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

'Looking forward to speak with my good friend Modi': Trump

NEW DELHI: US President Donald Trump on Tuesday said he looks forward to meet his "very good friend" Prime Minister Modi in the coming weeks and confirmed that his administration will continue negotiations with India to resolve trade barriers between the two countries. Sharing a post on

Good friend''

But India and the United States have a very special relationship: Trump



Truth Social, Trump wrote, "I am pleased to announce that India, and the United States of America, are continu-

ing negotiations to address the Trade Barriers between our two Nations. I look for-

ward to speaking with my very good friend, Prime Minister Modi, in the upcoming

weeks." "I feel certain that there will be no difficulty in coming to a successful conclusion for both of our Great Countries!" he added. The remarks come after Trump had earlier softened his tone on India-US relations, calling the ties "very special," affirming his friendship with PM Modi on Friday. Earlier, speak-

ing at the White House Trump had said that, "I always will. I'll always be friends with (PM) Modi. He's a great Prime Minister. I'll always be friends, but I just don't like what he is doing at this particular moment." "But India and the United States have a very special relationship.

Three soldiers killed as avalanche strikes Army base in Siachen



Rescue

Three soldiers have been killed in a major avalanche in the central region

operation launched after the avalanche," an officer said. India has lost over 1,200 soldiers, including around 40 officers, in the Siachen Glacier-Saltoro Ridge region since April 1984 when Indian troops occupied almost all the dominating heights from 15,000 to 22,000 feet in the region to pre-empt a similar attempt by Pakistan under Operation Meghdoot. Over 75% of the casualties have been caused by the severe terrain and climatic conditions, with temperatures even dipping to minus 50 degrees Celsius, rather than firing duels and trench warfare with enemy soldiers. In recent years, the Army has stopped haemorrhaging with better infrastructure, logistics and habitats in place.

NEW DELHI: Three soldiers have been killed in a major avalanche in the central region of the forbidding Siachen Glacier, the highest and coldest battlefield in the world, in northern Ladakh. Sepoy Mohit Kumar, Agniveer Niraj Kumar Choudhary and Agniveer Dabhi Rakesh Devabhai were trapped when the avalanche hit their forward post in the central glacier during the intervening night of Sunday and Monday. "Their bodies were retrieved on Tuesday in the search and rescue

Radhakrishnan elected

VicePresident

Radhakrishnan was on Tuesday elected as India's 15th Vice-President



Congress put up a brave face

Congress put up a brave face, with opposition's counting agents Shaktisinh Gohil and Manickam Tagore saying that Reddy secured 40% of the votes cast as against the opposition tally of 26% in the 2022 VP election. But it came just after Jairam Ramesh announced at the end of voting, "The opposition has stood united. All of its 315 MPs have turned up for voting. This is an unprecedented 100% turnout." The full turnout of 315 votes made it difficult for the anti-BJP bloc to pinpoint the MPs who may not have voted for Reddy, with the post-result calculations complicated by the fact that exactly 15 votes were found invalid too. Gohil drew a link between 15 invalid ballots and the 15 votes by which the opposition fell short. Sources said it was not possible to assert with su-recty if the invalid votes were all opposition MPs.

NEW DELHI: BJP-led NDA's candidate Chandrapuram Ponnusamy Radhakrishnan was on Tuesday elected as India's 15th Vice-President, defeating joint opposition candidate and former Supreme Court judge B Sudershan Reddy with a margin that was wider than estimated and pointed to possible cross-voting within the opposition camp. Radhakrishnan, 67, secured 452 votes while Reddy, 79, polled 300, according to returning officer and Rajya Sabha secretary general PC Mody. The vote tally seemed to indicate that at least 15 opposition members voted for the NDA nominee, despite

Congress claiming all 315 opposition MPs stood united in the vice-presidential polls. Interestingly, the short-

fall in the opposition's count - 15 - was the same as the number of votes declared "invalid". Sources said

it was not possible to assert with surety if the invalid votes were all from the opposition, or some MPs had cross-voted. The poll recorded a 98.2% turnout with 767 MPs voting. There were 752 valid votes and 15 deemed invalid. One postal ballot was cancelled as the MP declined to vote. "I declare CP Radhakrishnan has been elected to the post of Vice-President of India, and the results will be communicated to the Election Commission," the RS secretary-general announced. Radhakrishnan's margin turned the focus on opposition's possible failure to stick together, that too, at a time when it is on the warpath with allegations of "vote theft". The opposition fell 15 votes short of its estimated tally in the VP election, with candidate B Sudershan Reddy securing 300 votes. while the expected tally was 315 .

President, Governors can't stall bills even if unconstitutional

NEW DELHI: Opposition-governed states of Karnataka, Punjab, Kerala and Telangana Tuesday told Supreme Court that Constitution confers no discretion on President and governors to stall a bill passed by legislature even on the ground it is unconstitutional or repugnant to a central law. Advocating the supremacy of the cabinet system of governance at the Centre and states, Gopal Subramaniam, appearing for Karnataka, told a CJI-led five-judge bench that bills passed are an expression of people's will, and hence, the President or governors at best could return such bills once to the legislatures with suggestions. "Giving sweeping discretionary powers to a governor will result in a dyarchy," Subramaniam said. Any conferment of veto power to a governor is antithetical to the existence of the elected state legislature," Gopal Subramaniam, appearing for Karnataka, said, adding he is always, like the President.



Arunachal records evidence of the elusive Pallas's cat

NEW DELHI: A wildlife survey conducted in Arunachal Pradesh has brought out first-ever photographic evidence of the elusive Pallas's cat in the state, reaffirming the eastern Himalayan terrain as a global biodiversity hotspot. The survey,



conducted by WWF-India in association with the forest depart-

ment of the Arunachal Pradesh government, also recorded the presence of other wild cats - snow leopard, common leopard, clouded leopard and marbled cat - above 4200 metres, indicating the landscape's unique wild cat diversity. "The discovery of

Pallas's cat in Arunachal Pradesh at nearly 5,000 metres is a powerful reminder of how little we still know about life in the high Himalayas," said Rishi Kumar Sharma, head-science and conservation, Himalayas programme, WWF-India.

Omar seeks long-term solution as NH closure worries

SRINAGAR/JAMMU : The Srinagar-Jammu highway (NH-44) has remained shut for traffic for the past 15 days due to landslides at several stretches, leaving Kashmiri fruit growers worried about their produce rotting in view of the prolonged closure. CM Omar Abdullah Tuesday assured them that restoration work on NH-44 was being monitored hourly and all possible measures were being adopted to restore highway connectivity. He also said long-term



solutions — such as introducing a rail cargo service for Kashmir's fruit produce — are being explored to prevent future disruptions during peak seasons. J&K lieutenant governor Manoj Sinha visited Thard village in Udhampur district on Tuesday and reviewed the ongoing restoration work along NH-44. He also assured assistance.

Nepal unrest: Gen Z fury unseats PM

Wife of ex-PM dies after home set afire

Resigned

Deputy PM Bishnu Prasad Paudel was chased through the streets



Less than 24 hours after police gunfire left 19 people dead outside its parliament, Nepal PM K P Sharma Oli resigned Tuesday as protests against corruption and censorship spiralled into the most violent unrest the Himalayan nation

has seen in years. The Nepal army declared that it would assume responsibility for law and order from 10pm. By Tuesday afternoon, protesters stormed the federal parliament building inside the Singha Durbar complex, shat-

tering windows and setting fires in multiple chambers. Flames rose as young demonstrators danced and chanted. "This building never worked for us," said Mira Thapa, a 20-year-old student waving a Nepali flag. "Burning it

down means we can build something new." The fury spread to the homes of senior politicians. Foreign minister Arzu Rana Deuba, wife of former PM Sher Bahadur Deuba, was dragged from her residence and beaten by a mob. "They kept shouting that we had stolen their future," she later told aides. Deuba was also assaulted. Deputy PM and finance minister Bishnu Prasad Paudel was chased through the streets by protesters.

It will prove to be a 'non-visit', claims Congress

NEW DELHI:

Congress on Sunday said the upcoming visit by PM Narendra Modi to ethnic conflict-ridden Manipur will prove to be a "non-visit" as he will be in the state for just three hours though people there have been waiting for him for over two years. It suggested the rushed visit cannot accomplish much of significance, and dubbed Modi as "insensitive" towards Manipur.

US President Donald Trump distances himself from Qatar attack



Hamas which, very unfortunately, was located in a section of Doha, the Capital of Qatar. This was a decision made by Prime Minister, it was not a decision made by me," Trump said in a post on Truth Social. He criticised the attack, calling

it a unilateral strike in a "Sovereign Nation and close Ally of the United States" that "does not advance Israel or America's goals." He added that "eliminating Hamas, who have profited off the misery of those living in Gaza, is a worthy goal." Speaking to reporters as he made a rare outing onto Washington's streets on Tuesday, Trump said, "I'm just, I'm not thrilled about the whole situation.

What awaits PM unannounced visit to Manipur amid ethnic tensions?

The lack of official confirmation has fuelled speculation and heightened tension

Secrecy

While preparations are quietly intensifying in Imphal and Churachandpur



Guwahati: The Manipur leg of Prime Minister Narendra Modi's north-east tour, scheduled to begin on Sept 13, remains clocked in secrecy, with no formal announcement from either the Centre or the state govt — a stark con-

trast to the publicised schedules in Mizoram and Assam. While preparations are quietly intensifying in Imphal and Churachandpur, the lack of official confirmation has fuelled speculation and heightened tension in a state still reeling from the aftermath of

ethnic violence and mass displacement. Modi will begin his two-day trip in Mizoram on Sept 13, where he is set to inaugurate the Bairabi-Sairang railway line, connecting the state capital Aizawl to the national rail network for the first time. His next stop, though not

officially announced, is expected to be a tightly scheduled four-hour visit to Manipur — his first since the ethnic clashes between Meiteis and Kuki-Zo tribals erupted in May 2023, claiming over 260 lives and displacing thousands. A source said Modi's proposed itinerary in Manipur includes public engagements beginning in Churachandpur, where he will address a gathering in one of the areas most affected by the violence.

