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

Bihar needs govt of development, not of criminals: Yogi Adityanath

Bihar

Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath, on Saturday, addressed a public rally at Motihari, Bihar in support of NDA candidate Pramod Kumar, launching a sharp attack on Congress and RJD. He said that the first phase of voting had already made it clear that Bihar no longer wants the dim light of the

lantern but a Bihar glowing with NDA LED light. He added that on November 14, when results come, once again a government of good governance, development and security will be formed under NDA. Bihar needs a government of development, not of criminals, he stated. Addressing the rally, Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath said this is



the land that gave refuge to Mata Sita, the land that turned Mohandas Karamchand Gandhi into Mahatma Gandhi and the land that showed

India the path to independence. This land of Satyagraha has never hesitated to take up arms for national defence. He said this land has been

the stream of knowledge of Nalanda and home to great personalities like Acharya Chanakya, Aryabhata, Lord Buddha and Lord Mahavira. Yet, Bihar lagged behind in literacy, a sin of Congress and RJD governments, he said. They exploited Bihar intelligence and talent, keeping the state backward for their own selfish interests. CM Yogi said

that in the last 20 years, the NDA government under Nitish Kumar leadership has given Bihar stability, security and good governance. He said Bihar today has a strong road network, railways, airports, inland waterways and metro facilities. Now, institutions like IIT, NIT, IIM, AIIMS and medical colleges are opening across the state.

After Lord Ram and Lord Krishna, the Grand Alliance is now opposing Chhath Maiya: CM Yogi

Bihar

Uttar Pradesh Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath continued his aggressive campaign for the Bihar Assembly elections with back-to-back rallies. Addressing a gathering in Pipra to seek votes for BJP candidate Shyambabu Prasad Yadav, the Chief Minister urged people to ensure a decisive victory for the NDA. During the rally, CM Yogi spotted a young girl holding his photograph, invited her onto the stage and encouraged her, drawing applause from the crowd. Launching a sharp attack on the Grand Alliance, CM Yogi accused the RJD, Congress and Left parties of insulting faith and opposing cultural heritage. "After Lord Ram and Lord Krishna, these people are now opposing Chhath Maiya. Those who oppose Ram and insult faith do not deserve a single vote," he said. CM Yogi said the Congress always rejected Lord Ram, the RJD stopped the Ram Mandir Rath Yatra and the Samajwadi Party fired bullets on Ram devotees. "When devotees said 'Ram Lalla Hum Aayenge, Mandir Wahin Banayenge', these parties rained bullets and lathis. But devotees stood firm and said 'Lathi-Goli Khayenge, Mandir Wahin Banayenge'. Today, under the NDA government, Ayodhya has a grand Ram



Temple," he added. CM Yogi reminded the crowd that Ayodhya international airport has been named after Maharishi Valmiki, while facilities like rain shelters and kitchens have been named after Nishadraj and Maa Shabari. "A magnificent temple of Maa Janki is also being built in Sitamarhi. After opposing Ram and Krishna, the Congress and Grand Alliance are now opposing Chhath Maiya. Do not waste your vote on those who hurt your faith," Yogi said that after the first phase of polling, the desperation of the opposition has become visible. "This is a clear sign that on November 14, Bihar will say 'Phir ek baar NDA sarkar.' Bihar needs the NDA," he said. Calling the Congress, RJD, CPI-ML and their allies "infamous gang leaders of their own territories," Yogi alleged these parties nurtured crime, corruption, and jungle raj. "To free Bihar from jungle raj, youth trusted the NDA in 2005, and Nitish formed the government," he said.

PM Modi flagged off four new Vande Bharat trains from Kashi

Varanasi

Four new Vande Bharat trains were flagged off from Varanasi Railway Station on Saturday. The Prime Minister flagged off the Varanasi-Khajuraho Vande Bharat Express from Varanasi Railway Station, while the Delhi-Ferozepur, Lucknow-Saharanpur and Ernakulam-Bengaluru Vande Bharat Expresses were also flagged off. He virtually flagged it off. On this occasion, Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath, Union Railway Minister Ashwini Vaishnav and the train from Ernakulam to Kerala were present. Governor Rajendra Arlekar, Union Minister Suresh Gopi and George Kurien, Union Minister Ravneet Singh Bittu from Ferozepur and Uttar Pradesh Deputy Chief Minister Brijesh Pathak from Lucknow were present. Strong infrastructure is the biggest



basis for the country progress. Prime Minister Modi began his address in Bhojpur, saying, "In this holy city of Baba Vishwanath, all of you are from Kashi. Our regards to the family. After Dev Deepawali, today is also the day of Kashi development. I wish you all the best." The Prime Minister said that the biggest indicator of progress of developed countries. The foundation has been strong infrastructure. India is now rapidly progressing on that path. He said that the railway network, roads and new systems. With the expansion of, a new saga of

development is being written in every part of the country. The holy shrines are now connected to the Vande Bharat network, PM Modi said, adding that there are now over 160 pilgrimage sites in the country. More Vande Bharat trains are being operated. These trains symbolize India engineering prowess and self-reliance. "Vande Bharat, and Amrit Bharat Trains is laying the foundation for the next generation of Indian Railways. Vande Bharat is a train made by Indians for Indians, a train that every Indian is proud of." The Prime Minister

said that pilgrimages in India are not just religious, but a tradition that connects the soul of the nation. He said Holy places like Prayagraj, Ayodhya, Haridwar, Chitrakoot, Kurukshetra are now getting connected to the Vande Bharat network, which is bringing together both faith and development. Pilgrimage and tourism gave a new impetus to economic activities. He said that in the last 11 years, economic activities have been boosted in Uttar Pradesh through pilgrimage and tourism. We have gained new strength. Last year, 11 crore devotees Baba came to visit Vishwanath, while Since the construction of the Ram Temple in Ayodhya, more than 60 million people have visited Ram Lalla. This has benefited Uttar Pradesh economy by thousands of crores and provided employment to lakhs of people.



Baba Bageshwar Dharendra Krishna Shastri's "Sanatan Hindu Ekta Padyatra" entered Faridabad on Saturday morning. Union Minister and former Haryana Chief Minister Manohar Lal Khattar also joined the Sanatan Hindu Ekta Padyatra.

Children testify against mother, lover; get them life for killing father

AGRA: A 34-year-old woman, her lover and her lover's friend were sentenced to life in jail by a court in Agra for murdering her husband after he opposed their relationship. Statements by the couple's children before the magistrate on their mother's involvement in an extra-marital affair proved crucial in the case. The court also



imposed a fine of Rs 1 lakh on each of the convicts. The couple's eldest son, 15

years then, had stated: "My mother is in a two-year affair with a man named Sunil Kumar. Whenever that man visited our place, she used to beat me and my siblings. I saw him and Dharma near my house many times. I also alerted my father about them... When my father, an auto driver, used to go out, Sunil used to quietly come

and stay in a room with my mom." His younger siblings - 13 and 8 - made similar claims before the magistrate. ADGC Pradeep Sharma said on February 14, 2019, when Ramveer Singh, 34, went missing from home, his uncle, Tikaram, launched a manhunt. Failing to trace him, Tikaram approached police to file a missing complaint.

Indian-origin man stopped and questioned over immigration status in Chicago

An Indian-origin employee working in the Illinois department of transportation was stopped and questioned about his immigration status while working on a Park Ridge construction project on Friday, according to the Chicago Sun Times. The employee was also asked about incoming New York City Mayor Zohran Mamdani, according to Governor JB Pritzker's office, which said the incident raised concerns over racial profiling. The employee was a US citizen working on the Busse Highway resurfacing project when three masked agents reportedly approached him. They questioned him about his immi-



gration status, whether he had travelled to New York, and if he was aware of Mamdani's mayoral election, before leaving the site. Governor Pritzker condemned the federal action, calling it an example of authorities questioning US citizens "apparently based on the colour of their skin." "I am appalled they would stop and question a state employee working hard on the job to help improve our state's roads.

PM Modi ends Bihar poll campaign, vows to attend NDA swearing-in after 'spectacular' victory



"Nari Shakti". He cited the recent transfer of Rs 10,000 each to 1.40 crore Jeevika didis under the Mukhyamantri Mahila Rojgar Yojana (MMRY), along with the 50% quota for women in panchayati raj institutions, 35% job reservation for women in Bihar and the 33% reservation for women in Parliament. PM Modi's '65-Volt Jhatka' Jibe Rocks Bihar Rally, Mocks Rahul's Pond Dive

As 'Doobne Ki Practice' At Chhapatia, PM Modi asked the crowd to switch on their cellphone lights, saying the glow symbolised the vision of a developed Bihar "where people won't allow the return of jungle raj", a term the NDA uses for the Janata Dal-RJD rule of Lalu Prasad and Rabri Devi from 1990 to 2005. The PM said he felt proud of Bihar and its daughters. "I am your brand ambassa-

dor and presented Madhubani paintings to Argentina's vice-president and South Korea's president to carry forward the legacy and market the products made by the women and daughters of Bihar," he added. Taking a swipe at Congress leader Rahul Gandhi, PM Modi said, "There are people who insult even Chhathi Maiya and our faith. Those who insult our culture and tradition must be punished through votes." He added that the people of Bihar had already given the opposition a "65-volt jhatka" in the first phase of the elections, referring to the 65.08% voter turnout on Nov 6 and suggesting strong support for the NDA.

'Became PM by stealing elections': Rahul Gandhi's big charge against Modi

NEW DELHI: Leader of opposition in Lok Sabha Rahul Gandhi on Friday made a big charge against Narendra Modi, claiming that he became the prime minister by "stealing elections". He vowed to expose the truth to the Gen Z, saying that he had "a lot of material". "We have a lot of material. We will carry on the process. We will clearly show India's Gen Z, the youth that Narendra Modi has become the prime minister by stealing elections and the BJP steals elections. We will clearly tell this, there will be no doubt," PTI quoted Gandhi saying. Rahul Gandhi Accuses.

Priyanka accuses PM of undermining dignity of office

PATNA: Congress MP Priyanka Gandhi on Saturday launched a sharp attack on PM Narendra Modi for his "katta" remarks, saying such language was unbecoming of a person holding the country's highest post. She also accused the ruling NDA regime of attempting to "bribe" women voters by offering them Rs10,000 for business purposes and urged them to vote for change to keep their families together. Addressing a series of rallies in Barari, Kaddwa (both in Katihar district), and Purnia, Priyanka criticised the tone and content of the PM's speeches. "I heard Modiji talking about 'katta, donali, goli, firauti, rangdari' at a

public rally. Does this suit a PM?" she asked during her address in Purnia. "PM ne pad ki garima kharab kar di hai (the PM has lowered the dignity of the post)," she said. 'Modi Runs Empire Of Fear, We're Fighting Mahatma's Battle': Priyanka Gandhi Targets PM In Bihar Accusing the PM of being disconnected from the people, Priyanka alleged, "The PM comes before the masses only during elections. When it is not election time, he is seen shaking hands with the Presidents of the US, China, and Israel." She added that Modi had neglected his own Varanasi constituency, showing "little concern for the people who elected him."

UP Minister for Urban Development and Energy, A.K. Sharma, participated in the National Urban Conclave

Lucknow

At the Yashobhoomi India International Convention Centre in Dwarka, New Delhi, Uttar Pradesh Minister for Urban Development and Energy, A.K. Sharma, participated in the National Urban Conclave organized by the Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs, Government of India. The conclave aimed to create a shared strategy and a long-term roadmap for urban development. Urban



development experts, policymakers and ministers from various states discussed in detail topics such as spatial planning, urban mobility, solid and liquid waste management, capacity building, affordable housing, sustainable

urban infrastructure and urban livelihoods. Highlighting key initiatives undertaken in Uttar Pradesh urban development sector A.K. Sharma mentioned significant progress achieved under Swachh Bharat Mission

(Urban), AMRUT Mission, Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana (Urban) and the Smart Cities Mission. He noted that the state government has made several innovative efforts in solid and liquid waste management — including door-to-door waste collection, compost production from waste and the use of modern technology for drain cleaning and treatment. He cited the UP Darshan Park as a model example of effective solid waste.

Desolation of smog: Parts of Delhi enter 'severe' AQI zone



31. Residents grappled with burning eyes, sore throats, and itchy noses amid a thick, choking haze. By late afternoon, more areas had entered the severe category, including Nehru Nagar, Vivek Vihar, Wazirpur, Bawana and Burari. The air quality is very likely to stay in the very poor category till November 11.

