kesarwani filled the form of active membership of Bharatiya Janata Party and former Deputy Mayor Murari Lal Aggarwal, Kunj, on becoming an active member. Bihari Mishra, Varun Kesarwani Councillor Sunita Chopra, Rajesh Kesarwani Councillor Kiran Jaiswal, Sunita Chopra Deepika Singh Patel Ashish Dwivedi, Gyanendra Mishra Prashant Shukla, Subodh Singh Vivek Mishra, Deep Dwivedi, Kuldeep Mishra, Natwarlal Bharti, Anand Dubey, Rakesh Bharti, Amankesarwani, Anuj Kushwaha, Prayagraj Gupta, etc. congratulated Mayor Ganesh Kesarwani.

Editorial

Bahraich Violence and a Brief History of Recent Attacks on Hindu Festivals

A day after Dussehra, a Durga immersion procession was winding through the narrow, busy streets of Maharajganj in Uttar Pradesh's Bahraich city. Music played loudly from the DJ system, a common feature of many religious and social processions today. Reports and eye-witnesses say that this irked local Muslims gathered near a mosque enough to attack the rally. Stones rained down on the Hindu procession from the mosque. The Durga idol got damaged. This enraged the Hindus. One of them, Ram Gopal Mishra, aged just 22, uprooted a green flag flying at Abdul Hamid's home and replaced it with a saffron one. What followed was one of the most macabre Islamist murders of recent times in India. Mishra's body was found with seven bullets in it, said the post-mortem report. He had injuries on his face, neck and arm. His body had 40 entry and two exit wounds. The report mentions 29 entry wounds on his upper chest extending to the neck, two entry wounds on the right upper arm, three entry wounds on the left upper arm and six entry wounds on the face. There were two exit wounds in the back of the neck. The brutality in Bahraich has rocked into dawning shock the sleeping psyche of a nation that has largely failed to notice a pattern etched bright red and clear in the past few months. Hindu festivals have been under continuous and relentless attack by Islamists. The instances are too frequent and too templatised to be dismissed as sporadic or unrelated. There have been at least 10 reported attacks on Ram Mandir Shobha Yatras on 22 January, the day of the Ayodhya temple's pran pratistha. Hindu rallies were attacked with stones and weapons in locations ranging from Sambhaji Nagar in Maharashtra to Vadodara in Gujarat, Kushinagar and Azamgarh in Uttar Pradesh to Darbhanga and Muzaffarpur in Bihar, and Shivamogga and Belagavi in Karnataka to Giridih in Jharkhand. In Kolkata, unsurprisingly, Marxist students took the baton from the jihadis. The CPI(M)'s student wing, SFI, stopped a screening of the temple ceremony organised by Hindu youth at Jadavpur University. There have been 27 recorded attacks against Hindus on Ram Navami between 2016 and 2024. This year, rallies were attacked in Medinipur and Murshidabad in West Bengal, Bengaluru in Karnataka, and Bokaro in Jharkhand. Hanuman Jayanti celebrations witnessed 27 recorded attacks between 2015 and 2023 across Odisha, Jharkhand, Delhi, Uttarakhand, Andhra Pradesh, Maharashtra, Rajasthan, and Madhya Pradesh. Twelve attacks were recorded on Kanwar Yatra in 2018, 2022, and 2024, most of which occurred in Uttar Pradesh, with one each in Rajasthan and Jharkhand. Just this year, Islamists raided Ganesh Chaturthi celebrations 15 times, mainly in Maharashtra, Gujarat, Rajasthan, UP, and Madhya Pradesh, with one incident in Chittagong, Bangladesh in which hot water and stones were hurled from a mosque at Hindu revellers. Bangladesh, of course, led the attacks on Durga Puja, with 30 recorded incidents from Dhaka to Barisal, Cumilla to Khulna. Pandals were set on fire, idols were smashed, and Hindus were killed or maimed. The Indian side of Bengal saw at least two such attacks, giving us a glimpse of what lies in store if the demographic takeover continues unabated. There were nine incidents of violence over Durga Puja celebrations in the rest of India, spanning Uttar Pradesh, Assam, Tripura, and Jharkhand. There have been 14 attacks on Deepavali between 2005 and 2023, ranging from Uttar Pradesh to Gujarat, Kashmir to Kerala. Holi has experienced the highest number of attacks, with 35 incidents recorded between 2014 and 2024.



Why America Should Shun Trudeau's 'Juvenile Diplomacy' and Embrace India Tighter

In 1899, eminent novelist and writer Rudyard Kipling made an appeal to the United States, calling it to shoulder its imperial responsibilities: About 125 years later, one doesn't expect a country to believe in the phenomenon of the "White Man's Burden". But, if Niall Ferguson is to be believed, as he writes in *Empire: How Britain Made the Modern World*, the United States has "taken up some kind of global burden, just as Kipling urged". As one ponders over Canadian Prime Minister Justin Trudeau's 'juvenile diplomacy' with India, tearing apart the relations between two demo-

cratic countries, it becomes obvious that the United States has indeed taken up the task of the "White Man's Burden", as Kipling desired. One can still understand Trudeau's domestic vote-bank compulsions—as per a latest survey, the Prime Minister's wipe-out in the 2025 elections seems imminent as only 15 per cent Canadians believe that the current Liberal dispensation deserves to be re-elected—but for the United States to come out in support of Canada on this issue defies logic.

One, the person whose assassination is at the centre of

the geopolitical storm is a dreaded Khalistani terrorist, Hardeep Singh Nijjar, who in the first place entered Canada illegally and got its citizenship in a dubious manner. The hurried transformation of a terrorist into a plumber-cum-Sikh activist suggests Nijjar was a deep state asset, which further got vindicated when reports appeared about the Canadian agencies being in touch with his family soon after his death. There has been a flourishing Khalistani ecosystem in Canada since the 1980s, when incidentally Justin Trudeau's own father, Pierre, first gave it a

booster shot. In fact, the Indira Gandhi government had sought the extradition of a dreaded Khalistani terrorist, Talwinder Singh Parmar, who had warned three years before the 1985 Kanishka bombing that "Indian planes will fall from the sky", but the Canadian government refused to entertain the Indian demand, saying the extradition protocols between Commonwealth countries would not apply with India as it had not been deferential enough to the British Queen, the Head of the Commonwealth!

The Wakf Amendment Bill isn't radical enough. Reinvent or wind up



The Wakf is in dire need of reform. It needs both a conceptual update and a structural overhaul—a far more fundamental reform than what is proposed in the Wakf Amendment Bill 2024. The Bill has been referred to the Joint Committee of Parliament, which invited and received a voluminous number of suggestions from interested citizens. In this article, after an overview and necessary contextualisation, I am going to propose some reforms which may enable the Wakf to reinvent itself as a truly charitable institution. If it fails to do so, it will inevitably have to wind up. The Muslim leadership—the traditional elite who make the narratives for ordinary Muslims—have a litany of objections to the proposed amendments. They don't, however, have any substantive suggestions to improve the functioning of Wakf so that it might fulfil its declared objective of charity or public welfare. They would rather that the amendments of 2013 remain untouched. After all, the UPA government enacted this law to give them inordinate powers to run the Wakf as they wished, allowing them to act as judge, jury, and executioner in their own case. What seems to have rattled them most is the proposed inclusion of two non-Muslim members in the reconstituted Central Wakf Council and state Wakf Boards. The stock language of their protest is as communal as clichéd. To question the inclusion of non-Muslims is graceless, to

say the least. More so, because under Islamic law, non-Muslims can make a Wakf, and many Hindus have indeed done so. Moreover, to oppose this on the grounds that even Muslims are not included in temple bodies is to draw a misplaced parallel. A temple is a place of worship which may have some property attached to it, while a Wakf is a property endowment that may or may not include a mosque. Furthermore, in most cases, Hindu religious and charitable endowments are under the strict control of state governments, and their money is spent on public welfare. Most importantly, the trusts belonging to temples and mutts run high-quality schools, colleges, universities, speciality hospitals, and other public charities. What does the Wakf run, and, so, where is the comparison? Their more serious objection, however, lies in the proposal to entrust the Collector with the power to decide if a particular property is Wakf or not. At present, this power vests in the Wakf Board. Therefore, the