Defer Nepal travel, India tells its citizens; airlines cancel flights

NEW DELHI: India has advised its citizens to "defer travel (to Nepal) until the situation has stabilised. Airlines including Indian carriers, have suspended flights as Kathmandu Airport (KTM) was closed on Tuesday afternoon when Gen Z protestors set fire nearby. A few flights between Indian cities like Delhi, Mumbai and Bengaluru were able to operate Tuesday morning. But as the day progressed and the situation worsened, multiple Kathmandu-bound flights hovered near the city before diverting or returning to India. Subsequently airlines suspended flights. In its advisory, the Indian foreign ministry said: "In view of the developing situation in Nepal, Indian citizens are advised to defer travel there until the situation has stabilised. Indian citizens presently in Nepal are advised to shelter in their current places of residence, avoid going out onto the streets and exercise all due cau-



NGT imposes Rs 25 lakh fine on two units in Noida

Delhi : In view of depleting groundwater, there is a threat of irreversible damage to the environment leading to scarcity of drinking water, the National Green Tribunal has said while slapping Rs 25 lakh on two units in Noida for unauthorised extraction of water. A bench headed by NGT Chairperson Justice Adarsh Kumar Goel noted that there is no operative non-objection certificate (NOC)

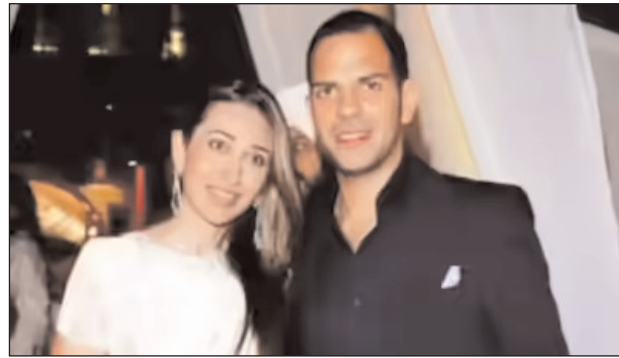
tion. They are also advised to follow local safety advisories from

as far as Noida Golf Course and Advant Navis Business Park are concerned. Noida Golf Course and Advant Navis Business Park have to pay an interim compensation of Rs 25 lakh, which may be deposited with the Central Pollution Control Board within one month, the tribunal said. The green panel was pursuing a report filed by a committee of the CPCB and Uttar Pradesh Pollution Control Board.

Nepal authorities as well as the embassy of India in Kathmandu...

Karisma Kapoor's Kids Challenge Dad's Will, Claim Forgery

NEW DELHI: The high-stakes tussle over the inheritance of industrialist Sunjay Kapur took a fresh twist on Tuesday as his children from ex-wife and actor Karisma Kapoor approached Delhi high court challenging their exclusion from his assets, reported at Rs 30,000 crore, alleging his will was forged. Daughter Samaira and son Kiaan, through their legal guardian Karisma, filed a civil suit accusing Priya Kapur, Sunjay's third wife, of fabricating their father's will to gain complete control over his assets. Kapur, 53, died on June 12 this year after suffering a



heart attack while playing polo in Surrey, UK. The suit claims that Kapur, while he was alive, never mentioned the will and seeks partition of the estate, rendition of accounts, and a permanent injunction against Priya and other defendants.

Likely to come up for hearing on Wednesday,

the suit also challenges Sunjay's March 21 will, which purportedly leaves his entire personal estate to Priya. The children have alleged that Priya's conduct since their father's death in June demonstrated "without a doubt, that the alleged will has been fabricated" by her.

RLJP and JMM are expected to join the INDIA group in the state

Delhi : The Rashtriya Lok Janshakti Party (RLJP) under Pashupati Kumar Paras and the Jharkhand Mukti Morcha under Jharkhand Chief Minister Soren are expected to join the opposition alliance "soon" to contest the upcoming assembly elections in Bihar, poten-

tially extending the INDIA bloc. Held at the official residence of RJD leader Tejashwi Prasad Yadav, the issue was discussed during a crucial meeting of INDIA bloc leaders. "Two more parties are expected to be part of the INDIA bloc soon and we all have to sacrifice

our share of seats to accommodate the new partners." He went on to say that the 243 constituencies were all being worked on by the coalition. The bloc's initial gathering following the successful two-week Voter Adhikar Yatra. was this meeting.

How India plans to keep Mehul Choksi in Mumbai jail?

NEW DELHI: The ministry of home affairs has provided formal assurance regarding the conditions for detaining Indian businessman Mehul Choksi, through a letter to Belgium's ministry of justice, should he be extradited from Belgium to India. Choksi, arrested in Belgium in April, and his nephew Nirav Modi are primary accused in the PNB fraud case involving fraudulent transactions of over Rs 13,000 crore.

The government has provided Belgian authorities with specific operational guarantees regarding detention standards by detailing facility specifications, occupancy restrictions, medical provisions and monitoring systems. The MHA has designated Mumbai's Arthur Road Jail Barrack No. 12 for



Choksi's detention. Each detainee receives three square metres of personal space, excluding furniture, adhering to CPT norms. The two-cell barrack, with a six-person capacity, is currently unoccupied. The facility provides sleeping arrangements including cotton mats, pillows,

sheets and blankets, with beds available on medical recommendation. The cells feature ventilation, fans, regular cleaning, continuous water supply and attached sanitation facilities with flush toilets and wash basins. "Detainees will receive adequate food three times daily, with accom-

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

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

modations for special dietary needs subject to medical approval.

Delhi Police cracks down on UER-II motorcyclists

Delhi : Delhi Police have started cracking down on bikers and motorcyclists using the recently opened Urban Extension Road II (UER-II), penalising at least 24 errant riders given that these vehicles are not allowed to move on the multi-lane corridor connecting Delhi and Haryana, two officers said. Police said that most of the motorcyclists are using the road for joyrides and recording reels. "We deployed police personnel on the UER-II corridor's section



falling under the territorial jurisdiction of the Najafgarh police station to conduct surprise checks and prosecute motorcyclists moving on the stretch. During the drive, we stopped at least 24 two-wheelers and issued challans to

their riders. Some of them were members of bikers' groups, who usually go on a joyride on weekends on their sports bikes that cost lakhs of rupees. They were let off with no further action," an officer said.

'Heart-rending': PM Modi expresses concern over Nepal unrest

NEW DELHI: Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Tuesday expressed concern over the escalating unrest in Nepal, calling the violence "heart-rending" and urging citizens of the neighbouring country to maintain peace and order.

After returning from his visit to flood-hit Himachal Pradesh, Modi chaired a Cabinet Committee on Security meeting in New Delhi to review the situation. "The violence that occurred in Nepal is heart-rending. It was deeply painful to learn that many young lives were lost in it. Nepal's stability, peace, and prosperity are of utmost importance to us. I humbly appeal to all my brothers and sisters in Nepal to maintain peace and order," he said. Nepal has witnessed unprecedented turmoil since Monday, as protests led largely



by young demonstrators escalated into widespread arson and clashes. The unrest began over a government ban on social media platforms and demands for stronger action against corruption. Nepal's prime minister KP Sharma Oli, 72, resigned on Tuesday, a day after the protests turned violent, leaving 21 people dead and compelling the government to reverse the measure. The demonstrations have since evolved into a broader anti-corruption movement.

Govt allocates 12,952 crore for public transport system

The BJP government, led by Chief Minister Rekha Gupta, presented its maiden budget on Tuesday, March 25. Gupta presented 1 lakh crore budget for 2025-26, a 31.56% increase from last year. In the budget for the financial year 2025-26, the government has allocated 12,952 crore to improve Delhi's public transport system. It has allocated 1,000 crore to improve the connectivity of Delhi with the NCR region.

"What position does Rekha Gupta's husband hold?": AAP leader claims CM's husband attends meetings

NEW DELHI: Aam Aadmi Party Delhi president Saurabh Bharadwaj has asked the Bharatiya Janta Party to clarify the position of Delhi Chief Minister Rekha Gupta's husband, alleging that he frequently attends government meetings. The AAP leader added that it was the chief minister, Rekha Gupta, and not her husband who had taken the oath of the Constitution. "Delhi CM Rekha Gupta has taken the oath of the Constitution... No country's law allows



her husband to be included in government meetings. But we have seen that her husband is attending meetings with them, conducting inspections, giving instructions to officers..." Bharadwaj said. Stating that CM's

husband is a businessman the AAP leader asked

"How can he run the government or have a stake in running the government? This is completely unethical and unconstitutional... My question to the BJP.

Trying to return to UP, BSP organized a Lucknow rally on Kanshi Ram's death anniversary.

Delhi: Mayawati aims to launch the 2027 Uttar Pradesh assembly election with a display of strength on October 9, party founder Kanshi Ram's death anniversary. The BSP will rally at Lucknow's Kanshi Ram Memorial. The party has called on workers across the state to attend the protest and used the



"Lucknow Chalo" slogan to motivate them. After losing the 2012 assembly election, BSP leader Mayawati will address party workers at the event. She has been spending most of her time in her bungalow on Mall Avenue. "Behenji will give a message to the party cadre from the Kanshi Ram Memorial

for the preparation of the 2027 assembly election and motivate the workers who are downcast due to successive defeats of the party in the assembly and Lok Sabha elections," a BSP leader said. The Manyavar Kanshi Ram Ji Smarak Sthal, or Kanshi Ram Memorial, built after BSP won the 2007 UP assembly election.

Ramakrishna Pandey set out to offer Pind Daan to ancestors



Holagarh/Prayagraj.

Ramakrishna Pandey, former headmaster, resident of Chaubara of development block Holagarh, along with his wife Vimala Devi Pandey family, set out on a pilgrimage to the four Dhams on Tuesday. He will depart for Jagannath Puri Dham via Tirtharaj Prayagraj Ayodhya Dham Kashi Vishwanath Dham Gaya. After that, he will return home after offering Pind Daan to ancestors. All the villagers and family members were happily sent off with garlands and music. Those present at the farewell ceremony were Dharmaraj Pandey, former headmaster, Anjani Kumar Pandey, headmaster, Ajay Kumar Pandey, ex-serviceman, Chandrabhushan Pandey, Ramesh Chand Pandey, Dinesh Pandey, Anurag Pandey, Anoop Pandey, Satyam Pandey, Shivam Pandey and other residents of the area.

4 accused of gang arrested for watching porn videos and digitally arresting people in fake cases

Kaushambi:

Cybercriminals are active in the district. Police has exposed an international gang that digitally arrests people by posing as CBI and CID officers in the name of watching porn videos and threatening to implicate them in fake cases. Police has arrested four active members of the gang. On 25th August, Cybercrime Police Station, Kaushambi district was informed by Sunil Kumar Gupta, resident of village Akbarabad, Police Station Sarai Akil that from 15th August to 25th August, Rs. 31500 was transferred online to different accounts.