However, Delhi Pollution Control Committee said the city's air quality this Nov has, so far, remained better than the corresponding period last year. Officials said that for six out of seven days, the AQI was lower than last year's readings, adding that unlike last year, when emergency restrictions under Grap 3 were invoked on Nov 13, this year the govt has initiated mitigation steps much earlier. Grap 3 is yet to be implemented this year as CAQM officials state it will only kick in once the AQI turns 400 or worse. Residents have been urged to avoid burning.

Major MNRE-GA scam exposed in Balha

Bahraich

A case of massive fraud in MNREGA works has come to light in the Balha development block. The same worker's photo was repeatedly uploaded to the portal to mark attendance, revealing a major fraud. There are suspicions of irregularities in all the panchayats, including Ama Pokhar, Nibiya Shah Mohammadpur, Madhuban, Bagaha, Balsinghpur, Gaighat and Parsa Agaiya, due to collusion between responsible officials. No workers were found on the spot, despite continuous entries being made in the muster roll. This further strengthens the evidence of the scam. When the Block Development Officer was contacted, he stated that the matter would be looked into seriously. The administration has begun an investigation into the matter.

Heavy textile trade in Fakharpur Wazirganj market Bahraich

The Wazirganj market in the Fakharpur area is known as a major textile market. Daily turnover is worth lakhs of rupees and customers from several surrounding districts come to shop. Given the crowds and the pace of trade, this market has become one of the largest textile markets in rural areas. Local traders and customers say that sometimes, trade here exceeds the government-prescribed rates, which calls for increased monitoring. There is a growing discussion in the area that despite such a large volume of trade, regular inspections by the GST and Income Tax departments are rare, even though the market business is steadily growing. Locals believe that if systematic tax compliance is ensured in this market, the government could reap significant revenue benefits. Many shopkeepers say that they follow all necessary regulations and keep their documents up-to-date. Traders associated with the market have also demanded the administration to issue clear guidelines to make the system transparent and smooth.

Severe Traffic Congestion Cripples Aliganj, Residents Demand Immediate Action

Etah

Daily life in Aliganj town has been thrown out of gear due to persistent and worsening traffic congestion. From early morning until late night, major routes including the main market, Aliganj Tiraha, Bus Stand, Thana Road and other key stretches remain choked with long queues of vehicles. The situation has become so critical that ambulances and school buses often get stuck for hours, triggering outrage among locals. Residents say the town narrow roads are unable to handle the rising volume of traffic. The movement of heavy trucks and tobacco-loaded tractor-trolleys through the town further disrupts the flow of vehicles. Frequent grid-



locks at Matadeen Chauraha, Gandhi Murti Chauraha, Mohalla Qazi, Tehsil Road and Kila Road have become a daily ordeal, hampering routine activities. Local trader Sanjay Agarwal expressed concern over the adverse impact on business. "Traffic jams continue throughout the day. Customers struggle to reach the shops, directly affecting sales. The administra-

tion must take concrete steps urgently," he said. School student Sakshi also highlighted the inconvenience faced by children. "Buses remain stuck in jams for hours, which disrupts our studies and causes delay every day," she said. Residents have urged the administration to impose strict restrictions on the entry of heavy vehicles into the town and enforce a "No-Entry"

system during peak hours. They also demanded that trucks coming from Amroli Road and Kila Road be diverted through a bypass. Traders suggested that goods vehicles should be allowed entry into the market only after 11 PM to avoid daytime traffic chaos. Sub-Divisional Magistrate Jagmohan Gupta assured prompt action. "Resolving public issues is our priority. Entry of heavy vehicles into the market will soon be restricted and regular deployment of traffic police in congested areas will be ensured," he said. Residents hope that immediate enforcement of traffic regulations and proper diversion plans will bring relief from the worsening traffic situation.

ASP Conducts Surprise Inspection of Kotwali Dehat Police Station, Reviews Functioning and Public Facilities



Etah

Additional Superintendent of Police (ASP) Rajkumar Singh carried out a surprise inspection of Kotwali Dehat Police station on Friday, closely examining management practices, records and public service facilities. During the inspection the ASP reviewed the police station premises, record management system, malkhana (Property room), armoury, lock-up, Women Help Desk, CCTNS unit, computer room, visitor register and sanitation facilities. He issued necessary directions for improvement wherever required. The Station House Officer briefed the ASP on the crime situation in the jurisdiction, the status of pending cases, progress in tracing wanted criminals and ongoing policing campaigns.

ASP Rajkumar Singh instructed officials to ensure polite, sensitive and humane behaviour towards every citizen visiting the police station. He stressed that complaints related to women and girls must be handled with utmost seriousness and prompt resolution and directed that the Women Help Desk be made more efficient and proactive. He emphasised that CCTNS records and complaint registers must remain fully updated at all times. Instructions were also issued to maintain proper organisation and security of seized items and records in the malkhana and to expedite disposal of unnecessarily pending cases. The ASP further ordered weekly reviews of pending investigations to ensure timely completion. Concluding the inspection.

Grand Conclusion of 17th Inter-District Volleyball Cluster Tournament, Winning Teams and Players Felicitated

Etah

The 17th Inter-District Volleyball Cluster Tournament (Volleyball & Sepak Takraw) of Agra Zone concluded on Friday with great enthusiasm and sportsmanship at the Police Lines Etah. During the closing ceremony, Senior Superintendent of Police (SSP) Etah, Shyam Narayan Singh, felicitated the winning, runner-up teams and players who delivered out-



standing performances. Addressing the gathering the SSP encouraged the participants and said that sports not only enhance physical fitness but also foster team spirit, discipline, leadership qualities and mental resilience. He

added that sports hold special significance in disciplined forces like the police, as they promote unity and boost confidence. Teams from Agra, Aligarh, Mathura, Mainpuri, Hathras, Firozabad, Kasganj and Etah participated in the

tournament. In the Volleyball competition, Etah secured first position in the women category, while Mathura emerged runner-up. In the men category, Agra clinched the title with Etah finishing as runner-up. In the Sepak Takraw event, Etah dominated the women category, securing the top position, while Aligarh stood second. In the men category, Mathura emerged champion and Aligarh secured the runner-up position.

Delay in Salaries Sparks Anger Among NHM Employees, Concerns Raised Over Impact on Government's Image

Etah

Arvind Singh Chauhan, District In-charge of the Uttar Pradesh National Health Mission (NHM), has expressed deep dissatisfaction over the ongoing delay in salary disbursements to NHM employees. He stated that NHM personnel across the state have not received timely salaries for several months, leading to growing resentment and hardship among the workforce. According to Chauhan, major festivals such as Dussehra and Diwali passed without salaries being credited to employees, while the salary for October has still not been released in most districts. In several districts, payments for August and September also remain pending, which he described as extremely worrying and unfortunate. Chauhan alleged that the negligence of certain officials within the Health Department is negatively affecting the image of the state government and



Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath. "It appears that some officials are deliberately working in a manner that tarnishes the government reputation," he remarked.

Sources indicate that the state government has introduced a new payment system called the 'Sparsch Portal', through which salaries will be transferred directly from the Treasury to employees' bank accounts.

Under this system, district-level salary data will be sent to the state headquarters for approval and payment. However, Chauhan maintained that the new system should have been implemented only after clearing pend-

ing salaries through the previous process to avoid inconvenience to employees. He added that due to administrative lapses, NHM employees are facing financial difficulties, which is causing public displeasure and harming the government image. "NHM contractual workers already struggle to meet family expenses with low wages. Delayed salaries add to their burden and are grossly unfair," he said. Chauhan further pointed out that while the Chief Minister announced festive bonuses, more than 98,000 NHM contractual employees across the state could not even receive their regular salaries on time due to the indifference of some officials.

He urged the Chief Minister to take strict action against those responsible for the delay and to ensure immediate salary disbursement to NHM employees, so that their families do not suffer and the government positive image remains intact.

ADM Urges Greater Public Participation in Special Summary Revision-2026 to Strengthen Electoral Roll

Etah

Deputy District Election Officer/Additional District Magistrate (Administration) Satyaprakash has appealed to all eligible voters of Etah district to actively participate in the Special Summary Revision-2026 to help ensure a clean and error-free electoral roll, which he said is essential for strengthening democracy. He informed that, as per directives issued by the Election Commission of India, New Delhi, and the Chief



Electoral Officer, Uttarakhand, Lucknow, District Magistrate/District Election Officer

Prem Ranjan Singh has urged citizens to cooperate fully with the revision process. The distribution of enumeration forms related to the voter list has already begun. Booth Level Officers (BLO) are visiting households in their respective areas to hand over the forms. Voters have been requested to fill the form carefully and return it with their signature to the BLO. In case the voter is unavailable at home, any adult family member may provide the details of all eligible members, sign the form, and submit it.

Signed forms will form the basis for inclusion of names in the draft electoral roll, scheduled to be published on December 9, 2025. Residents have been urged to complete and submit forms on time to ensure that no eligible voter name is missed. The ADM further informed that citizens whose names are not included in the 2003 voter list will be covered in the second phase of the revision. After December 9, the ERO/SDM office will issue notices for verification, during which proof of Indian citi-

zenship will be required. Valid documents such as Aadhaar card, passport, driving licence or electricity bill may be submitted for verification. Additionally, relatives of deceased voters or those who have permanently shifted elsewhere must inform the BLO using the Yellow Form so that such names can be removed from the list. Representatives of political parties are also cooperating in the exercise to help ensure that the electoral roll remains accurate, transparent and up to date.

Shrimad Bhagwat Katha will be organized in a grand and grand manner by Mithila Ekta Manch: Sachin Uttarakhand



knowledge, listening to which leads to salvation, health and satisfaction in life. Get it. This story liberates man from worldly sorrows and leads him towards God. This religious event will start with the grand Kalash Yatra on 16th November at 11 am. The organizers have made a humble request, especially to women and sisters, to

participate in the Kalash Yatra in maximum numbers. This yatra will be carried out with the aim of propagating Bhagwat Sanatan Dharma and protecting Mother Cow. The organizers have invited all Public and religious lovers have been requested to participate. Sachin Chaudhary, founder of Mithila Ekta Manch and Shri Radhe Trust, says that protection of mother cow is the protection of Sanatan Dharma, our main objective of organizing Shrimad Bhagwat Katha is to make Sanatani devotees more aware about their religion.

Eight months after her marriage, a married woman was beaten to death Kaushambi

In Pathraha village, a hamlet of Adampur Nadir Ali village under Harraipur police outpost of Sandipan Ghat police station area, a married woman was beaten to death within 8 months of her marriage and then hanged to make it look like a suicide. During the beating, the married woman had informed her father over the phone about the possibility of being beaten and murdered.

2 lakh fish fingerlings harvested in the Saryu River under the PM Matsya Sampada Yojana

Bahraich

A river ranching program under the PM Matsya Sampada Yojana was organized on Friday near the Shri Marimata Temple complex on the sacred banks of the Saryu River. Chief guest Dr. Anand Kumar Gond, MP from Bahraich, along with Nishad Party District President Manoj Kumar Nishad and other public representatives, collected 2 lakh fish fingerling seeds with the support of the National Fisheries Development



Board, Hyderabad.MP Dr. Gond stated that the river ranching program conserves fish species in rivers, improves water

quality, and reduces local water pollution. He stated that the target is to produce 5 quintals of fish per kilometer of river. He added that illegal poaching and uncontrolled exploitation impact fish breeding, preventing increased production. Keeping this in mind, 2 lakh fish seeds have been collected, which will help the poor fishermen community in getting better employment and doubling their income. On this occasion, Assistant Director in-charge of

Fisheries Baburam gave detailed information about the departmental schemes. He told that this collection was done through Uttar Pradesh Fisheries Seed Development Corporation, Saryu Ayodhya with the aim of preserving the aquatic ecosystem. Director of the district Fishermen Cooperative Societies Jawahar Lal Dhiwar, the President, Secretary and many members of the committee were present in the program.

Medanta Launches Heart OPD in Bahraich, Relieving Travel to Big Cities

Bahraich

Aiming to relieve heart patients from the burden of traveling to larger cities, Medanta Hospital has launched its Cardiology OPD in Bahraich. This OPD will operate at Gambhir Clinic, Hanuman Puri Colony, Railway Station Road. Medanta senior cardiologist, Dr. Mahim Saran, Director of Cardiology, was present to provide consultations at the facility,



which opened on Saturday. Patients will now be able to seek expert advice on heart-related issues on the second Saturday of every month from 12:30 to 2:30 pm. With

this initiative by Medanta, patients from Bahraich and surrounding districts will now have access to primary and specialized cardiology services in their own city. Dr. Mahim

Saran said, "Our aim is to provide timely, accurate advice for the treatment and prevention of heart diseases. The launch of the OPD in Bahraich is an important step in this direction."