Muslim elite sees the proposed amendment as an overweening interference in a domain they consider exclusively theirs, and therefore, beyond the jurisdiction of the Indian State. The Muslim elite's objection to reforming Wakf law is the same as their stance on reform in Muslim personal law. Even as they admit to the need for reform, they don't agree to it as they don't regard the Indian State as their own. In their view, only an Islamic state is eligible to legislate on matters governed by the Sharia. Thus, the Indian State is barred from legislating for its Muslim citizens. And so, we are faced with a bizarre situation where most Muslim countries—formally orthodox and even theocratic—have been legislating progressive laws to address the gender injustice inherent in the Sharia, but Indian ulema and "modern" Muslim intellectuals continue to stall reforms on the plea that they would breach their Identity Fortress.

Likewise for the Wakf. Even though most

Muslim countries keep their Wakf under strict governmental control, and many have altogether abolished it (so much for its 'irrevocability'!), the Muslim elite of India won't let the State have a say in the matter. That's unless it is for making the Wakf a state within the State, and giving them untrammelled and virtually non-justiciable powers to lay claim to a property. The Muslim narrative-makers belong to the same class that built the Wakf estates, and have kept them under their control. Being the descendants of Muslim rulers, they consider the Wakf a legacy of conquest. Surely, they didn't bring these vast swathes of land from Arabia, Iran, or Central Asia. This elite, the Ashraaf, is instinctively hostile to any reform that could erode their power legacy—whether it's the Juristic Enclave of Personal Law; the Estate of Wakf; their 'Vatican' at Aligarh, or the Vote Bank. The Wakf is a concern of the elite, not of the ordinary Muslim.

Hardly any life has ever been touched by this much-vaunted Empire of Charity. A case in point: in the Shah Bano case, the Supreme Court granted maintenance to a divorced Muslim woman. But the Muslim leadership saw this as an attack on Islam, since according to them, Sharia has no provision for alimony. Therefore, the Muslims couldn't take the highest court's judgement lying down. They bullied the government into submission.

And such was the awe of their vote bank that the government readily capitulated, passing a law to subvert the said judgement. It had the most ironic title, the Muslim Women (Protection on Divorce) Act 1986. However, a valid question still needed to be answered—what about the divorced woman falling into destitution? Maulana Syed Abul Hasan Ali Nadvi, then president of the All India Muslim Personal Law Board, gave a solemn undertaking that maintenance for divorced destitute women would be paid by Wakf Board. So far, in nearly four decades, not a single woman has been paid the promised pittance. So much for charity! The near total absence of any visible charity by Wakf should bring us to its real character and organisational structure. In my previous article on the subject, it was irrefutably established that Wakf is neither religious nor charitable. It has no scriptural basis in the Quran or the Sunnat, and has actually been used as a juristic subterfuge to circumvent Islamic laws of inheritance and property distribution. It was also demonstrated that the legal fiction of vesting ownership in Allah and making Wakf irrevocable, inalienable, and unalterable were clever contrivances for the consolidation of property, formation of estates, and building of political power. There are different types of Wakf, yet it's strange that there is no systematic classification of them.

Why India's Citizenship Amendment Act is Justified Under International Law

The Citizenship (Amendment) Act, 2019 (CAA) is a legislative enactment passed by the Parliament of India on 11 December 2019 to amend the Citizenship Act of 1955. This amendment allows Indian citizenship to be granted to religious minorities, including Hindus, Sikhs, Buddhists, Jains, Parsis, and Christians, who fled from the neighbouring Muslim-majority countries of Pakistan, Bangladesh, and Afghanistan due to religious persecution, or fear thereof, before December 2014. Under the CAA 2019 amendment, migrants who entered India by 31 December 2014 are eligible for fast-track Indian citizenship. The amendment reduced the residence requirement for naturalisation from eleven years to five. Its aim is to provide a dignified life to persecuted religious minorities who are unable to freely practise their faith in their home countries. Under the Citizenship Act of 1955, illegal migrants were ineligible for Indian citizenship. They could apply for citi-

zenship under Section 5 of the Citizenship Act, but if unable to provide evidence of Indian origin, they were required to pursue citizenship through naturalisation under Section 6. This often resulted in the deprivation of numerous opportunities and benefits. The exclusion of Muslims from the amendment has been criticised by India's Opposition parties, legal scholars, sections of civil society, leftist student groups, and others for being unconstitutional in light of India's secularism, the right to equality, and democracy. In this article, I will assess whether the CAA violates international law, particularly concerning the right to a nationality and the principle of non-discrimination. An analysis of India's international obligations is relevant to the current litigation because Article 51(c) of the Constitution of India requires the State to 'foster respect for international law and treaty obligations in the dealings of organised peoples with one another'.

China-Pakistan SCO presence threatens India

India's presence at the Shanghai Cooperation Organisation's 23rd meeting in Islamabad sent a clear message: there will be no engagement with Pakistan. Minister of External Affairs S Jaishankar, who attended the two-day summit in place of Prime Minister Narendra Modi, brought his signature swagger to the proceedings. He made it clear that India's participation in the Council of Heads of Government meeting was to fulfil its obligations to the SCO and not to interact with the host country. No bilateral meetings occurred between the two sides at the event, which was overshadowed by the unusually escalating tensions between India and Canada. Even as journalists scrutinised interactions, statements, body language and strategic commentary, India's participation remained overall restrained, with sharp rebuttals to any attempts to thaw tensions with Pakistan.

The SCO is a political, economic, and security organisation founded by China and Russia in 2001. Initially a Eurasian alliance, it expanded in 2017 when India and Pakistan joined. Iran became a member in 2023, followed by Belarus in 2024. The organisation also includes several observer states and dialogue partners. With both China and India as members, SCO is the world's largest regional alliance in terms of population—a factor that contributes significantly to its economic influence. The SCO was established in the wake of the 9/11 attacks, which explains why counterterrorism is its core focus. However, given Pakistan's history of sheltering anti-India elements, the SCO's counterterrorism framework offers limited value for New Delhi, which I will elaborate on later in the article. For Russia and China, the SCO remains central to their strategic

efforts to advance an alternative global order. India's engagement with the SCO is a key reflection of its multi-alignment and reinforces its commitment to regional cooperation. It is crucial to prevent regional organisations such as the SCO from succumbing to China's dominance. Especially when the world is grappling with complex dependencies on Beijing and there's a growing effort to counter the nation's unilateral moves and disregard for international law. While India may not reap significant direct benefits from the SCO—given the sanctions on Iran and Russia and the limitations on trade with both—it must continue its participation to ensure the region isn't dominated by China. It's important to remember that Beijing's involvement with the SCO aligns with its Belt and Road Initiative (BRI), which most SCO members, except New Delhi, have endorsed.

Russia's capacity to balance China has weakened due to the Ukraine war, increasing its reliance on Beijing. Simultaneously, events in the Middle East have drawn Iran even closer to the authoritarian axis of Russia, China, and North Korea.

