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## MAHA GAINS FOR BJP, CONG CUT TO SIZE WAYANAD SENDS MAHAYUTI STUMPS MAHA VIKAS AGHADI



Maharashtra Chief Minister Eknath Shinde with Deputy Chief Ministers Devendra Fadnavis and Ajit Pawar flashes victory sign during a press conference as the BJP-led Mahayuti alliance secures victory.

#### T N RAGHUNATHA MUMBAI

C tunning a united Sopposition that was confident of unseating the ruling alliance from power, the Bharatiya Janata Party-led MahaYuti on Saturday scored a historic victory over the Congress-led Maha Vikas Aghadi (MVA), by winning an astounding 233 seats out of the total 288 seats in the Maharashtra Assembly polls.

In a landslide win that even surprised the ruling alliance leaders, the BJP, which heads the MahaYuti, put up a best-ever performance in the Assembly polls by bagging as many as 133 seats out of the total 288 seats on its own, a

sworn into office on Monday. superlative feat than is far On the other hand, the better than its own earlier Opposition MVA, comprising stupendous wins in the 2014 and 2019 Assembly polls when 122 and 105 seats Congress, Shiv Sena (UBT) and NCP (Sharad Pawar), put respectively. The BJP's allies, Eknath up a pathetic performance by winning a meagre 45 seats. While the Shiv Sena (UBT)

Shinde-led Shiv Sena and Ajit Pawar-headed NCP — that won 57 and 41 seats respectively, also contributed to the MahaYuti's thumping victory. With 133 seats in its kitty, the ruling BJP has become a natural claimant for the Chief Minister's post.

Notwithstanding Eknath Shinde's lobbying to retain the CM's post, it is quite likely that the BJP's central leadership will choose the current Dy CM as the new LoP's post. Chief N CM. The new CM will be

Shinde, his deputies Devendra Fadnavis and Ajit deputies Pawar attributed a large share of the MahaYuti victory to its 'Mukhya Mantri Ladki Bahin Yojana' (Chief Minister's Beloved Sister Scheme) which was announced in the State Budget 2024-25. Under the scheme, the MahaYuti government had doled out an assistance of Rs 1,500 per month to all women (age 21-

65 years) across state. Launched in August this year, a total assistance of Rs 7,500 reached 2.34 crore women across the state during the last five months at the rate of Rs 1,500 per woman per month. "I salute women across the state. The Mukhya Mantri Ladki Bahin Yojana' proved to be a game-changer for us... Remember everyone wrote us off after the Lok Sabha polls. If the people, especially women across the state, have given us resounding victory, it is because of the development work and welfare schemes like the Ladki Bahin scheme, which helped us script an unprecedented win in the polls," Shinde said.

One of the biggest takeaways from the polls that the Eknath Shinde-led Shiv Sena and Ajit Pawar-headed NCP, which are off-shoots of the vertical splits that took place in the united parties in June 2022 and July 2023 respectively have proved electorally that they are better parties than the Uddhav Thackeray-led Shiv Sena and Sharad Pawarled NCP in terms of strength in the State Assembly.

Continued on page 5

### JHARKHAND SAYS JOHAR TO JMM



Jharkhand Chief Minister Hemant Soren with his wife and JMM leader Kalpana Soren, and Congress' Jharkhand in-charge Ghulam Ahmad Mir during a press conference after JMM-led INDIA Bloc won PTI

Party (AJSU), which contested on 10

seats, could only win one. AJSU Party

president Sudesh Mahto was also

defeated from his traditional seat Silli.

Two other partners of NDA, Janata

Dal (United), and Lok Janshakti Party (LJP), won one seat each making the NDA reach a tally of 24. Jharkhand Krantikari Lok Morcha (JKLM), a new

political party formed by youth leader Jairam Mahto, won only one seat, but

it made a significant dent into the

traditional vote bank of both BJP and

Chief Minister Hemant Soren's wife,

and MLA, Kalpana Murmu Soren,

and his brother and MLA Basant

Soren won their seats from Gandey

sister in law Sita Murmu Soren, who

contested on a BJP ticket from Jamtara

State BJP president Babulal Marandi retained his seat, while former CM Champai Soren also won from

Saraikela. However, former CM Arjun

Munda's wife Meera Munda and

former CM Madhu Koda's wife Geeta

Koda had to face defeat in the polls.

had to face defeat.

AJSU party, said political experts.

#### PRANAV PRATYUSH RANCHI

n contrast to its Maharashtra miracle, the National Democratic Alliance (NDA) led by Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) faced a huge setback in Jharkhand with the INDIA Bloc coming back with a resounding victory in the Assembly polls, results of which were announced on Saturday.