"Now, even patients from remote areas will be able to receive proper diagnosis and treatment without having to travel to a major city. Dr. Rahul Singh, Senior Consultant of Cardiac Surgery, says,

"This initiative by Medanta will play a vital role in raising awareness about heart-related diseases and providing timely treatment."

With its launch, people in Bahraich and surrounding areas will no longer need to travel to Lucknow or other metropolitan cities for heart disease treatment. Now, patients will have access to competent doctor's advice and reliable treatment locally."

District Sports Development & Promotion Committee Reviews Preparations for MP Sports Tournament

Etah

The District Sports Development and Promotion Committee, Etah, convened a meeting on Friday at the NIC Hall in the Collectorate to review preparations for the upcoming MP Sports Tournament. The meeting was chaired by Additional District Magistrate (Administration) Satyaprakash. During the meeting, officials held detailed discussions on the event roadmap, expected number of participants, selection of sports venues, availability of essential resources and overall logistical arrangements. The ADM directed all concerned



departments to complete preparations within the stipulated timeline to ensure a well-organised event that provides a strong platform for talented sportspersons. He stressed the need for inter-departmental coordination to ensure that the tournament is conducted at a high standard, thereby encouraging sporting talent within

the district. "With effective coordination and timely preparations, we can deliver an excellent event that motivates young athletes and promotes sports culture in Etah," the ADM said. Chief Development Officer Dr. Nagendra Narayan Mishra, District Inspector of Schools Dr. Indrajeet Singh, and representatives Vineet Satish and Shivam Jain from the Agra camp office joined the meeting via video conference. The meeting was attended by the Regional Youth Welfare Officer, secretaries and representatives of district sports associations for Yoga, Kabaddi, Kho-Kho, Football and Badminton. Additional Sub-Divisional Magistrates Rajkumar Maurya, Piyush Rawat, Shweta Singh, Principal of Avinashi Sahay Arya Inter College, Principal of GGIC, and heads of various educational institutions. Rajya Sabha MP Navyen Jain's personal assistant Akhil Jain also joined via video conference.

Mission Shakti, a new dimension of awareness campaign launched by all police stations in the Prayagraj Ganganagar Zone

Akhand Bharat Sandesh

Tharwai

Under Mission Shakti Phase 5.0, regarding the safety and respect of women and girls, Mission Shakti beat officers from each police station, along with their teams, visited educational institutions, major markets, and community centers to educate women, daughters, and girls on how to empower them regarding their rights and dignity under the umbrella of women's safety, women's respect, and women's self-reliance, and provided information on the provided helpline numbers: Women Power Line 1090, Women Help Line 181, Child Help Line 1098, Chief Minister Help Line 1076, Police Emergency Service Dial 112, and Cyber Help 1930. Under the direc-



tion of Police Commissioner Prayagraj and Additional Police Commissioner and under the able supervision of Deputy Commissioner of Police Ganganagar Kuldeep Singh Gunawat and Additional Deputy Commissioner of Police Ganganagar Pushkar Verma, on Saturday, under Mission Shakti Phase 5.0, all the police stations of Ganganagar zone went to crowded places, educational institutions, major markets

and made women, daughters and girls aware and while giving information about the given numbers, they were also told about the schemes being run by the government. In which detailed information is being given about many schemes including Kanya Sumangala Yojana, Sukanya Samridhhi Yojana, Chief Minister Mass Marriage Scheme, Destitute Women Pension Scheme.

A speeding auto rickshaw collided with a safety tank, trapping a young man



Akhand Bharat Sandesh

Prayagraj. A violent collision occurred between an auto and a safety tank on the Prayagraj-Varanasi highway at 1 p.m. on Saturday. A speeding auto rickshaw coming from Hanumanganj towards the toll plaza rammed into a parked safety tank. The impact was so severe that the tank ruptured and the auto was severely damaged. A young man sitting in the auto rickshaw was trapped in agony for about half an hour, and the driver was also trapped inside. A woman sitting in the middle seat with a child in her lap fell unconscious. Both were extricated after considerable effort by locals. Four people, including the driver, were injured in the

accident. According to locals, the auto rickshaw was moving at a very high speed and loud music was playing. Due to this negligence, the driver failed to see the tanker in front and collided. Women and children travelling in the auto rickshaw were also injured in the accident and are undergoing treatment at a local hospital. A foul smell spread due to the burst tank. The accident caused the safety tank to burst, causing a foul smell to spread at the scene.

People were not able to help. The young man and the driver trapped in the auto-rickshaw continued to suffer. After some time, people, with great effort, managed to move the auto-rickshaw a short distance away and then free the people.

Mathura District Magistrate Chandra Prakash Singh Inspects Cow Conservation



Mathura

District Magistrate Chandra Prakash Singh inspected the large cow conservation center located in Sihana village of Chhata tehsil and the large cow conservation center located in Sahar village of Govardhan tehsil. The District Magistrate observed various arrangements made for the cattle in the cow shelters in view of the winter. He inspected green fodder, straw, hay, bran, water, cleanliness, sheds, etc. The District Magistrate directed that the cow shelters' sheds be covered with tarpaulins in view of the cold weather. He advised that straw, hay or tree leaves be spread on the floor/ground to prevent the cattle from feeling cold. He also instructed that sacks be placed on the doors and windows of the cow shelters to prevent the entry of cold air. The District Magistrate directed that bonfires be lit at regular intervals to provide warmth to the cattle. He also instructed that the cattle be regularly examined and that special care be taken of those prone to illness during the cold season. During the inspection, Sihana village head Tularam informed that approximately 310 cattle are protected in the cowshed. Village head representative Vinod Kumar informed during the inspection that approximately 290 cattle are protected in the cowshed.

The Horticulture Department will provide a grant of 75,000 rupees for the 1,500-square-meter Pan Bareja – Dr. Virendra

Prayagraj

In a seminar organized under the Quality Betel Leaf Promotion Scheme in the state, information on betel leaf cultivation was given to betel leaf producing farmers. The program was inaugurated by lighting a lamp by Dr. Praveen Charan, Director, Extension Directorate, Agricultural University, Naini, Prayagraj. In the technical session of the program, Dr. Virendra Singh, Chief Horticulture Specialist, Horticultural Experiment and Training Center, Khusrobag, Prayagraj, while giving information about the grants provided by the Horticulture Department, informed that on constructing a betel leaf baraja in an area of



1500 square meters, farmers are given a grant of Rs. 75,000 by the Horticulture Department. Apart from this, for the betel leaf production scheme, farmers can get the benefit of the scheme by contacting the District Horticulture Officer of the concerned district. Dr. Ram Sevak Chaurasia, former Principal Scientist, CSIR-NBRI, Government of India, gave

information about the usefulness of betel leaf and the harm caused by tobacco, and informed the farmers about the diseases and disease control of betel leaf.

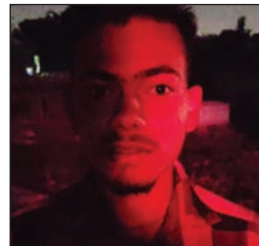
Dr. Vijay Bahadur, Head of Department, Horticulture Science Department, Naini Prayagraj, informed the farmers about getting extra profit by cultivating

Kundru, Parwal etc. in Paan Bareja. Apart from this, farmers were encouraged for protected cultivation of vegetables. Apart from the above, Dr. Shailendra Singh, Scientific Horticulture, Dr. Anurag Tayde, Assistant Professor, Dr. Sanjay Mishra, Scientific Horticulture, Dr. Sarvendra Kumar, Scientific Extension, Dr. Hemlata Pant, Assistant Professor, Dr. M.P. Singh, Coordinator KVK, Kumari Sarita, Representative, Deputy Director Horticulture, Prayagraj, Ajay Yadav, Representative, District Horticulture Officer, Prayagraj, Manish Yadav, Amit Singh, Vivek Srivastava, Lalji Pal, besides Paan producing farmers of Pratapgarh, Prayagraj and Fatehpur district participated.

Notorious Criminal Harsh Saini Exiled from Mathura District for Six Months

Mathura

Vrindavan Police have taken stern action against a notorious criminal by exiling him from the district for six months. The action was carried out under the Uttar Pradesh Control of Goondas Act on the orders of the District Magistrate, Mathura. According to official Sources, Harsh Saini, son of Bobby Saini, resident of Hariyans Nagar Colony, Vrindavan, Mathura, had been involved in several serious offences including harassment of women and physical assault. A case — Crime No. 587/2024 under Section 74 BNS and Sections 7/8 of the POCSO Act — was regis-



tered against him at Vrindavan Police Station. During investigation, sufficient evidence was found against the accused, leading the police to file a charge sheet in the court. After reviewing the police report, the Court being satisfied with the findings, issued an order on October 31, 2025 to expel the accused from Mathura district for six months. Acting upon the court direction, Vrindavan Police on November 7,

2025 executed the district exile by escorting the accused to the Haryana border. The police also conducted munadi (Public announcement) in the locality of the accused, informing residents about the court order and spreading awareness to strengthen public confidence in law and order. Police Team: * Sub-Inspector Kulveer Singh, In-charge, Adda Outpost, Vrindavan Police Station. * Constable 674 Virendra Kumar, Vrindavan Police Station. This decisive action by Vrindavan Police is being widely appreciated as a commendable step to instill fear among criminals and boost public trust in the Police administration.

BJP Govt claim of eliminating Bhalswa garbage mountain is false: Praveen Kumar

Delhi: The Aam Aadmi Party (AAP) has filed a written complaint at Kamla Market police station against the BJP-ruled Municipal Corporation of Delhi (MCD), pointing to its activities of illegally dumping waste from the Bhalswa garbage mountain into residential plots. Led by AAP MCD co-incharge Praveen Kumar, co-incharge Preeti Dogra, and Councillor Rakesh Kumar, the AAP demanded an immediate halt to this unlawful activity. Praveen Kumar said the BJP claims of reducing the landfill are false, as the waste is merely being shifted into inhabited areas, causing severe pollution and endangering public health. The party has demanded that MCD dispose of the landfill waste strictly as per its by-laws. After filing a complaint at Kamla Market police station, AAP MCD co-incharge Praveen Kumar stated, "BJP claim of eliminating or reducing the Bhalswa garbage mountain is completely false. BJP leaders are making statements while the Municipal



Corporation of Delhi (MCD) is carrying out this activity. The Bhalswa landfill waste is being cut and dumped into nearby residential plots where people live. This is completely illegal and violates MCD by-laws. It is spreading dangerous diseases in the area and causing water and soil pollution, which is extremely wrong and hazardous for the residents." Demanding accountability from the BJP-ruled MCD, Praveen Kumar said, "On behalf of AAP, I demand that this activity be stopped immediately. The BJP leaders must apologise to the people of Delhi for their misleading statements. This illegal act will not be tolerated. Today, AAP has filed a formal complaint against it at Kamla Market police sta-

tion, which details the entire issue. MCD co-incharge Preeti Dogra, Councillor Rakesh Kumar, and several AAP workers were present during this. We all demanded that this unlawful dumping be stopped immediately and that MCD follow its by-laws for proper waste disposal." In his written complaint to the Station House Officer (SHO) at Kamla Market police station, AAP MCD co-incharge Praveen Kumar stated, "The landfill waste from Bhalswa is being illegally dumped in residential plots, which is causing water and soil contamination and exposing residents to severe health risks." Highlighting the dangers further, he added, "In several areas, unprocessed waste is being dumped illegally ..

A blood donation camp was organized during Traffic Month to commemorate the Women Cricket World Cup victory

Mathura

A blood donation camp was organized at Bhavana Library, BSA Engineering College Road, Mathura, under the joint aegis of the Braj Traffic and Environment Public Awareness Committee (Regd.) Uttar Pradesh and the Maa Vaishno Foundation. The camp was inaugurated by State Women President Shweta Sharma by cutting the ribbon. State Women Vice President, Bike Rider Pooja Yadav, raised awareness among all blood donors and urged them to follow traffic rules. Traffic Police Inspector Shaurya Kumar, while donating blood, said that every year, young people lose their lives in road accidents. Through this blood donation camp during Traffic Month, people should become aware and donate blood as much as possible so that they can help those in need in the



future. State Women President Shweta Sharma said, "Through this blood donation camp, we congratulate the women team for bringing the World Cup to our country." Camp coordinator Gagan Agarwal said, "We regularly organize blood donation camps to raise awareness among young people about blood donation." Committee Founder President Vinod Dixit stated that 7,870 units of blood have been donated through our committee over the past 13 years with the help of blood donors, and this number has increased to 7,922 today. Blood Bank

Director Brijesh Sharma stated that the blood donation camp was organized today during Traffic Month to commemorate the Women Cricket World Cup victory. The blood donation camp was organized today at Bhavana Library, BSA Engineering College Road, Mathura, under the joint aegis of the Braj Traffic and Environment Public Awareness Committee (Regd Uttar Pradesh) and the Maa Vaishno Foundation. The camp was inaugurated by State Women President Shweta Sharma by cutting the ribbon.