Thus, for pragmatic reasons, India must continue its engagement with the SCO. The SCO risks becoming an anti-Western bloc without India—an outcome New Delhi can ill afford. The country aims to leverage its multi-aligned stance to benefit from both sides of the global divide while assuring emerging economies of its commitment to collaborative regionalism in an increasingly polarised era. The fundamental issue with the SCO is the absence of a unified economic, strategic, or regional vision. India does not align with the China-Russia-Iran trio's efforts to undermine the existing global order. Over the past few years.

Gold hits new record on Mideast tension as traders

Gold soared to a record high of \$2,696.78 amid Middle East tensions and favorable US economic data, reinforcing bets on Federal Reserve interest rate cuts. Investors are turning to gold for safety due to geopolitical uncertainties and mixed economic indicators. With an impending US election, gold's upward trend is likely to continue regardless of the outcome. Gold climbed to a fresh record amid ongoing tensions in the Middle East as traders also weighed US data that kept alive bets on the Federal Reserve's interest-rate cuts. Bullion touched an all-time high of \$2,696.78 as Israel said it killed Hamas leader Yahya Sinwar, the architect of the Palestinian group's attack on southern Israel that triggered a year-long war in Gaza. Investors typically seek safety in the precious metal in times of geopolitical and economic uncertainty. Data showed US retail



sales strengthened in September by more than forecast in a broad advance. US jobless claims unexpectedly fell after jumping the previous week in Southeastern states affected by Hurricane Helene, according to the latest US Labor Department report. The US economic readings added to a slew of mixed US economic readings recently, reinforcing gold traders' expectations that the Fed will continue its rate-cutting path for the rest of the year. Gold is 1.4% higher this week, with investors repositioning portfolios ahead of the US election on November 5. With both candidates posing different risks to the economy.

ICT Working Group Meeting Focuses on H-1B Visa, Data Flows

Indian IT companies in the US have used less H-1B visas in recent years. Indian IT companies no longer rely on H-1B visas and worry about visa cost increases affecting their profitability. A few years before 2015, numerous large Indian IT companies were top 10 H-1B visa beneficiaries. Since then, these numbers have plummeted. Big Indian IT businesses, except Infosys, have lost 40%+ of their market share.

Combining Club Vistara and Air India Flying Returns to "Maharaja Club"

Delhi: Air India Flying Returns and Club Vistara will unite on November 12, 2024. CV Points, Tier Points, Tier Status, and Vouchers will be sent to the connected Flying Returns account. Flying Returns will become the Maharaja Club after this merger. Member Club Vistara account profiles will be frozen on October 15, 2024, for a smooth handover.

Profile details in Club Vistara accounts cannot be changed after this date. CV Points expiring in September and October 2024 will be extended. At migration, all CV Points, including 'Extended CV Points,' will be trans-



ferred to Flying Returns accounts and valid for at least one year, regardless of expiration date. Air India's expanded network will accept points. Member-issued or auto-generated "On-demand Voucher Generation" complimentary ticket vouchers valid after November 11, 2024, will be extended for three months.

If not issued before

November 11, 2024, "On-demand Voucher Generation" vouchers will be automatically supplied to the Flying Returns account with a nine-month fixed validity. You can Buy CV Points and Extend Voucher Validity till October 25, 2024. These features will be removed from Club Vistara accounts after this date.

AI adoption to boost data, cloud role hiring

CHENNAI As companies navigate AI adoption, demand and salary growth for data science, data engineering, DevOps and cloud computing roles are expected to grow faster than other technology roles in FY25 compared to the previous fiscal, according to TeamLease Digital. The tech staffing and solu-

tions providers' snapshot analysis shows that a rise in AI, machine learning (ML), and automation skills has significantly increased the demand for data-related roles. While 69% of job postings for data scientists mentioned ML skills in FY24, demand for natural language processing jumped from 5% in 2024 to 19% in 2025,

indicating a broad industry shift toward AI-driven solutions, the company said in a note. The demand for AI-related roles will increase 17% in the current fiscal and about 25 per cent in FY26, Neeti Sharma, chief executive of TeamLease Digital, told. This includes roles such as data scientist, analyst and engineer.

Billionaire Adar to pick 50% stake in Karan Johar's Dharma Productions for Rs 1,000 crore

Adar Poonawalla is acquiring a 50% stake in Karan Johar's Dharma Production and Dharmatic Entertainment for Rs 1,000 crore, valuing the company at Rs 2000 crore, according to a report. Johar retains creative control, bolstered by financial resources to adapt to evolving market preferences. Poonawalla is making this investment privately through Serene Productions. Johar will retain the remaining stake. Adar Poonawalla, the billionaire CEO of the Serum Institute of India, is acquiring a 50% stake in Karan Johar's Dharma Production and Dharmatic Entertainment for Rs 1,000 crore. This investment values



the film and television production and distribution company at Rs 2000 crore, people familiar with the matter told ET. The move further highlights the ongoing consolidation trend in the entertainment industry. Dharma Productions, a prominent Bollywood production house, has been actively seeking investments and has engaged in discussions with several

large conglomerates and industrialists. The company has explored potential partnerships with Sanjiv Goenka's Saregama, with whom they already have business ties, as well as Reliance Industries and Jio Cinema. According to the financial daily's report, Poonawalla is making this investment privately through Serene Productions. Johar will retain the remaining stake and continue as the Executive Chairman and creative head of Dharma, while Apoorva Mehta will remain the Chief Executive Officer. Currently, Karan Johar owns 90.7% of Dharma, and his mother, Hiroo, holds 9.24%.

Paytm shares rebound after three days of heavy fall

NEW DELHI: Shares of One97 Communications Ltd, the parent company of the Paytm brand, staged a recovery on Tuesday morning following a three-day decline. The stock surged by 7.79% to Rs 472.50 on the BSE, despite initially trading weakly. Similarly, on the NSE, it climbed by 7.99% to reach Rs 473.55. Over the past three days, the stock had plummeted by over 42%, erasing Rs 20,471.25 crore from its market valuation, triggered by regulatory actions from the RBI.

193 companies post approximately 90,000 internship opportunities on the web

Delhi : Prior to the start of application registration, 193 firms have listed over 90,800 internship vacancies on the Prime Minister Internship Scheme portal. Among the 193 businesses that have extended the opportunity are Jubilant Foodworks, Maruti Suzuki India, Eicher Motor, Larsen & Toubro Ltd., Muthoot Finance, and Reliance Industries, it continued. Companies can post internship posi-



tions on the PM Internship platform, which started on October 3. In the current fiscal year, 1.25 lakh candidates are anticipated to be covered by the program. The Corporate Affairs Ministry's internet platform, www.pm

internship.mca.gov.in, would be used to carry it out. Internships under the initiative will begin on December 2 in accordance with the pilot project, which is projected to cost about ₹800 crore. The article, which cited ministry sources, states that as of October 11, there were 90,849 positions listed on the PM Internship platform. By October 9, 2024, there were around 50,000 possibilities available.

HDFC Bank board okays HDB Financial's Rs 12,500 crore IPO

Delhi: HDFC Bank's board has cleared a Rs 12,500 crore IPO for its subsidiary, HDB Financial Services, as part of the company's plan to go public. The decision was made during a board meeting held on October 19, 2024, following previous announcements in July and Sept of this year regarding the offer. The IPO will consist of both a fresh issue and an offer for sale by the bank. The OFS will include shares with a face value of Rs 10 each, aggregating up to Rs 10,000 crore, though this amount may be revised as permitted under applicable law. The fresh issue will amount to Rs 2,500 crore, bringing the total IPO size to Rs 12,500 crore. The proposed IPO size makes it the largest IPO by an NBFC. Last month,



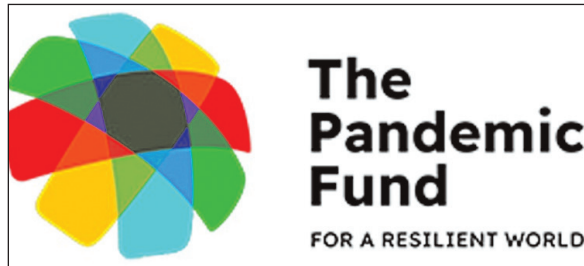
Bajaj Housing Finance had raised Rs 6,560 crore through an IPO. The proposed IPO is subject to market conditions, regulatory approvals, and other considerations. Regulatory clearances are being sought, and the company must adhere to applicable laws, including RBI's scale-based regulations for NBFCs, which require HDB to go public by Sept 2025. Despite the IPO, HDB will continue to operate as a subsidiary of HDFC Bank, in compliance with regulatory guidelines.

