



Gandhi family wounded the Constitution: PM



Prime Minister Narendra Modi speaks in the Lok Sabha during the discussion on the 'glorious journey of 75 years of the India Constitution', in the ongoing Winter Session of Parliament

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE ■ NEW DELHI

Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Saturday said that the "Congress led by Gandhi family", having "tasted blood", repeatedly "wounded the Constitution", while his Government's policies and decisions since it took office in 2014, have been aimed at boosting India's strength and unity in line with the vision of the Constitution. In his 107-minute speech, outlining 11 'Sankalps' for 'Viksit Bharat', Modi accused the Gandhi family, from Nehru to Sonia Gandhi, of "doing everything

in their power to harm the Constitution". He said his Government "changed the Constitution for the betterment of dalits, women empowerment" and "removed Article 370 to unify the country". PM Modi emphasised that he was specifically targeting the family due to their prolonged rule, with its members in power for 55 years. Replying to a two-day debate in Lok Sabha on the 75th anniversary of the adoption of the Constitution, he took a swipe at the past Congress governments, accusing them of planting "poisonous seeds" in the country's diversity to

accentuate its contradictions and damage its unity. Training guns at the Nehru-Gandhi family of the Congress, he said they left no stone unturned to strike blows to the Constitution. "This family challenged the Constitution at every level," he said, adding that he was singling out the family as its members were in power for 55 years. The family, having "tasted blood", repeatedly wounded the Constitution, he said, citing several decisions of Jawaharlal Nehru, Indira Gandhi and Rajiv Gandhi when they held the office of Prime Minister.

"Their next generation is also into the same game," he said in a swipe at the Leader of Opposition in the House Rahul Gandhi and his MP sister Priyanka Gandhi Vadra. The PM said leaders like him, and many others who came from ordinary families could never have reached where they did but for the strength of the Constitution, as he underlined his long commitment to its values. As Chief Minister of Gujarat, PM Modi said that his government celebrated the 60th year of the Constitution's adoption by placing a copy of the document on an elephant while he walked underneath barefoot in a symbolic gesture to highlight its supremacy. Slamming the Nehru-Gandhi family, he said India's first PM Jawaharlal Nehru "amended the country's guiding document to curb freedom of expression and his daughter Indira Gandhi imposed Emergency to defy a Supreme Court judgment that annulled her election as an MP."

"She throttled India's democracy and mutilated the Constitution" when the 25th year of its adoption was approaching, to save her chair as PM," he said, adding that "she also effected an amendment to protect the President, Vice president and herself from any legal challenge to their position with a retrospective effect. The country was turned into jail and the judiciary was throttled". "Rajiv Gandhi, who took over as PM after his mother's assassination, also amended the Constitution. This blot on the Congress cannot be washed off", Modi asserted. Without naming Rahul Gandhi, the PM said an "arrogant" person tore the decision of the Cabinet when the Congress-led United Progressive Alliance (UPA) Government headed by the then PM Manmohan Singh was in power. The National Advisory Council (NAC), which was headed by Sonia Gandhi, was put "above" the Cabinet during the UPA rule, the PM added. While the makers of the Constitution took a considered decision to disallow reservation on the basis of religion and faith in the interest of the country's unity and integrity, the PM said that the Congress in its "greed for power" and to "appease its vote bank" pushed for it in violation of the constitutional spirit, he said. His government, Modi said, repealed Article 370 to "unify the country" and brought in GST to roll out "one nation one tax regime".

Savarkar always blamed Constitution: Rahul Gandhi

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE ■ NEW DELHI

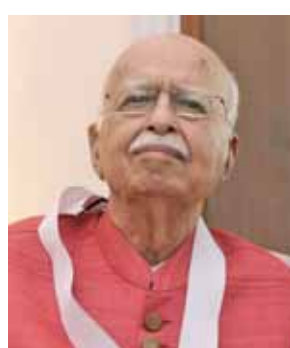
Leader of Opposition Rahul Gandhi on Saturday accused the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP), and the Rashtriya Swayamsevak Sangh (RSS) of being "supporters of Manusmriti" adding that "their supreme leader Savarkar always blamed the Indian Constitution". Participating in a debate in the Lok Sabha on the 75 years of the adoption of the Constitution, the Congress leader said that while talking of protecting the Constitution, the ruling party is "ridiculing" Savarkar. Drawing a parallel with the story of Eklavya who had to chop off his thumb as 'Guru Dakshina' to Dronacharya, Gandhi alleged that by creation of "monopolies" for the Adani Group in various sectors, bringing in the Agnipath scheme, firing teargas at protesting farmers, bringing in lateral entry and allowing paper leaks, the government was "chopping off" the thumb of the youth, tillers, backward class people and the poor. Gandhi said that he wants to tell every poor person that the Constitution protects them, but the BJP keeps attacking it 24x7. He also reiterated his promise made on the floor of the House last session that a caste census will be conducted and the 50 per cent cap on reservation will be done away with to usher in a "new type of development" in the country. "I want to start my speech by



Leader of Opposition in the Lok Sabha Rahul Gandhi speaks in the House during the Winter session of Parliament, in New Delhi, Saturday

quoting your supreme leader Savarkar and his ideas on the Constitution of India and how he thought India should be run. He says, 'The worst thing about the Constitution of India is that there is nothing Indian about it. Manusmriti is that scripture that is most worshippable after the Vedas, and which, from ancient times, had begun the basis of our culture, customs, thought, and practice. This book for centuries has codified the spiritual and divine march of our nation. Today, Manusmriti is law,' Gandhi said. "Savarkar has clearly stated in his writings that there is nothing Indian about the Constitution and that the book that India is run by that Constitution protects them, but the BJP keeps attacking it 24x7. He also reiterated his promise made on the floor of the House last session that a caste census will be conducted and the 50 per cent cap on reservation will be done away with to usher in a 'new type of development' in the country. "I want to start my speech by

ridiculing Savarkar, you are abusing Savarkar, you are defaming Savarkar," Gandhi said. Countering Rahul Gandhi's criticism of Savarkar, the BJP and its ally, Shiv Sena, reminded the Congress leader that his grandmother and former Prime Minister Indira Gandhi had hailed the Hindutva ideologue as a "remarkable son of India" and issued a postage stamp in his honour. Launching a scathing attack on the Congress, Shiv Sena MP Shrikant Shinde wondered whether Indira Gandhi was also anti-Constitution as she had praised Savarkar as a "remarkable son of India". He read out a letter written by Indira Gandhi to Pandit Bakhle of the Swatantryaveer Savarkar Rashtriya Smarak on the occasion of the freedom fighter's birth centenary celebrations. "Was your grandmother also anti-Constitution? You have the habit of speaking nonsense about Savarkarji.... But we revere Savarkarji, and we proud of him," Shinde said.



BJP patriarch LK Advani in ICU, condition stable says hospital

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE ■ NEW DELHI

Veteran Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) leader Lal Krishna Advani has been admitted in the ICU of Indraprastha Apollo Hospitals. "LK Advani ji, former Deputy Prime Minister of India, has been admitted to the ICU of Indraprastha Apollo Hospitals for medical management and investigations," the hospital said in a statement. "He is under the care of Dr Vinit Suri and is currently stable," it added. Suri is a senior consultant in the neurology department. The hospital, however, did not disclose any information on the reason for his hospitalisation. Persons associated with the 96-year-old were brought to the hospital about two days ago. He had been admitted to the same hospital earlier this year as well.

Police lob teargas, 17 injured, farmers suspend march to Delhi

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE ■ NEW DELHI

A group of farmers, who made a fresh attempt to march towards Delhi from Shambhu border point of Haryana on Saturday at around 12 pm, faced tear gas and water cannons launched again by the Haryana police. After that, they suspended their march to Delhi and announced a tractor march on December 16 and "rail roko" protest in Punjab on December 18. Farmer leader Sarwan Singh Pandher said, "On December 16, a tractor march will be organised outside Punjab, and on December 18th, we have called 'Rail Roko' in Punjab. We appeal to all Punjabis to participate in 'Rail Roko' in large numbers... The Opposition should not run away from their role by just giving a statement." Ahead of the 'Dilli Chalo' foot march, Pandher compared the ongoing farmers' protest to the Parliament's Constitution debate. The clash took place when a group of 101 farmers, who had resumed their march from the Shambhu protest site on the Punjab-Haryana border around noon, reached the barricades set up by Haryana police. A few farmers were injured during the tear



Security personnel use tear gas, water cannons to disperse farmers agitating at the Shambhu border

gas shelling and were taken to a nearby hospital by ambulances stationed at the site. Visuals from the Shambhu border showed police using tear gas to disperse the protesting farmers and stop them from marching towards the National Capital. Meanwhile, Congress leader Bajrang Punia visited the Shambhu border and expressed his dismay over the farmers not being allowed to march towards Delhi. Punia, a wrestler who joined the Congress ahead of the October 5 Haryana Assembly polls, also criticised teargas shelling and use of water cannons against the protesting farmers by the

Haryana security personnel. He also inquired about the health of the injured farmers at the civil hospital in Rajpura. Earlier in the day, Ambala Deputy Commissioner Parth Gupta and Superintendent of Police S S Bhoria tried to persuade the farmers to seek permission from Delhi authorities before continuing their march. However, the farmers stood firm on their decision to proceed, urging the security forces to let them pass. This is the third time the farmers have attempted to march towards Delhi. Previous attempts on December 6 and December 8 were also blocked by Haryana police.



CAQM revises plan to tackle winter pollution

STAFF REPORTER ■ NEW DELHI

The Commission for Air Quality Management (CAQM) on Delhi-NCR air quality has issued a revised plan to tackle winter pollution, asking states to implement stricter measures when the air quality deteriorates and making it mandatory for schools to shift to hybrid learning on days with severe air pollution. "The Chief Secretaries of Delhi and NCR shall frequently review the actions and implementation of the GRAP especially when the air quality falls or is likely to fall in the 'Severe' or 'Severe +' category (Stage III and beyond). The Commission may decide upon any exceptions and additional measures to the schedule of the GRAP, under different air pollution categories i.e., Stages I to IV, as per the prevalent AQI and weather

forecast," read the advisory. During the first stage, Discoms are advised to minimise power supply interruptions in NCR. According to CAQM, the total number of days with 'Good to Moderate' air quality in 2024 is 207 so far, which is the highest since 2018 (barring 2020, the COVID Year). The record highest number, six days with 'Moderate' AQI in 2024, as against only one day each in 2018, 2019 and 2020; '0' days in 2021 & 2023; and '2' in 2022. On the other hand, the number of days with 'Poor to Severe' AQI in December are also the lowest in the current year since 2018 i.e. only eight. A lowest avg AQI of 234 for the month of December (till 14th) has also been recorded in the current year 2024, since 2018, when the AQI has generally been in the range of '300-400' i.e. Very Poor," it said.

The battle for, and of, New Delhi

RAJESH KUMAR ■ NEW DELHI

The prestigious New Delhi Assembly seat is likely to witness a fierce electoral contest with incumbent legislator, and Aam Aadmi Party (AAP) supremo, Arvind Kejriwal pitted against the sons of former Chief Ministers of Delhi, who have been fielded by the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) and Congress as their star candidates. The Congress party has fielded two-time former Member of Parliament (MP) and former Chief Minister (CM) Sheila Dikshit's son Sandeep Dikshit. Meanwhile, BJP senior leader and former MP, Parvesh Sahib Singh Verma, the son of former Delhi CM Sahib Singh Verma, on Saturday also claimed that he has been "asked to prepare for contesting from the New Delhi constituency". If this candidature materialises, the election will pit two scions of politician families against Kejriwal, making it a triangular battle of high-profile leaders. While the AAP and Congress have announced some candidates, BJP is still figuring out their list. The AAP has so far declared two lists with 31 names. According to poll experts, this election is more than just a political contest for Sandeep Dikshit, it is a chance for him to reclaim his family's legacy and 'settle old scores' in the New Delhi seat. Sources in the



Congress said a team which worked with Sheila Dikshit is still active in New Delhi which may help him to counter Kejriwal's narratives. Even in 2020, when it drew a blank in the Assembly polls for the second time in a row, the Congress had banked on the late Congress stalwart to revive its fortunes in what was once its citadel. The party's campaign song in 2020 had a line, "Ek Dilli thi vo jo Sheila ne khud se sawari tha. Fir se Congress wali Dilli...". Some insiders say in the past 10, the Congress is out of power in Delhi and their leaders and workers have lost their connectivity with the people. Currently, the Congress has no face that connects with people. The New Delhi constituency is one of the smallest, numerically speaking, of the total 70 Assembly seats and is dominated by the government employees as voters. On the other hand, AAP convener has an advantage as he has a connection with people. Speaking at an event earlier on Friday, Kejriwal rejected the rumours that he

was going to shift from the New Delhi seat to some other constituency in the Assembly elections which are due in February next year. "There will be no change. I will contest from the New Delhi seat and Chief Minister Atishi from Kalkaji," he said when asked about the possibility of changing seats by them. Verma, a former West Delhi Lok Sabha MP, said, "My party has asked me to prepare for this seat." The list of BJP candidates is yet to come out, he added. The AAP supremo shot to fame in the political arena of the country by defeating then chief minister Sheila Dikshit from the New Delhi constituency in the 2013 Assembly polls by a margin of over 25,000 votes. He won the seat again in 2015 defeating BJP's Nupur Sharma by over 31,000 votes. In 2020, the last Assembly election, Kejriwal defeated BJP's Sunil Yadav by over 21,000 votes. Congress candidate Ramesh Sabharwal got just 3,220 votes in the New Delhi seat in the 2020 Assembly elections.

Ayodhya Ram Temple is UP's most visited destination of the year

BISWAJEET BANERJEE/KAMLESH SRIVASTAVA ■ LUCKNOW

Uttar Pradesh has experienced a tourism surge, breaking records with an impressive 47.61 crore tourists visiting the state between January and September 2024. Ayodhya, home to the under-construction Shri Ram Temple, has emerged as the state's most visited destination, surpassing even the iconic Taj Mahal in Agra. According to the Uttar Pradesh Tourism Department, Ayodhya alone welcomed 13.55 crore domestic tourists and 3,153 international visitors during this period. The upcoming inauguration of the Ram Temple has played a pivotal role in drawing unprecedented crowds.

"The rise in Ayodhya's tourism is nothing short of phenomenal," said Rajesh Tiwari, a Lucknow-based travel agent. "We have seen a 70% increase in bookings for Ayodhya tours compared to last year. Devotees and cultural enthusiasts from across the country want to be part of this historic transformation." While the Taj Mahal remains a global icon, its tourist numbers have seen a slight decline in domestic visitors, though international arrivals rose from 26,84,825 in 2022-23 to 27,70,340 in 2023-24. The overall domestic tourist count to the Taj Mahal decreased by 1,93,298 compared to the previous year. "The Taj Mahal is still an essential stop for international tourists," remarked Suresh Gupta,

a tour operator from Agra. "However, domestic travelers now prefer spiritual and culturally significant sites like Ayodhya and Varanasi. People are looking for meaningful travel experiences that connect them to their heritage." Tourism Minister Jaiveer Singh highlighted the state's broader tourism success. "The tourism surge is not limited to Ayodhya," he stated. "Varanasi attracted 6.2 crore domestic tourists and 1.84 lakh foreign visitors. Prayagraj drew 4.80 crore tourists, including 4,790 foreigners. Mathura, the birthplace of Lord Krishna, saw 6.8 crore visitors, including 87,229 international tourists. Even Mirzapur recorded 1.18 crore visitors." The state's Buddhist circuit hub,



File photo: PTI

Kushinagar, also saw substantial growth, welcoming 16.2 lakh visitors, including 1.53 lakh international tourists. Agra, despite competition from Ayodhya, received 1.25 crore tourists, including 9.24 lakh foreigners. Tour operators remain optimistic. "We expect even higher numbers with the upcoming Pran Pratishtha ceremony at the Ram Temple," said Poonam Verma, a tourism consultant from Delhi. "Religious tourism has become a defining factor in Uttar Pradesh's tourism industry. Events like the Kumbh Mela, along with better infrastructure and connectivity, have boosted travel significantly." Industry experts believe that consistent marketing and improved facilities have helped

Uttar Pradesh build a strong global tourism presence. "The government's focus on religious tourism is commendable," noted Amit Sharma, a hospitality consultant. "We now see better hotels, guided tours, and easier transport options, making the state an attractive destination for all types of travelers." Other destinations like Siddharthnagar (86,215 visitors), Lakhimpur Kheri (46.5 lakh), Pilibhit (30.6 lakh), Bijnor (34.4 lakh), and Sonbhadra (19.4 lakh) also contributed to the state's growing tourism footprint. With the Ram Temple nearing completion and major religious events on the horizon, Uttar Pradesh is poised to strengthen its position as India's top cultural and religious tourism hub.



Provisional notification on reservation in positions of ULB heads released

PNS ■ DEHRADUN

The State administration released the provisional notification for reservation of positions of mayors of municipal corporations and heads of municipal councils and Nagar Panchayats on Saturday. Out of the 11 municipal corporations in Uttarakhand, the mayoral positions in six are proposed to be reserved for various categories, according to the provisional notification.

As per the notification, among the mayoral positions in municipal corporations, the posts in Municipal Corporation of Dehradun, Municipal Corporation of Kotdwar, Municipal Corporation of Srinagar, Municipal Corporation of Rudrapur and Municipal Corporation of Kashipur has been kept unreserved. The mayoral position in Municipal Corporation of Rishikesh has been reserved for Scheduled Caste, while it has been reserved for Other Backward Class (Woman) in the Municipal Corporation of Haridwar. The position has been reserved for a woman candidate in the Municipal Corporation of Roorkee and for an OBC candidate in the Municipal Corporation of Haldwani. The mayoral positions have been reserved for women in the Municipal Corporation of Pithoragarh and the Municipal Corporation of Almora.