A National Lok Adalat was organized



Mathura per the instructions of the Uttar Pradesh State Legal Services Authority, Lucknow, a National Lok Adalat is being organized on the second Saturday, December 13, 2025 under the chairmanship of District Judge Vikas Kumar at the District Court, Mathura. In this National Lok Adalat, all types of cases (criminal compoundable cases, cases under Section 138 of the Negotiable Instruments Act, bank recovery cases, motor accident compensation petitions, family disputes, labor disputes, land

acquisition cases, electricity and water bill disputes, service salary and retirement benefit disputes, revenue cases, consumer forum cases, other civil cases, rent, easement cases, expenses orders, specific relief cases and other cases) will be settled in their respective courtrooms on the basis of a conciliation agreement. Therefore, all the litigants are informed that they should avail the benefit by getting their above mentioned cases settled on the basis of reconciliation and settlement in the National Lok Adalat to be held on 13.12.2025.

Editorial

Requires a suitable regulatory role of the state

The Modi government's main move in the Union Budget 2025 has been to cut personal income tax. As finance minister Nirmala Sitharaman said in her speech, it is meant to boost demand in the economy. However, the government doesn't expect a higher-than-usual increase in other non-debt receipts and has budgeted a decline in the deficit. The budgeted capital expenditure is the same as the revised estimates for 2024-25. The tax cut should be seen in the context of other fiscal policy moves the Modi government has made in the last decade to boost growth. Since 2016, the Indian economy has struggled to sustain rapid growth. From 2016 to 2019, it was in a relentless showdown, with GDP growth falling to 3.9 per cent in 2019-20. The GDP then fell sharply in 2020-21 due to the pandemic. After this sharp decline, high GDP growth numbers created a false sense of complacency, but the compound annual growth rate between 2019-20 and 2024-25 is only 4.8 per cent. The latest GDP estimates suggest that the economy is slowing down again—with growth clocking at 5.4 per cent in the July-September quarter of 2024. Even if we set aside the critiques of GDP estimation in India, growth remains a topic of concern in policy conversations. The government's response to an economic challenge depends on what it considers to be the root cause. The Modi government's actions over the past decade suggest that it seeks to address India's economic growth pangs through fiscal policy. Consequently, fiscal policy has done much of the heavy lifting in the government's growth strategy over the past decade. In the economic slowdown from 2016-17 to 2019-20, the government sought to maintain its expenditure. To do so without increasing the reported fiscal deficit, from 2017-18 to 2019-20, it transformed a significant part of its on-budget expenditure into off-budget expenditure done by public enterprises. It also sharply raised cesses and surcharges on petroleum products, which are not shared with the states. These unusual tactics allowed the government to spend more, and expenditure continued to outpace GDP growth. These tactics also allowed the government to introduce new cash transfer schemes such as PM KISAN and increase allocations to existing schemes. In 2019, in an effort to stimulate investment, the government announced major tax breaks for corporates, especially in manufacturing. At the time, corporate tax collection had been growing rapidly while other taxes were struggling to deliver the budgeted increase. The tax cut led to a sharp reduction in the corporate tax to GDP ratio in the subsequent years. As the pandemic hit, fiscal policy became even more central.

The pandemic allowed the government to suspend its concern for deficits and bring the off-budget expenditure to the Budget in 2020-21. For a few years, revenue expenditure as a percentage of GDP was higher than its pre-pandemic levels. Among other things, this allowed the government to increase subsidies and cash transfers, and introduce production-linked incentives for manufacturing in India. Total subsidies as a percentage of GDP have now gone back to their pre-pandemic levels. The most important change in expenditure since the pandemic has been in its composition. Of the Union government's total expenditure, the share of capital expenditure has increased. Its share rose from 12.5 per cent of total expenditure in 2019-20 to 22.2 per cent in 2023-24. In 2019-20, capital expenditure was 1.67 per cent of GDP. It rose to 3.21 per cent.

In 2023-24, before moderating to 3.14 per cent in 2024-25 (revised estimates). It is again budgeted to be 3.14 per cent of GDP in 2025-26. At the same time, there was a reduction in capital expenditure by public enterprises in these years. If we consider the combined capi-



Muslims want waqf reforms too. It's not an issue for political acrimony

When the Waqf Amendment Bill 2024 was first tabled in the Lok Sabha on 8 August last year, it triggered fears within the Muslim community, as it was perceived to have been introduced without adequate consultation with stakeholders. After all, the issue of waqfs—Muslim institutions through which property is bequeathed for religious or charitable purposes—is sensitive because it involves socio-religious spaces such as qabristans, masjids, idgahs, and madrasas. As such, the government and Parliament were exhorted to adopt procedures that allayed rather than stoked the fears of

Muslims. In this backdrop, the decision to refer the bill to a joint committee of both Houses of Parliament was welcome. The 31-member committee, drawn from across party lines, received 97,27,772 memoranda overall. There were representations from various ministries and departments—including Minority Affairs, Law and Justice, Railways, Housing and Urban Affairs, Road Transport, and Culture (Archaeological Survey of India)—as well as state waqf boards and experts, ensuring a diversity of opinions. As such, the government and Parliament were exhorted to adopt pro-

cedures that allayed rather than stoked the fears of Muslims. In this backdrop, the decision to refer the bill to a joint committee of both Houses of Parliament was welcome. The 31-member committee, drawn from across party lines, received 97,27,772 memoranda overall. There were representations from various ministries and departments—including Minority Affairs, Law and Justice, Railways, Housing and Urban Affairs, Road Transport, and Culture (Archaeological Survey of India)—as well as state waqf boards and experts, ensuring a diversity of opinions. It is not entirely

correct to state that waqf reforms are being externally foisted. Rather, to a large extent, the demand for waqf reforms has emerged from within the Muslim community also. The Ministry of Minority Affairs received numerous complaints from Muslims on the maladministration of waqf properties, which manifested in voluminous litigations. The ministry's analysis of grievances received from April 2023 found that 148 complaints pertained mostly to encroachments, illegal sales of waqf land, delays in surveys and registration, and complaints against waqf boards and mutawallis.

Putin, to start negotiations to end the Ukraine war

Trump sees things from the perspective of profitable deals. Western sanctions have hit Russia, but American companies have also suffered business losses, running into billions of dollars. He would like to reverse that. And despite Ukraine's resistance, Trump believes Zelenskyy will have to give access to critical minerals in return for any future US support. Some in the Trump administration suggest Kyiv should provide Americans with those minerals in return for the US military and financial aid already received by Ukraine. Trump has blamed European leaders for not doing enough to end the Ukraine war. He has also complained for a long time that Europe has lived off the US for too long and it must pay for its security. Europeans have increased their defence budgets but not enough to survive without US support.

In the face of changing US policy under Trump, European leaders are working on a plan to guard against a Russian attack. This involves a proposal to deploy tens of thousands of peace-keeping troops in Ukraine. The proposal has the support of Britain and France and is in response to Zelenskyy's request of 100,000 troops. But the idea doesn't have wider support in Europe. Germany, another big power in the continent, has already called it premature. The proposal has been dismissed by Russia, which currently has about 600,000 troops in Ukraine. But even Britain and France, with much smaller armies than Russia, can't send troops to Ukraine without some backup from the



United States. And that looks unlikely, for now. Trump's Ukraine envoy, General Keith Kellogg, who visited Kyiv and met Zelenskyy on Thursday, said all options must be open to deal with the outcome of peace talks. But he knows that any decision to provide any US military cover will be made by Trump who looks less inclined to do that.

Donald Trump has spent only a month in his second term as the US President. However, he has disrupted the international order, weakened the Western alliance and created a sense of insecurity and uncertainty among its members, surprising even some of his supporters. There has been a paradigm shift in US foreign policy under Trump. He is now closer to Moscow than Washington's traditional allies. He has embraced the Kremlin's narrative on Ukraine and has sidelined US allies. Although senior members of the Trump administration have denied that the US has abandoned Kyiv and ignored its European allies, Trump himself has not made any serious attempts to pacify Ukrainians and Europeans. His closeness to Russia has been on display since he talked for 90 minutes on the phone with Russian leader

Vladimir Putin, in which they agreed to start negotiations to end the Ukraine war, which will mark its third anniversary on Monday. Trump did speak to Zelenskyy soon after that call with Putin, but a nervous Ukrainian President warned that excluding his country from the talks would be "very dangerous". Events after that only made Ukrainians feel sidelined. Trump's Vice President, JD Vance, met European leaders in Munich two days later. But his comment that Europe will not be included in the peace talks only helped fuel the speculation that they were being left out of the future of Ukraine, which is closer to their homes and in which they have invested a lot of money and effort since the Russian invasion. Vance's meeting with Zelenskyy did not go well either as the Ukrainian leader refused to give access to the country's vast reserves of critical minerals unless he was given security guarantees. That angered Washington. Ending the Russia-Ukraine war was Trump's major campaign promise. But hardly anyone expected him to brazenly take Russia's side and even blame Ukraine for the conflict, which he did. Last

Tuesday, a US delegation led by Secretary of State Marco Rubio met the Russian delegation headed by Foreign Minister Sergey Lavrov in Saudi Arabia, to discuss peace. Ukraine was not invited. Putin—who had been shunned by the US and its allies since the invasion of Ukraine—was delighted. A frustrated Zelenskyy dismissed the Riyadh talks as worthless. Trump did not like those comments and called the Ukraine President a dictator, even accusing him of starting the war. Zelenskyy said the US President was living in a Russian-made "disinformation space". This infuriated Trump, who does not take kindly to any criticism. He described Zelenskyy as "a modestly successful comedian" who "talked the United States of America into spending \$350 Billion, to go into a War that couldn't be won, that never had to start, but a War that he, without the U.S. and 'TRUMP,' will never be able to settle." Trump's behaviour towards Zelenskyy is in stark contrast to Biden's, who had backed Ukraine against Russia with all the possible military and financial aid. President Biden travelled to Ukraine many times since the Russian invasion in February 2022 to display his administration's full support. He also promised NATO membership to Ukraine at a future date. Russia was severely punished for invading Ukraine. The US joined hands with its allies to isolate Moscow. Russia faced tough sanctions and its assets in the West were seized. The International Criminal Court issued an arrest warrant against Putin for alleged war

crimes in Ukraine. There were even plans to put Putin and his close allies on Nuremberg-style trials. Until a year ago, Ukraine's leader was talking about even liberating all its territory, including Crimea, which Russia annexed in 2014, with the help of Western military equipment. Ukraine even succeeded in occupying the Russian territory of Kursk, which it had thought would be used as a bargaining chip during negotiations with Moscow. But all that now looks like a distant dream. With Trump back in the White House, Ukraine fears that Russia will be allowed to keep all the occupied territory as part of the deal to end the war. Kyiv is now likely to be denied NATO membership. That could be a promise to Russia to end the war. The US under Trump has now even opposed calling Russia an aggressor in a G-7 statement being prepared to mark the third anniversary of the war. The US team removed the phrase from the first draft, which was prepared by Canada, the current holder of the group's presidency. It is not just Ukraine, America's European allies are also now nervous about the intent of Trump. Since the Second World War, they enjoyed the US security umbrella under NATO. But now they are unsure if the US under Trump will honour Article 5 of the NATO, which is triggered when a member state comes under attack. It implies that an attack on one member is an attack on all. There is even fear in Europe that Donald Trump may sign a deal with the Russian leader Vladimir Putin that will lead to the withdrawal of

The Hindutva Pitch of the BJP: Will Bihar Pay Attention This Time?