Life insurance and Mediclaim exemption suggested by GST panel

Delhi: An official said term life insurance premiums and senior health insurance premiums may be GST-exempt. The GoM that set the GST rate on life and health insurance exempted GST on premiums for health insurance with coverage of Rs 5 lakh for non-seniors. Officials' health insurance premiums over Rs 5 lakh would continue to attract 18% GST.

Pandemic Fund allocates \$ 418 million for second round of grants to boost pandemic preparedness in 50 countries

Delhi: Concluding its second funding round, the Pandemic Fund's Governing Board approved USD 418 million in new grants designed to bolster pandemic prevention, preparedness, and response (PPR) capacities in 40 countries across six geographical regions. This latest allocation is in addition to the \$128.89 million approved on 19th September for five fast-tracked projects to support 10 countries impacted by the mpox Public Health Emergency of International Concern (PHEIC), bringing the total funding awarded under the second round to US\$547 million, which will mobilize an additional US\$4 billion for investments in PPR in benefiting countries. Over 50 per cent of the funds



awarded under the second round are for countries in sub-Saharan Africa, the region with the highest demand for Pandemic Fund grants. Over 74 per cent of the funded projects will benefit low and lower-middle-income countries. These new investments advance the Pandemic Fund's objectives to mobilize additional, dedicated resources for pandemic PPR, incentivize countries to increase their investments and enhance coordination. "With this new round of investments, the Pandemic Fund has once again demon-

strated its vital role to mobilize additional financing and promote international collaboration to make the world safer from pandemics," said Pandemic Fund co-chair Chatib Basri, former Minister of Finance of Indonesia, and Sabin Nsanzimana, Minister of Health, Rwanda. "We commend the efforts of The Pandemic Fund's Technical Advisory Panel and Governing Board to ensure that the selection process was inclusive and transparent and that the selected projects comprise a quality, balanced portfolio.

Mid, small-cap mutual funds attract 30,350 crore on strong returns

NEW DELHI: Mid-cap and small-cap mutual fund schemes have continued to attract strong investor interest, garnering nearly Rs 30,350 crore in inflows during April-Sept of the current financial year, driven by impressive returns delivered by these segments. In comparison, the cumulative inflow into mid-cap and small-cap funds stood at Rs 32,924 crore during the same period last year, according to data from the Association of Mutual Funds in India (Amfi). The inflow trend persists despite concerns raised by market regulator Sebi over heightened inflows into small-cap and mid-cap funds, as experts believe investors will continue to favour these categories for their potential to deliver high returns. "Small caps will continue to grow at a faster rate for years to come. I expect the inflows to continue as Indians want to invest in the high-growth sectors. Small cap funds should be seen as an integral part of one's portfolio allocation and not a tactical play," Trust Mutual Fund CEO Sandeep Bagla said. Individually, mid-cap funds saw an inflow of Rs 14,756 crore and small-cap funds attracted Rs 15,586 crore in the first half of FY25. This aggregates the total inflow to Rs 30,342 crore, the data showed. The strong investor interest in mid-cap and small-cap mutual funds is driven by the potential for high returns in these segments, Tradejini COO Trivesh said.



As strict immigration regulations wreck Punjab students' Canada hopes, local colleges see enrollment rise

Delhi: With Canada's once-liberal immigration policies turning conservative, Punjab's prospective students have moved from IELTS coaching institutes and visa offices to the state's colleges and universities. Punjab's higher education institutions saw a sharp surge in admissions this year, with some courses shutting above 90%. With Canada cutting international student visas by 35% this year and 10% next year, the trend is expected to continue. Canadian Prime Minister Justin Trudeau posted on 'X' that immigration is good for our economy, but when unscrupulous actors abuse the system and exploit students, we crack down.

This year, 24 Punjabi University departments enrolled about 2,000 students in



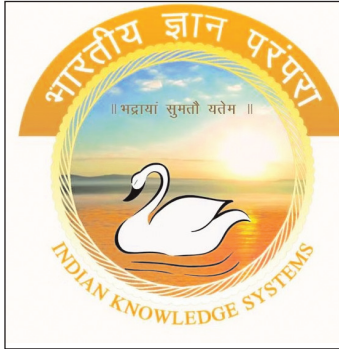
Bachelors and integrated studies, up from 1,700 in 2023. According to Panjab University, Chandigarh, admissions increased by approximately 2,000 students in nine colleges. College principals and university officials attributed this sharp rise to students' inability to immigrate to Canada due to immigration policy changes that include no work permits for undergraduates and a higher Guaranteed Investment Certificate requirement that makes

immigration more expensive. Additionally, Canadian housing is more expensive and scarce. Students usually study in Canada as undergraduates. Students cannot afford to travel overseas this year. Khalsa College enrolled 8,700 students this year, increasing 58% from 2022. After a three- to four-year decline in admissions due to the large number of students coming to Canada, university admissions have surged this year due to Ottawa's policy reforms.

Govt. to bring in 'neglected' specialists to study rare 'non-spiritual' texts

Delhi: The Indian Knowledge Systems division of the Union Ministry of Education will launch a new program to involve and acknowledge experts who have been "neglected" by mainstream academia in studying "rare and unpublished" manuscripts from ancient India, has learned. The "IKS Vidvan" program will enable these specialists analyze, edit, and publish "non-spiritual" literature in science, agriculture, animal health, civil engineering, and architecture. Launched in 2020, the Bharatiya Jñana Parampara Vibhaga IKS division promotes multidisciplinary and transdisciplinary research on indigenous knowledge in line with the National Education Policy (NEP) 2020. It supports IKS research and ancient Indian knowledge study material through research programs and centers.

IKS national coordinator Ganti S. Murthy said the program will further NEP 2020's ancient Indian themes. He said the pro-



"The "IKS Vidvan" program will enable these specialists analyze, edit, and publish "non-spiritual"

Government school enrollment drops in 13 states/UTs in 2023-24

Delhi: Enrollment for classes 1 to 8 in government institutions in 13 states and Union Territories has declined, with Uttar Pradesh having the largest dip of over 28 lakh kids last year. Last week, the ministry disclosed minutes from meetings between state officials and the project approval board (PAB) for the Pradhan Mantri Poshan Shakti Nirman noon meal initiative. A 28,69,670 drop in student enrollment for classes 1 to 8 in Uttar

Pradesh government schools in 2023-24 compared to 2022-23. West Bengal (3,70,719), Karnataka (2,82,012), Telangana (2,25,000), Jharkhand (2,23,690), Haryana (1,55,000), Kerala (1,32,941), and Madhya Pradesh (1,14,374) followed. The government also noted the reduction in Himachal Pradesh (21,000), Tripura (15,527), Nagaland (10,000), Mizoram (9,889), and Puducherry (6,236).

efit the nation. Murthy stated that mainstream scholars have classified barely 5% of ancient Indian manuscripts.

gram aims to exploit the expertise of notable IKS figures, who have been "unfortunately ignored" by mainstream academia for too long, to ben-

Pradhan to seek Singapore-related opportunities

Delhi: Education Minister Dharmendra Pradhan said that he will meet with Singaporean politicians to discuss education collaboration and interests. Pradhan is in Singapore on the first leg of his seven-day two-nation tour to Singapore collaboration, participation, and synergy and Australia from Oct. 20 to 26 to promote education cooperation. After addressing 500 Indian diaspora members over lunch, "I am here to explore more possibilities of mutual interest in education, such as PhD programs among others and futuristic areas like Artificial Intelligence and biotechnology." Singapore is similar to India, and "we will engage with the city state in a big way in the future", the minister stated. He will meet



"Academicians and IIT and IIM alumni will meet with the minister to discuss the education ecosystems of both countries"

Prime Minister Lawrence Wong, Deputy Prime Minister Gan, Education Minister Chan, and Foreign Minister Vivian Balakrishnan during his two-day Singapore tour. He will also visit the National University of

Singapore and a local secondary school to discuss syllabus integration and AI. Academicians and IIT and IIM alumni will meet with the minister to discuss the education ecosystems of both countries.