Inspection

Officer to obtain written certificates from all the Anganwadi workers

Kaushambi: Divisional Commissioner, Prayagraj Vijay Vishwas Pant today inspected Gram Panchayat-Chilla Sahabaji.

During the inspection of Anganwadi Centre by the Divisional Commissioner, the weighing machine was not found on the spot. The Anganwadi worker informed that the weighing machine has been taken to the vaccination site. He directed the District Program Officer to obtain written certificates from all the Anganwadi workers of the district that all the details filled by them in the nutrition tanker are correct and it should also be verified on a random basis. If any difference is found during verification, the salary of the concerned Anganwadi worker should be blocked.



Inspected the Composite School During the inspection of Composite School Chilla Sahabaji, the Divisional Commissioner observed the Nipun table and directed all the teachers working there to observe the Nipun table every day as per the competencies of each student as per the syllabus in the month of September. During the inspection of the kitchen, dal and rice were prepared in the

mid-day meal, which was found to be correct as per the menu. Ms. Savita Devi, a student of class 2, was asked her name in English. Also, when a student named Rishi studying in the same class was asked the meaning of his name, the student told the correct meaning of his name. Divisional Commissioner inspected the model shop Kaushambi. During

the inspection of the model shop located in Gram Panchayat Chilla Sahabaji, the Divisional Commissioner directed the District Supply Officer to get the weighing machine measured. The villagers informed that the quota in Gram Panchayat-Daniyalpur is suspended, in view of which he took cognizance and directed the District Supply Officer to take immediate action as per rules regarding restoration of the quota. During the inspection of the health center, he directed the Chief Medical Officer to review the MOIC of all the ANMs and Asha of the district by holding a meeting every month.

Listened to the problems of the villagers by

organizing a village Chaupal

The Divisional Commissioner held a meeting in the Panchayat Bhawan built in Chilla Sahabaji. On the demand of villager Mohammad Ubaid for cleaning near Ambedkar Park, he directed the secretary working in the Gram Panchayat to get Ambedkar Park cleaned on a large scale immediately. He appealed to the villagers present to maintain cleanliness continuously after cleaning of Ambedkar Park. On the demand of village resident Arai Lal to construct a 250 meter road from Ramdin's house to the peepal tree, he directed the secretary to get it done as per rules.

Father and daughter died in a road accident

Prayagraj: A father and daughter riding a bike died a painful death after being hit by a dumper while returning home from school on Tuesday afternoon near Leprosy Mission Square in Naini area. After the accident, the driver fled with the dumper. The police identified both the bodies on the basis of the dress and ID card of the girl student. As soon as the information about the accident was

received, there was an uproar among the family members. The police took the body into custody and sent it for post-mortem. The police is searching for the absconding vehicle by examining the CCTV footage. 57-year-old Ratnesh Srivastava of Mirapur Lal Colony of Kareli was working as an accountant in Maharishi Vidya Mandir located at Doorvani Naini. He was transferred to Mumbai four months

ago, but he did not join there. His daughter 17-year-old Yashi Srivastava was an intermediate student in the same school. Ratnesh Srivastava was returning home on his bike with his daughter Yashi after school on Tuesday afternoon like every day. On the way, near Leprosy square, a dumper suddenly hit the bike from behind. Due to this, Ratnesh and Yashi lost control and fell on the road.

Juhi Prasad took charge as SDM Phulpur

Juhi Prasad is a PCS officer of 2023 batch

Phulpur: Advocates have been agitating against corruption in Phulpur tehsil for the past few days. The lawyers finally got success in the agitation being run against the then Sub-Divisional Magistrate Phulpur Digvijay Singh. District Magistrate Prayagraj Manish Kumar Verma has handed over the responsibility of Sub-Divisional Magistrate of Phulpur to Juhi Prasad, a PCS officer of the year 2023 batch, who was posted as a judicial magistrate in Karakshana tehsil, as the new Sub-Divisional Magistrate in Phulpur. The new SDM has also taken over his responsibility on Tuesday. In



this regard, when the new Sub-Divisional Magistrate Juhi Prasad was talked to during a phone conversation, he told that whatever problems the advocates of Phulpur have, they will be resolved through a sit-down conversation. Employees must reach tehsil on time on every working day and discharge their responsibilities regularly. Any kind of irregularity or corruption will not be tolerated. Whatever complaints are received,

Responsibility

They will be seriously investigated and strict action will be taken against the culprits

they will be seriously investigated and strict action will be taken against the culprits. Our priority is to ensure that tehsil work runs smoothly and people get timely justice. Advocates, litigants, politicians and the public should cooperate in this. Former SDM Phulpur Digvijay Singh has been given the responsibility of a training program in Lucknow for one month.

The nodal officer asked to upload their thoughts and suggestions in written form on the QR code issued by the government

Prayagraj. A workshop/seminar was organized for public awareness of the "Samartha Uttar Pradesh-Vikasit Uttar Pradesh @ 2047" campaign at Motilal Nehru Engineering College Teliaiganj and Allahabad Medical Association Hall on Tuesday under the chairmanship of



Sanjay R. Bhushreddy- Chairman, Uttar Pradesh

Real Estate Regulatory Authority Nodal Officer of the program. The workshop/seminar was inaugurated by the guests by lighting the lamp. In the workshop organized at Moti Lal Nehru Engineering College, students, teachers and other intellectuals from engineering

colleges and other schools and in the workshop organized at Allahabad Medical Association Hall, intellectuals from medical field, industry and education sector expressed their views and people present at both the venues also expressed their advice and suggestion.

Services of 22 assistant teachers terminated in Education Department

Lucknow. Services of 22 candidates who got appointment on the basis of forged and fake mark sheets and certificates in Uttar Pradesh Secondary Education Department have been terminated. District School Inspectors of the respective districts have been instructed to recover the irregular salary payments made to all of them and to register an FIR against them. The Director of Secondary Education has directed.

IFFCO CARDET made farmers aware through Kisan Chaupal

Phoolpur: IFFCO Phulpur CARDET organized a Kisan Chaupal in Khanpur Dadi village selected by CARDET Phulpur under the Nano Fertilizer Awareness Campaign September-2025 through Kisan Chaupal on Tuesday. In which CARDET Principal Dr. D.K. Singh gave detailed information to the farmers about the use



of Nano Urea Plus and Nano DAP in agriculture and told how farmers can reduce the cost of farming by reducing the amount of granular urea and DAP by half

by using Nano Urea Plus and Nano DAP and how they can improve the soil, environment and their health. Beneficial bacteria present in the soil

can also be protected by the use of nano fertilizers. The farmers present expressed their satisfaction over the use of Nano Urea Plus, Nano DAP, Nano Zinc and other IFFCO water soluble products in Kharif crops and also said that with the use of these smart fertilizers, the use of traditional granular urea and granular DAP has also been halved.

MLA Deepak Patel's birthday celebrated with pomp

Garlanded

Thousands of BJP workers and MLA supporters reached the MLA's residence



him. Supporters congratulated him by putting up hoarding banners all over the city. Deputy CM Keshav Prasad Maurya and many big leaders congratulated him on social media. From 4

pm, Sunder Kand was organized at Paradise Guest House in Jhansi under the leadership of BJP leader Arun Mishra Pintu Neta. Among those who congratulated, BJP District President Gangapar Nirmala Paswan, Jamunapar Rajesh Shukla, Mahanagar Sanjay Gupta, former District President Kavita Patel and thousands of people reached the MLA's residence and congratulated him.

Children are making name in sports along with studies: Neelam

Prayagraj. District School Girls Kabaddi Competition Under - 14, 17 and 19 years was organized today in KP Inter College. All tehsils and divisions participated in the competition. The competition was inaugurated by Neelam Mishra, Principal of Government Girls Inter College Prayagraj. She said that today where children are making their place in sports along with studies, they will definitely make their dis-



trict's name shine on the national stage. The program was presided over by Dr. KC Srivastava, Vice President

Administration, KP Inter College. Everyone was welcomed by Coordinator Principal Dr. Yogendra Singh. In

the program, the students of Government Girls Inter College won everyone's heart by presenting folk dance. The competition was conducted by Umesh Khare. In the competition, in the Under - 14 years, Koraon defeated Hadiya 30/16 and became the winner. In the under-17 years category, Hadiya defeated Koraon Tehsil by 25, 20 and became the winner. In the under-19 category, Phulpur Tehsil defeated Soraon Tehsil

by 30/22 and won the competition. The support of Pushpa Shukla, Mridula, Kirti, Arun Pandey, O P Singh, Ashwani Yadav, Buland Pratap, Brijesh Kumar, Hasbeen Ahmed, Dharmendra Rathore, Arvind, Nitin Patel, Sunny Pandey was commendable in making the competition successful. The support of judges were Ajit, Raj Vijay, Puneet, Sarvesh, Ram Pujan Patel and Krishnakant.

'Bantwaare Ki Aag' gave the message of staying united

Prayagraj: If you do not stay united, anyone can divide you into pieces. The nautanki 'Bantwaare Ki Aag' staged on Monday, the first day of the five-day nautanki festival organized by the North Central Zone Cultural Center, gave this message. The play 'Bantwaare Ki Aag' written by Vinod Rastogi is a nautanki play. It was directed by Ajay Mukherjee while



the presentation was by Prayagraj Vinod Rastogi Smriti Santhan. The acting of the characters and especially the villain of the play was highly appreciated by the audience. The dialogues in the play left their impact. Even

though the story of the play was about the separation of two families, the Sutradhar and the characters in it gave the message of staying united and keeping the country and society together. The chief guest of the program, Major General Dharmaraj Rai and the Center Director Sudesh Sharma lit the lamp. The Center Director welcomed the chief guest by presenting him.