The INDIA Bloc led by the Jharkhand Mukti Morcha (JMM) in Jharkhand registered victory in 56 constituencies. The JMM won 34 seats, four more than its 2019 polls tally, while the Congress managed to win 16 seats in the 81 member Assembly. The Rashtriya Janata Dal (RJD) and and Dumka respectively, while his

Communist Party of India (Marxist-Leninist), two other members of the coalition, also performed well by clinching four and two seats respectively. Both the parties had won just one seat in the 2019 Assembly polls. On the other hand, the BJP could barely secure 21 seats, which are four less than that of its 2019 performance. The NDA's major partner All Jharkhand Students Union

> turmoil in



Sabhas. The poll results have further diminished the grand old party's role in the Opposition bloc as compared to its alliance partners regional The party's strength in Lok Sabha also got reduced to 98 seats after it lost the Nanded Lok Sabha to the BIP in the bypolls. Congress however attempted to put up a brave front, and celebrate the expected massive Lok Sabha by-election win for Priyanka Gandhi in Wayanad. "Enough of coalition politics, I think the voters are looking only to the Congress and they are confused with too many cooks in the broth. Near future I also understand the way our electorates are behaving, very soon we will see only Congress and the BJP playing on the electoral turf," said a senior Congress MP on the latest poll results when asked what went wrong again after Harvana.



Amid Maharashtra, the decision to appoint rebel leader Eknath Shinde as the chief minister of the state also worked in



foregone conclusion

PRIYANKA TO PARLIAMENT

KUMAR CHELLAPPAN KOCHI

from the word go, and the only question asked was whether she would overtake the brute majority bagged by her brother Rahul Gandhi in the constituency. Privanka Gandhi created a record by polling 6,22, 338 breaking the tally of Rahul Gandhi in the 2024 Lok Sabha poll from the constituency. Rahul Gandhi had won the seat by a majority of 3,64,422 votes and he quit Wayanad seat in favour of the family fieldom of Rae Bareli from where he had contested. Rahul Mamkoottathil of the Congress retained the Palakkad Assembly constituency by a thumping majority of 18,840 votes, defeating his nearest rival C Krishnakumar of the BJP.

While Mamkoottathil polled 58, 389 votes, the BJP candidate had to contend with 39, 549 votes. The Communist Party of India (Marxist) (CPI-M) supported independent P Sarin, who had crossed over to the Left Democratic Front (LDF) from the Congress, was relegated to the third position as he polled 37, 298 votes. What made the victory sweeter for the Congress candidate was the majority with which he won the by-poll. Continued on page 5



## The lotus blooms yet again | Cong now back in analysis

RAJESH KUMAR 📕 NEW DELHI  $T^{he Bharatiya Janata Party}_{(BJP) is back with vengeance, crushed the Maha}$ Vikas Aghadi (MVA) to retain power, with an outstanding strike rate of over 86 per cent

performance of the BJP in the

state. With 26.57 percent vote

armoury, which trounced the

Opposition alliance that was

clearly a frontrunner in the

battle at the hustings in India's

and Shiv Sena (UBT).

secured 20 seats, the Congress and NCP (SP) won 15 and 10

Such is the rout of the MVA in

the polls that there will be no

Leader of the Opposition

(LoP) in the State Assembly.

Because, none of the MVA

constituents, Congress, Shiv Sena (UBT) and NCP (Sharad

Pawar), has won 10 per cent

of the total 288 seats in the

House to stake a claim for the

Minister Eknath

seats respectively.

Uttar Pradesh Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath with Deputy Chief Ministers Kesha Prasad Maurya and Brajesh Pathak, and state BJP President Bhupendra Singh Chaudhary addresses a press conference after the party won at least five of the state bypolls at party headquarters, in Lucknow

## **BJP** dominates by-polls across 15 diverse states recovery after its diminished

#### BISWAJEET BANERJEE LUCKNOW

 $T^{he \ Bharatiya \ Janata \ Party}_{(BJP) \ and \ its \ allies} \\ emerged \ victorious \ in \ by$ elections across 15 states, securing 28 of the 48 Assembly seats contested. Among the most significant results were those from Uttar where Chief Pradesh. Minister Yogi Adityanath's slogan "Bantenge Toh Katenge" (Division leads to defeat) delivered a decisive 7-2 victory over the Samajwadi Party (SP), dealing a blow to Akhilesh Yadav's PDA (Pichchra, Dalit, Alpsankhyak) caste-based alliance. The by-polls, held shortly after

the 2024 Lok Sabha elections, were viewed as a crucial test of political strategies ahead of the 2027 Assembly polls in UP. The BJP's victory in Uttar Pradesh reinforced the party's