'Good to get some overs under the belt' says Bumrah

Delhi: Jasprit Bumrah is gradually increasing his workload at home as the India pace spearhead knows he would be required to bowl a lot more overs during the five Test series in Australia. After the two Test series against Bangladesh, India will host New Zealand for three games before departing for Australia. "You have to be smart (to stay fit for Australia) and it's good to get some overs under the belt here although the number of overs to be bowled will be a lot more in Australia".

Uttarakhand Madrasa Board to Teach Sanskrit



Delhi: The Uttarakhand Madrasa Board is considering offering Sanskrit as an optional course in over 400 madrasas. The move is part of Chief Minister Pushkar Singh Dhami's goal to integrate madrasa students into mainstream schooling. Madrasa Board Chairman Mufti Shamoon Qasmi "We've been planning for a while. A plan will be executed provided the state government approves." He also noted that the NCERT syllabus in state madrasas led to high student scores this

year. The pass rate improved to nearly 96%, indicating that madrasa students are talented. If given the chance, these students may flourish in Sanskrit. Mr. Qasmi also noted that Arabic and Sanskrit are ancient languages and that madrasa students should learn both. Uttarakhand Waqf

Board chairman Shadab Shams supported Sanskrit teaching in madrasas but asked why the board wasn't doing it. Shams further stated that the Waqf Board considered introducing modern madrasas' to liberate traditional madrasa students from theological study under his leadership.

Why did Naidu urge 77k Class 10 pupils to switch from CBSE to SSC?

Delhi: **Hyderabad** Andhra Pradesh government school pupils have alternated between state board and Central Board of Secondary Education exam patterns. The Chandrababu Naidu government has stalled their move from the state board to the CBSE and returned them to state board assessment. The mid-year development impacts 76,990 Class 10 pupils in 1,000 state-run government schools studying for the 2024-2025 CBSE exams. Jagan Mohan Reddy's Yuvajana Sramika Rythu Congress Party administration chose these 1,000 schools for CBSE assessment in 2024-25.



They now face the Andhra Pradesh Board of Secondary Education's Secondary School Certificate exam. The new Telugu Desam Party-led administration made the decision after completing an online formative assessment for 75,843 students in 1,000 schools using CBSE-aligned test papers. The August examination, prompted by worries that pupils and teachers are unprepared for CBSE exams, yielded surprising results.

Research money excluded from GST

Delhi: The GST Council exempted central and state-governed higher education institutions from paying GST on research funding, so notices to IIT-Delhi, about their pending GST payments will no longer be pursued, GST Council exempted central and state-run universities and research centers from GST on research funding in its 54th meeting.

GenAI smartphones to ship over 730 million by 2028

Delhi: A recent estimate predicts 730 million GenAI cellphones will ship by 2028. Counterpoint Research expects GenAI smartphone shipments to reach 19% this year and 54% by 2028. This growth more than triples 2024 projections. Due to their dominance in premium segments and developed markets, Samsung and Apple will account for over 75% of the worldwide GenAI smartphone market this year. "Both brands are leveraging their premium positioning to capture early adopters, particularly in developed regions where high disposable income and interest in new technologies drive demand for top-tier smartphones," the report added. We predict GenAI to dominate premium smartphones in the short term and grow beyond mid-range devices in the



long future. On-device GenAI will boost semiconductor growth to \$339 billion by 2030. By 2030, the technology will raise semiconductor BoM costs to 45%. CPUs, memory, connection, power, sensors, and audio all affect smartphone semiconductor costs, with GenAI weighing the most on CPUs. The report stated that GenAI is transforming the smartphone market from hardware like bigger screens, faster processors, and more cameras to a more intelligent, adaptive, and personalized user experience.

The dual degree option at DU will help students learn more

Delhi: The University of Delhi (DU) now allows students to pursue two degrees simultaneously. DU students can enroll in one degree through the normal mode at any DU-affiliated college or department and a second through Open and Distance Learning (ODL) through the School of Open Learning. This policy gives existing students the option to expand their academic horizons.

The Jharkhand Cabinet approves new college and polytechnic projects

Delhi: The Jharkhand government has accepted several Rs 530 crore education plans for engineering institutions and polytechnics. The state has received approvals for the construction of Government Polytechnic, Chakulia, Jamshedpur, at Rs 134.18 crore, Government Engineering College, Jamshedpur, at Rs 254.93 crore, and Government Polytechnic, Potka, Jamshedpur, at Rs 136.13 crore. The cabinet also sanctioned Rs 42.83 crore for phase-2 of the Netarhat Tourism Project and Netarhat Residential School-like institutes in Kolhan, Santhal Pargana, and North Chotanagpur divisions. The cabinet allocated Rs 20 crore for the first three years for the Jharkhand State Institutional Ranking Framework (JSIRF) and Rs 39.21 crore for the construction of a degree college in Thakurgangti, Godda.

AAP revives crash victim funding, coaching programs

Delhi: The Delhi government has relaunched two of its projects, according to the Aam Aadmi Party (AAP): free coaching for impoverished students taking competitive exams and support for road accident victims. The BJP, meanwhile, called the reintroduction of the schemes a deception of Delhi residents. The state's SC/ST welfare department introduced the Jai Bhim Mukhyamantri Pratibha Vikas Yojana in December 2017. This plan allows eligible students to register at an empanelled coaching centre and receive free tuition for competitive exams like civil services, engineering, and medicine. In October 2019, the "Farishte" plan began pro-

Power NOC waiver in 1,731 unlawful settlements by CM

Delhi Chief Minister Atishi said no NOC is needed to register for energy meters in 1731 unauthorized colonies in the capital. Delhi has 1731 illegal colonies. Ten years ago, these illegal colonies were in terrible shape. The Chief Minister stated every attempt has been made to provide all facilities to colonists in the last decade. The CM criticized the BJP, saying, "These colonies have struggled to acquire energy for a year. Why? The BJP's Central government's DDA ordered that residents of unlawful colonies receive power connections only with a NOC. In the last year, residents of these colonies had to battle and pay bribes to get NOC for electrical meters." "The Delhi government has decided that no NOC is needed to apply for electricity meters in 1731 unauthorized colonies. The CM assured DISCOMs of



orders. According to a Delhi Chief Minister's Office statement, the Delhi Government will strictly enforce GRAP-1 measures to improve air quality in the national capital. The statement followed a high-level meeting led by Delhi Chief Minister Atishi with Environment Minister Gopal Rai and other officials. The statement says 99 teams will inspect building sites for dust. The Public Welfare Department (PWD) will deploy 200 anti-smog guns, the MCD 30, the NCRTC 14, and the DMRC 80. Delhi Police will add officers to traffic-prone areas and have Home Guards on alert.