When it comes to the 43 municipal councils, the provisional notification proposes reservation of the chairperson's posts for Scheduled Tribe in Vikasna-



gar, for SC in Laksar, Chinyalisaud, Karnprayag (Woman), Bageshwar, Nainital and Kaladhungi (Woman). Similarly, the positions have been reserved for OBC in Mussoorie (Woman), Herbertpur, Manglaur, Badkot, Chamba (Woman), Tanakpur, Bhimtal (Woman), Jaspur, Bazpur, Mahukhedaganj and Nagla (Woman). The position in Doiwala, Shivaliknagar, Gopeshwar, Gopeshwar, Tehri, Munikireti-Dhalwala, Rudraprayag, Dugadda, Dharchula, Didihat, Gangolihat, Lohaghat, Ranikhet-Chiniyanaula, Ramnagar is unreserved while in Khatima it is general.

Among the Nagar Panchayats, the position is reserved for OBC candidates in Selaqui, Landhaura, Imlikheda, Padli Gujjar, Rampur, Sultanpur-Adampur, Tapovan (Woman), Tilwada

(Woman), Chaukhtiya (Woman), Lalkun (Woman), Mahuadabra, Sultanpur Patti, Kelakheda, Shaktigarh (Woman), Nanakmatia and Gularbhoj (Woman). The positions have been reserved for women in Lalpur, Dwara-hat, Thalising, Swargashram, Ukhimath, Nandanagar, Pipalkoti and Nauangaon. The positions are unreserved in Jhabreda, Bhagwanpur, Piran Kaliyar, Nandprayag, Gairsain, Tharali, Kirtinagar, Ghansali, Gaja, Lambgaon, Chamiyala, Agastyamuni, Satpuli, Kapkot and Dineshpur. The positions have been reserved for ST candidates in Munsyari, for SC candidates in Garud, Ban-basa, Guptkashi (Woman) and Dhandera.

Any suggestions or objections regarding the proposed reservation must be submitted to the authorities within seven days.

Experts pitch for evidence based Ayurved at 10th WAC in Doon

PNS ■ DEHRADUN

The Ayurved practitioners attending the 10th World Ayurved Congress (WAC) are of the view that the evidence-base of Ayurved should be strengthened. A panel dis-

cussion on evidence based Ayurveda was organised on the third day of the WAC being held at Parade Ground here on Saturday.



In the deliberations the panellists identified misperception as a major hurdle to the wider acceptance of the traditional Indian medicine system, especially abroad.

The Ayurved practitioners stressed on conducting clinical trials on new medicines and treatments and sharing the results with all stakeholders by publishing them in industry and international journals and por-

outcomes and for an understanding of the concepts. "What is evidence-based is driven by logic," he said.

Sanjeev Rastogi, from the University of Lucknow said that in an evidence-based system, it is important for stakeholders to agree on what evidence is and how it is relevant to Ayurved. He said that Ayurved practice is driven by the evidence recorded in classical texts and the evidence personally gleaned by the practitioner in clinical practice.

The vice chancellor of the Kerala University of Health

Sciences, Manmohan Kunnummel pointed out that evidence can change over time. Citing the example of the X-ray, he said it was initially used widely to look at internal organs to diagnose

the disease. With the evidence now suggesting that X-rays can cause cancer, it is now used only sparingly. He said Ayurved was not based on belief but on practice over the years. He urged practitioners to develop the habit of documenting case studies. "If you don't document it, it does not exist," he said.

Director of research and development, Himalaya Wellness Company, Babu UV highlighted some of the challenges in the evidence-based way from the industry perspective.

Congress to hold protest march on Dec 18 on BJP-Adani nexus

PNS ■ DEHRADUN

The Uttarakhand Congress will hold a march on the Rajbhawan on December 18 to register its protest on the alleged nexus between BJP and industrialist Gautam Adani accused of fraud by the American Justice department. The protest march is the part of the call given by the central leadership of Congress party to hold countrywide protests on the issue.

The vice president of Uttarakhand Congress Mathuradutt Joshi said that the march will start at 10:30 AM on December 18 from the headquarters of the State Congress. He said that the allegations leveled by the Justice

department of USA has exposed the fraud committed by the Adani group of companies and has substantiated the charges leveled by the Congress party about the nexus between ruling BJP and Adani. The allegations on Adani have highlighted a pattern of bribery, money laundering and fraud in the markets which has defamed the image of Indian trade and finances, he said.

The Congress leader said that the scam is a major cause of concern for the corporate governance and regulatory mechanism of India. The loss of faith among Indian and international investors is a cause of major concern, he said.

Joshi expressed apprehension that the Adani incident can trigger migration of capital which can hinder economic development, employment generation and overall development of the country. He said that denial of parliamentary debate on the issue shows that the ruling party is trying to evade its responsibilities.

He also questioned the failure of Prime Minister Narendra Modi to visit the violence affected Manipur and said that the Union government and the State government have failed to handle the situation in Manipur. Joshi informed that the Pradesh Congress Committee (PCC) president Karan Mahara will lead the march and it would be attended by all the senior leaders, MLAs, former MLAs, members of AICC and PCC and workers of the Congress party.



Dry weather to prevail as temperatures remain low in State

PNS ■ DEHRADUN

The weather in the State is likely to remain dry on Sunday though temperatures in most parts of the State have remained low. The minimum temperature in Dehradun was below five degrees Celsius on Saturday. The State Meteorological Centre has forecast that dry weather is likely to prevail in the State today. The provisional State capital Dehradun is forecast to witness a mainly clear sky with mist likely to occur during the morning hours. The maximum and minimum temperatures are likely to be about 25 degrees Celsius and five degrees Celsius respectively in Dehradun today.

The maximum and minimum temperatures recorded on Saturday were 24.6 degrees Celsius and 4.8 degrees Celsius respectively in Dehradun, 21.7 degrees Celsius and 2.4



degrees Celsius in Pantnagar, 19.4 degrees Celsius and 4.7 degrees Celsius in Mukteshwar and 19.1 degrees Celsius and five degrees Celsius in New Tehri. The maximum temperature was three degrees Celsius above normal while the minimum temperature was degrees Celsius below normal in Dehradun. The maximum temperature was a degree below normal while

the minimum was four degrees below normal in Pantnagar. Similarly, the maximum temperature was five degrees above normal while the minimum was a degree above normal in Mukteshwar. The maximum was two degrees above normal while the minimum was a degree above normal in New Tehri.

10 EV charging stations to be established in Dehradun

PNS ■ DEHRADUN

To promote an environmentally friendly city, Dehradun district magistrate Savin Bansal has decided to establish 10 Electric Vehicle (EV) charging stations in the provisional State capital Dehradun. Informing about this, the officials from the district administration have shared that this initiative is innovative project under-

taken by the DM.

The 10 charging stations, which are being installed, include two locations where work has already been completed—one in front of Gandhi Park and another in front of Parade Ground. These facilities will soon be inaugurated for public use by chief minister Pushkar Singh



This pioneering initiative is expected to foster the development of Dehradun as a healthy city and serve as a foundational element in environmental stewardship. Additionally, it will inspire the community to engage more in environmental protection efforts. As the availability of EV infrastructure in the city increases, it is anticipated that public interest in electric vehicles will also rise, leading to a substantial reduction in both noise and air pollution, the officials added.

Indian Army gets 456 new officers after PoP at IMA

PNS ■ DEHRADUN

The ranks of the Indian Army got strengthened on Saturday as 456 young men joined its ranks as officers. After the passing out parade (PoP) these young officers passed out from the historic portals of Indian Military Academy (IMA). The passing out contingent belonged to 155 Regular Course, 44 Technical Entry Scheme and 138 Technical Graduate Course of IMA.

Apart from them the passing out contingent included 35 Gentleman

Hence trust that you will progress, by the merit of your actions, rather than your credential. You are the future of the great forces represented here and the warriors of tomorrow."

The chief guest presented the prestigious sword of honour to Jatin Kumar while the Gold medal for standing first in order of merit was conferred on Pratham Singh.

The Silver medal for standing second in overall merit in regular course

first in overall merit while Mahipal Singh was given Silver medal for standing first in overall merit in Technical Entry Scheme. Prabhin Pandey (Nepal) was presented with the Bangladesh medal for being the best Foreign Gentlemen Cadet (FGC) of the POC. The Chief of Army Staff banner was handed over to the Jessoro Company for standing first among 12 companies of the academy in the autumn term - 2024.

After reviewing the Parade, the RO

ceremonial Antim Pag (last step) it marked the metamorphosis of GCs into an officer of the Indian Army from a cadet of academy. After the PoP, the GCs headed to the Somnath stadium for a piping ceremony where proud parents put epaulets of officers on the shoulders of young officers.

The chief guest exhorted the passing out contingent to dedicate themselves to the service of the nation. He said, "You are just a step away from



Cadets from 13 friendly foreign countries.

A marker's call made from the top of the historic Chetwode Hall marked the commencement of the parade. The parade marched in harmony to the tunes of 'Kadam Kadam Badhaye Ja' and 'Sare Jahan Se Achha'. The synergy and enthusiasm of the cadets during the parade was applauded by the audience which consisted of military officers and family members of the newly commissioned officers. It is pertinent to mention here that the parade on Saturday was 155th PoP of IMA and more than 200 cadets from Nepal have passed out from here so far.

The chief of the Army Staff, Nepal, Suprabal Janseshree General Ashok Raj Sigdel was the chief guest and Reviewing Officer (RO) of the PoP. A ceremonial guard of honour was presented by the parade to him.

In his address, the RO thanked the Chief of Army Staff, Indian Army, General Upendra Dwivedi and the Government of India for this distinct honour. As the honorary General of the Indian Army, he expressed that the opportunity to review PoP was particularly meaningful for him.

General Sigdel mentioned that 37 years ago, he too had experienced a similar feeling of elation and satisfaction. Quoting Chanakya he said, "Your karma will decide your future.



was handed over to Jatin Kumar while Bronze medal for GC standing third in order of merit from the regular course was presented to Mayank Dhyani. In the Technical Graduate Course, Chirag Yadav was presented with the Silver medal for standing



offered floral tributes to the brave alumni of IMA in the wreath laying ceremony held at the War Memorial of the academy.

When the marching contingent entered the Chetwode building for the

the historic and magnificent moment of your commissioning into the most elite forces." After this ceremony the young officers took oath to serve the nation. These newly commissioned young Lieutenants will now join their respective units all across the country.

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It is hereby informed to General public that we are going to conduct public E-Auction through website <https://chola-lap.procure247.com>

Account No. and Name of Borrower, Co-Borrower, Mortgagees	Date & Amount as per Demand Notice U/s 13(2)	Descriptions of the Property/Properties	Reserve Price, Earnest Money Deposit & Bid Increment Amount (in Rs.)	E-Auction Date & Time, EMD Submission Last Date, Inspection Date
Loan No. X0HEDDN0001676948 Borrower & Co-Borrowers:- 1. Mr. SANDEEP AGGARWAL S/O Mr. BRAHAM NAND, 2. Mrs. POONAM AGGARWAL W/O Mr. SANDEEP AGGARWAL, R/O- House No. 94/91, Khurbura Mohalla, Block - 4, Dehradun 248001 3. Mr. SANDEEP AGGARWAL S/O Mr. BRAHAM NAND Also At: 65 Jhanda Modi, Prithvi Mandir Campus, Dehradun-248001 (Uttarakhand), Also At: R/O Sarthak Engraving Opposite Sadhu Ram Inter College Road, Dehradun (UK) Also At: R/O Moti Bazar, Hardik Cosmetic Laxmi Plaza, Dehradun-248001 (Uttarakhand)	24-07-2023, Rs. 20,54,641/- As On 19/07/2023 With Further Interest And Charges Thereon.	Property Bearing Municipal No. 94/91 Old No. (494/3) Measuring 68.61 Sq.Metres With Covered Area 93.60 Sq. Yds. Situated At Khurbura Mohalla, Block-4, Dehradun	Rs. 14,40,000/- Rs. 1,44,000/- Rs. 50,000/-	07-01-2025 11:00 A.M. to 1:00 P.M. 06-01-2025 10:00 A.M. to 5:00 P.M. As Per Appointment

THIS IS ALSO A STATUTORY 15 DAYS SALE NOTICE UNDER RULE 9(1) OF SECURITY INTEREST (ENFORCEMENT) RULES, 2002

1. All interested participants / bidders are requested to visit the website <https://chola-lap.procure247.com/> & <https://www.cholamandalam.com/news/auktion-notices>.
2. For details, help, procedure and online training on e-auction, prospective bidders may contact Mr. Muhammed Rahees - 812400030 / 6374845616, Email id: CholaAuctionLAP@chola.murugappa.com. For eAuction training alone, contact M/s. Procure247; Vasu Patel - 9510974587
3. For further details on terms and conditions please visit <https://chola-lap.procure247.com/> & <https://cholamandalam.com/news/auktion-notices> to take part in e-auction.
Date: 15-12-2024, Place: Dehradun (U.K.)
M/S Cholamandalam Investment and Finance Company Limited



राष्ट्रीय खेल
उत्तराखंड 25
स्वतंत्र जयंती वर्ष

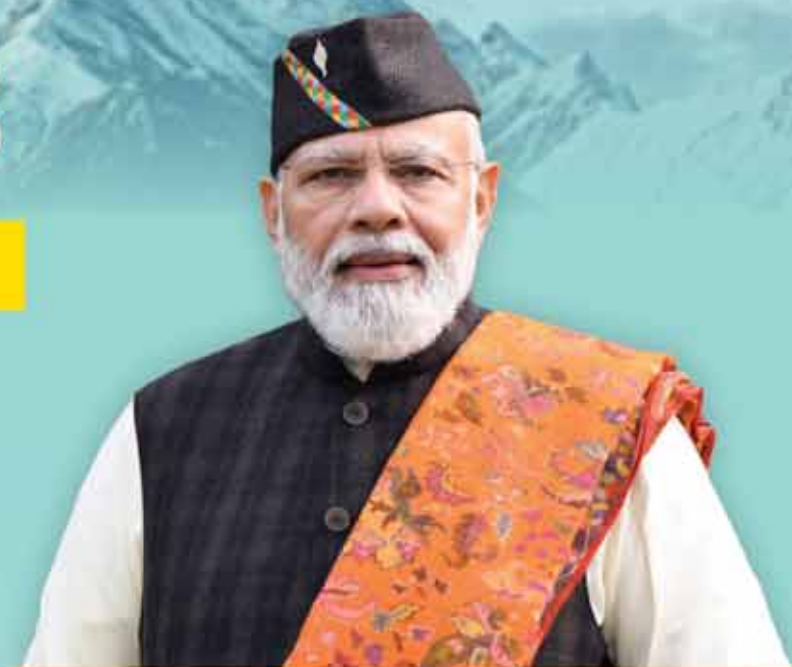
38th National Games

28 Jan - 14 Feb 2025



Under the visionary leadership of Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi, Uttarakhand is steadily advancing on the path of progress. It is a matter of pride for the state that we have been entrusted with hosting the 38th National Games. The sacred land of Devbhoomi will now also emerge as a hub of sports excellence. Just as Uttarakhand successfully hosted the G20 Summit, the National Games too will be an event of historical significance.

Pushkar Singh Dhama
Chief Minister, Uttarakhand



There are two main pillars for the creation of a developed India in the 21st century – pride in our heritage and making every possible effort for development. Today, Uttarakhand is strengthening both these pillars. This decade will be the decade of Uttarakhand.

Narendra Modi
Prime Minister

LAUNCH CEREMONY

OF

LOGO, ANTHEM, MASCOT, TORCH & JERSEY

on 15th December, 2024 (Sunday) | 05:00 PM onwards
VENUE : Himadri (Ice Rink), Maharana Pratap Sports College,
Raipur, Dehradun, Uttarakhand

CHIEF GUEST

PUSHKAR SINGH DHAMI

Chief Minister of Uttarakhand

RAKSHA NIKHIL KHADSE

Minister of State for Youth Affairs & Sports
Government of India

In the August Presence of

REKHA ARYA

Minister of Sports & Youth Welfare
Govt. of Uttarakhand

Dr. P.T. USHA

President
Indian Olympic Association

UMESH SHARMA 'KAU'

MLA, Raipur



IN BRIEF

Number of winter Char Dham pilgrims rising: BKTC

DEHRADUN: The Badrinath-Kedarnath Temple Committee (BKTC) informed that the winter Char Dham Yatra launched by the chief minister Pushkar Singh Dhami at Ukhimath on December 8 has been gaining momentum and since its launch, about three thousand pilgrims have embarked on the pilgrimage. The CEO, BKTC Vijay Prasad Thapliyal appealed to the people to come on the winter pilgrimage in large numbers and pay obeisance to Lord Kedarnath and Lord Badrivishal at their winter abodes in Ukhimath and Joshimath respectively. Pilgrims are also visiting the winter abode of Lord Tungnath at Makkumath.

Maharaj unveils Buransh-inspired pastry and tea-coffee lounge at Hyatt Centric

DEHRADUN: The Tourism and Culture minister Satpal Maharaj unveiled a pastry and tea-coffee lounge dedicated to the food and beverages made from Buransh at Hyatt Centric here on Saturday. Hailing the Hyatt Centric's initiative, he said



that this first of its kind lounge would take forward the culinary heritage of Uttarakhand. "It is very commendable to include dishes like Buransh Pastry, Jaunsar Pastry, Sikde Cookies and Buransh Kahwa in the menu of Buransh," he said, adding that the lounge is a celebration of the vibrant culture and traditions of Uttarakhand. Among the dignitaries present was the Hyatt Centric Dehradun general manager Ajit Singh Gandhi.

Rishikesh Yoga Festival commences at Parmarth Niketan

RISHIKESH: The four-day Rishikesh Yoga Festival commenced at Parmarth Niketan Ashram coinciding with the birth anniversary of the revered figure in the world of yoga BKS Iyengar. The ashram head Swami Chidanand Saraswati offered homage to Iyengar. The festival precedes the upcoming



Mahakumbh in Prayagraj where Parmarth Niketan will have a significant presence. Rishikesh Yoga Festival set the stage for the six-day International Yoga Festival starting from March 9 at Parmarth Niketan. The Rishikesh Yoga Festival celebrates the contributions of local teachers and their pivotal role in preserving and propagating the culture of yoga throughout the year. The festival will conclude on December 16.