Seen on X alongside him were digvijaya Singh, abhishek Singhvi, and Sachin Pilot, all prominent figures in the Congress party. Members of the Gandhi family have a long history of participating in the Kumbh Mela, with both Indira Gandhi and Pt. Jawaharlal Nehru having done so in the past. Priyanka Gandhi, the member of parliament for Wayanad, reportedly wanted her brother Rahul, who represents Rae Bareilly, to continue this tradition. Even though he was in Uttar Pradesh, Rahul still decided not to visit Prayagraj. However, SP chief Akhilesh Yadav, who was on his side, continued the custom and dipped his head in the holy water. Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath of Uttar Pradesh took great delight in hosting the Maha Kumbh and retaliated in the state assembly against the opposition for criticizing the Kumbh arrangements. Dead bodies are all that vultures see. All pigs can see is dirt. For those who are sensitive, relationships are a thing of beauty. A sense of fulfillment is

found by those who have faith. The impoverished find work, the wealthy make money, and gentlemanliness is upheld. Faithful discover God, he declared. Unlike the 2013 Kumbh, when Mohammad Azam Khan was appointed head of the religious assembly in Prayagraj and Akhilesh Yadav was chief minister of Uttar Pradesh, Yogi stressed that he had personally overseen preparations during Maha Kumbh. At the 2013 Kumbh, he recalled that the prime minister of Mauritius had declined to bathe in the sacred waters. President Droupadi Murmu, Prime Minister Narendra Modi, and Vice President Jagdeep Dhankhar were among the dignitaries that visited the Sangam, which he emphasised this time. The event was a resounding success on a global scale, as it drew the King of Bhutan as well as delegates from seventy-four other countries. Additionally, the chief minister of Uttar Pradesh brought attention to the fact that for the past fifteen days.

India must prioritise sharing vital intelligence and deploying unmanned systems

It delivered two Ming-class submarines to Bangladesh in 2017, gifted a P625 frigate to Sri Lanka in 2019, and committed to exporting Yuan-class submarines to Thailand. Although the Thai deal encountered difficulties when Germany refused to supply key propulsion components. Thailand decided to proceed with the acquisition, underscoring China's persistence in maintaining its naval export commitments. Additionally, Pakistan is set to acquire at least eight Hangor-class submarines and other naval equipment from Beijing, further enhancing China's presence in the region. India has increasingly aligned itself with Western naval powers to address maritime challenges through collaborative efforts. France was among its earliest Western partners, and the countries' cooperation has grown stronger over time. India also participates in joint maritime missions with European nations and European Union Naval Force (EUNAVFOR) initiatives such as Operation Atlanta and Aspidos. Furthermore, India contributes to significant maritime security dialogues such as the Coordinated Maritime Presence (CMP) and Enhancing Security Cooperation In And With Asia (ESIWA). India's 2023 inclusion in the Combined Maritime Forces (CMF), led by the US Central Command, underscores its dedication to enhancing collaborative security in the western Indian Ocean. The IFC-IOR exemplifies India's commitment to collective security, even though it remains a preliminary step toward a more robust maritime security framework. Advancing to the next level will require India to engage in the technically complex task of real-time information sharing through secure legal frameworks beyond Open-Source Intelligence (OSINT).

The Quad's Indo-Pacific Maritime Domain Awareness (IPMDA) initiative highlights the challenges in achieving seamless data-sharing capabilities. To counter hybrid threats and protect critical infrastructure, India must prioritise sharing vital intelligence and deploying unmanned systems for coordinated surveillance. Strengthening such partnerships will bolster India's naval capabilities and contribute to broader maritime security across the Indian Ocean Region. The commissioning of new naval platforms marks a significant milestone for India but also highlights persistent challenges, particularly in achieving technological self-reliance in engine manufacturing. Although the INS Surat, INS Nilgiri, and INS Vagsheer were designed by India's Warship Design Bureau and built by Mazagon Dock Shipbuilders Limited, their engines were procured from foreign manufacturers, exposing a critical dependence on external sources. INS Surat, the fourth and final ship of the P15B Guided Missile Destroyer Project, employs a Combined Gas Turbine and Gas Turbine (COGAG) propulsion system. This system uses Me6E and DT-59 reversible engines sourced from Ukraine's Zorya Mashproekt, a key supplier for India's frontline warships. Despite the ongoing war in Ukraine, India has continued to rely on Zorya, underscoring the critical nature of this dependence. To secure the supply chain, Bharat Forge acquired a 51 per cent stake in Zorya's India arm in 2023. Similarly, INS Nilgiri, the first ship of the P17A Stealth Frigate Project, launched in 2019, uses a Combined Diesel and Gas (CODAG) propulsion system. This system incorporates LM2500 engines from General Electric in the US and MAN diesel engines from Germany.

Experts call for a balanced approach to wheat sustainability at 'Wheat in Transformation' Seminar'

Chandigarh: The two-day long "Wheat in Transformation" being organised at Wheat Products Promotion Society (WPPS) & Roller Flour Millers Association of Punjab (RFMAP) commenced at Hotel Hyatt Regency on Friday. The seminar brings together key stakeholders from across India's wheat ecosystem including policy-makers, researchers, flour millers, processors and farmers. The inaugural press conference held on the eve of the seminar was addressed by Ajay Goyal, Chairman, WPPS and Dharminder Singh Gill, Chairman, RFMAP who emphasized the urgent need for collective action to ensure the long-term sustainability of wheat in India's food system especially amid changing climate conditions and evolving consumer perceptions. Addressing the press conference, Ajay Goyal underlined the vital role WPPS has played over the last four decades in promoting and safeguard-



ing the wheat industry. Goyal highlighted that the seminar's theme 'Wheat in Transformation' focuses on three critical dimensions: climate, quality and consumption. "Wheat has been part of our civilization for over 6,000 years. It is the staple food for millions, yet it is unfortunate that in recent times, social media has contributed to the defamation of wheat," he remarked. "There is a growing propaganda against wheat which needs to be negated with scientific facts, awareness and the propagation of the nutritional and cultural value of wheat and its products." The WPPS Chairman emphasized the importance of establishing and adher-

ing to quality norms to ensure that consumers receive safe, nutritious and consistent wheat-based products. "Maintaining the quality of wheat is paramount. Shelf life and food safety are critical factors, and there should be proper norms and monitoring systems to preserve them," he added. Goyal also discussed the role of scientific innovation in addressing India's food security challenges. "The Green Revolution of the 1970s transformed Indian agriculture but now we must elevate our approach through advanced scientific engineering. While organic wheat has its place, we cannot depend solely on natural yields. Genetic Modification (GM) is

not allowed in wheat but scientific innovation in other forms must be encouraged to improve productivity and resilience," he said. He cautioned that complete dependence on nature for food production could jeopardize national food security. "If we rely solely on nature, food shortages may emerge, pushing prices beyond the reach of common people. We need to maintain a balance between sustainability, productivity and affordability. Only then can we ensure that wheat remains central to India's nutritional and economic stability," he concluded. Adding to the discussion, Dharminder Singh Gill, Chairman of the Roller Flour Millers Association of Punjab, addressed the current challenges faced by wheat growers in Punjab following recent floods. He acknowledged that while certain pockets, particularly those along the Beas River were adversely affected, the overall impact might turn out to be beneficial in the long term.

ASP Conducts Surprise Inspection of Kotwali Nagar Police Station, Reviews Management and Public Facilities



Etah

Additional Superintendent of Police (ASP) Rajkumar Singh conducted a surprise inspection of Kotwali Nagar Police Station on Friday, reviewing police station management, records, and public facilities in detail. During the inspection, the ASP examined the police station premises, record-keeping system, malkhana (storehouse), armoury, lock-up, Women Help Desk, CCTNS, computer room, visitor register and sanitation arrangements, among other facilities. The Station House Officer (SHO) briefed him on the crime situation in the police station limits, the status of pending cases, action taken to arrest wanted and absconding accused and progress of ongoing special drives. ASP Singh issued clear directives to ensure polite, sensitive and cit-

izen-friendly behaviour towards every individual visiting the police station. Stressing on women's safety, he instructed officials to further strengthen the Women Help Desk and ensure prompt disposal of complaints related to women and girls. He also emphasised proper updating and systematic maintenance of all registers and records, including the CCTNS system. Laying special emphasis on malkhana management the ASP said that seized items and records must be kept safe, and unnecessary pending cases should be disposed of at the earliest. He instructed for weekly review of pending investigations and prioritising their speedy conclusion. Addressing the police personnel after the inspection, ASP Singh encouraged them to work with dedication, discipline, transparency.

Grand Inauguration of Tibet Winter Fair, Vibrant Crowd Throngs Stalls for Woollens

Etah

With the onset of winter, the festive shopping season has begun. The much-awaited Tibet Winter Fair was inaugurated in a grand manner near Tehsil Sadar in the Kotwali Nagar area on Friday. The fair will remain open until February 25, offering visitors a wide range of attractive and utility-based winter products brought by Tibetan traders from across the country. The fair was inaugurated jointly by Pankaj Gupta, District President of the Rural Journalists Association, and Seth Chandra Dubey by cutting the ceremonial ribbon. A large number of local residents marked their presence at the opening ceremony. The organisers — Pradhan, Dorje, Murya, Dhawa, Chering and Migmar — welcomed the guests and briefed them about the objectives and highlights of the fair. According to the organisers, this year fair features a premium variety of sweaters, jackets, blankets, shawls, woollen footwear and Tibetan handcrafted items.

Seminar on wheat kicks off

Chandigarh: The two-day national seminar 'Wheat in Transformation', organized by the Wheat Products Promotion Society (WPPS) and Roller Flour Millers Association of Punjab (RFMAP), began at Hotel Hyatt Regency, Chandigarh. WPPS Chairman Ajay Goyal emphasized the need to restore wheat's reputation as a nutritious staple and stressed quality, safety, and scientific innovation to ensure sustainability and affordability. He cautioned against complete reliance on natural farming for food security. RFMAP Chairman Dharminder Singh Gill noted that while recent floods affected parts of Punjab, silt deposits have enhanced soil fertility, likely boosting productivity.

Etah Police Intensify Awareness Drive Under 'Mission Shakti-5', Focus on Women's Safety

Etah

With a strong emphasis on women's safety, dignity and empowerment, Etah Police on Friday organised extensive awareness programmes across the district under the ongoing "Mission Shakti-5" campaign. The initiative witnessed active participation from women, school and college students and the general public in both rural and urban areas. Police teams conducted public outreach through chaupals, educational institutions, marketplaces and other public places, engaging directly with women and girls on issues related to safety and self-protection. Participants were informed about legal provisions ensuring their safety,



available government support systems and the importance of self-defence. The Mission Shakti team sensitised women and adolescent girls about their rights, legal safeguards, complaint redressal mechanisms and the support available in cases of harassment or violence. Women police personnel highlighted the importance of self-defence and

encouraged students to be confident, self-reliant and alert. During the campaign, the public was urged to utilise emergency helplines without hesitation. Key helplines shared included: 1090 (Women Power Line), 181 (Women Helpline), 112 (Police Emergency) and 1098 (Childline)—all of which offer prompt assistance in crisis situa-

tions. To strengthen public awareness, Etah Police are also spreading information through community interaction, poster campaigns and social media outreach, aiming to build a more sensitive and respectful environment for women. Police officials emphasised that women's safety is not solely the responsibility of the administration but a collective duty of society as a whole. "Every citizen must ensure that women around them feel safe, empowered and respected," they said. The district police confirmed that similar awareness drives will continue under Mission Shakti-5 with the goal of fostering a safer, sensitive and equitable social ecosystem for women and girls.

Etah Creates History in Health Indicators, Secures 7th Rank in UP

UNICEF ranking reflects strong impact of DM Premranjan Singh leadership and continuous monitoring

Etah

In a major achievement for the district, Etah has secured the 7th rank in Uttar Pradesh in the UNICEF ranking for the month of October 2025 under the Village Health, Sanitation and Nutrition Day (VHSND) programme of the National Health Mission. This remarkable improvement is being credited to the effective leadership and consistent efforts of District Magistrate Premranjan Singh, marking a historic milestone for the district in the field of health indicators. Chief Medical Officer Dr. Rajendra Prasad informed that Etah was ranked 12th in the state in the vaccination performance for September. With a focused approach and



dedicated field monitoring, the health department succeeded in improving the district's position to 7th in just one month. As per the DM's directives, officers from various departments have been regularly inspecting vaccination sessions held every Wednesday and Saturday, which has significantly contributed to the enhanced performance. He stated that UNICEF conducts continuous monitoring of VHSND

sessions across the district. Designated officers are visiting their assigned villages as per the micro-plan to review vaccination activities. Vaccination sessions are being held from 9 AM to 4 PM at Panchayat Bhawans, schools, Anganwadi centres, secretariats, ANM centres and other public locations, ensuring systematic supervision. The CMO added that the success is the result of strict monitoring, active involvement of staff at block and village levels, and continuous review mechanisms adopted by the health department. Adequate facilities such as seating arrangements and privacy screens are being ensured at every session site.