LG orders DDA to return senior official to parent cadre

Delhi: Lieutenant governor VK Saxena has ordered the vice-chairman of Delhi Development Authority (DDA) to repatriate commissioner Vikas Singh to his parent cadre immediately due to the "continued delay" in signing a land management agreement with Survey of India on "flimsy grounds". Return authority commissioner Vikas Singh to his parent cadre immediately. LG principal secretary wrote to vice-chairman Subhasish Panda. Ashish Kundra stated Saxena disliked the commissioner's "lackadaisical approach".

LG Vinay Saxena supports vehicle scrapping tax breaks

Delhi: The Delhi government unveiled a special initiative that allows residents to get a 20% tax credit on new vehicles by discarding their old ones. The initiative will relieve customers from inflation and reduce the number of outdated, polluting automobiles on city roadways by encouraging the use of modern, low-polluting vehicles. Officials stated Chief Minister Atishi will soon announce the new tax incentive scheme. A Certificate of Deposit must be obtained when scrapping an old car at a registered facility to get advantages under the scheme. This certificate can be used to get a 20% Motor Vehicle Tax



"The Delhi government would give new non-transport petrol, CNG, and LPG vehicles a 20% tax benefit and diesel vehicles a 15% reduction"

rebate on new commercial and non-commercial vehicles registered within three years. The Delhi government would give new non-transport petrol, CNG, and LPG vehicles a 20% tax benefit and diesel vehicles a 15% reduction. Commercial petrol, CNG, and LPG cars will receive

a 15% tax reduction and diesel vehicles a 10% discount. The government plans to offer Motor cars Tax reductions for new transport and non-transport cars if a certificate of deposit is filed for an old vehicle scrapped at a Registered Vehicles Scrapping Facility.

Big Diesel Engine Statement From Nitin Gadkari!

Delhi: The car sector eagerly awaits Gadkari's announcements when he speaks. The minister is recognized for his outspokenness and new petrol and diesel engine designs. He made a key revelation at the 12th CII Bioenergy Summit that will affect new diesel engines in the country. Increasing ethanol blending in fuel

from 1.53% in 2014 to 15% in 2024 is one example. Before October 2025, the government wants E20 (20% blend). Now, Gadkari says diesel ethanol mixing research is advanced. As part of its fossil fuel reduction policy, the government wants 15% ethanol in diesel. This gives diesel car owners some relief

after the government declared its plans to ban petrol and diesel cars. The union minister also asked automakers to build flex-fuel engines and an ethanol ecosystem. As part of its objectives, the government is installing ethanol pumps in Karnataka, Tamil Nadu, Maharashtra, and Uttar Pradesh.

Piper pink! Women utilizing free bus passes more

Delhi: Free travel for women using pink passes Data shows sustained expansion in Delhi Transport Department (DTC) and cluster bus service. Pink tickets made up 25% of 2020-21 sales. It reached 28% in 2021-22 and 33% in 2022-23. Pink tickets made up 46% of sales in 2023-24, a considerable increase. Data shows that DTC had approximately 26 lakh daily passengers in 2023-24, whereas cluster buses had 16.4 lakh. Delhi's Oct. 29, 2019 free bus travel policy for women applies to DTC and DIMT cluster buses. During the past financial year, DTC had a larger percentage of pink passes issued, accounting for 48.2% of total daily tickets compared to the cluster bus service, which saw 44.4%. There are many causes of the trend. Former Delhi transport deputy commissioner and Asian Institute of Transport Development faculty member Anil Chhikara said, "Working-class people use this method of transportation, which is one reason. Many ladies prefer the free bus service because metro tickets are more expensive." He added that Delhi roads are risky for two-wheelers, hence men ride them more.



Delhi air quality: Day starts poor, ends poorer

NEW DELHI: The average air quality in Delhi remained in the 'poor' category with an Air Quality Index (AQI) of 264 at 12 pm, which deteriorated to 277 by 4pm and 289 by 8pm. In Anand Vihar, the AQI was in the 'severe' category at 421 at 12 pm but moved to the 'very poor' in the evening. The air quality in the city is predicted to deteriorate further. An AQI between 201-300 is considered poor, and that between 301-400 is considered very poor.

Mayor elections delayed until November, BJP criticizes move

Delhi: Lieutenant governor VK Saxena overturned the postponement and ordered MCD commissioner Ashwani Kumar saying the mayor was "deliberately" trying to "subvert the democratic process" by not holding the sixth Standing Committee election. Late at night, the Municipal Corporation of Delhi announced the election delay. Senior AAP functionary Manish Sisodia called LG's order "unconstitutional" and slammed the central government for "murdering democracy" by barring AAP and Congress councillors. At a press conference, the former deputy chief minister said the mayor "tried many times" to have



legitimate elections. "But there was much ruckus. She stopped the process multiple times. The mayor, as presiding officer, can order elections and set meeting times," Sisodia said. LG said that municipal governance was affected by the Standing Committee's absence for nearly 1.5 years, which prevented municipal authorities from doing their obligations. "MCD

repeatedly failed to meet its statutory requirements, forcing the top court to intervene. "Due to the mayor's failure to conduct the election, the extraordinary and exceptional powers under Section 487 of Delhi Municipal Corporation Act 1957 must be invoked," Saxena said, ordering the deputy mayor to preside if the mayor refused. "If the deputy mayor refuses, the senior-most House member will preside over the elections," he instructed. Sisodia chastised LG for writing from abroad and demanding an election deadline. All councillors had fled, but LG from abroad instructed the commissioner to hold elections.

Kejriwal to visit Vaishno Devi with family

NEW DELHI: Arvind Kejriwal, the national convener of the Aam Aadmi Party (AAP), announced on Monday that he and his family will be visiting the Vaishno Devi shrine. Taking to social media platform X, Kejriwal stated, "Chalo bulawa aaya hai, Mata ne bulaya hai (Come on, we have been called; Mother (Goddess Vaishno Devi) has called us)." "May you and your family be happy and content. I am going to visit Mata Vaishno Devi with my wife to seek her blessings," he added.

CRPF school blast: Delhi Police file FIR; 2 'suspicious' men under scanner

NEW DELHI: An FIR has been lodged regarding the blast that occurred on Sunday morning outside the CRPF Public School in Sector 14, Rohini, northwest Delhi. The explosion caused damage to the school's boundary wall, shattered the glass panes of a nearby car, and affected several shops in the vicinity. The FIR states, "A hole in the school's boundary wall is evident, caused by the blast. Additionally, window panes and signboards of the shops opposite the



CRPF school were damaged due to the impact. During the inspection, white powder was found scattered near the site. The area was immediately cordoned off, and senior officers were informed. Several teams, including the crime team from Rohini District, FSL Rohini, BDT, NDRF, NSG, the Fire Department, and

SWAT, arrived at the scene for further investigation." **Shocking CCTV footage** Delhi Police have seized CCTV DVRs from nearby areas and markets. Sources indicate that two suspicious men were seen near the blast site, though their involvement is still under investigation. In the footage, a suspect wearing a white T-shirt is seen at the blast site the night before the explosion. Police believe the explosive was wrapped in a polythene bag.

Government investigates car digital RCs

"The meeting also addressed car registration delays, multi-brand outlet non-compliance"

Delhi: Digital registration certificates (RCs) may ease car registration and assure compliance in Delhi, according to the government. According to an official release, Delhi Transport Minister Kailash Gahlot met with FADA and SIAM representatives. We strive to simplify registration. Gahlot suggested switching from physical to digital RCs to simplify the system and reduce administrative delays for car owners. The meeting also addressed car



registration delays, multi-brand outlet non-compliance, and HSRP request backlogs, the statement said. Despite dealers having self-registration options, Gahlot raised concern over registration delays and cautioned that dealers who miss deadlines may lose their trade certificates. Statement: Surprise inspections to guarantee rule compliance were also recommended. Since dealers began self-registration in March 2021, over 15 lakh RCs have been given across Delhi.