67 students to receive medals at KU convocation

NAINITAL: Preparations for the 19th convocation of Kumaun University, slated on December 16, are now in the final stage. Governor Lt Gen (Retd) Gurmeet Singh who is also the chancellor of the university along with the chief minister Pushkar Singh Dhami and the higher Education minister Dhan Singh Rawat will be present. The university administration has released the list of 67 students who will receive medals during the convocation ceremony from the chancellor. These include Meenakshi Dhela in Painting, Bhumika in Economics, Purnima Rana in Education, Darshit Shah in English, Riya Pant in Geography, Neha in Hindi and Gaurav Khulbe in History among others.

Nainital Bank adopts latest fund transfer technologies

NAINITAL: Nainital Bank has adopted the latest technology and state-of-the-art standards to provide its customers the facility of secure RTGS (Real Time Gross Settlement) and NEFT (National Electronic Fund Transfer) and Net Banking. Informing this, the managing director of the bank, Nikhil Mohan said that RTGS, NEFT and net banking system have been updated as per RBI and IFTAS guidelines. Earlier, he launched these latest technological services through virtual medium on Friday. He further said that with the adoption of this latest technology, customers would get fast, secure and seamless banking regarding the transfer of funds. This facility is secured by advanced encryption techniques and will be available round the clock. It has been updated on a user-friendly interface and technologically advanced platform

KU professor nominated for Centre's research

NAINITAL: Senior professor of the department of Biotechnology at the Bhitmal campus of Kumaun University Veena Pandey has been nominated as a member of the selection committee in the Research Associate Programme run by the Department of Biotechnology, Government of India. Projects are allotted after the committee evaluates projects related to Biotechnology. For the projects of selected researchers, the researcher is paid a remuneration of Rs 58,000 in the first phase and Rs 61,000 in the second phase by the Government of India. Apart from this, the researcher is also given housing allowance and a contingency allowance of Rs 50,000 per year. Happy with this selection, the vice-chancellor Prof Diwan Singh Rawat along with others congratulated her.

Jewellers concerned over sales affected by price rise this wedding season

PNS ■ DEHRADUN

Many jewellery shop owners in Dehradun have expressed their concerns regarding the decline in customer purchases due to the rising costs of gold and silver jewellery during the current wedding season. It is evident that the prices of gold have increased over the past three to four months, impacting the budgets of families celebrating weddings. In light of this situation, jewellery shop owners in Dehradun have observed a shift among consumers from purchasing heavier jewellery to opting for lighter pieces during this wedding season.



wedding season.

He indicated that the recent increase in the price of gold, which is currently at Rs 70,500 for 24-carat gold, has altered customer purchase quantities compared to last year. During this year's wedding season, individuals were opting for Italian gold, known for its stylish design and lightweight nature, to

manage the higher costs. He emphasised that the demand for heavy jewellery has decreased this season, resulting in a greater focus on purchasing lightweight gold from the wholesale market.

Further, another jewellery shop owner, Raja Dixit noted that the surge in gold prices has significantly impacted purchasing quantities.

1,314 nursing officers to be appointed in government medical colleges soon: Rawat

PNS ■ DEHRADUN

Appointments will be made in the near future to the 1,314 vacant posts of nursing officers in the government medical colleges under the Medical Education department and the Cancer Research Institute in Haldwani. The Medical Health and Medical Education minister Dhan Singh Rawat informed that the State Medical Service Selection Board has conducted the exam, released the result and the list of 1,314 candidates against the total 1,455 vacant posts of nursing officers. The minister informed that since eligible candidates could not be found for 107 reserved posts, these have been carried forward while appointments will be made to 34 posts accord-



will also get better treatment following the appointment of the nursing officers, the minister added.

It is pertinent to mention here that the State government has been taking various steps including the appointment of doc-

tors, nursing officers and other personnel in government hospitals and medical colleges. In addition to this, the government has also been focusing on further improving the infrastructure and facilities in the government medical facilities in order to improve the medical treatment facilities available to the citizens in various parts of the State.

DCF holds public awareness meet on safe driving

PNS ■ DEHRADUN

The Dehradun Citizens Forum (DCF) organised a public awareness meet on safe driving on Saturday to address pressing issues and promote a collective sense of responsibility among citizens. The event took place near a mall on Rajpur Road and brought together concerned citizens, social activists and community leaders to discuss the urgent need for safer driving. During the meet, participants shared personal stories that highlighted the tragic impact of road accidents on families and communities. The central theme of the event was the idea that road safety is not only an individual duty but an obligation shared among society members. The discussions during the meet focused on the importance of adhering to traffic rules, avoiding reckless driving and the consequences of drunk driving. Additionally, those attending the event emphasised the need for the community, especially the youth, to take ownership in spreading awareness about safe driving practices. Several speakers urged the younger generation to take the lead in promoting responsible behaviour on the roads, pointing out that they play a crucial role in shaping the future of road safety in Dehradun and beyond. The event also included the distribution of posters and stickers encouraging citizens to celebrate responsibly and incorporate safe driving into their daily routines. These posters will be displayed at prominent locations across the city, with the hope that they will spark a wider conversation about road safety. Further, the forum encouraged the public to spread the message among their families, friends and social networks, making sure that the call for safer streets reaches every area of the city.

THDCIL and REC sign MoU to develop high-performance Water Sports Academy at Koteswar

PNS ■ DEHRADUN

In a significant step towards transforming the landscape of sports development in India, THDC India Limited and REC Limited signed a memorandum of understanding for financial collaboration of Rs four crore to develop an Olympic-size pool at Koteswar High-Performance Water Sports Academy in Uttarakhand. THDCIL chairman and managing director RK Vishnoi said, "Through our CSR activities we are equally focused on contribution to the overall socio-economic development of the nation. The establishment of an Olympic-size pool at the Koteswar High-Performance Water Sports Academy is the example of our dedication to nurturing athletic talent and promoting excellence in water sports." THDCIL director (Personnel) Shallinder Singh stated, "This collaboration with REC is another step towards setting new benchmarks in Corporate Social Responsibility and community engagement. The Olympic-size pool aims to create world-class sports infrastructure that will not only cater to national talent but also prepare athletes for international-level competitions, CSR activities in sports play a key role in building infrastructure, improving training and helping develop skills, which can boost community well-being and support athletes." Officials said that the development of this state-of-the-art facility will not only strengthen the capabilities of the Koteswar High-Performance Water Sports Academy but also position it as a hub for nurturing athletes in water sports.

Acharyakulam students felicitated for Shastra Smaran

PNS ■ HARIDWAR:

The students of the residential educational institute Acharyakulam in Haridwar were felicitated by the Patanjali Shastra

Ramdev said that Acharyakulam is the only institute in the country to have such students.



Smaran Samiti on Saturday for their remarkable performance at the Shastra Smaran competition held on December 5 and 6. The competition involved a slew of revered Shastras, including Gita, Ken Upanishad, Mandukya Upanishad and Yoga Darshan. In the competition on Gita, six participants clinched the first spot and the rest the second spot while one of them secured 10 out of 10 marks. Those who stood first and those who stood second were awarded Rs 5,000 and Rs 3,500 respectively.

Among those who congratulated the students on their feats were the vice-chancellor of Acharyakulam Ritambhara Shastri and the principal Swati Munshi.

Lauding the deep interest being shown by the students in the religious scriptures, Yoga Guru Swami

AXIS TRUSTEE
Registered Office: Axis Trustee Services Ltd., Axis House, Bombay Dyeing Mills Compound, Pandhurang Budhkar Marg, Worli, Mumbai - 400025.
Tel. No: 022-62300407/08 • Website: www.axistrustee.com, Corporate Identity Number (CIN): U74999MH2008PLC162284

PUBLIC NOTICE FOR SALE OF PROPERTIES ("SECURED ASSETS") MORTGAGE FOR FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE AVAILIED BY ELDER PHARMACEUTICALS LIMITED
Online offers are invited for e-auction sale of the following Secured Assets of Elder Pharmaceuticals Limited, as specifically set out hereunder in respect of the financial assistance availed by Elder Pharmaceuticals Limited ("the Borrower") on "as is where is basis", "as is what is basis", "whatever there is basis" and "no recourse basis" under the provisions of the Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 (the Act) read with the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002, the possession of which is with the Authorised Officer (AO) of Axis Trustee Services Ltd. (hereinafter referred to as "ATSL / Secured Creditor").

Lot No.	Property Description	Bid Increment Value	Reserve Price (R.P.) & Earnest Money Deposit (EMD)
1	All that piece and parcel of leasehold land admeasuring 7200 square metres or thereabouts and situate at Plot No 103, Paonta Sahib Industrial Area, village Gondpur, Tehsil Paonta Shib, District Sirmour, Near Dehradun, Himachal Pradesh and Plant & Machinery situated at Plot No 103, Paonta Sahib Industrial Area, village Gondpur, Tehsil Paonta Shib, District Sirmour, Near Dehradun, Himachal Pradesh.	Rs. 5 Lakh	R.P.- Rs. 5.97 Crores & EMD- Rs. 0.597 Crore
2	All that piece and parcel of leasehold land admeasuring 41,835 sq. mtr. situated at Village Charba, Pargana Pachwa Doon, Tehsil Vikasnagar, District Dehradun, Uttarakhand.	Rs. 20 Lakh	R.P.- Rs. 29.19 Crores & EMD- Rs. 2.919 Crore
3A	Entire Basement Unit Bearing No. BS-1 admeasuring 2800 sq. ft., Building known as "JAY MAHAVIR CENTRE" (ELDER HOUSE) constructed on a piece or parcel of land bearing Plot No. C-9 forming part of Survey No.41 and bearing C.T.S. No. B74 situate, lying and being at Village Oshiwara, in the Dalia Industrial Estate, Off. Veera Desai Road, Andheri (West), Mumbai - 400053.	Rs. 5 Lakh	R.P.- Rs. 4.70 Crores & EMD- Rs. 0.470 Crore
3B	Unit bearing No. G-1 admeasuring 5620 sq. ft., on the Ground Floor, 3 store room 215 sq. ft., Building known as "JAY MAHAVIR CENTRE" (ELDER HOUSE) constructed on a piece or parcel of land bearing Plot No. C-9 forming part of Survey No.41 and bearing C.T.S. No. b74 situate, lying and being at Village Oshiwara, in the Dalia Industrial Estate, Off. Veera Desai Road, Andheri (West), Mumbai - 400053.	Rs. 5 Lakh	R.P.- Rs. 9.79 Crores & EMD- Rs. 0.979 Crores
3C	Unit No. F-1 admeasuring 6920 sq. ft., on the First Floor, Unit No. 104 admeasuring 650 sq. ft., First Floor, Building known as "JAY MAHAVIR CENTRE" (ELDER HOUSE) constructed on a piece or parcel of land bearing Plot No. C-9 forming part of Survey No.41 and bearing C.T.S. No. b74 situate, lying and being at Village Oshiwara, in the Dalia Industrial Estate, Off. Veera Desai Road, Andheri (West), Mumbai - 400053.	Rs. 5 Lakh	R.P.- Rs. 12.68 Crores & EMD- Rs. 1.268 Crores
3D	Unit No. S-1 admeasuring 6720 sq. ft., on the Second Floor, Building known as "JAY MAHAVIR CENTRE" (ELDER HOUSE) constructed on a piece or parcel of land bearing Plot No. C-9 forming part of Survey No.41 and bearing C.T.S. No. b74 situate, lying and being at Village Oshiwara, in the Dalia Industrial Estate, Off. Veera Desai Road, Andheri (West), Mumbai - 400053.	Rs. 5 Lakh	R.P.- Rs. 12.41 Crores & EMD- Rs. 1.241 Crores
3E	Entire Third Floor, Building known as "JAY MAHAVIR CENTRE" (ELDER HOUSE) constructed on a piece or parcel of land bearing Plot No. C-9 forming part of Survey No.41 and bearing C.T.S. No. b74 situate, lying and being at Village Oshiwara, in the Dalia Industrial Estate, Off. Veera Desai Road, Andheri (West), Mumbai - 400053.	Rs. 5 Lakh	R.P.- Rs. 10.74 Crores & EMD- Rs. 1.074 Crores
4	Entire Basement Unit Bearing No. BS-1, (Admeasuring 2800 sq. ft.) and Unit bearing No. G-1 admeasuring 5620 sq. ft., on the Ground Floor, 3 store room 215 sq. ft., and Unit No. F-1 admeasuring 6920 sq. ft., on the First Floor, Unit No. 104 admeasuring 650 sq. ft., First Floor and Unit No. S-1 admeasuring 6720 sq. ft., on the Second Floor, Entire Third Floor, Building known as "JAY MAHAVIR CENTRE" (ELDER HOUSE) constructed on a piece or parcel of land bearing Plot No. C-9 forming part of Survey No.41 and bearing C.T.S. No. b74 situate, lying and being at Village Oshiwara, in the Dalia Industrial Estate, Off. Veera Desai Road, Andheri (West), Mumbai - 400053.	Rs. 20 Lakh	R.P.- Rs. 50.32 Crores & EMD- Rs. 5.032 Crores

DATE OF INSPECTION OF PROPERTY 28.12.2024 & 06.01.2025 (On prior appointment basis)
LAST DATE FOR SUBMISSION OF ONLINE BID DOCUMENTS & EMD: ON OR BEFORE 12.01.2025 TILL 04:00 P.M.
DATE & TIME OF E-AUCTION: 16.01.2025, BETWEEN 12:00 NOON TO 01:00 P.M.

All the above mentioned properties together with all structures, erections, fittings, furniture at any time hereafter during the continuance of the security hereby constituted be erected, constructed or fitted thereon or any part thereof belonging to or in anywise appertaining or usually held, occupied or enjoyed thereby or reputed to belong to or appurtenant thereto and all the estate, right, title, interest, property, claim and demand whatsoever of the above mentioned respective owners into and upon the same.

LIST OF THE TERMS & CONDITIONS APPEARING IN BID DOCUMENT
The e-auction sale of Secured Assets is on "As is Where is Basis", "As is What is Basis", "Whatever there is Basis" & "No Recourse Basis" for and on behalf of the Secured Creditor viz. Axis Trustee Services Ltd.
(1) In respect of the Secured Assets, Secured Creditor has total outstanding dues of Rs. 69,60,25,161/- (Rupees Sixty Nine Crores Sixty Lakhs Twenty Five Thousand One Hundred Sixty One Only) and Rs. 70,35,14,994.80 (Rupees Seventy Crores Thirty Five Lakhs Fourteen Thousand Nine Hundred Ninety Four and Paise Eighty Only) and Rs. 74,50,33,785.91 (Rupees Seventy Four Crores Fifty Lakhs Thirty Three Thousand Seven Hundred Eighty Five and Paise Ninety One Only) availed by Elder Pharmaceuticals Limited, as on 28.11.2014 till realisation together with further interest and other expenses/costs thereon. (2) In case there is a discrepancy between the publications of sale notice in English and Vernacular Newspaper, then in such a case the English newspaper will supersede the vernacular newspaper and it shall be considered as the final copy, thus removing the ambiguity. (3) Bid Document containing detailed terms and conditions of the sale can be obtained from https://sarfaesi.auctioning.net between 16.12.2024 to 16.01.2025. (4) For participating in online e-auction sale, Bid Document, copies of PAN Card, Board Resolution in case of Company and photo id, address proof are required to be submitted along with EMD (which is equal to 10% of the Reserve Price), which is payable by way of RTGS/NEFT in the name of Axis Trustee Services Limited, Account No. 69501020000134, IFSC Code No. UTIB0000959 or on before 12.01.2025 till 04:00 PM. Once an Online bid is submitted, the same cannot be withdrawn. (5) The Secured Assets shall be sold by the undersigned by way of Electronic Public Auction on 16.01.2025 through e-Auction Agency M/s. E-Procurement Technologies Ltd. at their website/portal i.e. https://sarfaesi.auctioning.net between 12:00 Noon to 01:00 PM with auto extension clause, i.e. the end time of e-Auction will be extended by 5 minutes each time if bid is made before close of e-Auction. (6) The EMD will not carry any interest. The bidders may participate in the e-auction from their own office/place of their choice. Internet connectivity shall have to be arranged by each bidder himself. The Authorised Officer and/or the service provider shall not be held responsible for the internet connectivity, network problems, system crash down, power failure etc. (7) For details, help, procedure and online training on e-auction, prospective bidders may contact (E-Procurement Technologies Ltd.; Contact Number: Mr. Ram Sharma at +91-800023297 / 079-68136803, email id: ramprasad@auctioning.net / support@auctioning.net.) (8) The successful bidder will be required to deposit 25% of the sale price (including the EMD already deposited) immediately i.e. on the same day or not later than next working day of the confirmation of sale, as the case may be. The balance amount of the sale price is to be paid within Fifteen (15) days of the confirmation of the sale. In case of failure to deposit the balance amount within the prescribed period, the EMD deposited amount shall be forfeited and no claim shall be entertained against ATSL in respect thereof. (9) AO reserves the absolute right and discretion to accept or reject any bid or bids or adjourn/postpone/cancel the sale/modify any terms and conditions of the sale without prior notice and/or without assigning any reasons in respect thereof. In case all the bids are rejected, AO can negotiate with any of the bidders or other parties for sale of the Secured Assets. The decision of the AO shall be final and binding. (10) The bidders are requested in their own interests, to take inspection of the assets put up for auction and satisfy themselves about the nature and condition of the said assets and other relevant details pertaining to the abovementioned assets before submitting their bids. Statutory/Government dues if any like property taxes, sales tax, excise dues and other dues such as electricity dues, maintenance charges, etc. if any should be ascertained by the bidders. (11) The Secured Assets mentioned in the Bid Document are based on the charges / mortgages created by the Borrower in favour of Secured Creditor. Interested parties are requested to verify details of the Secured Assets before submitting the bids. (12) The Secured Assets are being sold free from charges and encumbrances known to the Authorised Officer. (13) The successful bidder would be required to bear all the necessary expenses on transfer of immovable assets like stamp duty, registration expenses incidental costs and expenses and other incidental costs relating to sale and transfer of Secured Assets. (14) There are no known statutory liabilities relating to the Secured Asset. If any such statutory liabilities are discovered at a subsequent stage, the same shall be solely dealt with by the Successful bidder at his own costs and expenses. (15) The ATSL or the Authorised Officer of ATSL will not be held responsible for any charge, lien, encumbrance, property tax or any other dues to the Government or anybody in respect of the Secured Assets. (16) There may be some dues such as electricity dues, society maintenance charges, or the like in respect of the Secured Assets which will have to be incurred by the successful bidder and ATSL or the Authorised Officer of ATSL will not be held responsible for the same. (17) The sale of the Secured Assets is subject to the terms and conditions prescribed in the SARFAESI Act and Rules, 2002 and the conditions mentioned hereinabove. (18) The Borrower / Guarantor / Mortgagee(s) may treat this as 15 days sale notice. The Borrower / Guarantor / Mortgagee(s) is hereby given a last and final opportunity to discharge the liability in full as stated above within 15 days of date of this notice and redeem the mortgage over the Secured Assets falling which the Secured Assets will be sold as per the terms and conditions mentioned above. (19) The Borrower / Guarantor / Mortgagee(s) attention is invited to provisions of sub-section (13B), the Act. (20) Original documents pertaining to Maharashtra, Dehradun and Pantnashah properties are not available with us. (21) In Case any tender is received for Lot No. 4, then tenders (if any) received for Lot No. 3A, 3B, 3C, 3D, & 3E will be treated as invalid and rejected immediately before bidding. (22) For any details, you may contact Mr. Vishal Bidawatalka, Contact No. +91-9829333340. Dated: 15.12.2024
Place: Mumbai, Dehradun, Vikasnagar, Paonta Sahib
By Order
Anil Grover, Authorised Officer

THE PIONEER CLASSIFIEDS PUBLIC NOTICE

I have changed my name from Manpreet Kohli (old name) to (new name) Manpreet Kaur Kohli (new name) In future I would like to be known as Manpreet Kaur Kohli (new name) wife of Shri Tanpreet Singh Kohli Address: 403/4, Gurnanak Enclave, Race Course, District Dehradun.