Editorial

Amit Shah looks sure of ruling till 2049 but Team Modi is losing steam and imagination

Amit Shah had declared at the Bharatiya Janata Party's national executive meeting in 2018 that the party will win the 2019 Lok Sabha election and "no one can dethrone the BJP for the next 50 years"—that is, till 2069. Last month, the Union Home Minister and BJP chief strategist said in the Lok Sabha that the Opposition parties would be there (on the Opposition benches) "for the next 20 years"—that is, till 2045. Let's make it 2049 because the Lok Sabha election will have taken place in 2044. It also takes into account Prime Minister Narendra Modi's goal of making India a developed country by 2047. Modi is looking to remain at the helm till 2035, at least. In his Independence Day address, he said that "in the coming 10 years, till 2035, I want to expand this (national security shield) ...strengthen it, modernise it". "I" is key here. He will be only 85 by then. And he is much fitter than Joe Biden who demitted the US President's office at 82. Mahathir Mohamad was the Prime Minister of Malaysia till he was almost 95. You may think I can't be serious. Talks of 20 or 50 years are just rhetorical, aren't they? A former BJP MP advised me not to take PM Modi's reference to 2035 seriously. "The day a leader throws a hint that he is even thinking of a retirement plan, everybody around him starts abandoning him. You can't afford to do that in politics," he explained. Maybe. What if BJP leaders truly believe what they say? How else could you explain the Modi-led government's sudden decision to bring the Constitution (130th Amendment) Bill, envisaged to unseat the Prime Minister, chief ministers, and ministers on the 31st day of their arrest or detention in custody? The PM figures in it for effect, of course. The proposed legislation places the CMs and ministers at the mercy of mostly Central investigation agencies whose track record in impartiality is better left undiscussed. These central agencies are known to often go out of their way to please the political bosses. The CMs and ministers who are not from the ruling party/coalition at the Centre have reasons to be alarmed by the proposed legislation. It is always prone to being used against the Opposition. Former Union minister Sharad Pawar recently pointed out how during the Manmohan Singh government, it was P Chidambaram who had backed the amendment in the Prevention of Money Laundering Act (PMLA) to put the onus to prove innocence on the accused. Pawar told Singh that it was dangerous. "If the government changes, we will also have to face consequences. But the advice was not heeded," disclosed Pawar. In 2019, the Enforcement Directorate (ED) arrested Chidambaram in a PMLA case. He had to spend 106 days in jail before he got bail. The proposed law—Constitution (130th Amendment) Bill—can potentially be weaponized by a ruling party at the Centre (not necessarily BJP) to destabilise governments in states ruled by rival parties (the BJP, included). So, why would Shah or the BJP want to make such a law? The most conceivable answer is that the BJP doesn't see itself sitting on the Opposition benches in the Lok Sabha ever—till 2049, at least. Look at the Centre's stand on the Supreme Court setting a timeline for the governors to act on the bills passed by state assemblies. It wants the elected governments in the states to be placed at the mercy of its nominees in the Raj Bhawans. Only a party that is confident of being in power at the Centre forever would want to take such a stand. This confidence of the BJP is reflected in so many other ways—from overturning the SC's ruling to end government's control over the appointment of the Chief Election Commissioners and ECs, to the alleged use of central investigative agencies to target Opposition leaders. There are many other instances. Here is the catch, though.



Why Modi, BJP should worry about bad blood between CEC Gyanesh Kumar and Rahul Gandhi?

Amit Malviya must be a harried man as Rahul Gandhi set out on his 'Voter Adhikar Yatra' in Bihar on Sunday. Bharatiya Janata Party's social media department, headed by Malviya, is facing flak in the Right-wing ecosystem. The reason: its purported failure to counter the Opposition's narrative about the Election Commission's special intensive revision of electoral rolls in Bihar. Let's look at one such thread. Tushar Gupta, whose bio proclaims him to be "anti-Left", took to X to express his concern about the "fake news" being spread about the electoral process. "Absolutely zero resistance. EC's press releases are not going to cut it...", he wrote. His argument was that the 18-24 age group in 2029 would be "reelers", not readers, and could be easily swung by Gandhi. "And this is exactly what he (Gandhi) is doing right now," he added. X users reacted to the thread, venting their ire on Malviya, with some even demanding his resignation as the BJP's IT cell chief. Dr Ratan Sharda, who has written several books on the Rashtriya Swayamsevak Sangh (RSS), agreed with Tushar and said that Gen Z is "not clued on" to the BJP. "The communication, the enunciation, the slogans — all present a middle-aged projection of a young successful party led by the most popular PM of all times whom youth love. @BJP4India needs to reinvent its SM approach and communication," he wrote. To be fair to Malviya, headline management and narra-



tive-building aren't so easy after 11 years in power. The belligerence of the Election Commission (EC) in dealing with the Opposition isn't helping him either. "Give an oath or apologise to the nation. There is no third option," Chief Election Commissioner Gyanesh Kumar said at a press conference Sunday, taking on Gandhi's 'vote theft' charge. Many Constitutional experts like former Lok Sabha Secretary General PDT Achary have rubbished the EC's demand for Gandhi's oath under Rule 20(3)(b) of the Registration of Electors Rules 1960, maintaining that it does not apply in this case. Kumar wouldn't bother. Since when has the CEC assumed the authority to instruct public representatives to apologise? Even former CEC MS Gill, who joined the Congress and went on to become a Union Minister after retirement, never demanded it from Opposition leaders as long as he helmed the EC. One may not agree with Gandhi's phraseology—from 'chowkidar chor hai (the gatekeeper is the thief)' to 'vote chori (vote theft)'. He often gets carried away, trying to bring

'earthquakes' in Indian politics. But that can't be the reason for a constitutional body to publicly berate the Leader of the Opposition. Also, it's not the first time that the EC has been accused of favouring the ruling party. After all, the fact is that the CEC was and still is essentially Prime Minister Narendra Modi's handpicked man—the ruling party's choice in that chair. After losing the South Delhi Lok Sabha seat to the Congress in the 1971 elections, Jan Sangh leader Balraj Madhok had gone to court complaining of rigging allegedly facilitated by the ruling Congress and the EC. He had alleged that the ballot papers were chemically treated and mechanically stamped to favour the Congress candidate, Shashi Bhushan. The Supreme Court dismissed his appeal. In 2002, then Gujarat Chief Minister Modi drew censure from Prime Minister Atal Bihari Vajpayee for attacking CEC JM Lyngdoh. There are myriad instances of politicians attacking the EC, but no CEC made it a personal issue until now. The body is entrusted to conduct free and fair polls, with no malice toward any party or politi-

cian. If there is bad blood and a public spat between the CEC and the Opposition leaders, it will shake the people's trust and faith in the election results. And that is the worst thing that could happen to Indian democracy. Instead of attacking Rahul Gandhi, the EC could have simply ordered an investigation into his claims of fake voters in Bengaluru's Mahadevapura—or, for that matter, the supposedly inflated number of voters in Maharashtra. It could have done a Bihar-like special intensive revision (SIR) in Mahadevapura immediately to rebut the allegations. That would have bolstered its credibility and its Bihar SIR case. BJP leader Anurag Thakur also made allegations about fake voters in the constituencies of Opposition leaders such as Gandhi, Akhilesh Yadav, and others. Thakur also accused them of 'vote theft'. Gandhi and Thakur were making the same disclosure—that voter lists across the country have issues. CEC Kumar hasn't reacted to Thakur's allegations yet. Fake voters' list is no news, anyway. The CEC could have thanked the Congress and BJP leaders for highlighting this issue again and used it to justify a countrywide SIR. What to speak of allegations of irregularities in Assembly or Lok Sabha elections, in the recent Delhi Constitution Club election (in which incumbent and former MPs are voters), Congress leader and former MP Brijendra Singh found to his dismay that his vote had already been cast. So did

another former MP from the BSP. It's plausible that Kumar—who was Secretary in Amit Shah's cooperation ministry—is extremely upset by Gandhi's diatribe against the Commission. The best way to deal with this would have been to invite Gandhi over for Kashmiri Kahwa, as he used to treat journalists with, and thrash it out. But Kumar has chosen to slug it out publicly with the Opposition. What must worry the BJP is the fact that the Opposition's diatribe against the EC seems to be resonating on the ground. As per a Lokniti-CSDS survey published in The Hindu on Sunday, 45 per cent of the respondents believe that genuine voters may get removed from the voters' list under the SIR, as against only 25 per cent who said 'no'. Only 60 per cent of respondents were very or somewhat confident of the EC's ability to ensure inclusivity. The survey was conducted in six states: Delhi, Assam, Kerala, West Bengal, Madhya Pradesh, and Uttar Pradesh. The Lokniti-CSDS survey, as compared to its 2019 and 2024 post-poll surveys, shows declining trust in the Commission. In Assam, the number of respondents who said they have "no trust" in the EC increased from 6 per cent in 2019 to 10 per cent in 2024 and 17 per cent in 2025. In Kerala, this increased from 10 per cent in 2019 and 2024 to 24 per cent in 2025. In Madhya Pradesh, the lack of trust in the EC rose from 6 per cent in 2019 to 22 per cent in 2024 and 2025.

After rosogolla, Odias and Bengalis fight over Mamata's Jagannath Dham

In the season of Conclave, what if a church suddenly decided to call itself Vatican — not just a tribute, but a claim to spiritual status? That's what the Mamata Banerjee government effectively did, as far as Odias are concerned, when it named the new Jagannath temple in Digha after Jagannath Dham in Puri, Odisha. For the Odias, this 'appropriation' was the last straw and has put them eyeball to eyeball with the Bengalis like never before. Why did Banerjee tread this path? If a temple was her big trip, why a Puri Jagannath lookalike and not something in the tradition of Bengal's own terracotta temples that dot Bishnupur in Bankura district? Alternatively, it could have opted for something original. Bengalis, it seems, have a peculiar fondness for replicas. During Durga Pujas, Buckingham Palaces, Golden Temples and the Pyramids pop up all over the state — pandals built with bamboo and tarpaulin to house the goddess in the festive season. But

those are temporary structures, dismantled once the pujas end. The Jagannath Temple in Digha is permanent, a silent testimony to the Bengalis' copycat gene. A few months after becoming the chief minister in 2011, Banerjee was on her way home via Newtown, parts of which today resemble Gurgaon from 50 years ago, when she suddenly halted her vehicle, got off, and stood to survey 480 acres of green dotted with waterbodies. On the spot, she declared it a park — and the next thing we know, in 2013, she was inaugurating Eco Park, a brand-new destination in Kolkata. A la Victoria Memorial, or the historic Botanical Gardens with the centuries-old Banyan Tree. That wasn't the end of it. Past the tree-lined boundary came up the Pyramids of Giza, an Eiffel Tower, a Taj Mahal, a Colosseum, and even a towering Christ the Redeemer — all of them exact replicas of the originals in miniature form.