performance in the general elections, where the NDA won

only 36 of the state's 80 parliamentary seats, a significant drop from 66 in 2019. For Adityanath, the byelections were a matter of prestige, and the results showcased his ability to consolidate voter support across caste and community

wealthiest state just about five months back. The victory has lines. again put a seal of approval on Home Minister Amit Shah's tag as a "modern-day Chanakya and master The BJP's triumph in the Muslim-dominated Kundarki constituency in Moradabad was particularly striking. Despite the constituency's 65 strategist". The extent of BJP's per cent Muslim voter base, dominance in this election BJP candidate Ramveer Singh defeated SP's Mohammad can be gauged by the fact that the saffron party's projected score is more than double the Rizwan by over 96,000 votes. The SP retained its tally of the opposition's MVA, which includes the Congress, strongholds of Karhal and Sisamau, constituencies it has held for over three decades, Shiv but struggled to expand beyond these bastions.

NCP(SP). But the million dollar question that arises in Continued on page 5

with 133 seats in Maharashtra indicates a tactical shift in the backdrop of the stunning victory in Haryana as its lacklustre show in Lok Sabha elections in the two states. This is the best ever

PM Narendra Modi during the celebration of BJP's victory in the Maharashtra Assembly, several bypoll elections, at BJP headquarters in New Delhi

share, the BJP got votes of 16, 642, 993 which is more than the vote's shares of Congress Maharashtra now is who will be the chief minister of the state. Will Eknath Shinde continue to be the CM or his The stunning victory for the Mahayuti in Maharashtra deputy and BJP's Devendra Fadnavis, who played a clearly suggests that the brand of Prime Minister Narendra pivotal role in ensuring the saffron party's resounding Modi is still the most powerful win? The BJP-Shiv Sena alliance ammo that the BJP has in its

won the majority in 2019 assembly elections. The BJP won 105 seats, while the Shiv Sena (undivided) grabbed 56 seats. Overall, the two parties won 151 seats in 2019. The BJP had won 122 seats in 2014 assembly elections and 46 seats in 2009 and 54 in 2004. The BJP's strike rate is way ahead of all the other five players in the fray, including two of its allies. While the Shiv Sena is ahead in 56 of the 81 seats it contested, the NCP is leading in 38 out of 59 seats. There are other reasons which worked in favour of the BJP. It was also Maharashtra Chief Minister Eknath Shinde's "Mukhyamantri Majhi Ladki Bahin Yojana" launched in

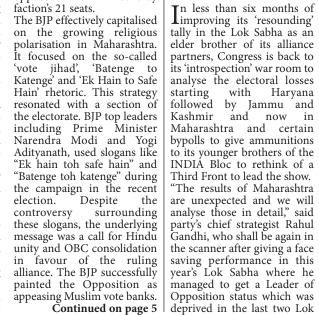
June that turned the tide in favour of the three-party ruling dispensation. Under the scheme, women in the state got five instalments of Rs 1,500 each till the elections. The impact was visible during polls as women came out in large numbers to cast ballots in the state, apparently helping the Mahayuti to register a landslide. The BJP also revisited its

roots by working closely with the Rashtriya Swayamsevak Sangh (RSS). The RSS has held over 60,000 small meetings in the state and mobilised the BJP voters to come out and vote. The RSS, through special 65 friendly organisations, launched a campaign called 'Sajag Raho' -be vigilant, be awake', bolstering BJP's push in the assembly polls. The RSS had not been as much on ground in Lok Sabha elections with the BJP reportedly deciding not to field Sangh-

recommended candidates in some seats. Worse, BJP

favour of BJP. Rarely in India's political history has a rebel leader become a chief minister of a state with the support of the Opposition members. The decision was perceived as a move to elevate the Shiv Sena leader as an alternative to Uddhav Thackeray. And as things stand on Saturday, the Shinde-led Shiv Sena faction of Mahayuti won 55 seats as opposed to Thackeray

PTI



DEEPAK KUMAR JHA NEW DELHI

n less than six months of Limproving its 'resounding' tally in the Lok Sabha as an elder brother of its alliance partners, Congress is back to its 'introspection' war room to analyse the electoral losses followed by Jammu and Kashmir and now in Maharashtra and certain bypolls to give ammunitions to its younger brothers of the INDIA Bloc to rethink of a Third Front to lead the show. "The results of Maharashtra are unexpected and we will analyse those in detail," said party's chief strategist Rahul Gandhi, who shall be again in the scanner after giving a face saving performance in this year's Lok Sabha where he managed to get a Leader of

In Jammu and Kashmir where the polls were held recently and now in Haryana and Maharashtra the grand old party continued losing space as it posted a worst-ever show in Maharashtra and ending up a distant junior partner to the in Jharkhand.