I, SARUBAI W/o Army No.2802766W HAV SHEP BALIRAM KESHAV, VILL-LADWADGAON, POST-LADWADGAON, TEH-LADWAGAON, DIST- BEED, MAHARASHTRA-431517. I have changed my name SARUBAI to SARUBAI KESHAV SHEP inclusion of middle and last name as per my Aadhar No. 602443293063 vide affidavit sworn before notary and advocate R.P.Sharma dated 14.12.2023 UK.GOI

मेरे पुत्र के सैन्य अभिलेखोंनुसार, मेरा गलत नाम पुष्पावेली टी दर्ज है, सही नाम पुष्पावेली वी टी आधर नं. 461338831482 M/o आर्मी नं. 15340979L हवलदार अरुण वाई, वैदिलकवल हाउस ग्राम - कालारकोड, पोस्ट- सनातनपुर, तह-अम्बाला पुजा, जिला- अलापुझा, केरल-688003 है।

PUBLIC NOTICE
General Public is hereby informed that Original Sale Deed dated 09.01.2015 executed by Mr. Sudesh Prasad S/o Late Padam Prasad Sarajni himself and as GPA of Mrs. Sarajni Devi W/o Late Mr. Padam Prasad, Mr. Nagesh Prasad S/o Late Mr. Padam Prasad, Mrs. Hira Devi Joshi W/o Late Mr. Mahendra Prakash and Mr. Anup Joshi S/o Late Mahendra Prasad in favour of Mr. Narendra Singh Tilara S/o Mr. Thakur Singh Tilara in respect of the Land Admeasuring 89.1 Sq. Mtrs. out of Khasra No. 2387/1, Khata No. 525, Situated at Village Rajpur, Pargana Sarawad, Tehsil & Dist-Dehradun, Uttarakhand duly registered in SR-Dehradun-IV vide Reg. No. 254, Book No.1, Vol. No. 1554, Page No. 117-146 on dated 09.01.2015 was lost and not available and online FIR was already lodged and said property to be financed by CSL Finance Ltd. If any body has any charge/interest/title in the said property or any kind of dispute kindly inform the undersigned in writing on the belowmentioned address within 07 days of the present.

Soanil Ghosh, Advocate B-220, 2nd Floor, Noida One, Tower-B, Sector- 62, Noida, UP-201309
Email- id- ncr@northeye.co.in, Contact No.-9205400368

PUBLIC NOTICE
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Protests erupt in Kolkata over doctor's rape and murder case, Opposition alleges CBI's inefficacy

PTI ■ KOLKATA

A day after two key suspects in the rape and murder of a doctor at the RG Kar hospital got bail, the Left parties and the Congress on Saturday took out protest rallies at various locations in Kolkata, alleging that the CBI has "failed" to deliver justice in the case. They also alleged that the ruling Trinamool Congress (TMC) in West Bengal and the BJP-led Centre have a "tacit understanding". The Congress took out a procession from Rabindra Sadan area to the CBI office at Nizam Palace in southern Kolkata and criticised the central probe agency for its alleged inability to frame charges against the two accused in the case. During the procession, Congress activists were seen holding the party flags aloft and chanting slogans like "We



demand justice" and "Bihar chai Tilotoma (Tilotoma wants justice)". The police stopped the Congress activists from entering the Nizam Palace, which led to a scuffle between the protesters and the police personnel. Hundreds of people took part

in a rally, organised by the West Bengal Junior Doctors Front (WBJDF), from Karunamoyee to another CBI office at CGO Complex in Salt Lake area, covering a distance of one kilometre. Junior doctors' forum organised the march to protest the "delay in framing

charges by the Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI)" against all the "conspirators" in the rape and murder of the woman doctor at RG Kar Medical College and Hospital on August 9. The parents of the deceased medic also participated in the rally. "We will fight for justice

and it is our right," said the mother of the deceased doctor. The protesters were holding placards which read "If the system has failed, we will make it function to deliver justice". In a separate rally, SUCI (Communist) activists marched from Karunamoyee to the CGO Complex in Salt Lake, while a rally was taken out by SFI, the students' wing of the CPI(M), in College Street area in the northern part of the city. The Sealdah court in Kolkata had on Friday granted bail to RG Kar Medical College and Hospital's ex-principal Sandip Ghosh and former officer-in-charge of the Tala Police Station Abhijit Mondal in the rape and murder case of the on-duty doctor. They were granted bail after the CBI "failed" to file a charge sheet against them within the mandatory 90-day period.

Fake notice sent to UP Governor in land inheritance case

BISWAJEET BANERJEE ■ LUCKNOW



In a shocking incident, an unidentified miscreant sent a forged legal notice to the Uttar Pradesh Governor in connection with a land inheritance case pending in Malihabad Tehsil court. The matter came to light when the notice file reached the district collectorate from the Raj Bhavan, prompting the Governor to express displeasure and direct strict action, sending officials into a frenzy. The case involves a dispute between Meera Pal and the village council over inheritance rights, which are currently under consideration in the court of Tehsildar Vikas Singh. According to officials, the miscreant fabricated a regular legal notice by forging the court's seal and the signature of the Tehsildar's assistant. The notice, dated October 29 with a hearing date of November 8, was speed-posted from Lucknow to the

Raj Bhavan on November 11. Tehsildar Singh clarified that under the Uttar Pradesh Revenue Code 2006, computerized notices are automatically generated for parties involved in inheritance disputes under Section 34. "The Governor is not a party in such cases, and no such notice was issued from the tehsil," he confirmed. Sub-Divisional Magistrate (SDM) Saurabh Singh stated that the fake notice aimed to tarnish the tehsil's reputation. "Someone used a forged

court seal and signature, creating a false notice and sending it via speed post from Lucknow," he said. While the letter from the Raj Bhavan has yet to reach Malihabad, an investigation is underway to trace the culprit. "Strict action will be taken against the person responsible," assured SDM Singh. The incident has raised concerns about potential misuse of official seals and documents, prompting officials to tighten security measures in administrative offices.

Malkangiri will get cement factory soon: Odisha CM Majhi

PTI ■ MALKANGIRI (ODISHA)

Focusing on the overall development of tribal-dominated districts, Odisha Chief Minister Mohan Charan Majhi on Saturday announced plans to set up a mega cement factory in Malkangiri district that would provide employment to 2,000 people. "A cement factory with an investment of Rs 4,000 crore will be set up in the district. This will provide employment for about 2,000 people in Malkangiri," the CM said. On the second day of his visit to Malkangiri, the CM chaired a review meeting with district officials, which was attended by minister for social security and empowerment of the disabled, scheduled tribes and scheduled castes development, minority and backward classes welfare, and school and mass education Nityanand Gand,



Nabarangpur MP Balabhadra Majhi, Malkangiri MLA Narasinh Madakami, Chitrakonda MLA Mangu Khil, southern revenue officer Rupa Roshan Sahu, southern range DIG Nitish Shekhar, district collector Ashish Elohim Patil, and forest officer Pratap Kattapalli. Majhi emphasised the need for the urgent implementation of various schemes under the Scheduled Tribes and Scheduled Castes Development, Minority and Backward Classes Welfare

Department, including the development of railway infrastructure, national highways, roads, and rural development. He directed officials to complete these projects on a priority basis. Highlighting the importance of education, the CM stressed the need for appointing at least two teachers in every school. He also outlined plans for development through the Jeevan Jeevika Mission, aiming to bring Malkangiri on a par with the state's leading districts.

Senior Congress leader E V K S Elangovan passes away at 75

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE ■ CHENNAI

Senior Congress leader and former Union Minister EVKS Elangovan died due to age-related ailments at a private hospital here on Saturday, the hospital said. He was 75. The legislator from Erode East constituency has not been keeping well for over a month. He was admitted to a hospital here on November 11. Born in Gobichettipalayam on December 21, 1948, Erode Venkata Krishnasamy Sampath Elangovan served as Union Minister of state for Petroleum, later as MoS for Industries and Commerce and MoS for Textiles, he was instrumental in abolishing the CENVAT. He was the grandnephew of Periyar Ramasamy. His father Sampath was associated with the Dravidian movement and later merged his faction with

the Congress. His mother Sulochana Sampath served as AIADMK organising secretary. Elangovan was fondly called as "Tanmana Thalaivar" by the Tamil Nadu Congress workers. He entered politics in the 1980s and was elected as MLA from Sathyamangalam constituency, Erode district, in 1984 while in alliance with the AIADMK. He unsuccessfully contested from Bhavanisagar Assembly constituency after joining actor Sivaji Ganesan-led political party "Tamizaga Munnetra Munnani." Ganesan had then thrown his weight behind the Janaki AIADMK faction. Following the merger of the AIADMK groups, Ganesan dissolved the political party and Elangovan rejoined the INC. After 2009, he contested in two parliament elections and was defeated at Erode and Theni.

PM Modi pays tributes to Raj Kapoor on 100th birth anniversary

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE ■ NEW DELHI



Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Saturday paid tributes to celebrated actor-filmmaker Raj Kapoor on his 100th birth anniversary, hailing him as "the eternal showman". He said in a social media post, "Today, we mark the 100th birth anniversary of the legendary Raj Kapoor, a visionary filmmaker, actor and the eternal showman! His genius transcended generations, leaving an indelible mark on Indian and global cinema." The prime minister had recently met members of the Kapoor family, which has produced several successful actors, to commemorate his legacy. Born on this day in 1924 in what was then undivided India and is now part of Pakistan, Kapoor was the son of stalwart actor Prithviraj Kapoor and grew

to become not only a successful actor but also one of the greatest filmmakers of the Hindi film cinema. His screen portrayal of a common man wedded to working-class values coupled with an eye for talent in various aspects of film-making, not least in music, created a popular cinema that won the hearts of people in India as well as abroad.

Air Chief Marshal Amar Preet Singh urges graduating cadets to uphold IAF's honour and traditions



PTI ■ HYDERABAD

Chief of Air Staff, Air Chief Marshal Amar Preet Singh on Saturday urged the graduating cadets from the Air Force Academy near here to uphold the ethos, traditions and honour of the Indian Air Force (IAF). He served as the reviewing officer of the Combined Passing Out Parade of the IAF

at the Air Force Academy near here. Addressing the cadets, Singh said their career is not only challenging but also honourable. He further said whether in the sky or on the ground, the officers have a vital role to play in operations and should make sure that they understand their role. Exhorting the newly commissioned officers to be future leaders and

commanders, the IAF chief said the responsibility should be a motivating factor in their lives. "You are the future leaders and commanders, not just air warriors, and you will chart the destiny of Indian Air Force. Let this huge responsibility not wear you down, but be a motivating factor in your lives," he said. If the young officers let the core values of Indian Air Force, mission, integrity, and excellence be their guiding beacons, while they navigate through their careers, they will never go wrong, he said. Singh urged them to uphold the ethos, traditions and honour of the Indian Air Force. Every aspect of their service life, from professional learning to executing assigned missions and tasks, cultivating leadership, and later passing on the mantle to

their juniors, will have an impact on how the Indian Air Force navigates trials and tribulations ahead, he added. The CGP of the 214th Course commemorates the successful completion of pre-commissioning training for flight cadets across various branches of the Indian Air Force (IAF). The CGP also witnessed the commissioning of the first batch of Weapon Systems Branch officers into the IAF. During the ceremony, the IAF Chief conferred the 'President's Commission' on the graduating trainees. The event included the presentation of 'Wings' and 'Brevets' to flight cadets, as well as officers of the Indian Navy, and Indian Coast Guard, and one officer from a friendly foreign country upon their successful completion of training.

Nepal Army Chief General warns of future challenges for military leaders due to emerging technologies

PTI ■ DEHRADUN



The future environment for military leaders will be full of challenges due to the emergence of disruptive new technologies, said Nepal Army Chief General Ashok Raj Sigdel as he reviewed the IMA's passing-out parade for the autumn course on Saturday. He called upon the gentlemen cadets passing out of the Indian Military Academy (IMA) to be ready for such challenges and said they can embark on their exciting new journey with confidence, as they have received the best training available in the field. "The job ahead is not easy. You will face a future environment that is invariably multi-domain, multi-theatre, and multi-sectoral. The challenges will be multi-pronged due to the emergence of disruptive

technologies, but you can go forth with confidence because you have received the best training," General Sigdel said, addressing the cadets. A total of 491 cadets passed out of the IMA on Saturday, including 456 from India and 35 from friendly countries. "Valour will carry you through difficult times, and wisdom will help you carve out the best path forward," General Sigdel said. As the cadets step into their new roles as military leaders,

their endurance will be tested, as they will be required to perform their duties in extreme climatic conditions - ranging from the highest altitudes to the lowest depths, from the coldest glaciers to the hottest deserts, and from the loneliest jungles to the densest urban centers, he added. Their skills and the values of valour and wisdom instilled in them at the IMA will stand them in good stead, General Sigdel said. He praised the

cadets for their immaculate turnout and flawless drill, saying it reflected their high level of training. General Sigdel further congratulated the cadets and wished them the best on their exciting new journey. He said they should serve their respective nations with the highest degree of professionalism and integrity. Describing military service as the most honourable career, he said it demands a lifelong pursuit of growth and excellence. General Sigdel also expressed his gratitude for being invited to the Passing Out Parade (POP) at the IMA, which has a global reputation for excellence as a military training academy. A colorful parade and drill were presented by the passing-out cadets at the IMA's drill square, set against the backdrop of the historic Chetwode Building.

Kerala Education Minister warns of strict action over leaked SSLC, class 11 question papers

PTI ■ THIRUVANANTHAPURAM

Kerala Education Minister KV Sivankutty on Saturday warned of stringent action against those behind the leak of question papers for SSLC and class 11 Christmas examinations. "The Director General of Education will lodge a complaint with the DGP regarding the incident," he told reporters here. According to recent media reports, the question papers of Class 10 English and Class 11 Mathematics for the Christmas examinations were leaked and circulated on YouTube channels before the exams. He also said action would be initiated against YouTube channels that published the leaked question papers. "The government will

collect information about teachers from the Public Education Department who are associated with private tuition centers, and they will be subjected to an investigation," the Minister stated. Criticising the YouTube channels that published the leaked question papers, he said such actions only bring them "notorious fame." "Although the current exams are not pivotal to students' future, it is crucial to uphold the credibility of the examination system," he added. The Minister reiterated that teachers are already prohibited from engaging in private tuition, and strict action has been taken against those violating the department's directives. "We will release the figures of those soon," he added. A release issued by the

General Education Department on Saturday said the Director of General Education will soon lodge a complaint with the State DGP and Cyber Cell regarding the leak of plus one question papers for the Christmas examination and its appearance on a YouTube channel. Strict security measures are in place across all stages, including the preparation and distribution of question papers. Describing the incident as a "very serious matter", the release said the culprits would be identified and brought before law. The Department of Public Education added that no compromises would be tolerated in ensuring the integrity of school examinations.

Allu Arjun released from jail after spending a night in custody over stampede incident



PTI ■ HYDERABAD

Actor Allu Arjun was released on Saturday morning from the jail where he spent the night after being arrested in connection with the death of a woman in a stampede here during the premiere of his latest film. Arjun had to spend Friday night in prison despite the Telangana High Court granting him bail, as the authorities had not received

a copy of the bail order until late last night. "He has been released," Ashok Reddy, his counsel, told reporters at the Chanchalguda prison. After reaching home, Arjun thanked his followers and others across the country for their love and support and said he is a law-abiding citizen and respects the law. "I'll cooperate with them and I'll do the needful. And very importantly, I would like to give my condolences once again to the family. It (death of a woman) is very very unfortunate," he told the media. On his arrest, the 42-year-old actor said he believed in the law and respected it. "When the law is taking its course, I should not deal with the case, so I should not talk about it. From a legal standpoint, I would not like to talk about it," he

said. Arjun said it was a challenging time for his family. A 35-year-old woman died and her eight-year-old son was hospitalised on December 4 during a stampede-like situation at the Sandhya Theatre in Hyderabad when thousands of fans jostled to have a glimpse of the actor at the premiere of the blockbuster "Pushpa 2: The Rule." Following the incident, the city police registered a case against Allu Arjun, his security team, and the theatre management under different sections of Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita (BNS) at the Chikkadpally police station based on the complaint lodged by the deceased woman's family. Reiterating that he would support the family of the deceased, the actor said he

has been going to theatres to watch films for the past 20 years. From the prison, the star directly drove to his family production house, Geetha Arts and spent some time there. After reaching home, he was hugged by his son, wife and other family members. Arjun was driven out through the Prison Academy gate at around 6.45 am, sources said. Ashok Reddy claimed that the prison authorities did not release the actor despite having got the High Court order copy. "You should question the government and the department why they have not released the accused. The High Court order is very specific. Forthwith, the moment you (prison authorities) receive the order, (they should) release him. Despite the

clear order, they have not released, they have to answer. This is an illegal detention. We will take legal steps," Reddy said. According to the counsel, Allu Arjun was kept in jail as a "special category prisoner". The "Pushpa" actor was arrested from his residence on Friday morning unfolding a day-long dramatic turn of events. After the arrest, Allu Arjun was produced in a local court which remanded him to 14 days' judicial custody. However, his lawyers moved the HC and secured interim bail. Arjun was lodged in Chanchalguda prison shortly before the HC spelt its order. Meanwhile, police stepped up security outside the star's city residence anticipating a surge of fans post his release.