History teaching requires revision more than textbooks

What does it mean to be a historian in India? Both of us have formally studied the subject. In the years we've spent working as public historians, we've told myriad stories of India's chequered pasts through heritage walks, museum trails, cultural events, podcasts, an annual journal, book reviews, articles, and social media posts. We've pored over archives and conducted on-ground research. We've also translated scholarship into language and experiences that anyone, from an academic to a casual listener, can connect with. Yet, despite this range of work, one question almost always follows when we explain what we do: "Okay, but what is your real job?" The question says as much about our profession as it does about how history itself is perceived in India. After all, how often do Indian households encourage history as a job? A base-level problem here is: how do you support the study of history when it isn't even clear what a historian does? In childhood, history may occasionally bask in the dreamy, cinematic glow of Indiana Jones and Night at the Museum. Or Bharat Ek Khoj, Akbar-Birbal adaptations, the delightfully

gory Horrible Histories, and Amar Chitra Katha. In adulthood, though, it either fades into collective amnesia, gets wrapped in nostalgia, or turns into a battlefield of contested claims. Where is the middle ground where we carry forward that childlike curiosity, tempered with adult discernment, to engage with the past with the depth and nuance it deserves? A polarising debate has recently been sparked after yet another round of revisions in NCERT history textbooks. But more than textbooks, history teaching requires revision. What do you remember from your history classes? For most, the answers fall into familiar buckets: rote learning of names, dates, dynasties, and wars. There was little room to explore the texture of lived experience, or to ask: how can this subject help me become a better thinker, a more reflective human? The discipline was frozen in time, and with it, many of us felt we too were trapped — learning about the past in a way that felt wholly disconnected from the present, let alone the future. This is part of the reason historical studies aren't seen as foundations for sustainable careers. But

paradoxically, history seems to dominate our headlines. It's everywhere: in TV debates, political speeches, social media threads. Everyone, it seems, has something to say about the past. That's why the current debate on revisions matters. The problem isn't with 'updating' history. Our understanding of the past evolves as our present changes. Every historian is shaped by their time, drawing not only on the materials and theoretical bases available, but also on their own perspectives and questions. So revisions themselves aren't the issue.

The real concern is how history textbooks are revised. If these changes were aimed at helping students approach the past critically, and provided them with the historian's toolkit — by introducing them to a range of sources, perspectives, and debates — then they would be fruitful. Our NCERT textbooks have been subject to regular revisions, with new theories and ideas inserted alongside scholars' evolving approaches to history. This exercise is necessary, so long as the emphasis remains on updations that accurately convey the latest reflections on continuities and changes.

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

Over the last few days, there have been extensive discussions on the prospects of reforming India's Goods and Services Tax (GST). An important element of the proposed reform is to reduce the present 4-rate structure to a 3-rate one. There could be several objectives behind such a reform. Simplification of the tax structure is an obvious one. Revenue mobilisation could be another, as simpler tax structures are easy to administer and improve compliance. The third is to provide a stimulus to the economy, which is presently dealing with significant uncertainty. I am young enough to be excit-

ed by the prospects of tax reforms, but old enough to know better. More so, given my prior experience in trying to understand the GST. Popular perception suggests there are just four GST tax slabs: 5, 12, 18, and 28 per cent. Why so many slabs for an indirect tax? Because somehow Indian policymaking believes in the progressivity of taxes—even for consumption goods. A lesser-known reality of the GST is that it has a total of eight tax slabs, excluding the exemptions. These start at 0.25 and go all the way up to 28 per cent. Tax rates of 0.25, 1.5, 3 and 7.5 per cent apply to just 1.5 per cent of total

goods traded in India. Some sectors, such as construction services, have six different applicable tax rates ranging from 0 to 18 per cent. The sheer complexity of India's present GST, even after nine years of existence, should be reason enough for an urgent reform. A major issue with the GST's present structure is the pervasive use of end-use exemptions. That is, for certain items, a GST rate is applicable — but if the goods are used for a specific purpose, then there is no GST on the item. Therefore, the same item has two different tax slabs depending on the buyer and end-use of the item.

Moreover, it creates room for rent-seeking, as many would exploit the tax arbitrage introduced by having a 0 per cent and 18 per cent tax rate as applicable on the same goods. Administering such exemptions is excessively costly and goes against the spirit of a self-enforcing tax such as the GST. A comprehensive reform would do away with such end-use exemptions and identify a specific list of items, such as food — irrespective of whether packaged, processed, or prepared in a restaurant — to be classified as exempt. Similar exemptions could be extended to certain kinds of insurance.

Medical seat domicile rule of T'gana flawed: SC

Delhi : The

Supreme Court criticized the Telangana government's domicile policy, which requires students to have attended Classes 9–12 in the state to be eligible for state quota medical seats through NEET, saying it was distant from reality. Many students now study in Kota for Class 11 and 12 to get better coaching for medical and engineering entrance exams. Should they be denied admission because they are not Telangana residents? "CJI BR Gavai, Justices K Vinod Chandran and Joyimalya Bagchi asked. "You must have a humane approach." Such students should not be harassed. Students whose parents are from Telangana are entitled for state quota seats regardless of where they finished Class 11 and 12, "CJI warned, "Either



you (the govt) rectify the matter, or we will set it right." Advocate Raghenhth Basant told the bench that the domicile bar has created a sensitive situation for kids whose parents were born in Telangana and have lived there.

Children of a Kerala resident posted in Telangana for four years who complete Class 9-12 in Telangana are eligible for state quota medical seats. He said youngsters who study outside Telangana despite their parents being natural citizens cannot apply for state quota medical seats.

Hindu University establishes public policy institute

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

CEO tells DUSU hopefuls to submit bond and affidavit, no deposit required

Delhi : The DUSU Election Commission has made it clear that all that is needed to run for student union office in the forthcoming elections is an affidavit and a Rs 1 lakh surety bond. Neither the school nor their own bank accounts will require them to deposit this sum. It is sufficient for a candidate to submit an affidavit and a surety bond, stated Chief Election Officer Prof. Raj Kishor Sharma during a news conference. Neither the university nor their account will request the payment



of this sum. He emphasized that the goal of this measure was to increase clarity and simplicity. In addition, the presiding officer, Dr. Rajesh Singh, emphasized the Election Commission's dedication to holding fair and free elections and urged all parties involved to work

together. While outlining the DUSU 2025–26 election program and code of conduct, Sharma made sure to mention that campaigning with hand-made posters is strictly forbidden and can only be done on dedicated "Democracy Walls."

Assess UV technology in sewage treatment, NGT directs IIT Delhi

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

A tribunal

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

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

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

Delhi dominates India's top college list

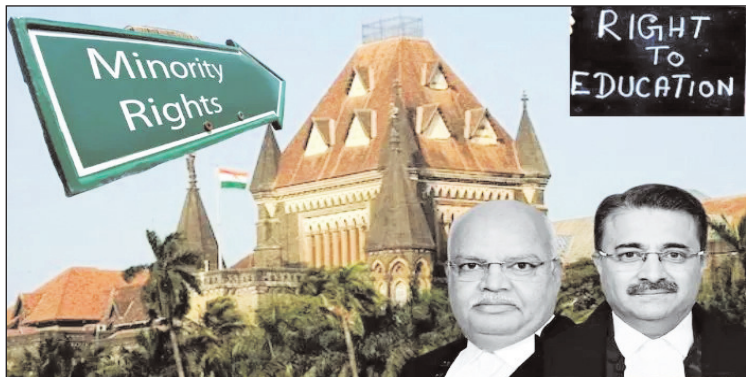
Delhi : Delhi University's Hindu College has topped the National Institutional Ranking Framework (NIRF) 2025 list, followed by Miranda House, Hans Raj, Kirori Mal and St Stephen's, emerging as the top five colleges in the country. Delhi University (DU) also recorded its best-ever performance in the Universities category, rising to fifth position from last year's sixth. It advanced to 12th place in the Research Institutions list and retained the 15th spot overall. Vice Chancellor Yogesh Singh called the achievement "a landmark moment", crediting the collective efforts of faculty, students, alumni and staff. Hindu College Principal Anju Srivastava said the recognition reflected the college's focus on holistic education. "We have created an ecosystem where students get opportunities for research, innovation and practical exposure. Under NEP reforms, they are pursuing interests beyond the classroom with flexibility and industry linkages," she told. Jawaharlal Nehru University (JNU) secured the second spot among universities. Vice Chancellor Santishree Dhulipudi Pandit said the ranking was a matter of great pride, highlighting JNU's model of "excellence with equity and innovation with inclusion".

CBSE and NCB to Raise Drug Abuse Awareness

Delhi : Together, the NCB and the Central Board of Secondary Education are working to eliminate drug use from schools and raise public awareness about the dangers of substance misuse. The CBSE board headquarters hosted an agreement signing event. The CBSE announced in an official statement that the two organizations have reached an agreement that will allow them to work together on various projects. These projects will include community outreach, counselling services for students and parents, e-modules on drug prevention, capacity-building workshops for teachers and counsellors, and quarterly awareness programs.

SC: Why are minority institutions excluded from RTE?

Delhi : The Supreme Court said its 2014 verdict by a five-judge constitution bench that the Right to Education (RTE) Act did not apply to religious and linguistic minority educational institutions "strikes at the heart of good quality universal elementary education, its consequences are far-reaching" and should be reconsidered. A two-judge bench forwarded a bundle of Tamil Nadu and Maharashtra appeals on whether minority-run schools required passing the Teacher Eligibility Test to CJI to consider advancing the matter to a larger bench. It claimed exempting minority institutions from the Act would erode inclusion. Minority schools are exempt



from teacher appointment and free education for underprivileged children laws. The SC court noted its 2014 verdict basically divided RTE under Article 21A from collective rights under Article 30(1), which allow minority communities to construct and run educational institutions.

The Pramati Educational

and Cultural Trust (case) exempts minority schools, whether aided or unaided, from the RTE Act using clause (1) of Article 30 of the Constitution, which we disagree was correctly decided. Thus, a revisiting of the ruling seems inevitable "Justice Dipankar Datta, who wrote the bench verdict with Justice Manmohan, stated.

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

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

Supreme Court asks Centre, NCERT on transgender-inclusive

Delhi :The Supreme Court notified NCERT, the Union government, and six states to respond to a plea to integrate transgender inclusive sex education in school curricula. Chief Justice of India (CJI) Bhushan R Gavai and Justice K Vinod Chandran sent notices to the Centre, NCERT, and Maharashtra, Punjab, Karnataka, and Tamil Nadu on the case brought by 16-year-old Delhi student Kaavya Mukherjee Saha.