Complainant Breaks Down at SSP Office Alleging Harassment by Local Miscreants

Etah

A complainant broke down in tears at the office of the Senior Superintendent of Police (SSP) Etah on Thursday, alleging continuous harassment and threats by local miscreants in his village. Seeking justice and protection, the victim, Gyan Singh, resident of village Dharauli under Jaithra police station limits, claimed that despite multiple complaints and registered cases, no strict action has been taken against the accused. Speaking to media persons outside the SSP office, Gyan Singh said he has been running an SBI Customer Service Point (CSP) for nearly a decade and earns a respectable livelihood. According to him, certain individuals in the village bear enmity towards him due to jealousy and have been

attempting to frame him in false cases. The complainant alleged that accused Anwar Ali, a resident of the same village, along with some external anti-social elements, forcibly encroached upon his land (Gata No. 1607) situated in Mauza Angaraia Jamunai. On his complaint, a joint revenue and police team, under the supervision of the Naib Tehsildar, conducted a measurement of the land on August 20, 2025, and restored possession to him, installing government boundary markers at the site. However, the accused allegedly uprooted the official boundary markers the same night. Based on the complaint, a case was registered at Jaithra Police Station under Case No. 265/2025. Gyan Singh further alleged that on

October 29, 2025, accused Anwar Ali along with five to six accomplices barged into his CSP centre, verbally abused his family members, and physically assaulted him. The incident was captured on the CCTV cameras installed at his shop. Following a call to the police emergency helpline 112, police reached the spot, but the accused fled. Another FIR was registered (Case No. 350/2025) in this connection. The victim claims that the accused are now threatening him to withdraw the cases, allegedly warning that failure to compromise would result in him being killed by hired criminals, his house set on fire or he would be falsely implicated in a heinous crime. He also accused the alleged perpetrators of conspiring to lodge .

50 Years of National Song 'Vande Mataram': Etah Police Resonates with Collective Patriotic Chorus

Etah

Marking the completion of 150 glorious years of India's national song 'Vande Mataram', special programmes were organised across the district on Friday. At the Etah Police Lines, a collective rendition of the national song was held under the leadership of Senior Superintendent of Police (SSP) Shyam Narayan Singh with officers and police personnel joining in to celebrate the occasion. The atmosphere was filled with patriotic fervour as the resonant chorus echoed across the premises. Following the mass singing, police officials and staff gathered in the multipurpose hall at the Police Lines to view the live broadcast of Prime Minister Narendra Modi



address. The Prime Minister highlighted the historical significance of Vande Mataram, its role in the freedom movement, and its continued relevance in nation-building. The event saw the presence of SSP Shyam Narayan Singh, Additional Superintendent of Police Yogendra Singh, Reserve Inspector Kishanlal Gautam, along with a large number of police officers and personnel. As part of the district-wide series of events, a similar collective singing

of the national song was held at the Etah Police Office in the presence of Additional Superintendent of Police Rajkumar Singh. Police officers and staff at all police stations across the district also sang Vande Mataram simultaneously, spreading a message of unity and patriotism. The initiative by Etah Police was dedicated to honouring the legacy of the national song, strengthening the spirit of national unity and reinforcing the values of Indian cultural identity.

150 Years of 'Vande Mataram': Police Conduct Mass Singing



Barabanki

In an atmosphere filled with patriotism and national pride, the 150th anniversary of the composition of the national song 'Vande Mataram' was celebrated with great enthusiasm across the district on Friday. The Barabanki Police Department organized mass singing programs at various locations to mark the occasion. Under the leadership of Superintendent of Police (SP) Arpit Vijayvargiya, a grand event was held in the premises of the Police Office, where officers and staff members joined their voices in unison to sing Vande Mataram, spreading the message of national unity and devotion to the motherland.

Among those present were Additional SP (North) Vikas Chandra Tripathi, Traffic Circle Officer Alok Kumar Pathak, Circle Officer (Sadar) Saurabh Srivastava, Circle Officer (HQ) Harshit Chauhan and several police personnel. (Event Held at Police Lines) A similar program was organized at the Police Lines, Barabanki, under the leadership of Additional SP (South) Ritesh Kumar Singh. A large number of officers and police personnel, including Reserve Inspector Rajesh Kumar, participated in the event. Along with the rendition of the national song, participants also watched Prime Minister Narendra Modi address on the occasion.

What truly keeps Vaani fit

Bollywood actress opens up about her morning rituals, diet secrets, mindfulness and how she balances fitness

Aanchal Chaudhary

There's a quiet calm in the way Vaani Kapoor talks about her mornings — unhurried, grounded, and

filled with mindful moments. For someone constantly under the spotlight, the actress believes in finding balance through spirituality, discipline, and a love for all things nourishing, both for the body and mind.

In a candid conversation with bollywood actress Vaani Kapoor opened up about her daily routine, workout habits, and how she maintains a healthy relationship with food.

While Vaani doesn't rely on pre-workout meals or breakfasts, she does take BCAA supplements to help with muscle recovery. "Mine is sugar-free, it just helps me recover faster," the *Aabheer Gulal* fame says. Her diet is protein-rich, with a focus on natural foods and mindful eating. "Everyone's body reacts differently," she emphasises. "You need to know your metabolism and understand what works for you." The 37-year-old follows intermittent fasting, which she calls "the only thing that has truly worked" for her. "I start my first meal around 10 a.m. and finish dinner by 6:30 or 7 p.m.," she shares. "I usually do 14 hours of fasting, it keeps me light and energetic." "I can't do fad diets like keto or paleo, I want something

sustainable," says Vaani. Her meals are simple yet nutritious with chicken, veggies, almond flour *parathas*, and gluten-free *rotis*. She avoids sugar, dairy, and processed foods but is not shy about indulging occasionally. "I also live that life," she states, continuing, "I love my fries and burgers! Cheat meals are a must at least once a week," Vaani laughs. She admits, "I don't want to starve and punish myself because that is also like comfort food for me." But, these days, the actress has switched to sugar free ice cream or almond zucchini brownie, giving her cheat meal a healthy punch. "Which also, by the way, tastes delicious," Vanni emphasises.

Inside Vaani's diet

Her diet habits during shoots

The actress doesn't believe in starving herself during long shoots. "Our shoots go on for 12 to 16 hours, so I carry snacks such as millets, popcorn, fox nuts, and protein bars. If I'm hungry, I eat." She credits fitness and mindful eating for helping her sustain energy and focus through hectic schedules. "When your body is getting trained, especially weight training helps you to develop that stamina for those many hours for you to work," adds the *Raid 2* star.

Vaani loves cooking

Vaani confesses she loves cooking for others. "During COVID, I used to bake healthy oat desserts with blueberries for my friends," she recalls fondly. "They loved it! It was just something I picked up online and turned out delicious."

Rest and recovery

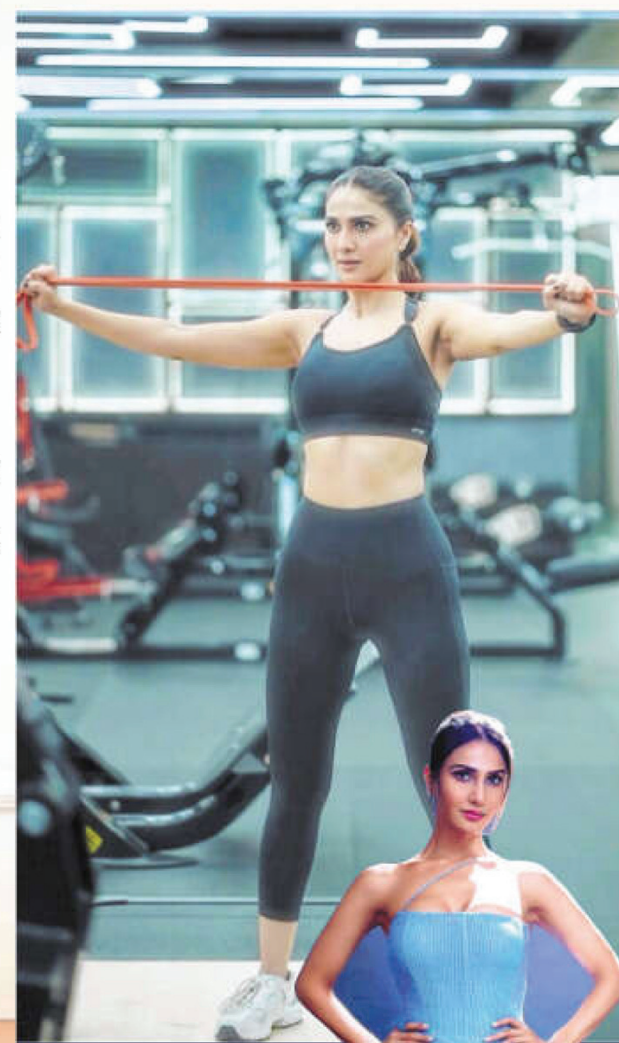
For her night routine, the actress swears by simple, effective supplements. "I take magnesium before sleeping, it really helps me rest better. And I also take my salmon oil vitamins," she says. "It's my small self-care ritual for a calm night."

I listen to chants and smudge the house to cleanse the energy. My mom laughs at me for it, but I love the calm it brings

— Vaani Kapoor

'I always begin with meditation'

"I don't have a very fixed morning routine," Vaani admits, "but I always begin with meditation. It keeps me centered and helps me align my thoughts for the day." She also adds a unique ritual, spiritual smudging. "I listen to chants and smudge the house to cleanse the energy. My mom laughs at me for it, but I love the calm it brings." Once she's done with her morning rituals, the actress heads straight to the gym. "If I skip a morning workout, I'll slack during the day," she laughs. Her routine alternates between Pilates and weight training, but strength training remains her main focus.



What's next

On the professional front, Vaani will next be seen in *Badtameez Gill*, directed by Navjot Gulati and produced by Nicky and Viicky Bhagnani. She also stars in Sonali Rattan Deshmukh's *Sarvgunn Sampann*, alongside an ensemble cast including Namik Paul and Raghubir Yadav. For Vaani, wellness isn't about perfection, it's about consistency, balance, and joy. As she puts it, "It's not just about fitness or food; it's about how you feel from within."



Om & KGF fame veteran actor Harish Rai dies

Veteran Kannada actor Harish Rai, best known for his performances in films like *Om* and the *KGF* series, has passed away after battling cancer. The actor was a respected name in South Indian cinema, having acted in Kannada, Tamil, and Telugu films over several decades. Throughout his career, Rai appeared in several popular films such as *Samara*, *Bangalore Underworld*, *Jodhakk*, *Raj Bahadur*, *Sanju Weds Geetha*, *Swayamvara*, and *Nalla*. However, his roles in *Om* and the *KGF* franchise brought him wide recognition and love from fans.



Harish Rai in *KGF*

IFP turns 15

Fifteen years since its inception, the India Film Project (IFP) returns to Mehboob Studios on November 29 and 30 for its 15th edition — a two-day celebration of creativity, storytelling, and collaboration. Now recognized as the world's largest festival for Creativity x Culture, IFP brings together filmmakers, writers, musicians, designers, and performers from across the globe. This year's jury features acclaimed names such as Dibakar Banerjee, Sheeba Chaddha, Hariharan, Bilal Siddiqi, and Mukesh Chhabra, among others. With over 40,000 participants from 23 countries, IFP continues to champion imagination, curiosity, and community — inspiring creators everywhere to dream, collaborate, and tell their stories.



Meghan Markle set to return to acting?

After years of being away from her acting career, Meghan Markle is now all set to make her return to films. According to Variety, Meghan Markle will be featured in the upcoming comedy film titled *Close Personal Friends*, also starring Lily Collins, Jack Quaid, Brie Larson, and Henry Golding.

Even though Meghan Markle will be seen in a small cameo role, details surrounding her character have been kept under wraps. The film's shooting is currently underway in Los Angeles. Speaking about the Duchess of Sussex's part, a source told People, "Meghan was on the

set today. She has a small part. She seemed very relaxed and happy. She introduced herself to everyone and was very sweet and down-to-earth."

Among other cast members are Melissa Villaseñor, Natasha Demetriou, Anna Konkle, Patti Harrison, Jack Shalloo, and Dustin Demri-Burns. *Close Personal Friends* reportedly focuses on the story of a "regular" couple that meets a celebrity couple during their trip to Santa Barbara.

However, it is when the two couples become friends that things start getting awkward and lines are crossed. Directed by Jason Orley, the film's screenplay comes from Isaac Aptaker, who is also producing alongside Elizabeth Berger.

Pic: X



Stars set to wed?