Losing a big state like Maharashtra after the upset in Haryana is likely to weaken the grand old party's broad bargaining power in this era of coalition politics.

Continued on page 5

### A weekend of wheezing in NCR Ummidon Ke Geetkar Shailendra... Yunus Khan's tribute to a titan

#### PTI NEW DELHI

Popular radio personality and writer Yunus Khan on Saturday said his book 'Ummidon Ke Geetkar Shailendra" was born out of his desire to honour the legacy of one of India's most celebrated lyricists.

The book, published by Rajkamal Prakashan, is an ode to Shailendra, who wrote the lyrics of many classic songs that remain iconic to this day, including "Awara Hoon" from Raj Kapoors "Awara"; "Mera Joota Hai Japani" and "Pyaar Hua Ikraar Hua" from "Shree 420"; and "Gaata Rahe Mera Dil"

#### from "Guide".

"The year 2023 marked the 100th birth anniversary of Shailendra. At the beginning of 2022, I thought about paying tribute to my favourite musician. Then the question arose, what would be the format of this project?

"After much thought, I decided to pick some films and explore how Shailendra's songs reflected his times and the struggles of the 'little man' who had nobody on his side," Khan said. He was speaking at an event at the Major Dhyan

Chand National Stadium. Khan said Shailendra's lyrics always carried hope, even in the face of adversity, and that



Sena(UBT) and

was the reason why he titled the book "Ummidon Ke Geetkar Shailendra". "He is one songwriter who never let and ghazal maestro known go of hope in any for songs such as "Hamse

circumstance," he added. There are 21 chapters in the book, including one that details the role Shailendra played in Bhojpuri cinema. "He wrote the songs for 'Ganga Maiyya Tohe Piyari Chadhaibo', the first Bhojpuri movie, released in 1963," Khan said.

Khan was joined by Sahar Zaman, granddaughter of Talat Mahmood and author of "Talat Mahmood: The Definitive Biography". Zaman said the All India Radio

played a huge role in the career of Mehmood, the legendary playback singer and ghazal maestro known

Aaya Na Gaya" (From "Dekh Kabira Roya"), "Sab Kuchh Loota Ke" (From "Ek Saal"), "Har Sham Sham-E-Gham" (From "Mera Salaam") and "Raat Ne Kya Kya Khwab Dikhaye" (From "Ek Gaon Ki Kahani").

"There is a whole section in the book that delves into the significance of radio. In the 1930s, Lucknow AIR was launched after Delhi, Lahore, Karachi, and Kolkata. He was 16 at the time and had always aspired to become a singer. He graduated in music, but his career began with Lucknow AIR, and that became his voice," she said.

#### RAJESH KUMAR NEW DELHI

Residents of Delhi faced heavy smog and poor visibility on Saturday morning as air quality plummeted back to the "severe" category, with an AQI of 412, while the maximum temperature was recorded at 29.4 degrees Celsius. Meanwhile, a thick layer of mist and smog blanketed the city during the morning and evening hours, reducing visibility. This decline in air quality comes after a brief respite on November 22, when the AQI was recorded at 371, categorised as "very poor." The National Capital has been logging hazardous air quality for over 20 days.

According to the Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB), which provides hourly AQI updates, 20 monitoring stations, including Alipur, Anand Vihar, Ashok Vihar, Bawana, his voice," she said. Continued on page 5 | Mandir Marg, Narela, Nehru Nagar,

Patparganj, Rohini, Punjabi Bagh, Wazirpur, and Mundka, registered readings above 400, placing them in the 'severe' category. Nine recorded the city's air quality in the 'severe plus' category with AQI exceeding 450. At the same time, IQ Air data showed AQI at 464.PM2.5 concentration recorded 59.9 times the World Health Organization (WHO) annual PM2.5 guideline value.

Continued on page 5

## city 02



LUCKNOW | SUNDAY | NOVEMBER 24, 2024

#### PNS LUCKNOW

A young man allegedly ended his life by jumping from the Gomti river bridge in Gomti Nagar on Saturday morning, police said. He arrived in a red car and left the vehicle on the bridge before jumping into the river, they added.

Police were alerted by passersby, and the body was recovered with the help of divers.

A suicide note was found in the car. It stated: "I am going to die. All my belongings should be given to my brothers and family members." The note also mentioned that his house should only be opened in the presence of his brother and wife, with the keys left in the car. The incident occurred at 8:27 am, with witnesses spotting the youth jump from the bridge between the 1090 and

Samta Mulak crossrings. Upon receiving the informa-tion, police arrived at the scene, retrieved the body from the river, and transported it to the Civil Hospital, where doctors pronounced him dead.