Class 12 student from Vasant Valley School in Delhi filed the case, com-



plaining about the lack of transgender-inclusive Comprehensive Sexuality Education (CSE) in NCERT and SCERT textbooks. The student wants binding gender sensitisation and transgender-inclusive CSE rules in all schools nationwide. Senior advocate Gopal Sankaranarayanan, representing Saha,

told the bench that NCERT had recently admitted in a Right to Information (RTI) reply that it had "no information" on integrating CSE into school education, despite a 2024 Supreme Court order. Saha's petition claimed that NCERT and most state councils of educational research and training (SCERTs) have failed to include structured or examinable content on gender identity, gender diversity, and sex and gender despite Sections 2(d) and 13 of the Transgender Persons (Protection of Rights) Act, 2019.

Pradhan Mantri Kalyan Yojana relies on NCERT

Delhi : Union Education Minister Dharmendra Pradhan voiced his faith in NCERT's ability to push educational reforms and bring about a paradigm change in teaching and learning, despite the fact that the council has been criticized for its textbook updates. In his support of NCERT's initiatives to implement the reforms proposed in NE, Pradhan compared it to a "Gyan Kumbh" that has had a profound impact on the lives of many Indians. At its 65th Foundation Day, Pradhan emphasized that NCERT needs to take the lead in transforming India's education system by adopting a reform-oriented and tech-driven role. It has come a long way since its start, especially in terms of education's role in nation-building. He emphasized that



the organization needed to "don a new avatar" that was reform-oriented, tech-driven, and focused on best practices in order to embrace its role as a change leader. With unwavering conviction, Pradhan declared that NCERT will "bring a paradigm shift in teaching and learning and play a key role in actualising the goal of Samridhh Bharat." "Confident that NCERT will continue shaping critical and creative thinking in the 'Amrit Peedhi'," stated the professor.

DU teachers raise issues of unoccupied reserved seats

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

IIT Madras, IISc B'loru, IIT Bombay top 3 in NIRF 2025

Delhi : The Indian Institute of Technology (IIT) Madras has topped the National Institutional Ranking Framework (NIRF) 2025 for the seventh consecutive year, and also emerged the top engineering college in India for the 10th year since the rankings were introduced in 2016. Like last year, the Indian Institute of Science (IISc) Bengaluru is ranked second in the overall ranking, and IIT Bombay third. The first non-engineering institution in the Top 10 of the overall ranking is the All India Institute of Medical Sciences, Delhi at eighth (seventh last year); the IITs at Delhi, Kanpur, Kharagpur, and



Roorkee (which swapped places with AIIMS) hold the fourth, fifth, sixth and seventh places. Jawaharlal Nehru University (New Delhi) and Banaras Hindu University (Varanasi) have moved up to the ninth and tenth spots, respectively. Union education minister Dharmendra Pradhan and minister of state for education Sukanta Majumdar

announced the overall rankings and rankings across 17 categories for higher education institutions (HEIs).

The categories include engineering, management, medicine, university, law, research, and agriculture. There is also a category just for colleges. A total of 14,163 higher education institutions participated in the 10th edition of NIRF Rankings.

BCCI to hold AGM on Sept 28 to elect president, secretary, other office bearers

Delhi : The Board of Control for Cricket in India will conduct elections for the post of all its office-bearers - president, vice-president, secretary, joint secretary and treasurer, in Mumbai on September 28. In a notice, seen by to all the state associations, BCCI secretary Devajit Saikia stated, "Notice is hereby given that the 94th Annual General Meeting (hereinafter referred to as "AGM") of the Board of Control for Cricket in India ("BCCI"), which will be held at 11.30 AM on September 28, 2025, at BCCI headquarters at Mumbai, to transact the business as per the agenda provided below." "The minutes of the 93rd Annual General Meeting held on September 29, 2024, the minutes of the Special General Meeting held on January 1, 2025, and the minutes of the Special General Meeting held 2025, are attached herewith. Rest of the agenda papers will follow shortly. You are kindly requested to attend the meeting," Saikia concluded.

NMC asks medical colleges to deploy PG students in flood-affected areas

Delhi : The National Medical Commission (NMC) has asked all medical colleges across the country to deploy post-graduate medical students in flood-affected areas.

The deployment would be a part of the district residency programme, according to its recent directive. The directive states: "In view of recent floods/disaster-like situations in northern states/UTs, there is an urgent requirement for healthcare professionals as part of the ongoing relief measures.

Govt allows companies to display revised MRP on old unsold packs



PM to inaugurate SEMI-CON India 2025

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

Companies will have to continue displaying original MRPs and cannot overwrite revised MRPs on them. They have also been asked to inform consumers through ads and public

country-specific roundtables. The number of states set to take part in the tournament is nine, up from six the previous year. China is a world leader in semiconductors, but this year they won't be sending any exhibitors. compared to a mere 200 the year before. There are 350 exhibitors this year, up from less than 200 the year before. As a result of the growing interest in India's semiconductor industry,

the number of notices. "Any increase or decrease in price can only match the tax changes," food and consumer affairs minister Pralhad Joshi said in a post on X.

'GST cut to ease entry level stress,' says Godrej Enterprises executive



MUMBAI: The rejigging of GST slabs will make products more affordable for consumers, easing stress for the entry level market segment, said Nyrika Holkar, executive director at Godrej Enterprises Group (GEG), which is expecting reduction in taxes to give a boost to festive purchases. The move, Holkar said, will also push premiumisation. Availability of financing options has made it easy for consumers to buy products with-

out paying for it upfront and lower taxes will only put more money in the hands of people, aiding spending. "The change in GST for appliances is very positive for us. It will put less strain on consumers, the entry level segment of the middle class remains

stressed today and we should see that segment picking up in the festive period. Today, appliances (ACs) shouldn't be discretionary purchases; given the climatic shifts and other factors, they have become essential," Holkar said.

IMC 2025 will highlight 5G, AI, and 6G's real-world implications

Delhi : India Mobile Congress (IMC) 2025 will discuss 5G, 6G, AI, IoT, and machine-to-machine communication and how they can improve the lives of farmers, students, MSMEs, and society, according to Union Minister

Communications and Development of North East Region Jyotiraditya M. Scindia. At the launch of the AI-powered mobile app for IMC 2025, which will be held from October 8 to 11 here, the Union Minister said the goal is to "innovate and transform," reflecting

Prime Minister Narendra Modi's push for 'Atma Nirbharta' and self-reliance to develop India by 2047. He stated our aim to innovate and transform this year is crucial given the Prime Minister's emphasis on Atma Nirbharta, self-reliance.



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



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

Textile: India targets 40 countries to boost apparel exports

India is looking to expand its textile exports to 40 countries after US imposed 50% tariff on Indian imports, Union minister Giriraj Singh said on Tuesday. The minister said that these 40 countries represent nearly \$600 billion in textile and apparel imports, offering vast opportunities for India to enhance its market share. He also added that efforts are underway to leverage India's free trade agreements with 15 nations as key avenues for boosting textile exports. "It is true that we were working with the US for



several decades. Going ahead, we will work with them if things work out fine (Aage bhi baat banegi toh kaam karenge). But we will also search new markets," Singh said, as quoted by PTI. Acknowledging the current challenges, he admitted that the sector is

in a "transit phase," having previously settled into a comfort zone. However, he assured that there will be no job losses in textiles, India's second-largest employer after agriculture. "India will compete in America and also for the \$800 billion market .

India, UAE set \$100 bn non-oil trade goal by 2030

Delhi : India and the United Arab Emirates are targeting \$100 billion in trade by 2030, excluding oil and precious metals, India's commerce ministry said in a statement. The target was decided during a meeting between Union commerce and industry minister Piyush Goyal and the UAE's minister of foreign trade, Dr. Thani bin Ahmed Al Zeyoudi, in New Delhi last week. They were reviewing bilateral trade between the two countries under the Comprehensive Economic Partnership Agreement (CEPA) that came into effect in 2022. Both leaders stressed deeper cooperation in emerging sectors renewable energy.

US stocks trade mixed as investors await inflation data; Dow jumps over



Wall Street experienced mixed trading as investors awaited crucial US inflation data and Apple's product launch, where a new iPhone model was anticipated. The Dow Jones Industrial Average rose, while Nasdaq saw a slight decline. Markets are closely watching producer and consumer price data ahead of the Federal Reserve's policy decision, with expectations of an interest rate cut next week. Wall Street

traded mixed on Tuesday as investors awaited key US inflation figures and an Apple event expected to showcase the launch of new iPhones. The Dow Jones Industrial Average jumped 79 points or 0.17% to trade at 45,594. Nasdaq, on the other hand, slipped 11 points or 0.05%, reaching 21,786. S&P 500 remained flat at 8.50 PM IST. Producer and consumer price data are in sharp focus this week as markets gear up.

PNB ex-executive director discharged, first in Nirav Modi case

MUMBAI: Calling into question CBI's "pick-and-choose policy", a special court recently discharged KV Brahmaji Rao, a former executive director of Punjab National Bank (PNB), seven years after he was first accused in the Rs 23,000-crore fraud case involving fugitive jewellery businessman Nirav Modi. Among the 25 accused individuals and companies in the case, Rao is the first to be discharged. The special CBI judge noted that Rao cannot be singled out and burdened with criminal liability. It is interesting to note that the prosecution had proceeded against the officials in a pick-and-choose manner...(in the Rs 23,000-crore PNB fraud case) The material shows that the prosecution has chosen to implicate only a few while leaving out others who stood on an identi-



PhysicsWallah has amended its draft documents and submitted

Delhi: Educational technology superstar To fund development and growth activities, Physics Wallah has amended its draft documents and submitted them to markets regulator Sebi in an effort to raise 3.820 crore through an initial public offering (IPO). The updated draft red

herring prospectus (UDRHP) states that the promoters want to sell up to 1,720,000 shares in the upcoming initial public offering (IPO), which includes a fresh issuance of 3,100,000,000 equity shares valued at 3,100,000,000 and an OFS of up to 1,720,000 shares.

stretch of imagination" can it be said KV Brahmaji Rao derived any pecuniary benefit or acted in disregard.

Fujifilm Electronic aims to build a facility in India by 2025: Semicon India

Delhi : Fujifilm Electronic Materials, a Japanese supply chain giant, has expressed interest in establishing a facility in India as part of its efforts to invest and recruit in the country's burgeoning fabrication ecosystem, lending credence to India's semiconductor ambitions. When it comes



to supply chain management, semiconductor production, and even the development of

new technology, innovations, and capabilities, India is a promising country. India is attracting the attention of multinational corporations like Micron. General manager of Fujifilm's Electronic Materials Business Division Tetsuya Iwasaki told on the sidelines of the Semicon India 2025 event

that India's strong foundation in technology is founded on its skilled people, unlike China or other countries. Fujifilm serves customers such as TSMC and GlobalFoundries by providing semiconductor materials for wafer processing in production.