Are actors Rashmika Mandanna and Vijay Deverakonda all set to take their relationship to the next level? The much-loved couple reportedly got engaged in October 2025 in an intimate ceremony and is now planning to get married in February 2026 in Udaipur, Rajasthan. A viral social media post has claimed that the wedding will take place on February 26 at a grand palace in Udaipur. Though the reports have taken the internet by storm, neither Rashmika nor Vijay has officially confirmed or denied them. Sources close to the couple had earlier informed NDTV that their engagement took place on October 3, in a private ceremony attended only by close friends and family. The event was said to be simple yet elegant, marking the beginning of a new chapter in their relationship.

Akon brings the biggest party to India

Global music icon Akon is set to electrify Indian audiences this November with what promises to be the biggest party of the year. The Grammy-nominated singer and hitmaker behind chartbusters like *Smack That*, *Lonely, Don't Matter, Right Now* (*Na Na Na*), and the Bollywood favourite *Chammak Challo*, will perform in Delhi on November 9, Bengaluru on November 14, and Mumbai on November 16.

In a special message to his Indian fans, Akon said, "Y'all ready, India? It's your boy Akon! This

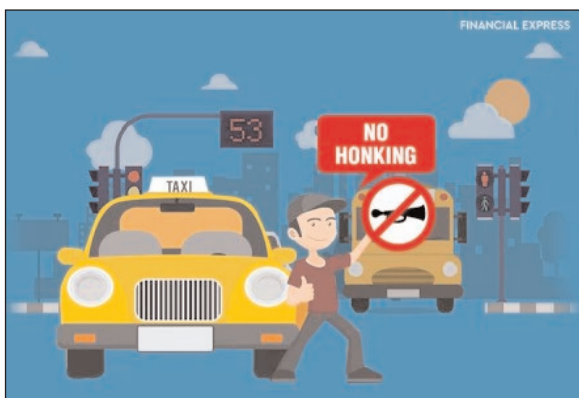
November, I'm bringing the party of the year straight to you. Can't wait to see my people, my fans, my fam out there — let's make history together!"

The concert series, presented by HSBC and co-presented by The Spirit of KASHMYR, is organised by White Fox and Percept Live. Aman Kumar, co-founder of White Fox, called Akon's return a "full-circle moment" for fans who grew up with his music. "Each city will feel the energy — the lights, the production, the connection," he said.



Honking ban ordered by DoE for schools

Delhi: The Delhi DoE has instructed all schools to prohibit illegal parking and honking. In response to increased noise and congestion outside schools, the Delhi Pollution Control Committee DPCC wrote to civic bodies, including DoE, with directives. New guidelines require private unaided recognized schools to create a silence zone awareness plan and issue letters to SHOs to reduce illegal parking and honking. All deputy directors of education (DDEs) at the district and zonal levels have been asked to inform school heads and ensure compliance with these measures. Dr. CS Verma, DoE deputy director at science, Order emphasized school zone traffic restriction. Officials said the initiative improves learning conditions. "Traffic congestion outside schools has been a long-standing issue, with frequent complaints from parents and residents about vehicles blocking gates



and causing excessive honking," a DoE spokeswoman said. Mount Abu School principal Jyoti Arora in Rohini said illegal parking and honking around Delhi schools are longstanding difficulties. "We are fighting a court case regarding an illegal auto stand near one of our schools," she said, adding that morning traffic is terrible. E-rickshaws and street vendors choke roads, she said. Delhi Parents' Association president Aprajita Gautam said most schools are in traffic zones and may struggle to comply. Parents should limit horn use to reduce this. School transportation limitations and no-honking signs .

Telangana govt resolute in raising reservation

HYDERABAD:

Telangana Chief Minister K. Chandrashekar Rao announced on Monday that the Congress government is determined to increase reservation for backward classes in education, employment, and political representation from 23% to 42%. In a post on the social media platform 'X,' he highlighted that the population of backward classes in the state stands at 56.36%, based on the recent caste survey conducted in Telangana.

The US canceled 2,000 Indian visa appointments



Delhi: The US embassy in India reported the cancellation of over 2,000 visa applications. Indians are one of the largest groups of immigrants to the US for labor, tourism, and study. Fraud prompted the US Embassy in India crackdown. Due to "bad actors" or bots' severe appointment system infractions, the embassy deactivated their accounts. "Consular Team India cancels 2,000 bot-made visa appointments. We don't tolerate agents and fixers who break scheduling rules. "Effective immediately, we are cancelling these appointments and sus-

pending the associated accounts' scheduling privileges," said the message. US visa applications in India are already backlogged, notably for B1 and B2 applicants. This visa is for business and tourism. Application wait times in 2022-23 ranged from 800 to 1,000 days. New Delhi has regularly expressed reservations about the wait time with

Washington. In 2022, foreign affairs minister S Jaishankar complained to then-US secretary of state Antony Blinken about visa delays. The Biden administration blamed COVID-19 for the backlog. During his January visit to Washington for Donald Trump's inauguration, Jaishankar raised the issue again with Marco Rubio, Blinken's successor.

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 without choosing between conventional and distant education. It has restrictions, though. Even with normal and ODL enrollment, students cannot enroll in two identical degrees (such as

BCom Hons and BCom Pass). DU dual degree qualifying requirements are simple but require careful planning. Students must meet both degrees' academic requirements. Attending classes, completing assignments, and passing tests for each program.

Most states, even non-BJP, give Hindi or Sanskrit as 3rd language

Delhi: As the Centre and Tamil Nadu argue over the controversial "three-language formula" in schools under the National Education Policy (NEP) 2020, most Hindi-speaking states, including those ruled by non-BJP parties, offer Sanskrit as a third language of study. Non-Hindi-speaking states usually offer Hindi. Private schools are offering foreign languages as third languages due to student demand. The method allows states to choose Indian languages for government and private schools. Most states have implemented the "three-language formula" up to Class 8, with some extending it to Class 10. Tamil Nadu, however, has a two-language policy.



Hindi, Sanskrit, and other languages are taught as third languages in most states, along with the region's mother tongue and English, depending on the medium of teaching. French, German, and Spanish are also in demand in Hindi and non-Hindi-speaking countries. The Tamil Nadu govern-

ment has refused to sign an MoU with the Centre to implement the PM Schools for Rising India (PM-SHRI) scheme, which aims to upgrade 14,500 schools and make them model schools that embody NEP 2020, citing concerns about the "three-language formula" and Hindi language imposition.

IT-Delhi rose 255 places to 171st globally

Delhi: Among Indian universities for sustainability, IIT-Delhi rose 255 places to 171st globally, according to 2025 QS Rankings released. The QS Sustainability Rankings include 78 Indian universities, with nine of the top 10 improving and 21 new institutions entering. Two IITs—Delhi and Kanpur—are in the world's top 100 for impact. With 177 and 67 rank improvements, each became fourth and fifth in India. Bangalore's IISc is among the world's top 50 environmental education schools.

NAAC adopts e-inspections for new accreditation

Delhi: To eradicate corruption and speed up accreditation, the National Assessment and Accreditation Council (NAAC) has stopped physical college inspections. Accreditation teams will now perform evaluations exclusively online, replacing on-cams visits with virtual examinations. But for colleges, the changeover will be hybrid; most inspections will be remote, but some reviewers will still visit campuses to retain some monitoring. The decision fol-



lows the CBI's recent arrests in the case involving Andhra Pradesh's Koneru Lakshmaiah Education Foundation (KLEF), where management reportedly bribed NAAC peer visit inspectors for good ratings. "We chose to do whatever it takes

to eliminate corruption. "Stopping in-person visits will greatly reduce the issue," stated NAAC executive committee head Prof Anil Sahasrabudhe. "With so many weekly inspection visits, it was hard to track what happened. Now, all this is recorded." NAAC head Ganesan Kannabiran hailed the switch to online inspection a "surgical strike" against corruption. The latest CBI lawsuit challenged NAAC's peer review system.

Kerala cuts minority scholarships due to financial difficulties

Delhi : Kerala's government has cut minority community scholarships by 50%, putting thousands of students' education at risk, citing the financial crisis. Nine of the 11 minority welfare scholarship programs originally allotted Rs 13.6 crore are affected by the decision. The Government says the plan size reduction is a priority, but the disproportionate cut to minority student educational support raises questions about governmental priorities and social justice. Twitter shares The Prof Joseph Mundassery Scholarship, which received Rs 5.2 crore this year, suffered most. It has saved Muslim, Sikh, Jain, and Parsi high-achieving children by paying Rs 10,000 to those who scored A-Plus in all SSLC subjects and Rs 15,000 to those

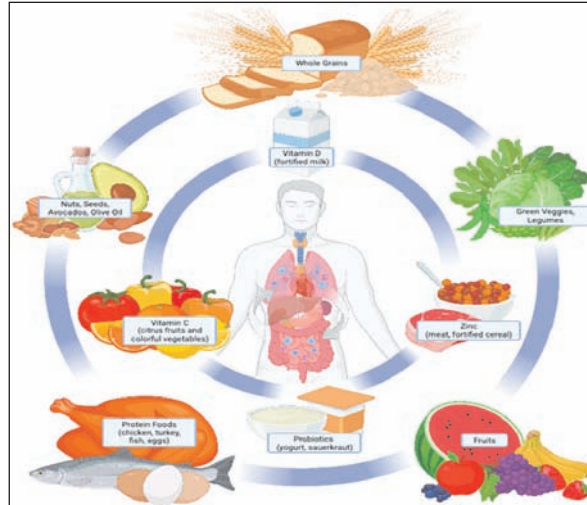


who scored 80% in upper secondary or 75% in vocational higher secondary. It ensured that bright students from underprivileged backgrounds were not forced to drop out due to financial constraints by prioritizing BPL students and providing provisions to economically weaker APL students. The crucial APJ Abdul Kalam Scholarship for minority students has also been cut in half. Those admitted to government-approved colleges on merit, with priority for BPL families,

receive the Rs 6,000 grant. Since it reserves 30% of funds for female students, the reduction could hurt young women from poor families who already struggle to enter higher education. Another affected program is the Mother Teresa Scholarship, which helps Christian, Sikh, Buddhist, Jain, and Parsi students in government nursing and paramedical diploma programs. Many aspiring nurses and paramedics, whose families cannot afford professional training, may have to quit.

Hospital visits decreased, learning metrics improved. Meal program passes

Delhi: The State Planning Commission SPC found that Tamil Nadu Chief Minister M.K. Stalin's breakfast policy had improved health and education in government schools. which shows that hospital visits among government primary school pupils reduced by 68.4% in rural areas and 29.4% in urban areas throughout this period, illustrating the program's impact on nutritionally challenged regions. In addition to health metrics, the Tamil Nadu State Planning Commission reported to Stalin on 13 March that the plan has increased student involvement in class. Nearly 5,300 urban and rural children showed improvements in attention and comprehension. Students' attention without urging grew



from 85.8 percent to 93.7 percent, and their ability to follow teachers' instructions increased from 91.3 percent to 95.5 percent. Students are also completing more written work, rising from 89.6% to 95.4%. The ability to learn new content increased from 88.1 percent to 92.5 percent, while lesson recall increased from 71.4 percent to 77 percent. Nearly 5,300

urban and rural children showed improvements in attention and comprehension. Students' attention without urging grew from 85.8 percent to 93.7 percent, and their ability to follow teachers' instructions increased from 91.3 percent to 95.5 percent. Students are also completing more written work, rising from 89.6% to 95.4%.

SC calls Punjab's NRI quota a 'fraud' on medical education

Delhi: The Supreme Court called Punjab's medical colleges' extension of the non-resident Indian (NRI) quota a "fraud" that excludes meritorious candidates. A bench chaired by Chief Justice of India (CJI) Dhananjaya Y Chandrachud dismissed petitions challenging a Punjab and Haryana high court ruling that invalidated the Punjab government's proposal to widen the NRI quota criteria to include distant relatives. We must end NRI quotas today! The bench, which included Justices JB Pardiwala and Manoj Misra, said the NRI quota was being used to circumvent merit-based admissions. The bench called such a broad interpretation of NRI eligibility, which permitted distant relatives to qualify, a "money-spinning tactic" that undermined the school system. "All three petitions fail. Keep this under control. This scam must end. This NRI business is a scam. Senior counsel Shadan Farasat stated that Himachal Pradesh and Uttar Pradesh previously employed the larger NRI quota interpretation during the hearing. The Court rejected these arguments, stressing that the larger definition weakened merit and permitted less deserving individuals to be admitted based on money and connections rather than academic performance. The panel agreed with Bhandari that NRI quotas should be kept for real NRIs and merit should not be ignored.