The deceased was identified as Anoop Kumar, a resident of Gomti Nagar. Investigations revealed that the

car belonged to him. Originally from the Kurebhar area in Sultanpur district, Anoop lived in Chandra Panorama Apartments in Lucknow's Sushant Golf City. He worked



Sahid Ahmad to Mohd Sahid, Mohd Sahid S/o Ateek Ahmad R/o Nagdinpur, Baraipur, Fatehpur

#### NOTICE

I have changed my name from Mo Ateek Ahmad to Ateek Ahmad, Ateek Ahmad. S/o Muneer Ahmed. R/o Nagdinpur Baraipur, Fatehpur

#### NOTICE

I have changed my name from Ajad hasan to Azad Hassan Sayyed, Azad Hassan Sayyed S/o Ashfak Hasan Sayyed R/o Daulatpur, Kasar kara, Kaushambi

inday pioneer

at the Gosainganj Community Health Centre (CHC). As per reports, Anoop left home at around 8 pm on Friday, telling his wife he would return shortly. When he did not return by 11 pm and his phone was switched off, his wife tried contacting his friends, who were also unaware of his whereabouts.

On Saturday morning, while his friends and wife were preparing to file a missing report, they received an alert indicating his phone had been switched on. Shortly after-wards, the police informed them that Anoop's body had been recovered from the Gomti river. His family and friends identified the body at the Civil Hospital.

Friends described Anoop as a cheerful individual, expressing shock at his sudden decision to end his life. His wife Pushpaniali, a teacher at Kendriya Vidyalaya, stated that he had not shared any problems with her.

The couple, married for four years and without children, had been planning to pur-chase a house in Lucknow and had shortlisted two or three options. Anoop had also recently bought a car. The police recovered two mobile phones, a purse, and a

suicide note from his car, which had been left running on the bridge. The purse contained several identification documents, including his Aadhaar and PAN cards, as well as debit and credit cards. The police confirmed that the car's ignition was still on when it was discovered on the bridge.



It is hereby informed that my name is recorded as "Shiv Prakash Pandey" in my school records, but due to an error, my name is mentioned as "Bhola nath" on my Aadhaar card. my correct name, "Shiv Prakash Pandey,"should be recorded on my Aadhaar card. Shiv Prakash Pandey S/o Ram

Chandra Pandey R/o Khanpur Umran (Khapura), Post: Bhadoi (Malipur), Police Station: Malipur, mbedkar Na NOTICE

# Youth ends life Astrologer duped in another 'digital arrest' fraud

applied pressure by conducting interrogations for three hours n yet another case of 'digital daily via Skype. He intimidatarrest' fraud, an astrologer was duped of Rs 1 lakh while ed Satnam by sending fake doc-uments from the Supreme Court and Income Tax departbeing confined to her home by cyber criminals in Alambagh. ment and threatened him with The victim, Satnam Singh Rekhi of Alambagh, was kept demands for information about his bank accounts and properunder digital arrest by the accused, who claimed to be an ty. The fraudsters managed to get Rs 50,000 transferred to two IPS officer. The accused threatdifferent accounts and gained ened to add his name to the Satnam's trust by sending fake receipts via WhatsApp. They later blocked his Skype Naresh Goyal money laundering case and send him to jail, account and mobile number.

instructing him to transfer Rs one lakh to his bank account. According to the information, about one and a half months The fraudster told Satnam a fabricated story about the misago, Satnam received a call use of his Aadhaar card and from an unknown number.

The caller introduced himself as a bank employee. When Satnam disconnected the call, another caller, using a different mobile, introduced himself as said. IPS officer Akash Kulhari. The accused claimed that Satnam's Naresh Goyal had used Satnam's Aadhaar card for

money laundering. Through intimidation, he was forced to transfer Rs 50,000 each to two different bank have devised a strategy to accounts on October 30 and November 11.

#### WOMAN DEFRAUDED The victim said that the fraudster used to scare him for

A woman was allegedly duped of Rs 2.85 lakh by a person who bed befriended her probhours every day on video calls. "I was afraid that my information could be misused. Due to ably through a fake social

expose the high-tech gang.

media profile in which the accused claimed himself a forthis fear, I transferred the money. Later, I understood that I had been defrauded," he eign national in Ashiyana

In her complaint, the woman The Cyber Crime Cell has inisaid she received a message on messenger on September 9 tiated an investigation based on and after that a message on her complaint. WhatsApp from this number while the sender introduced Transaction details of the bank accounts and digital platforms used in the fraud are being examined. The police have himself as Dr D Bush, and he wished to be her friend. deemed this fraud serious and While the victim was yet to

react to this, the accused sent her videos of gifts and cash while treating her silence as tacit consent. He told her that she would receive the packet and she had to pay Rs 25,000. Later she got a message from

parcel had been stopped There are 500,000 USA dollars in your parcel. The Indian amount is Rs 60 lakhs. You have to pay Rs 98,000 for it. Only then we will transfer Indian money to your account," the caller told the victim.