SOUTH KOREA'S PARLIAMENT IMPEACHES PRESIDENT YOON

South Korea's parliament on Saturday impeached President Yoon Suk Yeol over his stunning and short-lived martial law decree, a move that ended days of political paralysis but set up an intense debate over Yoon's fate, as jubilant crowds roared to celebrate another defiant moment in the country's resilient democracy.

Hundreds of thousands of people gathered near the parliament roared in jubilation, waved banners and brandished colourful K-pop glow sticks, as a lead activist shouted on stage, "We have preserved the constitutional order!"

In a central Seoul plaza, another huge crowd gathered supporting Yoon, but they grew subdued after hearing he had been impeached. Both rallies have largely been peaceful.



A participant holds up a banner before a rally to demand South Korean President Yoon Suk Yeol's impeachment outside the National Assembly in Seoul, South Korea. (inset) President Yoon Suk Yeol.

dedication." Hundreds of thousands of people gathered near the parliament roared in jubilation, waved banners and brandished colourful K-pop glow sticks, as a lead activist shouted on stage, "We have preserved the constitutional order!"

destroy the door and drag out the lawmakers who are inside." Kwak said he didn't carry out Yoon's orders. Yoon is the third South Korean president impeached while in office.

Shoot them down: Trump on mystery drone sightings

US President-elect Donald Trump has called for the "shooting down" of the mystery drones that have been appearing in various parts of the country.

The White House on Thursday said there was no evidence yet that the reported drone sightings pose a national security or a public safety threat or that they have a foreign nexus.

Jersey has reported several incidents of unattributable drone sightings at night, alarming both residents and local law enforcement.

A federal appeals court has left in place a mid-January deadline in a federal law requiring TikTok to be sold or face a ban in the United States, rejecting a request made by the company to halt enforcement until the Supreme Court reviews its challenge of the statute.

injunction after a panel of three judges on the US Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia Circuit sided with the US government and rejected their challenge to the law.

line, House Select Committee on the Chinese Communist Party (CCP) Chair John Moolenaar and Ranking Member Krishnamoorthi on Friday wrote to Apple CEO Tim Cook, Google CEO Sundar Pichai and TikTok CEO Shou Chew.

PUBLIC NOTICE: It is to inform to the public at large that Mr. Rakesh Kumar who is purchasing the Freehold Plot No. F-63, Ground Floor, Area Measuring 50 sq. yds., Situated at Gali No. 2, East Vinod Nagar, Delhi.

PUBLIC NOTICE: It is to inform to the public at large that Mrs. Shabana has acquired Plot No. 9, measuring 250 sq. yds., out of Khata No. 1661 Min. at Main Road Kanchan Park Ward No. 54 Village, Lon Distt Ghaziabad vide Reg. GFA dated 16.03.2020 executed by Haji Iqbal Ahmed and Mr. Rashid Ali and Mrs. Shabana is the undisputed owner of said property.

LOST & FOUND: I, Jaba Sen Menon D/o Deva Prasad Sen Mazumdar, R/O Flat No. A 302 Saranah Apartments, Plot No. 34, I/P Extension, Patparganj, Delhi-110092, solemnly and sincerely swear and state that I am the duly constituted attorney of Shri Krishan Kumar Gupta, S/O Jai Gopal Gupta, R/O 29/22 Shakti Nagar, Delhi-110009 in respect of Flat No. A 302 Saranah Apartments, Plot No. 34, I/P Extension, Patparganj, Delhi-110092 against membership No. 213, the original share certificate vide Book No. 33, Share certificate No. 1822 serial No. 4144 to 4146 dated 12.06.1987, issued by Sara Cooperative Group Housing Society Limited in the name of Shri Krishan Kumar Gupta, vide membership No. 213, against the above said flat, which has been misplaced.

THE PIONEER CLASSIFIED CHANGE OF NAME: I, Sudesh D/o Dhara Singh W/o Lt. Sh. Ranvir Singh R/o 18, Goodwill Apartment, Sector-13, Rohini, Delhi-110085, I have changed my name Sudesh Kumari to Sudesh. And also in my Driving License wrongly return name of my husband as Ranbir Singh but my husband correct name is Ranvir Singh.

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Indian-origin OpenAI whistleblower dies by suicide in San Francisco

A 26-year-old Indian-origin former employee of the artificial intelligence giant OpenAI has died by suicide in San Francisco, authorities said.

initial investigation," SFPPD officer Robert Ruca wrote in a statement. Balaji spoke to the Times in October, saying he was one of the researchers who worked gathering data to train OpenAI's programmes like GPT4, which users interact with through the chatbot ChatGPT.

GOVERNMENT OF ODISHA OFFICE OF THE CHIEF CONSTRUCTION ENGINEER, SOUTHERN (R&B) CIRCLE, BERHAMPUR: Bid Identification No. CCE, S.C (R&B)-BAM-13/2024-25 No. 4172 / Dated: 11.12.2024

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Time has come for US Congress to act on Bangladesh: Thanedar

Raising the issue of attacks on minority Hindus in Bangladesh, Indian-American Congressman Shri Thanedar has said that the time has come for the US Congress to act.

law enforcement and security services to deal with the challenge," White House National Security Communications Advisor John Kirby said at a news conference. Indian-American Congressman Raja Krishnamoorthi has urged members of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee to address the issue of violence against minorities, primarily Hindus, in Bangladesh during the confirmation hearing of Senator Marco Rubio for the top diplomatic position. The date of his confirmation hearing has not been announced yet.

GOVERNMENT OF ODISHA OFFICE OF THE CHIEF CONSTRUCTION ENGINEER, KHORDHA (R&B) CIRCLE, KHORDHA: Bid Identification No. CCE-Khordha (R&B) Circle-21/2024-25 Memo No - 2472 Dt. 12.12.2024

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I feel bad that I missed the opportunity, but I can re-create it: Patidar hopes for India return

PTI ■ BENGALURU

Rajatar Patidar's international career did not take off as he would have liked, but the Madhya Pradesh batter is confident of "re-creating" the opportunity through domestic matches and don the India jersey again. Patidar's six innings against England earlier this year produced just 63 runs, but the right-hander has shown impressive touch in the first half of the Ranji Trophy and the ongoing Syed Mushtaq Ali Trophy. "I enjoyed going to the Test team. But sometimes I feel bad that I missed the opportunity. But it's alright sometimes things don't go your way," Patidar said

during an interaction here on Saturday. Patidar has accepted his "failure" and has moved away from that disappointing space. "I think acceptance is the key. You have to accept that there will be failure in the cricketing journey. So, it's important for me to face it and learn from it. "I have just accepted it and I am moving forward. It's a part and parcel of the game. I can re-create the opportunity," he added. In that context, the 31-year-old has taken a bold first step, scoring a good amount of runs in domestic tournaments. From five Ranji Trophy matches, the Madhya Pradesh captain has made



427 runs at an average of 53.37 with a hundred and a fifty. Patidar is also the third highest run-getter in the ongoing SMAT behind Ajinkya Rahane (432) and Bihar's Sakibul Gani (353) with 347 runs from nine matches at a strike-rate of 182.63 with four fifties. The powerful right-hander said trusting his skills was the reason behind his good run. "I am just trying to back my strength in the areas where I am going to hit, like I was doing in the last couple of years. I am just trying to find out the same pattern that I was playing in the IPL. "My mantra is to play one ball at a time. I try to put my impact on the opposition for my team. I don't try to get

big scores. I have never paid attention to that," he said. Patidar also received a confidence-booster when Royal Challengers Bengaluru retained him ahead of the IPL auction. "Yes, definitely, RCB is a big franchise and I love playing for RCB. So it (retention) gave me a lot of confidence that they retained me." Patidar's name is doing rounds within RCB circles as their prospective captain for IPL 2025 after the franchise released Faf du Plessis. He was open to that challenge. "Of course, if I get an opportunity to lead RCB, that is what I am there for, and I will be happy. But it all depends on the franchise," he said.

However, Patidar has an immediate goal to accomplish, guiding Madhya Pradesh to their maiden SMAT title against Mumbai on Sunday at a venue where they won the Ranji Trophy two seasons ago. Incidentally, they had beaten Mumbai that time and Patidar had made 122 in MP's six-wicket victory. The captaincy sits light on his shoulders. "I have learnt a lot out of it. I have enjoyed learning the tactics. I love seeing players and anticipating what they can do. "I have learnt a lot about captaincy from my coach (Chandrakant Pandit). Everybody knows that he is the best coach in India," he said.

Assam govt not taking initiative to identify sporting talents, says Bhogeswar

PTI ■ SIVASAGAR (ASSAM)

Assam's first Arjuna Awardee sprinter Bhogeswar Baruah has criticised the state government's sports policy, saying it is not taking enough initiatives to identify and nurture talent in rural areas. "It is sad to say that there is no production of sports persons anywhere in Assam. Earlier, we used to organise camps to attract new talents, but it is not happening anymore," Baruah, a gold medallist in 800m at the 1966 Asian Games, told PTI. The 84-year-old said the government has engaged so many coaches who could be sent to districts to organise such camps and impart training, but such initiatives are not happening. "If there is no coaching, how will we produce sports persons? If any sports event takes place, the kids are just taken there to participate. If there is no training or camp, how will our children progress? "If there is any tournament, children are called and taken to participate -- this is Assam's sports policy," Baruah said.



Baruah, who won gold and silver at the Asian Games in 1966 and 1970 respectively, accused the government of encouraging only those who have achieved success on their own. "Has the government made anyone a sports person? Government is not identifying and picking up talents from the ground. When someone shines, only then the government comes into the picture. That is what

is happening nowadays," he said. Baruah said it has been almost 6 to 7 years that any sports camp has been organised in the state. "If they (government) were interested, I would have also taken interest. I would have definitely gone to the ground and given tips to the athletes. When the government has no idea, no intention, no aim, what can I do?" he said.

Baruah said earlier 2 to 3 such camps used to be organised annually but questioned why they have stopped. "You go and ask the Director of Sports. They have not organised a camp for so many years! Why is it not happening nowadays?" he remarked. Baruah claimed he had requested the concerned officials several times to hold sports camps, but there has been no response. "I had even sought equipment saying that we would hold a camp. Give at least one set of hurdles for doing training. You need 10 hurdles in one line, but we sought five for training purposes. There is no jumper, pole vaulter -- nothing is available," he claimed. Asked if he spoke to the state Sports Minister regarding this, Baruah said due to his age he could not meet him to discuss the matter. Reflecting on the future of sports in Assam, Baruah said: "I can't say anything. I will say what is right. There has been no camp at all during the tenure of the present government." The Assam government is

currently organising the second edition of 'Khel Maharan', aiming at identifying and nurturing rural talent through grassroots-level competitions. "All sports persons are in the villages. We have to search and nurture them. Rural sports is the only way to find real talents, otherwise we won't get it," Baruah said when asked about 'Khel Maharan'. In 2021, the Assam government had decided to observe Baruah's birthday September 3 as 'Sports Day'. Baruah heaped praise on Asian Games gold medalist runner Hima Das and Olympic medalist boxer Lovlina Borgohain, saying their success is largely due to the efforts of their parents. "There is nothing that the government should take credit for," he added. Baruah recalled advising Das on improving her running technique. "Earlier, she used to run straight. Later, I told her to bend slightly forward and she is doing accordingly. I asked her to bend her upper body. Now, she is doing well. Her body is very strong," he commented on the sprinter.

1st T20I: Under-fire Harmanpreet's India face gritty West Indies

PTI ■ NAVI MUMBAI

Her poor leadership under constant scanner, a beleaguered Indian captain Harmanpreet Kaur will need to quickly pick up pieces from the Australia series debacle as hosts take on West Indies in the opening game of the three-match WT20I series starting here on Sunday. India have won each of their last eight T20Is against the West Indies in the shortest format since November 2019. But to maintain this dominating run, India will have to dig deep from rapidly depleting reservoirs of both resources and confidence to keep the ship afloat. It has not been a smooth ride for the Indian skipper whose questionable selection calls during the Australia ODI series left everyone wondering as to how long the national selectors will persist with her despite Smriti Mandhana well and truly ready to take over the mantle. This is India's first T20 series after the inglorious T20 World Cup exit where the only consolation was a hard-earned win against Pakistan. India after that won an ODI



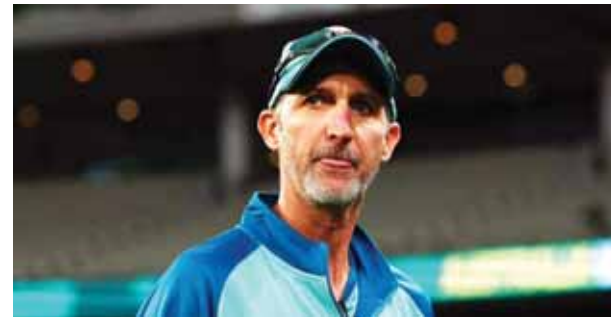
series against New Zealand at home and were blanked by Australia during the subsequent 50 over series Down Under. While Harmanpreet's own batting form has been better than many, it is her unimaginative leadership that is causing a lot of problems as the team is still playing archaic brand of cricket across both white ball formats. The profligate Shafali Verma has been ignored by the selectors once again even though her chances of doing well in T20Is in Indian conditions is way better where she can employ her cross batted game. First-up, India will need a

quick turnaround from their forgettable ODI tour of Australia which ended in a 0-3 rout with the visitors being thoroughly outplayed in all departments. Having lost the final ODI in Perth last Wednesday, Kaur and her side will not get enough time to rest and recover as they have made it to the DY Patil Stadium here for the series opener. The packed schedule — three T20Is with a gap of one day each — will further test the fitness and morale of the team that is low on confidence and without their preferred players in Pooja Vastrakar, Shreyanka Patil, Yastika Bhatia, Priya Punia and most importantly, Verma.

Gillespie resigned as Pakistan's Test coach over selection dispute

PTI ■ KARACHI

Jason Gillespie decided to step down from his role as Pakistan's red-ball coach after not being consulted on the selection of the national squad for the upcoming two-Test series in South Africa. A well-informed source, familiar with the developments, revealed that some officials in the Pakistan Cricket Board (PCB) had created a difficult environment for Gillespie, who just a month ago had even been offered the job of head coach of the white-ball squad "Circumstances were created to make the former Australian player feel alienated in major decisions about the team," the source said. "First despite his request the board didn't renew the contract of high performance coach Tim Nielsen and then the Test squad for the SA series



was announced without consulting him," he added. The source said that while Gillespie was aware that the board had stripped him of say in the selection matters, he expected as head coach, he would be consulted by the selectors in the selection of any series. "Gillespie was also not happy that while refusing to renew contract of Nielsen whom he had recommended the board preferred to bring in Shahid Aslam from the national

cricket academy as a coach into the support staff on recommendation of interim white ball head coach and senior selector Aaqib Javed," the source added. He said that in recent weeks, Gillespie's calls were not being regularly answered by some officials, which irked him. This was particularly frustrating as he had agreed to serve as interim coach for the white-ball series in Australia, where Pakistan won the ODI series for the first time since 2002.

Amir announces retirement from international cricket

PTI ■ KARACHI

Controversial Pakistan left-arm pacer Mohammad Amir bid adieu to international cricket on Saturday, months after coming out of retirement to play in the T20 World Cup. Amir, who was banned from cricket for five years between 2010 and 2015 on spot-fixing charges and was briefly jailed for his crime, had retired from all forms of international cricket in 2020. However, he changed his mind and returned to play in T20 World Cup earlier this year. "After careful consideration, I have taken the difficult decision to retire from international cricket. These decisions are never easy but are inevitable. I feel this is the right time for the next generation to take the baton and elevate Pakistan Cricket to new



heights!" he wrote on his social media handles. "Representing my country has been and always will be the greatest honour of my life. I would sincerely like to thank the PCB, my family

and friends and, above all, my fans for their continuous love & support," he added. Amir had been involved in the infamous spot-fixing scandal that rocked the cricket world in 2010. The pacer, who was 19 then, had deliberately overstepped along with fellow quick Mohammed Asif at the behest of former skipper Salman Butt and they were all caught. All three were briefly jailed in the UK, where fixing is a crime but were later released. The ICC banned them for five years between 2010 to 2015. Only Amir made a successful return to international cricket and was the hero of Pakistan's Champions Trophy triumph over India in 2017 in the UK. A key member of Pakistan's team over the years, he featured in 36 Tests, 61 ODIs and 62 T20Is since making his international debut in June 2009. He took 271 international wickets and scored 1,179 runs across the three formats and was a part of the 2009 ICC T20 World Cup-winning side.

The announcement comes a day after all-rounder Imad Wasim decided quit international cricket. Both Amir and Wasim came out of retirement earlier this year after being assured of selection for the tours of Ireland and England, as well as the World T20 Cup, by the board and its selectors, who believed the two could help Pakistan perform well in these assignments. Unfortunately, that didn't materialise, and neither has he been picked by the national selectors for any of the matches since the World Cup. Amir's final outing in Pakistan colours came in June this year during the T20 World Cup against Ireland in LAuderhill, USA. In 2020, Amir announced a dramatic end to his international cricket career, alleging that he has been "mentally tortured" by his national board's management.