RML weekly pollution-related disease clinic

Delhi: Ram Manohar Lohia (RML) Hospital opened a pollution-related clinic. The Monday clinic will treat environmental pollution-related health issues. Doctors say clinic participants will have a complete exam based on their symptoms. The assessment will be done by respiratory, ocular, ENT, skin, and psychiatry specialists. Patients will receive personalized medication and treatment.

5-location automated vehicle fitness centers shortly

Delhi: The Delhi government is opening five automated fitness centers. These centers will appear in the capital's north, northwest, west, south, and southeast. The effort attempts to better Delhi's position, as Jhuljhuli has only one automated fitness center. Burari does manual fitness testing. These new facilities should benefit light and large commercial trucks. Vehicle fitness tests at automated testing stations are now required. A senior official said the automated fitness centers were built to prevent system manipulation for fitness clearances. This was a great step toward road safety, as non-fit vehicles were known to cause accidents, the official said. Increasing fitness testing requirements and transparency would help the government minimize



This Delhi college student says he feels 'difficulty in breathing'

Delhi: As temperatures drop, various forms of pollution are worsening in Delhi, with air quality remaining in the "poor" category. Its surroundings, categorized as 'Very Poor' by the Central

unfit automobiles on the road. Nearly 40% of the 1.9 lakh traffic fatalities in India in 2022-23 were caused by inappropriate commercial cars. The officer stated the conces-

Pollution Control Board (PCB). Nearby India Gate has an AQI of 309, also classified as 'Very Poor.' "I have to leave for college early in the morning, and I find it difficult to breathe because of this rising pollution.

sionaire must show the transport department vehicle numbers and test results. He stated that the operator must submit a 30-second video of the vehicle being assessed.

This Delhi college student says he feels 'difficulty in breathing because of rising pollution'

NEW DELHI: As temperatures drop, various forms of pollution are worsening in Delhi, with air quality remaining in the "poor" category. The Air Quality Index (AQI) has reached 346 in Shakurpur and its surroundings, categorized as 'Very Poor' by the Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB). Nearby India Gate has an AQI of 309, also classified as 'Very Poor.' "I have to leave for college early in the morning, and I find it difficult to breathe because of this rising pollution. Firecrackers are banned in Delhi, yet many were set off yesterday. This indicates that the government is failing to control pollution. Action is needed," said Kushal Chaudhary, a student. In addition, toxic foam has surfaced on the Yamuna River in the Kalindi Kunj area. Environmental activist Vimlendu K Jha described the situation as an "absolute travesty of environmental governance." "We have yet again seen river Yamuna having a lot of froth floating on its surface. It is an absolute travesty of environmental governance in Delhi. We have seen the sources of pollution which is from primarily Delhi, of course, Delhi govt would like to blame this on other states. Indeed there are other states also that are responsible because Yamuna flows through these states but primary responsibility for Yamuna's pollution is Delhi's own pollution, the 17 drains that actually empty into Yamuna in Delhi," said Vimlendu K Jha On Sunday, Delhi's average air quality remained 'poor,' with an AQI of 264 at noon, deteriorating to 277 by 4pm and further declining to 289 by 8pm. In Anand Vihar, the AQI soared to 'severe' levels at 421 at noon but improved to 'very poor' by the evening.

A 10-year prison sentence for "spitting in food" is part of a planned UP ordinance

Delhi : In response to reports of people spitting in their meals, the Uttar Pradesh government has decided to introduce an ordinance. Previously, it had mandated that food enterprises post the names of their owners and managers. Uttar Pradesh Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath called a high-level meeting of senior administrative authorities from numerous departments, including Law, Home, Food, and Civil Supplies, to review the ordinance's provisions this evening. Two regulations, titled "Uttar Pradesh Prevention of Contamination in Food (Consumer Right to



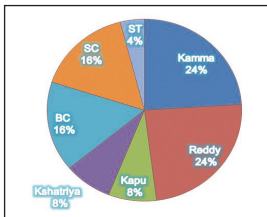
Know) Ordinance 2024" and "Prevention of Pseudo and Anti-Harmony Activities and Prohibition of Spitting Ordinance 2024," were reportedly going to be introduced, according to sources. Officials stated that these rules will define both punitive and preventive action.

Adityanath issued a set of directives last month in response to reports of food adulteration,

including the spitting or mixing of urine in meals. Among the directives was the requirement that the names and addresses of operators, proprietors, and managers at restaurants around the state be displayed. "In food establishments, the names and addresses of the operator, proprietor, manager, and other pertinent staff members should be prominently displayed."

All Telangana families undergo caste survey

Delhi: A comprehensive home caste survey in Telangana is underway to distribute resources more evenly to all communities. This makes Telangana the third state with a caste-based headcount, following Andhra Pradesh and Bihar. Santhi Kumari, the state chief secretary, ordered a door-to-door survey. The ruling Congress promised the caste survey before last year's assembly elections. The chief secretary ordered the survey to be completed within 60 days and identified



the planning department as the nodal department. "The survey aims to plan and implement socio-economic, employment, educational, and political opportunities for OBCs, SCs, STs, and other weaker sections of the state," the directive added. The state assembly approved the survey after the Telangana cabinet ordered it.

Haryana stubble-burning farmers face market restrictions

Delhi: The Haryana government has ordered all deputy commissioners and deputy directors of agriculture to punish farmers who burn crop residue and prevent them from selling crops in mandis through the e-kharid portal for two seasons. The state agricultural department has also urged its field staff to enforce CAQM guidelines and file first information reports (FIRs) against farmers who burned paddy stubble this season. Haryana chief minister Nayab Singh Saini said farmers know the health risks of burning crop residue and that his government is taking every precaution to prevent field fires. The Supreme Court had criticized the Punjab and Haryana govt.



In Maharashtra, Cong may promise '5 assurances' like K'taka

Delhi: Congress is considering Karnataka's "five guarantees" as populist promises for Maharashtra voters. The Maharashtra polls will promise a "caste census" to win over caste-based voters and show that the Congress approach seeks to resolve the state's multiple quota disputes without affecting any community's share. Maharashtra's populist promises include monthly cash payments to women heads of households, free bus travel, 10 kg food grains for families, 200 units of free power, and jobless allowance. According to reliable sources, the Congress leadership is exploring the Karnataka promises for the Maharashtra manifesto, possibly with some changes. Congress' populist approach builds on its 2024 Lok Sabha victory in 31 of 48 seats as part of the three-way MVA coalition with Sharad Pawar's NCP and Uddhav Thackeray's Shiv Sena.

Who is Priyanka bypoll BJP opponent Navya Haridas?

Delhi: The BJP declared that Navya Haridas will run in the Wayanad Lok Sabha by-election against Congress national secretary Priyanka Gandhi Vadra. After Congress leader Rahul Gandhi, now Lok Sabha's Leader of Opposition (LoP), was elected from Uttar Pradesh's Raebareli and chose to retain that seat after winning both constituencies, a by-election was needed in Wayanad. 1 - Mechanical engineer Navya Haridas, 36, has a B-Tech from KMCT Engineering College,



Calicut University. Graduated in 2007.2- Haridas is a two-time Kozhikode Corporation councillor and BJP Mahila Morcha State General Secretary.3- Navya Haridas lists herself as BJP Parliamentary Party Leader and BJMM State General Secretary on Facebook.4- Navya is

not charged with a crime, according to ADR.5- Navya Haridas has ₹1,29,56,264 in assets and ₹1,64,978 in liabilities, according to the organization. After Rahul Gandhi resigned, the Congress nominated his sister Priyanka Gandhi Vadra from Wayanad, her first election.