The victim said that by showing her the fear of Mumbai police and crime branch for money laundering, the accused forced her to pay Rs 1 lakh, then Rs 1.6 lakh and finally Rs 25,000.

She gave the details of money she transferred online to the bank account given to her by "Mumbai Air Force" that her the miscreants.

department faceless.

At present, 16 services of the

department have faceless facil-

ities, and work is being done

on the other services, which

He emphasised that in view of

the increasing use of technol-ogy, work should be expedit-ed with the help of NIC to

make all essential services

operated by the department

faceless.

will be made faceless soon.

#### Koshala Lit Fest: Varied **UPSRTC** to recruit contractual drivers through job fairs sessions enthral audience PNS LUCKNOW

### PNS LUCKNOW

PNS LUCKNOW

 $S_{\text{ensions on varied topics}}^{\text{essions on varied topics}}$ the second day of the Koshala Literature Festival.

In a candid conversation, Harshita Gupta, a popular Instagram creator, delved into her debut book, 'Unloved: The

Art of Moving On'. She revealed that the title stemmed from her observations of people striving to love right but rarely addressing the need to let go. The book offers hope and practical tools for reclaiming self-worth, such as therapy and journaling, with Harshita sharing that writing became a cathartic process during her personal struggles. Harshita also spoke about her

evolution from an RJ to a content creator. Initially hesitant about digital

content, she embraced it and found joy in the instant recognition it brought. Humour, she explained, became her outlet during tough times, helping her

remain consistent. She shared her love for Lucknow, describing its calm and charm compared to Delhi's

fast pace. On balancing roles, Harshita reflected on writing a

Harshita reflected on writing a breakup guide while planning her wedding. When asked about her entre-preneurial journey, she dis-cussed merging traditional chikankari with lehengas and building a team to expand her brand. Harshita's authenticity, she said, lies in creating original content, which resonates deeply with her audience.

Meanwhile, renowned author and scholar Purushottam Agarwal shared insights about

a specified period.

Bulandshahr district, feigned

ignorance. "We have no infor-

mation about Salman's mar-

riage," he said. Salman's broth-

er, Aamir, however told PTI

that the 'nikah' was solem-

nised on Friday around 11 pm.

"The walima (wedding recep-

tion) will take place at Castle

View Mandap in Meerut, but Salman will not attend because

family will bring her to the

Shahjahanpur (PTI): A case

has been registered against

Bharatiya Janata Party leader

Sanjay Mishra and his aides for

allegedly holding a man hostage and assaulting him

with sticks and pipes at a school here, police said on

Mishra, a former MLC, has

denied the charges. Additional Superintendent of

Saturday.

reception," he said.

no time to respond.



(L-R) Sanjeev Sanyal, Jayant Krishna, and Saurabh Jha

Mahabharata in a conversation with Anubhav Tyagi.

Having devoted 25 years to this monumental work, Agarwal revealed his fascination with the epic's central themes of justice and injustice, which fuelled his exploration of its timeless questions. He reflected on the challenges of reinterpreting the Mahabharata today, drawing parallels with the original writ-ing process involving Lord Ganesha and Vyasa, emphasis-ing how truth was meticulously preserved.

In today's context, Agarwal highlighted the difficulty of discerning truth, as facts are often overshadowed by individual opinions. He explored the epic's moral dilemmas, questioning whether truth always serves justice, particularly when it impacts others.

Agarwal addressed religion's evolving nature, noting that the Mahabharata illustrates how values shift with time. He also touched on the relevance of caste census debates and their

his latest book on the implications on modern soci- investment.

#### fairs in various areas. Officials said that employment fairs will be held in Noida, Agra, Moradabad, Lucknow, and Gorakhpur on November 28.

ety. Finally, he delved into Draupadi's complex character, calling her both challenging and inspiring, symbolising strength and resilience in a

patriarchal era. Meanwhile, the discussion between Sanjeev Sanyal, Saurabh Jha, and Jayant Krishna revolved around various aspects of global economic development, with a focus on China's role in the supply chain about India's potential for growth and development, in western economic indices. He highlighted the power of

upon the economic implications of the Trump era, with

was

December 10. Transport  $F^{
m or\ better\ and\ regular\ oper-}_{
m ation\ of\ Uttar\ Pradesh\ State}$ Road Transport Corporation (UPSRTC) buses, the shortage of drivers will be addressed soon. To this end, UPSRTC will recruit contractual drivers by organising employment

Pvt Ltd.