Minute Media buys VideoVerse; Audacity, Bluestone exit

BENGALURU: Global sports technology company Minute Media has acquired AI-powered media-tech startup VideoVerse, enabling early backers Audacity Venture Capital and Bluestone Equity Partners to record significant exits. Audacity Venture Capital said it secured a \$50 million exit from VideoVerse, calling it the fund's first exit and among the top five technology acquisitions in the country. The sector-focused firm had invested at a \$5 million valuation. "This is not just a fund milestone, it's a validation of our thesis that



media-tech offers outsized opportunities for investors who understand the space deeply," said Kabir Kochhar, founding partner of Audacity Venture Capital.

Bluestone, which invested in VideoVerse in December 2023 through its \$300 mil-

lion debut fund, also announced an early exit while retaining a strategic stake in Minute Media. "It's one of the largest outcomes in the history of sports technology, and to ever come out of the Indian tech ecosystem," said Bobby Sharma, founder.

E-commerce giants aim to update GST quickly

Delhi: E-commerce giants Amazon and Flipkart are changing their internal systems to allow scores of vendors to pass on GST rate reductions to their customers starting Sept. 22, when the new tax slabs take effect. "To ensure seamless compliance, we are proactively updating our systems with the revised GST codes, enabling our sellers to smoothly transition to the new tax structure and to be able to pass on the benefits to customers

in accordance with government regulations," Amazon stated in a note. To reflect GST rates, e-commerce platforms must change tax codes for every product. competitor Flipkart had sent a notice to merchants urging them to plan pricing changes and update the tax codes of key products so that the platform systems are ready for the tax launch, has reported. There's no official word from the firm. To capitalize on the expected demand.

A competition in India is now Rapido, not Ola, according to Uber's CEO

Delhi : In Bengaluru, According to Uber CEO Dara Khosrowshahi, Rapido has surpassed Ola in India and is now the company's most formidable rival. Our primary rival in the past was Ola. At this point, Rapido is the more formidable rival in India. They entered the two-wheeler and three-wheeler markets with a zero-commission subscription model in a robust way. Very flimsy too. In an interview with Zerodha co-founder Nikhil Kamath that was released on Sunday, he mentioned that Ola is currently in third place. Khosrowshahi stated that Uber views India as a crucial market. With over 1.4 million drivers spanning vehicles, two-wheelers, three-wheelers, and cars, the country has surpassed all others to become the third-largest in the world according to the company's trip count. "India is a must win for Uber, not just tomorrow, but ten years



from now," stated the CEO. Khosrowshahi credited Rapido's early success to the company's subscription model, which allowed drivers to keep more of their money. However, he did mention that Rapido was "not making money" and that the company's ability to grow financially will be evaluated. "We've got a lot of respect for them and we intend to compete really hard," according to him. The CEO of Uber pondered the larger realm of fast commerce and mobility, telling entrepreneurs not to be paralyzed by concern over market size. "Successful businesses are constantly changing to stay ahead.

PM to inaugurate SEMICON India 2025

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

Starting operations with iPhone 17 manufacture, Foxconn's B'luru unit

Delhi: According to individuals familiar with the matter, the Bengaluru facility of the Taiwanese electronics company Foxconn has recently started operations with small-scale manufacture of the iPhone 17. With an investment of \$2.8 billion (about Rs 25,000 crore), Foxconn was established at Devanahalli near Bengaluru, becoming the second-biggest plant outside of China and the largest assembler of iPhones.

The manufacturing of the iPhone 17 has begun at the



Foxconn Bengaluru factory. This is on top of what its Chennai unit is already producing, according to a source familiar with the matter. Neither Apple nor Foxconn responded to an email seeking comment on the matter.

Hundreds of Chinese engineers returned suddenly, briefly halting operations. Nevertheless, Foxconn has managed to fill the void by enlisting the help of specialists from a variety of locations, including Taiwan.

DOT Is Waiting for PMO's Decision on Vodafone Idea Relief Options

Delhi: In what could be a lifeline for the faltering telecom provider, the Department of Telecommunications (DOT) has proposed multiple relief alternatives for Vodafone Idea. This comes at a time when the firm is encountering serious financial difficulties

due to the intense competition in the Indian telecom industry. It is clear that the government is cognizant of the dire condition facing one of India's leading telecom companies, Vodafone Idea, because the DOT has taken action to propose relief measures for

them. Although the details of the potential relief options have not been revealed, it is anticipated that they will try to alleviate the financial strain on the corporation. PMO will now decide whether or not to provide Vodafone Idea any kind of help.

Expect price cuts for SUVs and sedans as a result of 40% GST cut

Delhi : With the goods and services tax (GST) set to drop from its current level of up to 50% to a suggested 40%—the slab for luxury and sin items—price reductions are likely to affect not only tiny automobiles and two-wheelers, but also large sedans and SUVs. The possibility that the GST Council would impose a new tax on luxury cars is another source of concern. In addition to the 40% tax, several states wanted a cess at the ministerial panel conference on rate rationalization. Sedans and SUVs with



engine capacities above a specific level and length exceeding four meters are currently subject to a cess of 22% and a GST of 28%. Following hints that the Centre is keen on a flat 40% levy on a handful

of sin and luxury products without a cess, the GST Council, headed by Union finance minister Nirmala Sitharaman, will make a final rate decision next month.

Another setback causes Oyo to postpone IPO plans

Delhi: Due to pushback from SoftBank and the unpredictable stock market this year, Oyo Hotels has decided to postpone its October IPO. Sources close to the situation say that SoftBank has expressed concerns about the planned timeframe and has asked Oyo to delay an IPO until its earnings are more stable. With investor appetite for risk dwindling due to Trump's trade policies, Oyo encounters a bleak market in its third attempt to go public since 2021. While Oyo founder Ritesh Agarwal indeed owns more than 30% of the company.

Meta signs over \$10 billion cloud deal with Google

Delhi : The news comes after Meta CEO Mark Zuckerberg's comments in July that the company would spend hundreds of billions of dollars to build several massive AI data centers. The company raised the bottom end of its annual capital expenditures forecast by \$2 billion, to a range of \$66 billion to \$72 billion last month. Meta is seeking outside partners to help it fund the massive infrastructure needed to power AI by offloading \$2 billion



in data center assets, the company disclosed in a filing earlier this month. In June, Reuters reported that OpenAI was planning to add Alphabet's Google Cloud service to meet its growing needs for computing capacity, a surprising collaboration

between two prominent competitors in the artificial intelligence sector. Amid this flurry of deals, Google parent's cloud-computing unit delivered an almost 32% jump in second-quarter revenue in July, which surpassed expectations.

The president signs off on an online gaming bill, and regulations will soon be drafted

Delhi : An announcement states that the comprehensive prohibition on internet gambling in India was signed into law by President Droupadi Murmu after the bill passed the parliament in a record-breaking three days. Both the Lok Sabha and the Senate had already approved the Promotion and Regulation of Online Gaming Bill, 2025 and the president gave his assent to the bill, as reported on the Rashtrapati Bhavan website and by a spokesperson for the Ministry of



Electronics and Information Technology (Meity). Dream11, MPL, and PokerBaazi are among the popular apps that are banned under the new rule, which takes a two-pronged approach by restricting real-money gaming and while supporting e-Sports and online gaming.

Online money gaming services, including their offering, operation, facilitation, advertising, and financial transactions, are prohibited. According to Minister Ashwini Vaishnaw's statement in Parliament, over the past few years, these kinds of games have cost around 450 million gamers ₹20,000 crore.

Sale of IDBI Bank nears as LIC obtains Sebi approval

Delhi : Sebi has approved Life Insurance Corporation's reclassification as a public shareholder from IDBI Bank's promoter after the sale. The RBI's approval is contingent on LIC's voting rights being capped at 10%, no board representation or



influence over the bank's business, and lowering its holding to 15% or less within

two years of the deal closing. Dipam informed LIC of Sebi's decision after the Cabinet's 2021 strategic disinvestment in IDBI Bank. UAE NBD received an RBI license to operate a wholly owned subsidiary in India, sparking rumors that it will

acquire IDBI bank. "We acquired up to 51% of IDBI Bank because their recapitalization provided an opportunity," stated LIC chairman R Doraiswamy. Currently 49.2%. The government and LIC will sell part of our interest during

Buyers anticipate GST and price cuts as holiday retail sales take a nosedive



leading up to Dussehra and Diwali, the festive opening is typically a very busy time, so this is causing us concern. Companies selling automobiles and consumer products, as well as retailers, are sitting on

their hands until a decision is made on the ground, due to the news of a GST rate cut and the imminent fall in retail prices. Stores selling white goods, such as televisions, air conditioners, and dishwash-

Get ready to travel the world with Indian Ports Global!

Delhi: The consortium plans to buy and run twenty ports in various parts of the world, including India, Africa, and Asia. The Indian government-owned Indian Ports Global Ltd is spearheading a consortium that plans to buy and administer

twenty ports across Asia, Africa, and India, according to two sources familiar with the situation. The Iranian firm that runs the famous Chabahar terminal is looking to expand into other ports in the Indian subcontinent.

ers, have the same challenge. Customers are already contacting us in droves to find out when they may expect to see price reductions. According to the CEO of

a leading consumer products company, buyers are now saying they will wait for the price cut before taking delivery.

Azmatullah shine; Afghanistan kick off campaign with 94-run win over Hong Kong

● The Afghan bowling attack, spearheaded by Fazalhaq Farooqi with 2/16 and Gulbadin Naib with 2/8, restricted Hong Kong to 94 for nine

Struggled

□ Hong Kong's middle, lower order struggled against experienced bowling lineup



'This is not a curtain raiser, it's only a curtain' — R Ashwin

NEW DELHI: Former Indian off-spinner Ravichandran Ashwin has delivered a scathing assessment of the ongoing Asia Cup 2025, questioning whether the tournament offers any real challenge to Team India. The eight-nation

2/16 and Gulbadin Naib with 2/8, restricted Hong

event began on Tuesday in Abu Dhabi with Afghanistan facing Hong Kong, but Ashwin believes the format lacks competitiveness. Speaking on his YouTube channel, Ashwin quipped: "They can almost include a South Africa.