New Zealand wastes good start, finishes at 315-9 on Day 1 of 3rd test against England

AP ■ HAMILTON (NEW ZEALAND)

New Zealand steadily squandered a good start, slumping from 172-2 to 231-7 before rallying to 315-9 at stumps Saturday on the first day of the third test against England. Mitchell Santner hit the last ball of the day for six to reach his fourth test half century and was 50 not out while Will O'Rourke had yet to score. The New Zealand tail added 76 runs in the last eight overs of the day to bring some balance back into the game after the failure of the middle order. After a 105-run opening partnership between Tom Latham and Will Young, New Zealand enjoyed the rare experience of holding the upper hand over England in a series which so far has been one-sided in favor of the tourists. England holds an

unassailable 2-0 lead, winning the first test in four days by eight wickets and the second in three days by 323 runs. In those seven days, New Zealand only occasionally had a dominant session. But England won the toss and chose to bowl and by lunch New Zealand was 93-0 At that point it appeared England captain Ben Stokes might have misread or over-estimated the conditions when he decided to send New Zealand in. The pitch at Seddon Park had a slight green hue and warm conditions and puffy clouds seemed to offer the promise the ball would swing. Instead, there was a firm brown surface under a thin cover of grass and the day warmed quickly, burning off the overcast so that the ball neither seamed or swung to any great extent. Latham and Young set a sound platform for the New



Zealand innings when they put on 105 for the first wicket, the Kiwis' best opening partnership in 28 tests. Young was selected in place

of Devon Conway whose wife has just given birth to their first child. There already was a clamor for his selection as Conway had made only 21 runs in

four innings in the first two tests of this series and Young was Player of the Series and averaged almost 50 when New Zealand swept India 3-0 at home in October and

he averages 94. Then he clamped down on a ball from Matthew Potts which bounced back onto his stumps and he tried vainly to kick it away. Potts marked his return in place of the rested Chris Woakes with figures of 3-75 and the prized wicket of Williamson. "I didn't have a great view of it. I was a bit confused but then I saw a bail drop down by his feet and it was pure elation after that," Potts said. "It was a massive wicket at that point in the innings. It's less about personal milestones and achievements of getting good players out but, at that key point in time, Kane could have taken the game away from us." In quick succession New Zealand lost Daryl Mitchell (14), Glenn Phillips (5) and second test century-maker Tom Blundell (21), all to unwise shots.

Santner and Matt Henry put on 41 for the eighth wicket before Henry (8) was brilliantly caught by Harry Brook off Stokes. Brook first caught the ball standing on the boundary rope at fine leg, threw it up in the air and stepped over the boundary, then caught it again as he stepped back into the field of play. That brought out Tim Southee in his 107th and last test for New Zealand. Southee will retire at the end of the series aged 36 and as New Zealand's second-highest test wicket-taker with 389. Southee, who received a guard of honor from the England fielders when he walked out, hit the second ball he faced for the 96th six of his career and the fourth ball for the 97th. England took the second new ball and Southee hit the first ball bowled with it for his 98th six.



“Elegance is not being noticed, it’s about being remembered.”

Walking into “Shubhrajyotsna,” you are instantly transported to a world of delicate artistry and enduring tradition. The event, hosted by Princess Manjari Mishra of Ayodhya, was a heartfelt tribute to her late mother, Rani Jyotsna Mishra. Every detail of the event reflected the deep connection between heritage and craftsmanship, creating an environment that felt both majestic and intimate. The inauguration saw the presence of iconic figures like Padma Shri Hema Malini, Padma Bhushan Sudha Murthy and Padma Vibhushan Sonal Mansingh. Their words of admiration for Rani Jyotsna Mishra and her daughter’s efforts added depth to the event. The venue was an aesthetic masterpiece, with every corner adorned with designs that captured the essence of Ayodhya’s cultural legacy. The stunning collection of textiles and accessories from Shilpmanjari, Princess Manjari’s artisanal atelier, was the highlight. From soft velvets to the intricate zardozi and gota-patti embroidery, each piece displayed a level of craftsmanship that was nothing short of breathtaking.

The showcased clothing celebrated the rich tradition of Indian fashion. The embellished sarees, paired with elegant cummerbunds and shawls, exuded a sophistication that stood out in a world often focused on fast fashion. These garments were steeped in tradition but had a contemporary appeal, making them versatile for any occasion. Princess Manjari’s personal style, marked by subtlety and grace, was evident in each piece, which was not only a reflection of her cultural roots but also a vision of elegance. In addition to the sarees, the accessories collection stole the show. Beaded potlis, embroidered belts and delicate hairbands were inspired by the flora, fauna and folklore of India. These accessories were carefully designed to complement the clothing, with each piece telling its own unique story. The work was rich in detail, from the vibrant designs to the tiny beads and pearls that added a touch of opulence. Princess Manjari also created the “Shubhrajyotsna,” perfume, which holds a special place in her heart as a tribute to her mother. The perfume’s floral and woody notes perfectly reflect Rani Jyotsna’s essence. Princess Manjari shared that her mother always loved the ingredients included in the fragrance and through this perfume, she feels her mother’s presence will always be with them. The scent acts as a beautiful reminder of Rani Jyotsna, carrying her spirit with every use.

The collections from Shilpmanjari also featured the Panchatantra Collection, where the spirit of folklore was brought to life through clothing



IN EVERY THREAD, A STORY

Through “Shubhrajyotsna,” Princess Manjari Mishra breathes new life into Ayodhya’s fashion heritage, honouring her mother’s elegance and vision, says **SAKSHI PRIYA**

adorned with vibrant animal and bird motifs. This collection honored the mythical tales that are part of India’s collective memory, blending tradition with creativity. Similarly, the Darbar Collection offered rich velvets and satin robes, reminiscent of the royal courts of yore. These regal garments, embellished with semi-precious stones, evoked the grandeur of royal darbars, where opulence was essential. The garments from Shilpmanjari are not just pieces of clothing; they are embodiments of history, heritage and art. Each design is thoughtfully crafted to celebrate the elegance of royalty while making it accessible for modern-day wearers. The quality of the fabrics, the precision of the embroidery and the cultural inspiration that runs through every piece make them truly timeless. Shubhrajyotsna beautifully blends the past with the present, offering a rare glimpse into a world where tradition meets modern style. The event not only celebrated exquisite craftsmanship but also highlighted the importance of preserving our cultural heritage. True beauty lies in the details, where tradition and creativity come together and every piece tells its own meaningful story.

PHOTOS: PANKAJ KUMAR



THE NEW LIFESTYLE LANDMARK

By **TEAM VIVA**

In the fast-paced life of Noida, where long commutes and traffic have become a daily struggle, *Rcube Monad Mall* has emerged as a refreshing new destination, offering everything from shopping and dining to entertainment, all in one place. Located in Sector 43, this modern mall is quickly becoming the heart of the community, redefining urban living with convenience, luxury and family-friendly experiences. “We are incredibly proud to introduce *Rcube Monad Mall* to Noida, a place that is more than just a shopping destination; it represents our commitment to creating sustainable and innovative urban spaces that enhance the quality of life for the communities we serve,” said Mr. Anuj Malhan, Founder at *Rcube Projects Pvt Ltd*.

Rcube Monad Mall isn’t just another commercial centre; it’s a thoughtfully designed neighbourhood hub. As *Richa Malhan*, shares, “We wanted to create a destination close to home, offering everything you need within minutes.” The mall is a one-stop shop for all things lifestyle, from retail stores featuring popular brands like *Lifestyle* and *Fab India* to essential services like salons and beauty parlours, all just moments away from nearby residential communities.

For families, this mall is a game-changer. It offers a variety of experiences for all ages, from Funky Island, an interactive play zone for kids, to family-friendly dining options like McDonald’s and Popeyes. For parents looking for a place to unwind, the Birch bar provides the perfect space to relax, while *MovieMax Edition*, Noida’s first luxury cinema with all-recliner seating, promises a premium movie experience. But the vision doesn’t stop at shopping and entertainment. The Mall is committed to sustainability and plans to make the mall pet-friendly in the future, ensuring that even furry friends can enjoy the experience. This commitment to creating a space that caters to families, friends and pets alike reflects the mall’s dedication to improving the quality of life for everyone.

In a world that often feels rushed, *Rcube Monad Mall* stands as an example of a slower, more connected way of living. It’s a space that blends convenience, luxury and community, offering a new, more human-centric approach to the modern lifestyle. Whether you’re sipping coffee in the morning, enjoying lunch with family or watching a movie in the evening, *Rcube Monad Mall* has everything you need to make the most of your day and it’s right in the heart of Noida.



PHOTOS: PANKAJ KUMAR
Richa Malhan, Founder at Rcube Projects Pvt Ltd.

Bringing Luxury Home Décor to Delhi

Maison Sia’s store in Delhi is a walking luxury taking the shopping of home décor to a whole new level, says **ABHI SINGHAL**

Maison Sia has launched its flagship store in Delhi, setting a new benchmark for luxury home decor in India. The boutique is a refined space that mixes global craftsmanship with Indian sensibilities. The store presents a curated collection of design pieces by internationally renowned names like Jean-François Lemaire and Glasremis, each reflecting a unique story that transcends borders. These works which are handpicked for their artistry and innovation, are a reflection of the brand’s philosophy of offering sophisticated design solutions. *Vratika Gupta*, the founder of *Maison Sia*, notes, “India’s emerging luxury design market, with its hunger for authentic and extraordinary experiences, perfectly mirrors *Maison Sia*’s creative philosophy.” The store is not just a retail space but a statement of how the brand fuses the best of global and local design. Featuring a collaboration with the esteemed furniture brand *EDRA*, the Delhi store also marks the debut of



Maison Sia’s first furniture line, *Maison Sia x Edra*. The synergy between local architects, such as *Seza Architects*, and international design houses has shaped a unique and immersive shopping experience. With luxury home décor products

like funky showpieces namely *Leblon Delienne*, *Sas Atelier*, different-sized candles, and heavy coffee table books, the boutique also features exquisite lighting solutions, with each piece crafted from responsibly sourced materials, adding character

and sophistication to any space. Designer wallpapers and precisely curated furniture further elevate the store’s ambiance, offering a glimpse into a world of design where quality and creativity meet. *Maison Sia*’s Delhi flagship store signals the brand’s commitment to bringing global design luxury narratives to India’s most refined design enthusiasts.

Amaran is an action war film that tells the inspiring story of *Major Mukund Varadarajan*, a brave Indian Army officer. While the film boasts strong performances, particularly from *Sivakarthikeyan* and *Sai Pallavi*, it unfortunately succumbs to the familiar tropes of the genre. *Sivakarthikeyan* delivers a commendable performance, effectively portraying the transition from a carefree college student to a dedicated soldier. His physical transformation and portrayal of *Mukund*’s unwavering commitment to duty are particularly noteworthy. *Sai Pallavi*, as always, is a force of nature, delivering an emotionally resonant performance that captures the strength and resilience of a grieving wife. Her portrayal of *Indhu*’s internal struggles, her unwavering love for *Mukund*, and her ultimate acceptance of his sacrifice are truly moving. *Rahul Bose* provides a solid supporting role as the commanding officer, adding gravitas to the film. The film’s plot, while emotionally charged, follows a predictable trajectory. The narrative, unfortunately, lacks originality, relying heavily on familiar tropes seen in countless other army-related films. The fast-paced nature of the film often leaves little room for viewers to fully process the emotional impact of certain



CINEMATIC RUSH WITH FAMILIAR BEATS
Amaran keeps the audience bound with the action but succumbs to the familiar tropes of the genre, writes **ABHI SINGHAL**



scenes. The film could have benefited from a slower pace, allowing for greater emotional depth and character development. The soundtrack features some catchy tunes. While some songs may appeal to a specific audience, they do little to enhance the narrative or elevate the emotional impact of the film. The background score, however, effectively builds tension and adds to the overall atmosphere of the film. The film undoubtedly aims to create strong emotions, and in some instances, it succeeds. The scenes depicting the love story between *Mukund* and *Indhu*, as well as the poignant moments of grief and loss, are genuinely moving. However, the film’s reliance on melodrama and predictable plot points sometimes undermines its emotional impact. The film could have benefited from a more nuanced portrayal of the complexities of war and its impact on the soldiers and their families. *Amaran* is a well-intentioned film that pays tribute to the sacrifices made by our soldiers. While the performances are commendable, and the film boasts some emotionally resonant moments, its predictable plot and reliance on familiar tropes prevent it from reaching its full potential.

Rating: 3.5/5

"The future belongs to those who believe in the beauty of their dreams"
— Eleanor Roosevelt



CELEBRATING THE RICH CULTURE OF NORTHEAST INDIA



The Ashtalakshmi Mahotsav 2024 brought the traditions, art, and flavours of the eight northeastern states to the national stage, celebrating their unparalleled cultural richness at the Bharat Mandapam in New Delhi, says **ABHI SINGHAL**

The Ministry of Development of North Eastern Region (DoNER) took a remarkable step in celebrating and showcasing the diverse culture and vibrant traditions of Northeast India. In an effort to bring the essence of this unique region closer to the heart of the nation, the Government of India concluded the first edition of the *Ashtalakshmi Mahotsav*, a festival that honoured the unparalleled cultural heritage of the eight northeastern states. Held in the national capital Delhi, the event resonated with the lively spirit, colours, and flavours of the region, leaving an indelible impression on visitors.

The festival's name, "Ashtalakshmi," has been derived from the eight northeastern states namely Assam, Arunachal Pradesh, Meghalaya, Manipur, Nagaland, Mizoram, Tripura, and Sikkim, which were often referred to as the 'Ashtalakshmi' or the eight forms of prosperity. These states played an important role in enriching India's cultural, social, and economic fabric, making them indispensable contributors to the nation's diversity. True to its name, the festival served as a lively celebration of the region's unparalleled beauty, artistic heritage, and deep-rooted traditions.

The *Ashtalakshmi Mahotsav 2024* was a three-day event held from December 6th to 8th at the Bharat Mandapam in New Delhi. The event provided a grand platform to showcase the region's thriving textile industry, elegant artisanal crafts, and distinct Geographical Indication (GI) products. It was a unique opportunity for the audience to engage with the intricate artistry and cultural richness of the northeastern states.

The festival's inauguration was graced by Prime Minister Narendra Modi, whose presence underscored the government's commitment to promoting and uplifting the northeastern states. The opening day featured an impressive array of performances and exhibitions, offering a glimpse into the vibrant artistic traditions of the region. A key highlight of the day was a spellbinding performance by the renowned *Shillong Chamber Choir*, whose unique fusion of traditional and contemporary music set a magical tone for the festival. The choir's soulful melodies were accompanied by traditional dance performances and folk music, providing an alluring and enriching cultural experience for the attendees.

One of the major attractions of the *Ashtalakshmi Mahotsav* was the food journey through the region's diverse cuisines, each dish telling a story of its own. Visitors had the opportunity to

savour an array of flavours that beautifully captured the essence of the Northeast. Assam's simple yet delectable offerings included rice, fish curry, and traditional pitha. Arunachal Pradesh presented its flavourful rice-based dishes like *Thukpa* and *Zan*, often prepared with locally sourced ingredients like bamboo shoots. Manipur delighted the crowd with healthy delicacies such as *Eromba* and *Singju*, which highlighted the region's love for fresh vegetables and aromatic spices.

Nagaland's bold flavours took centre stage with dishes like *smoked pork* and *Akhumi*, while Mizoram's milder but equally delicious offerings included *Bai* and *smoked pork*. Tripura brought forth an exquisite blend of Bengali and indigenous influences with dishes like *Wahan Mosdeng* and *Mui Borok*. Meghalaya's hearty preparations, such as *Jadoh* and *Dohneiiong*, resonated with the region's rich culinary heritage, and Sikkim's popular *Phagshapa* and *Momos* emphasised fresh ingredients and simple yet delightful flavors. Together, these dishes created a vibrant gastronomic experience, allowing visitors to relish the authentic taste of Northeast India.

The second day of the Mahotsav continued to captivate audiences with a mesmerising blend of music and artistry. *Pangpari*, a talented singer-songwriter from Aizawl, Mizoram, enchanted the audience with her emotive blend of pop, indie, and jazz. Her heartfelt performance seamlessly merged modern music with traditional influences, offering a soulful



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THE ASHTALAKSHMI MAHOTSAV NOT ONLY CELEBRATED THE TRADITIONS AND CULTURAL HERITAGE OF NORTHEAST INDIA BUT ALSO PROVIDED A SIGNIFICANT PLATFORM FOR THESE STATES TO GAIN BROADER NATIONAL RECOGNITION.

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experience. Following *Pangpari* was *Sofiyum*, a Lepcha folk fusion band from Gangtok, Sikkim, that enthralled the crowd with its unique blend of traditional *Lepcha* folk songs and contemporary musical styles. Their performance beautifully illustrated the importance of preserving cultural heritage while adapting it to modern sensibilities.

The day also featured the Eastern Elements Unplugged session, an innovative musical experience that fused the *Blues* with *Raga jazz*, highlighting eco-friendly and ethically produced garments as a part of the growing global discourse on sustainability.

Prominent designers from the region showcased their creations, each bringing their unique vision and dedication to preserving the Northeast's sartorial traditions. *Jejum Gadi* from Arunachal Pradesh mesmerised with nature-inspired, gender-neutral designs. *Bambi Kevichusa* from Nagaland showcased her exquisite bridal wear while promoting sustainable craftsmanship. *Richana Khumanthem* from Manipur collaborated with local weavers to present garments that told stories of the region's weaving traditions.

Other notable designers included *Patricia Zadeng* from Mizoram, who focused on

uplifting female artisans, and *Daniel Syiem* from Meghalaya, whose work highlighted the indigenous fabric *Ryndia*. *Karma Sonam Bhutia* from Sikkim revived the traditional art of nettle-weaving, while *Priyanka D Patwari* from Assam and *Jyotsana Dev Verman* from Tripura brought their distinct styles to the event. Together, these designers painted a vivid picture of the Northeast's creative and cultural potential.

The final day of the *Ashtalakshmi Mahotsav* was a fitting conclusion to the three-day celebration, featuring a series of breathtaking performances. *Basavdutta Chongtham* (BASAV) from Manipur attracted the audience with her emotive vocals and poetic storytelling, while *FeatherHeads Haokui*, a Tangkhul Naga folk band, delivered lively renditions that celebrated the oral traditions of the Tangkhul tribe.