Chuka site.

MoU with M/s Jetsav Aviation core zone of the reserve spans

Similarly, employment fairs will be organised in Ghaziabad, Aligarh, Bareilly, Ayodhya, and Varanasi on December 2; in Meerut, Etawah, Hardoi, Devipatan, and Azamgarh on December 6; and in Saharanpur, Jhansi, Kanpur, Chitrakootdham-Banda, and Prayagraj on

Minister Dayashankar Singh, sharing this information, said that through the employment fairs, by next month, 7,188 drivers will be employed on a contractual basis for buses operated by UPSRTC (including contractual buses). For the successful organisation of Maha Kumbh-2025, as many as 7,000 buses are to be operated by UPSRTC.

Considering the need for dri-He also directed officials to vers for the proper operation of buses, the transport corpoensure that HSRPs (high-security registration plates) are made mandatory on all vehiration will recruit through employment fairs. cles. The department should Meanwhile, the minister has conduct an intensive checking

campaign to ensure that no directed departmental officials to work swiftly to make faceless facilities available for vehicle operates without HSRP in the state, he said. the public. He said that all Vehicles with fake number plates should be identified types of proceedings should be and action be taken against completed soon to make the 58 different services of the them, he added.

Lko-Dudhwa chopper ride from Nov 25

Singh shared that Chief Minister

Yogi Adityanath had directed

the initiation of heli-services to

promote eco-tourism at

Dudhwa National Park,

As part of this initiative, the heli-

Singh International Airport in

Lucknow and the state airstrip

#### PNS LUCKNOW

Announcing this, UP's Tourism and Culture Minister Jaiveer The Uttar Pradesh govern-I ment is set to launch a helicopter service to enhance accessibility to key tourism destinations in the state. The inaugural service will connect Lucknow and Dudhwa, significantly reducing travel time. Katarniaghat Wildlife Sanctuary, and Pilibhit Tiger Reserve's

Currently, the road journey between the two locations takes approximately four and a half hours. With the new helicopter copter service will operate between Chaudhary Charan service, travel time will be reduced to just one hour. The service is scheduled to

at Palia. Highlighting the significance of commence on November 25. Dudhwa Tiger Reserve, the minister elaborated that the The agreement for this service formalised through an

884 square km and is renowned globally.

Dudhwa National Park is home to a rich array of flora and fauna, including valuable trees, creepers, grasses, tigers, leopards, bears, elephants, rhinos, deer, reptiles, birds, and other wildlife. The park's biodiversity and picturesque landscapes attract domestic and international tourists annually. The reserve, nestled between the mighty Mohana and Sharda rivers, is also the site of India's first rhino rehabilitation centre, which has successfully led to the establishment of a second such centre. This exceptional conservation effort further underscores the park's ecological importance.

and India's growth prospects. Sanyal expressed optimism despite its underperformance compounding resources and

growth as a key driver of India's economic progress. He also emphasised the importance of manufacturing in India's post-COVID recovery. The conversation also touched

Sanyal discussing the potential impact on global trade and

#### NOTICE

I have changed my name from Mohammad Mustafa to Mohammad Mustafa Khan son of Isha Mohammad, R/O 675/13 A Ganga Vihar KDA Colony Jajmau Kanpur Nagar, I will be known and recognised by this name in future.

#### NOTICE

I have changed my name from RUBEENA to RUBINA SHAFEEQ for all future Purposes. Rubina Shafeeq W/O Mushtaq Ahmad 14/144, flat no 308,Ratan square Chunni Ganj Kanpur

NOTICE

#### NOTICE

have changed my name from Papu Lal son of Ganesha Ram to Pappu Lal Kumawat son of Ganesha Ram Kumawat. In future I should be known as Pappu Lal Kumawat son of Ganesha Ram Kumawat. Pappu Lal Kumawat S/o Ganesha Ram Kumawat Araji No. 587 Maswanpur Kalyanpur Shiv Nagar Rawatpur Kanpur Nagar 208019

#### NOTICE

#### NOTICE

agreed to create mortgage in respect of House No. 99/227 Nala Road Kanghi Mohal Kanpur Nagar admeasuring 103 sq. Yds. With DCB Bank Ltd., and the Original sale deed dated 27/05/1986 executed by Shaukat Ali in favour of Mohd. Ateek Khan which is registered in Book No. 1 Vol. No. 4305 on pages 164 to 167 at serial no. 12657 on 27/11/1986 at the office of Sub Registrar Kanpur Nagar is lost, If any person having any claim against the said Property can contact to me, within 07 days.