RSS to revive Hry important gatherings for Maha polls



Delhi: The Rashtriya Swayamsevak Sangh, the ideological parent of the Bharatiya Janata Party, held around 20,000 "drawing room" meetings with 8-15 people, which contributed to the party's unexpected victory in the Haryana assembly elections. RSS aims to hold 60,000 of these in Maharashtra, inspired by this tactic and conscious that the impending elections represent one of the largest challenges the BJP has faced recently.

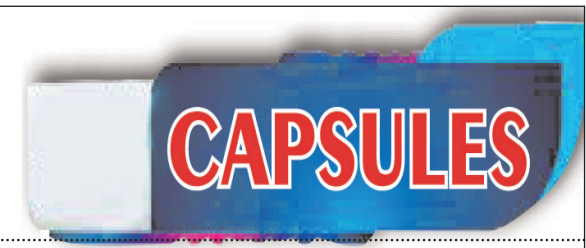
These meetings changed public opinion in Haryana by reminding people of the Hoodas' Jat-centric rule under the Congress, resolving Agnipath recruitment issues, and addressing farmer angst. The RSS

activists who are part of the community and familiar to voters do "drawing room" meetings that don't explicitly promote the BJP. Instead, they prioritize continuity, national interest, and welfare. RSS personnel benefit from community integration since Sangh timelines are long. Self-motivated and organized, they work well. The BJP and other parties rely extensively on external agencies that employ modern techniques to analyze data, trends, and voter behavior, but the Sangh emphasizes human interactions and feedback.

The insiders stated that the Sangh's comeback has boosted Maharashtra BJP workers amid post-Haryana euphoria.

PK fields ex-Army vice chief for Bihar bypoll

Delhi: Prashant Kishor's Jan Suraj Party nominated Lieutenant General Krishna Singh, former vice chief of army staff, for the Tarari assembly seat by-election in Bihar. The statement was made at a presser by Prashant Kishor and party working president Manoj Bharti, a retired diplomat-turned-politician. Kishor stated that the fledgling party would name its candidates for three other seats, where bypolls are due next month, within a few days, and that Lt Gen Sinha, "the only vice chief of army staff from Bihar besides late S K Sinha", was a matter of pride for Tarari, which had become "synonymous with illegal sand-mining and other mafia". After Sudama Prasad, a CPI(ML) neta and INDIA bloc member, was elected to LS, a bypoll was needed.



Former union minister RCP Singh to form party

Delhi: RCP Singh, who quit JDU to join BJP in May, stated he would form his own party. "My supporters said they had not been receiving the respect they deserved (from BJP)," Singh remarked. The decision follows his three-month state tour to survey voter sentiment. Singh, a bureaucrat-turned-politician, rose quickly in politics due to his closeness to JDU chairman Nitish Kumar. Do you support Akhilesh Yadav's demand for 12 Samajwadi seats in MVA's Maharashtra seat-sharing?



Khargge's son returns land over allocation dispute

Delhi: After Congress President Mallikarjun Kharge's family returned five acres of land to his son Rahul Kharge's trust, BJP spokesperson CR Kesavan said this dramatic U-turn raises significant concerns and severe misgivings. Kesavan remarked, "The Trust tied to Mallikarjun Kharge's family's stunning U-turn and hurried withdrawal creates severe questions and worries. The Trust's unexpected decision to divulge the government plot raises questions about whether they feared prosecution. Congress Chief's son Rahul Kharge wrote to KIADB's CEO to terminate the Siddhartha Vihar Trust's five-acre land. "The board may kindly accept this as a voluntary surrender of the CA site as per Clause 8 of the allotment letter," he said. The BJP Karnataka official X handle uploaded Kharge's son's letter and alleged the family robbed the state for 50 years.

Kejriwal urges J&K youth to join AAP

Delhi : AAP national convener Arvind Kejriwal said public-spirited youth should join his party, saying the Lok Sabha elections had shown the BJP that "your way of functioning is not acceptable to us". The former Delhi chief minister accused the BJP of trying to disrupt his 10-year government, which improved people's lives. "I shall travel the country to recruit public-spirited kids for the party's sake. We must show the rulers that governance is not hooliganism and corruption but service to the people to enhance their life ", Kejriwal addressed a public protest in this hilly Jammu and Kashmir district. The Aam Aadmi Party (AAP) national convener thanked Doda residents for voting party leader Mehraj Malik to the legislative assembly with Punjab Chief Minister Bhagwant Mann and Raja Sabha MP Sanjay Singh. People gave the BJP 240 seats in parliamentary elections despite Modi's 400-seat target. He warned the BJP that their government style was unacceptable and that their seats will drop to 140 next time.

Noida restricts peak-hour goods trucks

Delhi: Senior police officers stated the Noida traffic police issued new orders to streamline traffic on important routes in Noida and Greater Noida, canceling all prior orders barring particular cars.



The Noida-Greater Noida Expressway and MP 1, MP 2, and MP 3 roads will be closed to goods

vehicles, auto-rickshaws, and e-rickshaws from 7am to 11am and 5pm to 10pm, they added. The traffic police tactics follow the Commission for Air Quality Management

(CAQM)'s Stage 1 graded response action plan (Grap) guidelines that took effect on October 14.. During peak hours, large goods carriers were forbidden but not small and light goods carriers. Deputy commissioner of police, traffic Yamuna Prasad said all cargo vehicles will be restricted.

DGCA approved Noida airport runway, testing Flights

Delhi: The Uttar Pradesh government's Noida International Airport Limited (NIAL) said the Directorate General of Civil

Aviation (DGCA) has approved the runway at the greenfield Noida airport and issued the calibration certificate, allowing trials to begin. We cannot begin runway trials without the DGCA's calibration certificate, which verifies all aircraft landing and takeoff systems. The trials were scheduled for November 15 to December 15. We can start trials anytime now that the DGCA has issued the calibration certificate. We're glad the project is ready for trials before the deadline, said NIAL CEO Arun Vir Singh. The instrument landing system (ILS) and precision approach.

Sena (UBT) and Congress spar when 25-30 seats are deadlocked.

Delhi: 2024 Maharashtra Elections The Maha Vikas Aghadi (MVA) claims to have achieved a seat-sharing agreement for 260 of the 280 assembly seats, while the Opposition alliance is reportedly fighting over the remaining 28 seats before the November 20 assembly elections. The Uddhav Thackeray-led Shiv Sena (UBT) has threatened to boycott the discussions if Maharashtra Congress head Nana Patole attends. Maharashtra Congress chief Ramesh Chennithala would hurry to



"Anjay Raut added that while NCP and Shiv Sena have 'no substantial difference' of opinion, even in Congress, all three allies seek certain seats"

Mumbai on Saturday to settle the impasse. Seat-sharing decisions must be made quickly due to time constraints.

I think state leaders can't decide on seat-sharing and

must provide Delhi a list. Shiv Sena (UBT) leader Sanjay Raut stated the Congress central leadership must be involved. The Maha Vikas Aghadi (MVA)—Shiv Sena (UBT), Congress, and

Nationalist Congress Party (Sharadchandra Pawar faction)—opposes the Shinde-led Shiv Sena, BJP, and NCP's Mahayuti alliance. The Sena (UBT) reportedly offered 100 Congress and Sena-UBT seats and 88 NCP seats. According to rumors, Patole will not give up 125 Congress seats in Vidarbha or share seats with the Sena (UBT).

Anjay Raut added that while NCP and Shiv Sena have 'no substantial difference' of opinion, even in Congress, all three allies seek certain seats.