Kong to 94 for nine. Hong Kong's chase fal-

New Record! Afghanistan all-rounder Azmatullah Omarzai creates history

Former world number one all-rounder Azmatullah Omarzai set a new record for Afghanistan's fastest T20I fifty during the Asia Cup opener at Sheikh Zayed Stadium on Tuesday. Labelled as favourites for the tournament opener, Afghanistan chose to bat first but struggled at 110/4

with five overs remaining due to Hong Kong's effective bowling performance. Omarzai's arrival at the crease transformed the game's momentum. He displayed impressive boundary-hitting skills, surprising the Hong Kong team with consecutive big shots.

tered early as they lost four wickets during the Power Play, leaving them at 23 for four. The pressure led to two run-outs involving Nizakat Khan and Kalhan Challu. Challu was caught short of the crease when Omarzai hit the stumps. Anshuman Rath, their opening bats-

Why India and Pakistan skippers weren't seated together at Asia Cup

NEW DELHI: The stage was set in Dubai for the Asia Cup 2025 captains' press conference, but one detail immediately caught everyone's attention. India captain Suryakumar Yadav and Pakistan skipper Salman Ali Agha were not seated side by side. Instead, Afghanistan's Rashid Khan was placed in between them — a move by organisers that avoided direct



proximity of the two arch-rival captains, keeping the atmosphere composed ahead of the marquee clash. India will open their campaign on September 10

against hosts UAE at the Dubai International Cricket Stadium. But all eyes are already on the high-voltage India vs Pakistan contest scheduled for September 14

Rishabh Pant shares nostalgic childhood memory, gets haircut under a tree

Rishabh Pant gave fans a glimpse of his childhood memories with a light-hearted post on Instagram. The Indian wicketkeeper-batter shared a picture of himself getting a haircut under a tree, something he used to do as a kid.

Former cricketer stirs debate; says 'Rohit Sharma does not quite make it there'



NEW DELHI: Former India cricketer Sanjay Manjrekar has sparked a heated debate in the cricket fraternity after declaring that ODI skipper Rohit Sharma does not belong in the pantheon of India's all-time batting greats. Speaking on The Great Indian Cricket Show on Doordarshan, Manjrekar drew a sharp line between the "true legends" and the current captain. "Rohit Sharma does not fit in the All-Time Indian Batting Great list because we're talking about legends like Gavaskar (Sunil), Tendulkar (Sachin), Dravid (Rahul), and Virat (Kohli). Rohit does not quite make it there," Manjrekar stated. Virat Kohli, Rohit Sharma, R Ashwin, Cheteshwar Pujara retire... who next? The former batter, however, was quick to add that Rohit's legacy lies in his selflessness and

Debate

□ Rohit Sharma does not fit in the All-Time Indian Batting Great list

leadership, particularly in the ODI format. "But if you look at one-day cricket, selflessness, or captainship, then you have to mention Rohit Sharma. Especially after the 2023 World Cup, the love people have for him is on another level. People saw that he was never thinking about himself; he was willing to sacrifice his own interests for the team's advantage. That's his real speciality," he added. Rohit's World Cup record certainly strengthens his case. With 1,575 runs in 28 matches at an average of 60.57, including seven centuries, he is India's third-highest scorer in tournament history.

SA20 Auction: Dewald Brevis breaks all records

As costliest-ever



Stature

□ Ganguly praised Brevis' rising stature in world cricket: "I hope he does well."

NEW DELHI: Dewald Brevis has shattered records to become the most expensive player in SA20 history, with Pretoria Capitals signing the 22-year-old batting sensation for a staggering R16.5 million (approximately Rs 8.3 crore). The bid, led by new Capitals head coach Sourav Ganguly, surpassed the previous high for Aiden Markram and set the auction room abuzz. The bidding war began the moment Brevis' name was announced, as Joburg Super Kings and Paarl Royals engaged in a heated contest. Within minutes, the figure had crossed the 10-million mark, drawing applause

from the room. After the Royals backed out, JSK looked set to secure their man, but Ganguly's Capitals swooped in at R10.1 million. The back-and-forth between Stephen Fleming's Super Kings and Ganguly's Capitals continued relentlessly, pushing the price higher. As it happened: SA20 Auction 2025 The defining moment came when JSK raised the paddle to R15 million, forcing the Capitals to pause. But Ganguly, determined to land the Proteas star, returned with R16.5 million. With Fleming eventually signalling JSK were done, the Capitals sealed the record deal to a collective sigh of relief. Ganguly praised Brevis' rising stature in world cricket: "I hope he does well. I think he is a tremendous talent. His game has really progressed over the last one and a

On opening day, Rashid Khan slams scheduling as captains voice frustration — 'Not so ideal'

Scheduling

□ "Well, I don't think it's ideal — that's what we were discussing"



NEW DELHI: Afghanistan captain Rashid Khan and Sri Lanka skipper Charith Asalanka have expressed disappointment over the Asia Cup 2025 scheduling and logistical arrangements, raising concerns just hours before the tournament opener in Dubai. Speaking at the mandatory captains' press conference on Tuesday morning, Rashid did not mince words when asked about his team's preparations ahead of their first match against

Hong Kong in Abu Dhabi. "Well, I don't think it's ideal — that's what we were discussing (with the other captains) before as well," the Afghanistan skipper said in the presence of Asian Cricket Council chief Mohsin Naqvi. Who did what in India's first Asia Cup 2025 practice — Sky, Hardik, Bumrah & Gill Afghanistan are based in Dubai but will travel nearly two hours to Abu Dhabi for each of their three group-stage matches. "To play in Abu Dhabi and stay here

in Dubai for all three games... it's different. But as professional cricketers, we have to accept these things," added Rashid, the leading wicket-taker in T20I history with 170 scalps. Despite his criticism, Rashid noted that players must focus on the job at hand. "Once you enter the ground, you tend to forget everything else. In other countries, we often fly two-three hours and go straight to the game. I remember flying from Bangladesh to the US once and playing

The changes were necessitated

The changes were necessitated after Thakur, Dubey, Khaleel and Suthar were called up to the India A squad for the two unofficial four-day Tests against Australia A in Lucknow, scheduled from September 16–19 and 23–26. The Duleep Trophy final will be played from September 11–15 at the Centre of Excellence Grounds, Bengaluru, with both sides.

straightaway," he said. Sri Lankan skipper Charith Asalanka, who joined the presser after his side's gruelling back-to-back matches in Zimbabwe, was equally candid.

How amateur footballer completed Premier League dream?



Crystal Palace completed the season-long loan signing of promising youngster Christantus Uche from La Liga side Getafe. Uche appeared 41 times in all competitions for the La Liga club, scoring four goals and providing seven assists. Born in Owerri, in the southeastern Nigeria, Uche has had a remarkable rise not just in level of professional

football but also in transfer value. Just three seasons ago, he was playing in Spain's third division (Tercera División) for Moralo B.

During the 23/24 season, he moved from Moralo B to AD Cueta for as little as €800 before being snapped by Getafe for €3 million.

Fortunate

□ "This moment is surreal. I feel incredibly fortunate to be here today"

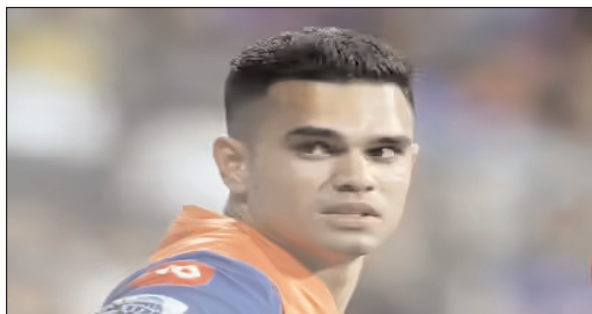
His loan move to Crystal Palace came at the cost of €17.50 million. So, in just two years his market value has grown by 21,875 times! "Life in Nigeria

was so tough," Uche told DAZN Sport when with Getafe. "If I look at myself now... I look back to then, and there have been a lot of changes. Every day, I thank God for this life. "Everybody [in Nigeria] loved football, everybody wants to play, especially when they see this boy has made this career, this dream, far from them... they will be motivated, they

all want to play football." The Nigeria international became Palace's fifth acquisition of the summer, after Walter Benitez, Borna Sosa, Yeremy Pino, and Jaydee Canvot. After completing the move to Crystal Palace, Uche said: "This moment is surreal. I feel incredibly fortunate to be here today, and this club represents a huge opportunity for me."

Armed with a champagne bottle and ready to drench his entourage, the world No. 1 instead found himself on the receiving end,

'I am heading into nowhere': Arjun Tendulkar shares cryptic post weeks after engagement with Saaniya Chandok



Arjun Tendulkar, son of Indian cricket legend Sachin Tendulkar, has caught attention with a cryptic message on social media. On Monday, the young all-

rounder posted: "In the middle of nowhere and I am heading into nowhere." **Arjun Tendulkar Spotted In Bandra** The post, his first since

Arjun, 25, currently plays domestic cricket for Goa

Arjun, 25, currently plays domestic cricket for Goa and is part of the Mumbai Indians setup in the IPL. A left-arm fast bowling all-rounder, he began his senior career with Mumbai in the 2020-21 season before moving to Goa, where he made his List A and first-class debuts. His IPL debut came in 2023 against Kolkata Knight Riders at the Wankhede Stadium.

his reported engagement with Saaniya Chandok last month, left fans puzzled about its meaning. Arjun Tendulkar's post

Arjun Tendulkar's social media post on Instagram Arjun's engagement with Saaniya Chandok, granddaughter of noted

Mumbai industrialist Ravi Ghai, was a private affair attended only by close friends and relatives. Neither the Tendulkar family nor the Ghai family has issued an official statement, maintaining discretion around the ceremony. Saaniya's family is well-established in the food and hospitality sector, with ownership of the InterContinental hotel and Brooklyn Creamery. Known for her low public profile.

Suriname stun, allege racist chants in World Cup qualifying

Miami Dhoraso Klas scored in the 81st minute as Suriname stunned El Salvador 2-1 away on Monday in a 2026 World Cup qualifying match marred by alleged racist chanting. Suriname, who have never qualified for the World Cup, toppled El Salvador from the Group A lead in the final round of CONCACAF (North American) qualifying. It was Suriname's first victory over the Salvadorans since 1968. Go Beyond The

Boundary with our YouTube channel. SUBSCRIBE NOW! Afterwards head coach Stanley Menzo and captain Shaquille Pinas hit out at some home fans over racist chanting while their team celebrated their victory. "You have to ask why your fans are shouting to my players, 'negro'," Menzo said to reporters. Pinas suggested that the same thing happened in a previous World Cup qualifier, again in San Salvador, in June, but said that the team had chosen not to speak.