Briefs

FAISALABAD

De Kock stars in SA win over Pakistan



Quinton de Kock revived his international career with a fluent 22nd ODI century as South Africa hammered Pakistan by eight wickets in the second match and leveled the series 1-1. The left-handed de Kock, who reversed his 2023 ODI retirement before the white-ball series in Pakistan, smashed an unbeaten 123 off 119 balls in the Proteas' chase of 270-2 in 40.1 overs. Fast bowler Nandre Burger (4-46) and leg-spinner Ngabayomzi Peter (3-55) — the two changes South Africa made from its narrow loss in the first ODI — had picked up career-best figures to restrict Pakistan to 269-9 after South Africa lost its seventh consecutive toss on the tour. The third and final match of the series is on Saturday at Faisalabad, which is hosting international games for the first time in 17 years.

LONDON

Aston Villa beats Maccabi



Aston Villa beat Israeli club Maccabi Tel Aviv 2-0 Thursday in a Europa League game played amid heightened security measures, with more than 700 police officers deployed to deal with possible protests. Morgan Rogers put through Ian Maatsen in first-half stoppage time for the defender to score from a tight angle and Villa doubled the lead on the hour with Donyell Malen hitting the bottom corner from the penalty spot. It was Villa's third win from games in the competition. The game at Villa Park had become the center of a political debate after Maccabi fans were banned from attending as West Midlands Police deemed the match to be high risk and cited violence.

RIYADH

Sabalenka eliminates Coco Gauff



Top-ranked Aryna Sabalenka earned a third straight group-stage win at the WTA Finals by beating Coco Gauff 7-6 (5), 6-2,

Axar states he has learnt from past mistakes

All-rounder says don't let boundary size dictate shots

CARRARA (GOLD COAST)

India all-rounder Axar Patel says he has learnt from his "past mistake" of letting the size of boundaries dictate his shot-selection, something that was evident from the manner in which he targetted the more distant sides during the fourth T20I against Australia here.

Obviously I knew it was tough because wickets were falling back to back. The message that I got from the dressing room was to take it to the last over because there weren't any batsmen after me

A Patel, India all-rounder

Axar's 11-ball 21, laced with a four and a six in the last over off Marcus Stoinis, was crucial to India breaching the 160-mark and posting 167, which Australia fell short by 48 runs. The visitors now have an unassailable 2-1 lead in the five-match series after the first game was washed out.

"Obviously I knew it was tough because wickets were falling back to back. The message that I got from the dressing room was to take it to the last over because there weren't any batsmen after me," Axar said in a video interview with teammate and fellow all-rounder Shivam Dube, posted by the 'bcci.tv'. "So I thought I would take a chance in the last over. The

side boundaries were big but I thought if I could hold my shape and watch the ball, I could clear them," he said.

"I have felt in the past that if I think about the size of the boundary and don't hit towards those sides, they become predetermined shots and because of that we make mistakes. I learnt from past mistakes and played my shots here," he added.



The fifth and final T20I will be played on Saturday in Brisbane. Besides the significant runs, the 31-year-old Axar also picked up a couple of wickets in the game to deservedly win the player of the match honours. Dube asked him about his wickets, especially the LBW dismissal of Matthew Short, which was the result of an accurate review taken by Axar in consultation with Jitesh Sharma. Axar said he is not particularly a fan of reviews but took his chance this time.

"I'm never ready to take a review. But when the ball hit (his pads) this time, I think it stayed low. And the kind of action that I have, I bowl a little wide off the crease."

PREVIEW | Australia hope to counter the spin threat in the final T20I

Team India target consistency

BRISBANE

On the cusp of another overseas series win, India will look to overcome batting inconsistencies and finish the tour of Australia with authority when the two sides clash in the fifth and final T20 International here on Saturday.

With an unassailable 2-1 lead in the five-match series, India have extended their 17-year streak of not losing a T20I series against Australia and **Suryakumar Yadav** and Co. will look to finish strongly in this one too.

The focus will be on Shubman Gill and skipper Suryakumar Yadav's batting, while Australia will look to counter India's spin challenge when the two sides clash for the last time ahead of next year's T20 World Cup in India and Sri Lanka.

India showed better tactical awareness in the previous match, adjusting on a tricky Carrara pitch. Gill led the way in a promising start of 121 for 2 in 14 overs before a late collapse saw them lose four wickets for 15 runs.

For vice-captain Gill, it has been seven innings without a fifty, though his 46 in the fourth T20 was a sign of his returning form.

Gill has not quite displayed the fluent touch that has defined his batting in recent years. He looked composed in the last match before being undone by a slower ball. The opener will be eager to sign off on a high and ease concerns within the team management.

Suryakumar has also shown flashes of brilliance across the series but has struggled to convert his starts. The captain would be expected to bat with more freedom and lead by example ahead of next month's South Africa.



Tilak Varma is another batter who is yet to find his rhythm, managing scores of 0, 29, and 5 in his last three outings.

The pressure will also be on wicketkeeper-batter Jitesh Sharma, who has featured ahead of Sanju Samson in the last two games but is yet to make a substantial impact.

Abhishek Sharma, however, has lived up to his reputation as the world's top-ranked T20 hitter, scoring a fluent half-century and providing brisk starts.

India's lower order has also chipped in effectively, with Axar Patel smashing an 11-ball 21 in the previous match. The presence of all-rounders at No. 7 and No. 8 has given the team valuable flexibility and depth.

In the bowling department, Arshdeep Singh has

once again proved his worth for India, picking up four wickets and forming an effective new-ball pairing with Jasprit Bumrah.

The spin trio of Varun, Axar, and Washington has been a major strength for India despite the absence of Kuldeep Yadav. Both Shivam Dube and Washington have been instrumental with bat and ball.

While Dube's 23-ball 49 turned the third T20 in India's favour, Washington's 3 for 3 in the fourth sealed the contest. Dube also contributed 18 off 22 and took two wickets in that game.

For Australia, the fourth T20 once again exposed their weakness against quality spin.

V a r u n C h a k a r a v a r t h y, Axar, and Washington Sundar Zampa have shouldered much of the responsibility, but Ben Dwarshuis went wicket-less in the fourth T20. The hosts might consider handing a debut to Mahli Beardman in the final game.

Teams (from):

India: Suryakumar Yadav (C), Abhishek Sharma, Shubman Gill (VC), Tilak Varma, Nitish Kumar Reddy, Shivam Dube, Axar Patel, Jitesh Sharma (WK), Varun Chakravarthy, Jasprit Bumrah, Arshdeep Singh, Harshit Rana, Sanju Samson (WK), Rinku Singh, Washington Sundar. **Australia:** Mitchell Marsh (C), Matthew Short, Josh Inglis (WK), Josh Philippe (WK), Mitchell Owen, Glenn Maxwell, Matt Kuhnemann, Adam Zampa, Mahli Beardman, Ben Dwarshuis, Xavier Bartlett, Nathan Ellis, Marcus Stoinis.

Maha Govt felicitates women players from the state

Mandhana, Jemimah and Radha presented with a ₹2.25 cr reward

MUMBAI

Maharashtra Chief Minister Devendra Fadnavis on Friday felicitated cricketers Smriti Mandhana, Jemimah Rodrigues and Radha Yadav, Indian Women's World Cup-winning team members from the state, and presented them with Rs 2.25 crore cash reward each here.

During the felicitation programme held at the CM's official residence 'Varsha' in south Mumbai, Fadnavis called the trio the "pride of Maharashtra", and said the team's victory will inspire young girls to take up sports and shine on global platforms. The Harmanpreet Kaur-led side scripted a defining moment for Indian women's cricket by winning its maiden global title - the 50-over World Cup - with a 52-run victory over South Africa in the final in Navi Mumbai on Sunday.

Fadnavis said, "You've made Maharashtra proud. Your victory has brought immense joy to the state. Jemimah's century in the semifinal was a turning point, it took us to the finals. The way this team fought back and played like a family shows what true teamwork means."



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Devendra Fadnavis, Maharashtra CM

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"The world has taken note of the fact that the World Cup, which traditionally went to a select group of countries, has for the first time come to India. It is a matter of

immense pride. The entire team has performed brilliantly," he said.

Lauding the spirit of camaraderie among the players, he said team spirit and bonding were the key to the squad's success.

"In professional cricket, victory is not possible without support. The role of the coach, support staff and guides is equally crucial," he added.

Fadnavis also acknowledged Board of Control for Cricket in India (BCCI) and chairman of the International Cricket Council (ICC) Jay Shah for his efforts in advancing women's cricket. Cricket team's coach Amol Muzumdar was presented a cheque of Rs 22.5 lakh, while each member of the support staff was given Rs 11 lakh.

Bowling coach Avishkar Salvi, former legendary cricketer Diana Edulji, analyst Aniruddha Deshpande, logistics coordinator Aparna Gambhirrao, and support staff members Mihir Upadhyay, Poorva Kate, and Mamta Shirurulla were present.

Brazilian Leclerc announces engagement ahead of race

Leclerc will marry partner Alexandra Saint Mleux

SAO PAULO

Charles Leclerc was all smiles at a news conference ahead of the Brazilian Grand Prix, where a good result could get him closer to fourth place in the drivers' standings. His happiness, though, had more to do with developments off the track: he just got engaged.

Leclerc will marry his long-time partner Alexandra Saint Mleux.

"I'm very, very happy, obviously. It is a special week, full of emotions," Leclerc said Thursday. "It's obviously a very special moment for anyone to do that step. And, yeah, Alex and I are incredibly happy."

The season itself hasn't given Leclerc as many reasons to celebrate. The Ferrari driver entered the year hoping to contend for the title, but with four races left he only has fourth place left to fight for.

He is currently fifth, 54 points behind Mercedes driver George Russell.

Leclerc, who finished a career-best second in the 2022 season, arrives at the iconic



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Charles Leclerc, Ferrari driver

Interlagos racetrack on a good run after finishing second at the United States Gran Prix in Austin and in third place in Mexico City last weekend.

"The momentum is with us. We've had good last few races, which is a good thing, but we cannot really rely on the past

for the future," Leclerc said. "It's all about starting from zero again."

Ferrari also holds a one-point lead over Mercedes for second place in the constructors' championship, where McLaren has already secured the top spot.

"This weekend we are focusing step by step on what we can control and, try and make our processes the best, the most perfect possible," Leclerc added.

"And then we'll see where we end up."

Leclerc's best finish at Interlagos is fourth place in 2022. He came fifth in 2021 and 2024, and seventh in 2018.

"I hope that is finally the weekend where I get back on the podium here in Brazil," he said.

Verstappen looks to close gap Max Verstappen knows that the odds of capturing a fifth straight F1 title are against him. But he's not giving up yet.

The Red Bull driver is 36 points behind Lando Norris, who only has a one-point lead over McLaren teammate Oscar Piastri.

shrink

Pratika felt Shafali would do something special

NEW DELHI

Being a student of psychology has given Pratika Rawal some insight into how a human mind works and her gut feel told her that Shafali Verma, who came in as her replacement in the World Cup knock-outs, would do something special in the final.

Her intuition was right about Shafali even though it was all down to a cruel twist of fate that prevented Rawal

from playing the two biggest games of her career because of an injured ankle and knee.

"Shafali doesn't need motivation. She plays with instinct and belief. Before the final, she came up to me and said, 'I'm really sorry you can't play,' and I told her it's fine, these things happen. I had a feeling she would do something special that day," Rawal told PTI Videos.

Rawal, who had scored 308 runs was third in list of run-scorers after Smriti Mandhana (434) and

Ashleigh Gardner (328), got injured against Bangladesh in the last group league game.

The setback due to injury at most crucial juncture could have been mentally crushing but for someone who has completed her Bachelors' degree in psychology, it did become easier to process what was going through her mind.

"I should not say I am a psychologist yet because I haven't completed my Masters' degree," she smiled.

"But as someone who has studied psychology, it really helped me to understand human emotions better - including my own. The first thing is to accept what's happened. You can't undo it. Once I accepted the injury, I focused only on what I could control - recovery, sleep, nutrition, and supporting the team."

That pragmatic approach, she said, prevented her of suffering from self-pity.

"There was disappointment, yes, but no break-

down. My dad was there, my coach (Shravan Kumar) kept checking on me, my mom and brother called every day. I have such a good support system. They didn't let me spiral or feel alone," she said.

Her father, she recalled fondly, took the injury harder than she did. "I don't show emotions easily, but my dad cried a lot - I had to calm him down," she laughed. Things have been surreal she admits since Sunday when Rawal was escorted by for on-field celebrations.



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P Rawal, India batter