Adding a traditional touch was the graceful *Peacock Dance* (Kaa Kingnara Kingnari) from Arunachal Pradesh, which showcased the beauty and elegance of Tai Khamti culture. The festival's final act, *Imnainla Jamir*, an exceptional electric guitarist from Nagaland, brought a modern twist to the celebration. Her performance blended Western music with Indian influences, embodying the fusion of tradition and innovation that defines the artistic spirit of Northeast India.

The *Ashtalakshmi Mahotsav* not only celebrated the traditions and cultural heritage of Northeast India but also provided a significant platform for these states to gain broader national recognition. Through its rich array of performances, exhibitions, and culinary delights, the festival strengthened the cultural bonds between India's diverse regions and highlighted the immense potential of the northeastern states. It was a tribute to the spirit and resilience of the people of the Northeast India, whose contributions continue to enrich the nation's cultural and social fabric.

"IF YOU REALLY WANT TO MAKE A FRIEND, GO TO SOMEONE'S HOUSE AND EAT WITH HIM...THE PEOPLE WHO GIVE YOU THEIR FOOD GIVE YOU THEIR HEART"
— CESAR CHAVEZ

A TASTE OF TOKYO IN THE HEART OF DELHI



Boya Restaurant at Chanakyapuri, Delhi, is a gastronomic gem with finely curated dishes from celebrity chef Augusto and equally tastefully done interiors, writes **TEAM AGENDA**



Basko: All-Day Culinary and Cocktail Experience



By **TEAM AGENDA**

Step into *Basko*, the newly launched culinary bar in Noida, where ambiance, impeccable service and gastronomic artistry converge to create an unparalleled dining experience. Perched on a stunning rooftop, *Basko* exudes contemporary elegance with its warm, inviting interiors that seamlessly transition from a relaxed daytime haven to an energetic evening hotspot.

Basko's menu is a curated journey across global cuisines, featuring standout dishes like the *Lebanese Breaking Balloon*, a feast for both the eyes and palate, and the *Balochistan Raan*, a richly spiced lamb delicacy slow-cooked to perfection. Adventurous foodies will love the *Basko Surf & Turf Wings* and the umami-packed *Sesame Crusted Tofu with Teriyaki Glaze*.

The handcrafted cocktail program elevates the experience further, with offerings like the *Basko Ball*, blending buttery popcorn flavors with refreshing twists, and the *Picante Twist*, a fiery delight for spice lovers. Each sip is as inventive as it is indulgent. With its exceptional service, vibrant social atmosphere, and thoughtfully curated events, including live performances and exclusive launches, *Basko* is redefining Noida's dining and entertainment scene. It's more than a restaurant; it's a destination where every visit feels like a celebration.



Hours of Operation: 11 AM to 1 AM, Monday to Sunday
For Reservations, Please Contact: 95991 99499
Address: Basko, 6th Floor, Starling Mall, Sector 104, Noida, Uttar Pradesh, 201303

Chanakyapuri, Delhi's diplomatic enclave, has welcomed a new culinary star, *Boya* Restaurant. This contemporary dining destination promises a delightful experience that blends innovative gastronomy with an inviting ambience. Helmed by the celebrated *Chef Augusto*, who is both the Executive Chef and Chief Operating Officer (COO), *Boya* has quickly become a beacon for food connoisseurs and culinary adventurers alike.

A CULINARY VISION REALISED
Boya represents my vision of creating a dining experience that celebrates authenticity while embracing creativity," shares *Chef Augusto*. "Every dish on the menu has been crafted with passion, ensuring that it tells a story, evokes an emotion, and leaves a memorable impression." True to his words, the menu at *Boya* is a masterpiece that showcases an eclectic mix of global flavours with a modern twist.

The restaurant's menu is a symphony of carefully curated dishes that highlight seasonal ingredients and culinary finesse. Signature offerings include the succulent *Charcoal-Grilled Lamb Cutlets* infused with exotic spices and the delicately balanced *Miso-Glazed Black Cod*, a dish that perfectly marries sweet and savoury notes. Vegetarians will rejoice at the *Truffle-Scented Wild Mushroom Risotto*, which *Augusto* describes as "a warm embrace in a bowl."

"For me, food is more than just sustenance; it's an art form," *Chef Augusto* explains. "Every



ingredient is chosen with care, and every preparation is a homage to its origin." This ethos is evident in every bite, where the harmony of textures and flavours takes centre stage.

An Ambience That Speaks Volumes
The allure of *Boya* extends beyond its food. The restaurant's design is a visual treat that complements the culinary journey it offers. With its understated elegance, *Boya* combines modern architecture with subtle cultural motifs. The interiors are adorned with warm, earthy tones, ambient lighting, and bespoke art pieces that create an atmosphere of refined comfort.

"We wanted *Boya* to be more than just a place to eat," says *Chef Augusto*. "It's a space where people can connect, celebrate, and create

memories." This philosophy resonates throughout the establishment, from the welcoming staff to the thoughtful table settings.

The open kitchen design adds another layer of intrigue, allowing diners to witness the chefs in action. The theatrical display of culinary craftsmanship not only enhances the dining experience but also reinforces the transparency and authenticity that *Boya* embodies.

A TOAST TO CRAFTSMANSHIP
Boya's beverage programme is equally impressive, featuring a curated selection of wines, artisanal cocktails, and non-alcoholic options. The Sommelier's Selection highlights rare vintages and regional specialities, while the signature cocktails, like the *Citrus Bloom Martini* and *Smoked Maple Old Fashioned*, are crafted to perfection.

"Our drinks menu is an extension of our culinary philosophy," *Augusto* notes. "It's about balance, creativity, and ensuring every sip complements the flavours on the plate." The mocktails, such as the refreshing *Basil Lemonade* and the exotic *Lychee Rose Fizz*, are equally delightful, catering to diverse palates.

ACCOLADES AND ANTICIPATION
Despite its recent launch, *Boya* has already garnered acclaim from critics and

patrons. Food enthusiasts have praised the restaurant for its innovative menu and impeccable service. Many have also commended *Chef Augusto's* ability to create an experience that feels both luxurious and personal.

"The response has been overwhelming," says *Augusto*. "It's heartening to see diners appreciate the effort and thought we've put into *Boya*. For us, this is just the beginning."

A MUST-VISIT DESTINATION
Whether you're a seasoned foodie or simply looking for a memorable meal, *Boya* Restaurant is a destination that should be on your radar. With its exceptional menu, stunning ambience, and the genius of *Chef Augusto* at the helm, *Boya* is set to redefine the dining landscape in Delhi.

"*Boya* is not just a restaurant; it's a celebration of life, flavours, and togetherness," *Augusto* concludes. "We're here to create moments that linger long after the last bite." In a city teeming with culinary options, *Boya* shines bright as a testament to what passion, creativity, and excellence can achieve. Make your reservations soon, this is one dining experience you won't want to miss.



UNIQUE DUAL DINING EXPERIENCE

Experience two different worlds at *Blaq* and *Wyte*, with both daytime relaxation and rocking nightlife on the rooftop, writes **TEAM AGENDA**

Under the open sky and also for people loving indoors, *Blaq* and *Wyte* in the Defence Colony, opens its doors to a chilling concept for the food and party lovers. With a unique concept of both daytime and evening preferences with flair and sophistication one side of the place is *Blaq* and the other is referred to as *Wyte*. With doors above the urban hustle, *Blaq* and *Wyte* promises a meal and a mood with slices of the heavens on both sides.

Blaq's menu specialises in Pan Asian cuisine, featuring signature dishes like *crunchy iceberg vegetable dumplings*, *Chengdu Lamb*, and *Tuna Tataki*. By day, *Blaq* is a refined dining destination, but after 9 PM, it transforms into a lively party space with led displays and Asian-inspired cocktails, creating a nightlife experience.

On the other hand, the *Wyte* offers a contrasting and complementary atmosphere as a day-themed chill cafe and resto-bar. *Wyte* features Mediterranean cuisine, serving dishes like *Lamb Adana Kebab*, *Mezze Platter*, and *Stuffed Camelloni*. *Wyte* provides a relaxed, airy ambience that's perfect for casual

gatherings or unwinding over a leisurely meal. Its bright and inviting decor makes *Wyte* an ideal daytime spot for savouring a curated selection of Italian and Mediterranean dishes in a laid-back setting.

"The *Blaq's* interiors feature black and gold, highlighting how black enhances the prominence of other colours. Our vision was that without black, other colours wouldn't stand out as much.

Blaq evolved into a proper party destination after 9-10 p.m., catering to Delhi's party crowd. However, we noticed a demand from guests seeking a more relaxed and conversational ambience. That inspired *Wyte*, chill space with subdued music where guests can unwind, enjoy their food and drinks, and connect," said *Nikhil Sharma*, Founder of *Blaq* and *Wyte*.

Together, the place offers a great chill time from day to night bringing its own unique flair and appeal to Delhi's upscale dining scene. Whether it's a relaxed afternoon at *Wyte* or an elegant, vibrant evening at *Blaq*, guests are invited to explore both spaces and embrace the full range of experiences offered in this exceptional dual dining destination.



A PERUVIAN EXTRAVAGANZA

By **TEAM AGENDA**



Delhiites experienced a rare glimpse of Peru's vibrant culture and cuisine during the Peru Festival, organised by the Embassy of Peru in Delhi. The event was inaugurated by H.E. Mr. Javier Manuel Paulinich Velarde, Ambassador of Peru to India, who kicked off a week-long celebration promising an immersive journey into the culinary and cultural treasures of the South American nation. Held at Le Méridien, the festival quickly became a highlight for food enthusiasts, culture lovers, and those passionate about exploring global traditions. The grand inauguration set an engaging tone, featuring mesmerising performances of traditional Peruvian music that captivated attendees. The event was launched by the distinguished ambassador alongside senior executives of Le Méridien, underscoring the shared values of cultural exchange and hospitality. The heart of the *Peru Festival* lay in its culinary offerings, curated by renowned Peruvian Chef



Julio Castillo. Guests indulged in an authentic menu featuring iconic dishes such as *ceviche*, *lomo saltado*, *anticuchos*, and *aji de gallina*. Dessert lovers enjoyed classics like *suspiro a la limeña* and *picares*, paired with traditional beverages such as *pisco sour* and *chicha morada*.

Chef Castillo highlighted Peru's rich and diverse culinary heritage, shaped by Indigenous, Spanish, African, and Asian influences. "Food is the soul of our culture, and we're thrilled to share this with the world," he said.

Le Méridien's Marketing Manager *Gitanju Jetly* echoed this sentiment, stating, "The Peru Festival exemplifies our commitment to celebrating global cultures and connecting our guests to enriching experiences. This partnership allows us to bring the vibrancy of Peru's heritage to our guests in a unique and memorable way."

The *Peru Festival* was an instant hit, drawing crowds eager to savour the sights, sounds, and tastes of Peru. The event offered Delhiites an opportunity to immerse themselves in the essence of Peruvian culture without leaving the city—a chance that visitors embraced wholeheartedly.

By **TEAM AGENDA**

If you've ever found yourself dreaming of a regal feast fit for royalty, look no further than the heart of Lucknow, brought to life at *Tamra, Shangri-La Eros New Delhi*. Here, home chef *Mansi*, a culinary prodigy from the UP Khatri community, delighted food lovers with an exquisite journey through Lucknowi *Dawat*, a celebration of *Awadhi* cuisine, reimagined with a deeply rooted respect for tradition. *Chef Mansi*, whose expertise in authentic *Awadhi* flavours is steeped in generations of family recipes, hosted a unique pop-up event at the renowned international cuisine restaurant. Her cooking, inspired by the women of her family, honoured the vegetarian traditions of her community while introducing a delightful array of North Indian delicacies. Focusing on slow cooking and seasonal ingredients, she brought life to every dish, from the rich *Zafrani Biryani* to the soul-soothing *Dal*. The evening began with *Shammi Kababs*, delicate, spiced patties of minced meat, their tender texture and bold flavours setting the stage



REGAL FLAVOURS OF LUCKNOWI DAWAT



for what was to come. Then, guests were treated to *Khasta* and *Aloo* – the crisp, golden *kachoris* paired with tangy potatoes in a tomato gravy, a comforting prelude to the main course.

For the grand finale, the *Zafrani Biryani* emerged as the hero – tender meat and fragrant rice slow-cooked under a blanket of saffron-infused steam, capturing the essence of *Awadhi* luxury. The *Nihari*, a slow-cooked stew of tender meat, braised overnight with aromatic spices, was a hearty winter delight, while the vegetarian dishes like *Lauki Musallam* – a stuffed gourd in a rich gravy – and the fresh, zingy *Nimona*, stole the spotlight.

The evening ended with the indulgent *Phirni*, a saffron-flavoured rice pudding crowned with dry fruits and silver wafers, served in charming earthenware bowls.

Chef Mansi's Lucknowi *Dawat* was not just a meal, but a celebration of culture, heritage, and culinary craftsmanship, a truly magical experience at *Tamra*, where tradition and innovation met with warmth and hospitality.

FACT SHEET

BLAQ

Address: D-21, Third Floor, Defence Colony, Delhi - 110024
Contact Number: 9582222702, 9582222703
Timings: 5 PM - 1 AM

WYTE

Address: D-21, Third Floor, Defence Colony, Delhi-110024
Contact Number: 9582221704, 9582221705
Timings: 12 PM - 1 AM



In the heart of Westminster, London, St. James' Court offers a unique blend of Indian warmth and British charm, loved by Bollywood stars, says **RUPALI DEAN**

St. James' Court, a luxurious retreat nestled in the heart of Westminster, exudes an irresistible charm that makes it a favourite among the glitterati. This opulent hotel seamlessly blends grandeur with the warmth of Indian hospitality, creating a setting that feels as if it's been plucked straight from a glamorous film set.

Celebrities such as the Bachchans, Ajay Devgan, Sunil Shetty and Manisha Koirala have often sought solace here, drawn by its enchanting ambience and impeccable service. From the moment you enter its grand lobby, the elegance of marble floors and the soft glow of chandeliers whisk you into a world of sophistication. The melodious strains of a grand piano fill the air, offering a romantic atmosphere perfect for both lively conversations and intimate moments. Cosy nooks adorned with vibrant artworks provide ideal spots for quiet reflection or a relaxing chat over chai, making the hotel a discreet haven for stars escaping the public eye.

evoked the splendour of royal living, ensuring guests a sumptuous retreat after a day of exploring. A standout feature is the renowned Jiva Spa, where rejuvenating treatments transport visitors into a state of bliss, proving that relaxation here is an art form perfected.

Conveniently located just a ten-minute stroll from Victoria Station, the hotel is a prime base for discovering London's iconic attractions. Landmarks such as Westminster Abbey and Big Ben are just a leisurely walk away, while St. James' Park offers stunning views and peaceful pathways. This enchanting locale has not only captured the hearts of tourists but also photographers and filmmakers seeking inspiration.

Where Bollywood Glamour Meets Exquisite Cuisine

Dining at St. James' Court is a culinary adventure designed to impress even the most discerning Bollywood stars. With an array of dining options, each venue celebrates global cuisines with a touch of flair.

TH@51 Restaurant & Bar delivers an international menu catering to diverse palates, making it a hotspot for both locals and globe-trotting celebrities. For a quintessentially British experience, Kona reimagines afternoon tea with innovative themes that are as Instagram-worthy as they are delicious.

For authentic Chinese cuisine, The House of Ming offers a menu inspired by Sichuan and Cantonese traditions, guaranteed to captivate any A-lister. Meanwhile, the Michelin-starred Quilon presents a vibrant tribute to the culinary treasures of India's southwest coast, each dish weaving a story that could easily inspire a Bollywood screenplay.



For those drawn to adventurous Indian flavours, a short cab ride to the Bombay Brasserie unveils a modern twist on traditional recipes, reminiscent of a Bollywood blockbuster reinterpreting a classic tale.

As evening falls, the Hamptons Bar beckons with masterfully crafted cocktails, set against the soothing melodies of a resident pianist. In the summer, the TH@51 Courtyard transforms into a magical alfresco dining venue, complete with fairy lights, offering an experience straight out of a romantic Bollywood scene.

Blending Indian Hospitality with British Elegance

St. James' Court not only boasts exceptional cuisine but also offers beautifully appointed rooms and suites that balance luxury with comfort. Thoughtfully designed, these spaces are perfect for families and friends, echoing the ensembles often seen in Bollywood films.

With its unique combination of Indian hospitality and British sophistication, St. James' Court has earned its place as a favourite among Bollywood's elite. It is more than just a luxury hotel; it is an elegant canvas capturing the essence of a magical getaway.

For stars who seek not only opulence but also a serene escape from the crowds, St. James' Court stands as a testament to comfort, charm, and an unforgettable London experience.

Where? 54 Buckingham Gate, London SW1E 6AF, United Kingdom

— Rupali Dean, awarded 'Best Food Writer in the Country' by the Indian Culinary Forum, WACS, and the Ministry of Tourism, writes on food and travel

Where Luxury Meets Holistic Wellness In Perfect Harmony

A luxurious sanctuary of tranquility and wellness, Jetwing Lagoon is a perfect retreat for holistic wellness, says **SHARMILA CHAND**

Sri Lanka beckons, a land where vibrant city life is in synergy with calming pulse of pristine beaches. Adding to the Sri Lankan hospitality is a luxury wellness haven, Jetwing Lagoon, a signature masterpiece originally envisioned in 1965 by legendary architect Geoffrey Bawa, as his first resort design project.

REVIVE. REJUVENATE REFLECT

Nestled between the quiet Negombo lagoon and the gorgeous Indian Ocean, this luxury wellness resort embraces the serenity of the inland waters for a perfect island retreat. As I step in, a feeling of calm and peace embraces me. I walk from the reception towards the suites, crossing the centrepiece 100 metre swimming pool which boasts of being one of the largest in the region. To my utmost pleasure, I have the company of one pretty egret following me in the garden. She stops when I go towards the staircase as my suite is located on the first floor. We look at each other conveying the message of 'see you' later.

Suites here are epitome of luxury and mine is lagoon facing while featuring all modern amenities. With the sunrise, I look forward to my bespoke wellness plan which begins with yoga and meditation session. And yes, meeting my friend once again in the garden.

There is something about the air at the resort that comforts, heals, and brings in peace. An in-house Senior Ayurvedic Physician, Dr. Gayathri Nissanka awaits, ready to curate a wellness plan following a personalised consultation.

WELLNESS ETHOS

Dr Gayathri explains, "At Jetwing Lagoon, the Wellness Experience is thoughtfully crafted around five key pillars: Mindfulness, Nutrition, Movement, Rest, and Community.

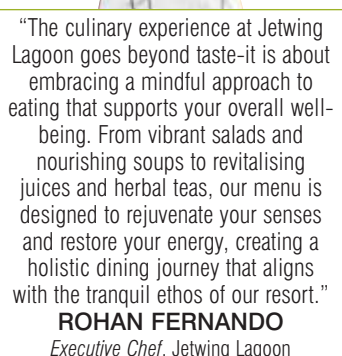


FACTS:
Jetwing Lagoon
Pamunugama Rd, Negombo 11504,
Sri Lanka Phone: +94 312 233 777

The wellness packages integrate these pillars, ensuring that every guest embarks on a transformative journey that inspires lasting lifestyle changes. From slow flow yoga and meditation sessions, luxurious spa treatments, age-old ayurvedic treatments, and nourishing wellness cuisine, we provide a comprehensive approach to rebalancing and restoring your body, mind, and spirit."

MINDFUL DINING

Dining at the Resort is a journey through a wholesome culinary experience. Designed to nourish the body, mind, and spirit in harmony with serene surroundings, wellness cuisine is at the heart of the culinary philosophy at Jetwing Lagoon. The culinary philosophy focuses on the use of fresh, natural, and nutrient-rich ingredients, thoughtfully prepared to enhance health, vitality, and balance. Every dish is crafted with care, prioritising plant-based whole foods while also offering lean meats and seafood, ensuring a diverse



"The culinary experience at Jetwing Lagoon goes beyond taste-it is about embracing a mindful approach to eating that supports your overall well-being. From vibrant salads and nourishing soups to revitalising juices and herbal teas, our menu is designed to rejuvenate your senses and restore your energy, creating a holistic dining journey that aligns with the tranquil ethos of our resort."
ROHAN FERNANDO
Executive Chef, Jetwing Lagoon

menu that caters to a variety of dietary preferences. There is a commitment towards preserving the integrity of each ingredient, avoiding processed foods and artificial additives.

Set within the tranquil surroundings of the resort, 'Blue Lagoon' restaurant lives up to its name with a spacious, serene setting that overlooks the stunning Negombo Lagoon. Inspired by the impressive length of the swimming pool, '100 Meters' is the Poolside Bar with a menu as extensive as its name. Have your pick from tropical cocktails and mocktails, or from a range of international beverages and spirits. Here at the Pool Bar, you will also find refreshing station, featuring fresh juices, smoothies, detox beverages, and selected mocktails.

'Pier Dining' turned out to be my favourite. On a cloudy evening, I chose to dine at the table set up right at the edge of gentle waters of the Negombo Lagoon. An open-air setup on a private pier that extends out into

the open expanse of the lush landscapes is truly a memorable experience.

THE LOCAL NARRATIVE

Step out of the resort and explore fascinating tales of Negombo and its surrounding regions. For the birding enthusiasts, a journey through the historic Dutch canals that lead to the famed mangroves of Muthurajawela in the south, or the lush open sanctuary of Anawilundawa to the north are great natural aviaries abound with a number of endemic and migratory species that can be spotted on special excursions. For the adventure seekers, there are water sports to indulge in adrenaline-filled experiences on a sunny Negombo afternoon. Take a city tour and discover history and culture at every turn. How the ruined Dutch Fort reflects Negombo's colonial legacy, while the bustling Lellama Fish Market pays tribute to its roots as a traditional fishing



"With luxurious villa-styled rooms sprawling expansively in a harmonious blend of tropical modernism, spaces bathed in natural light and lush gardens that transcend the calm of the gentle waters, Jetwing Lagoon is a sanctuary of peace and tranquility for a wellness getaway that rebalances, restores and revives."
ROMELLO PERERA
General Manager, Jetwing Lagoon

TO CONCLUDE

In this serene environment, worries melt away as you prepare to embark on a transformative journey. So go ahead and discover an iconic sanctuary meticulously designed to welcome guests seeking rejuvenation amidst luxe pampering.



"Besides therapies we also curate specific meals that align with guests' individual health goals. For a more interactive experience, we let guests join the chefs in preparing nutritious dishes, offering a hands-on journey into wellness cooking. This immersive approach allows you to savor the satisfaction of dining on meals you've crafted yourself. Such experiences go beyond just dining—they offer a chance to connect with nature, embrace wellness, and enjoy mindful eating in the tranquil atmosphere of Jetwing Lagoon."
DR. GAYATHRI NISSANKA
Senior Ayurvedic Physician, Jetwing Lagoon



YOUR WEEK AHEAD

MADHU KOTIYA



ARIES March 21-April 19

This week is pivotal for addressing any outstanding debts or loans. You may find yourself approached by friends or relatives seeking financial assistance for significant life events, like a wedding. Fortunately, you are well-placed to offer the necessary support, whether emotional or financial. Engaging in charitable activities could also be fulfilling during this period. While financial stability enhances your ability to enjoy life luxuriously, mid-week might bring a wave of daydreaming and fantastical thinking. You may find yourself indulging in various pleasures, from dining and fashion to leisure activities. However, be wary of your shifting desires, as they could lead to confusion and dissatisfaction. Staying grounded and setting clear, realistic goals is essential.

Lucky number 11 | **Lucky colour** Peach
Lucky day Monday



LEO July 23-Aug 22

You possess a commanding presence and a strong inclination for things to unfold according to your expectations. Your meticulous nature shines even brighter than usual, filling your surroundings with dynamism and vigor. However, an excess of any trait can lead to distancing, conflicts, and an overall unpleasant atmosphere. This might cause some peers to either shy away from or challenge you, potentially leading to disagreements or differing views. It's essential for you to channel your abundant energy into more productive activities. Fortunately, you are endowed with robust health, a respectable position, and significant influence. Although you lead in your pursuits, maintaining a harmonious environment could enhance your achievements even further. Despite this, such balance may seem elusive. Your dominant traits could risk the reputation you've painstakingly built.

Lucky number 13 | **Lucky colour** Pink
Lucky day Wednesday



SAGITTARIUS Nov 22-Dec 21

This week may bring some health challenges that require you to step back and focus on recovery. You might need to undergo medical care, which will necessitate a brief pause from your usual activities. Fortunately, you will not be alone during this time, as your partner will provide unwavering support and comfort. This period is also an opportune time to deepen your spiritual connections. Engaging in spiritual practices and exploring your inner faith can significantly bolster your resilience and help you regain your balance. Embrace a path that emphasizes compassion, kindness, and love towards everyone. Family relationships will strengthen, allowing for open communication and shared insights. You may find yourself drawn to spiritual study and devotion, particularly in seeking peace and recovery.

Lucky number 2 | **Lucky colour** Ivory
Lucky day Sunday



TAURUS April 20-May 20

This week, you may find yourself embracing a leadership role through your ability to influence and manage others effectively. Your capacity to understand and address the needs of those around you could strengthen your position. However, be aware of a contingent who may not appreciate your approach. These individuals might attempt to undermine your efforts, potentially impacting outcomes that include negotiated agreements or opportunities for which you've been competing. As the week progresses, you may feel a sense of fatigue from shouldering heavy responsibilities on your own. It would be wise to consider sharing tasks and authority more broadly. Delegating effectively can not only ease your workload but also enhance overall productivity and job satisfaction.

Lucky number 4 | **Lucky colour** Teal
Lucky day Saturday



VirGO Aug 23-Sep 22

This week presents an opportunity for growth and financial security, offering a sense of victory in achieving your goals. You'll find yourself enjoying various forms of entertainment and a satisfying home life, which could lead to fulfilling personal desires. As the week progresses, you may find yourself focusing on emotional achievements, potentially receiving positive news related to relationships or deepening bonds with significant others. However, be prepared for a phase where you might experience some confusion and a feeling of detachment. By the week's end, you'll find it beneficial to adapt and integrate new perspectives into your life. Embracing change and discarding outdated practices will help you maintain your balance and face future challenges with renewed confidence.

Lucky number 15 | **Lucky colour** Green
Lucky day Friday



CAPRICORN Dec 22-Jan 19

This week, you might find yourself overwhelmed by emotions and sentimentality. Challenges may arise, steering things away from your desired outcomes and causing considerable emotional turmoil. Health concerns could also add to your stress, prompting you to focus more on well-being. It's a time to manage your finances wisely; prudent budgeting is essential. Mid-week calls for a systematic approach to navigate through these challenges effectively. Prioritize a balanced diet and disciplined lifestyle to maintain your overall health. As the week progresses, expect improvements in your professional life, which in turn could boost your financial situation. Satisfaction and joy will grow towards the weekend, and a significant personal goal, such as acquiring a property, may be within reach, enhancing your sense of achievement and well-being.

Lucky number 16 | **Lucky colour** Amber
Lucky day Thursday



GEMINI May 21-June 20

Last week brought some rewarding outcomes, but caution is advised moving forward. Upcoming challenges at work may include conflicts and arguments with a domineering colleague. This period may be marred by criticism, underhanded competition, and harsh words. Midweek could see you coming under the influence of a negative individual, devoid of ethical considerations, potentially pushing you toward decisions that clash with societal norms. Despite these hurdles, your resolve remains firm. With confidence and determination, you'll navigate through these obstacles successfully. By the week's end, your integrity and truthfulness will shine through, earning you recognition and respect. This reaffirmation of your status will be a significant morale booster, allowing you to hold your head high amidst challenges.

Lucky number 6 | **Lucky colour** Lavender
Lucky day Tuesday



LIBRA Sep 23-Oct 22

The upcoming week heralds a phase of enjoyment, recognition, and well-being. Positioned favorably, you are poised to reap the benefits of your dedication and perseverance, coupled with divine favor. This period accentuates your equitable and magnanimous traits, enhancing your leadership capabilities. Your integrity and altruistic nature resonate well with the flow of events, garnering admiration and influence among peers and admirers who value your counsel. At home or in professional settings, your role as a guiding figure is set to receive accolades from those close to you. However, as the week draws to a close, remain vigilant. Being proactive in managing these risks is advisable to maintain your current trajectory. Always remember, taking precautions is more prudent than seeking remedies after the fact.

Lucky number 21 | **Lucky colour** Saffron
Lucky day Tuesday



AQUARIUS Jan 20-Feb 18

This week starts with a need for you to make significant decisions. It's important to approach these choices with a clear, objective mindset, as they could have profound impacts on your life or someone close to you. Expect some competition or conflicts at work; it's wise to avoid confrontations and adopt a more yielding approach during this time. Midweek might bring challenges, possibly criticism from a higher-up, which could leave you feeling downhearted. To combat this, engaging in meditation or following a spiritual practice could help restore your confidence and mental balance. Stay focused on your goals or aspirations, as this focus is crucial now. By the week's end, the atmosphere lightens, bringing a sense of positivity. Issues begin to resolve, and there might be developments in personal relationships, potentially involving commitments or heartfelt connections.

Lucky number 22 | **Lucky colour** Copper
Lucky day Saturday



CANCER June 21-July 22

This week begins with a surge of activity for you, pushing emotional considerations to the background. You'll find yourself faced with a professional opportunity requiring immediate attention and sharp skills. Embrace this chance to act decisively, as your clear communication and refined approach will pave the way for future benefits. As the week progresses, expect significant financial transactions. This period will also highlight your philanthropic side, as you feel compelled to assist those in need. Revisiting your financial commitments will be key during this time, ensuring that debts are settled responsibly. The latter part of the week brings developments in personal relationships. You may find yourself forming a new partnership or deepening existing ties, bringing a sense of fulfillment in love.

Lucky number 9 | **Lucky colour** Ocean Blue
Lucky day Friday



SCORPIO Oct 23-Nov 21

This period is proving increasingly demanding for those with intense and focused energy. The pressure to excel is pervasive, affecting not only professionals but also students immersed in their academic pursuits. Both groups would benefit greatly from taking time to relax and heal. This is a crucial moment to restore balance, ensuring you're equipped to tackle future challenges without succumbing to fatigue. Such stress can cause irritability and may even impact emotional stability. Health-wise, it's wise to prioritize well-being through regular check-ups and ensuring adequate rest, particularly for women who might experience physical discomfort mid-week. Additionally, tension in professional relationships could escalate into conflicts. It's essential to manage your responses and invest time in rejuvenation. Balancing your busy schedule with moments of leisure can prevent potential discord at work or home.

Lucky number 8 | **Lucky colour** Gray
Lucky day Saturday



PISCES Feb 19-March 20

This week is brimming with energetic potential for those who channel their creativity constructively. However, without a clear goal, efforts may falter. Focus is crucial in harnessing your dynamic energy for productive outcomes. Family matters demand your attention and compassion. Neglecting any health concerns could lead to significant financial consequences, so preventative measures are advisable. Midweek might present challenges, including personal separations and financial setbacks, potentially straining relationships. Yet, resilience and mental fortitude can provide necessary support during these times. As the week concludes, numerous opportunities may emerge, but be mindful not to overlook them due to preoccupation with personal pursuits. Engaging in discussions and journeys could enhance your emotional well-being. For those in relationships, this period fosters greater understanding and connection.

Lucky number 19 | **Lucky colour** Red
Lucky day Thursday

Madhu Kotiya is a tarot card reader, spiritual healer, and Founder, MShezaim Institute of Tarot and Divination. Contact details: madhu@indiatarot.com, www.indiatarot.com, M: 9873283331

The Spiritual significance of food

THE TUNING FORK



CV Srikanth

Food is just a part of a balanced diet... For us it is about what goes into it and how we consume it - a spiritual act. Across cultures and beliefs, the spiritual significance of food mirrors the deep connection between us, nature, nourishment, and the divine. It is the 'Sutradhar' the common thread running through belief systems, occasions, connect of self with nature, community sharing, mindfulness, and holistic wellbeing. In Christianity, the Eucharist involves the symbolic consumption of bread and wine, representing the body and blood of Christ. In Sanatan Dharma, Annaprashnasignifies the initiation of feeding the first grain to a baby according to family customs.

The spiritual purport of variety and ingredients - cooked rice as the beginning of life, variety of fruits for Naivedyam or Bhog to God as a gratitude to Him being the provider, clarified butter (ghee) in rituals symbolizes the cosmic connect. Cinnamon and cloves signify energy givers and absorbers, sweets for auspicious beginnings, Ganesh Chaturthi brings in Modhakand Teej / Raksha Bandhan announces Ghevar. Pongal (the festival) beckons Pongal - The dish, Dhokar Dalnarings in Puja festivities in Bengal.

Thoughts shape reality; regulate them to transform your destiny.



Simple water is so inspiringly sacrosanct - 'Mindfulness and Gratitude' - Sprinkling water with recitation of mantras (invoking the divine within), is a way of seeking blessings, purifying oneself & the food making us more receptive eating - to be aware and present during meals bringing sanctity. Festivals ring in the community sharing embodying principles of generosity and hospitality. A recommended spiritual practise is Upavasa (Staying near Oneness) or abstinence from food signifying a direct connect to the Self- an act of self-

discipline and sacrifice abstaining from all the four forms chewing, licking, swallowing, and drinking. Going within to Purge and Purify for heightened awareness. As per Vedic traditions, food is intertwined with spiritual evolution and the attainment of higher consciousness. In the Taittiriya Upanishad, the concept of "Annam Brahma" (Food is Para Brahman - The One and Only Supreme) encapsulates that food is not just material sustenance but embodying the divine consciousness (Para Brahman). Taking our connect with

Annam to another level of spiritual awareness. Every day offering to God is Bhog or Naivedyam. Central to Vedic rituals is Yajna (rituals with sacred fire and mantras) - where offerings, including food, are made into the sacred fire as a deference to the Deities. Krishna explains in the Bhagavat Gita ...:

अन्नादमवन्तिभूतानिपर्जन्यादन्नसम्भवः | यज्ञादमवतिपर्जन्योयज्ञः कर्मसमुद्भवः | 'All beings are born from and subsist on food. Food is produced by rains. Rains arise from the performance of sacrifice (Yajna), and sacrifice is produced by the performance of prescribed duties.'

A brilliant explanation of the interrelation between food, sustenance (rain), and the performance of sacrificial duties (Yajna). We are what we consume. The idea of Ahara (food) and Vihara (lifestyle) - Sattvic (simple) Ahara and Spiritual Evolution in Ayurveda is exceptional. Everything is composed of 5 basic elements (Pancha Mahabhootas), Earth (Prithvi), Water (Appu), Fire (Teja), Air (Vayu) Ether (Akasha). So, the Panchabhuta components of ingested food nourishes their respective elements in the body. Correct Ahara is the best medicine - essentially saying that Ahara and Vihara are agreeable to metabolism and constitution of an individual.

The gunas qualities of sattvic foods considered to promote clarity of mind and spiritual growth. The Bhagavad Gita describes this as

आयुरुस्त्वचबलारोग्यसुखप्रीतिविकर्मानां | रस्याः सिन्ध्याः स्थिरा हृद्या आहाराः सत्त्विकक्रियाः || 'Foods that promotes life span, purity, increase virtue, strength, health, happiness, and satisfaction, which are juicy, succulent, wholesome, naturally tasteful, nourishing and pleasing to the heart, are dear to those in the mode of purity, goodness and righteousness (Sattva).'

Consuming Sattvic food supports physical health, nurtures a harmonious state of mind for spiritual practice. Food is Prasad when consumed with piety-with Blessings and Gratitude यत्करोति यदश्नाति यज्जुहोति ददाति यत् | यत्पश्यति कोन्तेय तत्कुरुष्व मदपंगम ||27|| 'All that you do, you eat, you offer as oblation & gift, and all austerities that you perform, do them as an offering to Me'

Surrendering of one's actions, including that of consuming food, as a pious offering fosters spiritual growth. It is not food and eating. It is spiritually evolving with masterful compositions of gratitude, mindfulness, self-discipline, interweaving us with nature and divine awareness. It is about 'Prana' - The Life Force.