Bharat Bhatnagar, Advocate Office: Room No. 14 Second Floor Mudgal Adhivakta Bhawan Civil Court Kanpur Nagar Mob. 09839034426

I, RUPA MUKHIYA, W/o Service No-9425165L, Rank: NK, Name: MANIT MUKHIYA of Unit 6/11

GR, declare that in my husband's Service Record, my date of birth was Inadvertently mentioned as 02.02.1984 while my correct date of birth is 12/02/1984 which is declared vide affidavit dated 23.11.2024 sworn before the Executive Magistrate at Lucknow.



I, Zeeshan Khan, S/o Bachchulal, R/o LDA Colony, Alambagh, Lucknow, hereby inform that I had voluntarily changed my name from "Ravi Kumar" to "Zeeshan Khan" 8 years ago. Now, I intend to update my name as "Zeeshan Khan" in my Aadhaar card and all other official documents



I, Meena Rizvi, D/o Qasim Hussain, R/o 337/139 Mansoor Nagar, near Rauza, Kazmain, Saadatganj, Lucknow, hereby inform that the spelling of my name in my High School mark sheet and certificate is recorded as "MEENA RIZAVI," whereas the correct spelling of my name as per my Aadhaar card and Voter card is "MEENA RIZVI."

### NOTICE

This is to inform the general public that my correct name is Mohammad Gulrez as mentioned in my Aadhar Card, PAN Card, educational records. By mistake. my name has been mentioned as Gulrez Ahmed in my son's high school mark sheet and certificate (roll no. 23238078), which is wrong. It is also hereby certified that all the legal formalities regarding the above have been completed by me myself.-Mohammad Gulrez, son of Mohammad Izharul Haq. Resident- 538K/586 Tulsi Puram,

Jama Masjid Nirala Nagar. Lucknow, Uttar Pradesh-226020 Mob. No.- 9026400511

**Externed gangster ties** knot in Bulandshahr, to miss reception

Meerut (PTI): A notorious notice about Salman's expulgangster recently externed from Meerut district, tied the sion. Had we been informed earlier, we could have presentknot in Sikandrabad, a neighed our case in court. But this bouring town in Bulandshahr. sudden action has left us help-However, Salman, who got less," he said.

married on Friday night, will miss his own wedding recep-The brother added that Salman has been living in Delhi for the tion, scheduled for November past six months, working in the 26 in Meerut, due to the district crockery business.

"Over the last five years, no ban imposed just a day before the 'nikah' (wedding). Externment is the prohibition new cases have been registered against Salman. Despite this, of a prisoner from residing in the administration took a harsh any specified area or locality for action," Aamir claimed.

Salman, a resident of Ismail Nagar, had previously been booked under the Goonda Act Sikandrabad Station House Officer Ravi Ratan Singh, when asked about the wedding in by the district administration. Ón Thursday, the administration banned him from entering Meerut for six months. The Kotwali police pasted the notice at his home the same day. Salman had been released on

bail six months ago and had since shifted to Delhi. However, he managed to reach the bride's house in Sikandrabad quietly before the wedding. Meanwhile, police have upped vigilance for the reception cer-

of the district ban. The bride's emony.

Aamir also alleged that police "Police teams in uniform and and administrative officials plain clothes will monitor the arrived at their home on walima and Salman's activities. Thursday to deliver the district If he enters Meerut, further ban notice, leaving the family action will be taken," Circle Officer (Kotwali Meerut) "We were not given any prior Ashutosh Kumar said.



Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath being felicitated by DGP Prashant Kumar on the occasion of 'Police Flag Day', at the former's official residence PTI

## Mobile phones stolen during Diljit concert

Lucknow (PNS): Fans of popular singer Diljit Dosanjh were left disappointed when their mobile phones were stolen during his performance at the Ekana stadium on Friday.

A case was registered against unidentified accused at the Sushant Golf City police sta-tion. In her complaint, one of the applicants, Krishna Priya Nayak of Noida, stated that her mobile phone was stolen during Diljit Dosanjh's concert in

Lucknow. "Along with that, Vishvendra Swarup Singh of Kanpur, Shivam Singh of Faizullahganj in Lucknow, Manpreet Singh of Lucknow, Abhishek Singh of

Varanasi, Sahil Sharma of Nishantganj, S Kaur of Lakhimpur Kheri, Harshit Chaudhary of Basti, Arushi Tripathi of Alambagh, Adil Khan of Hazratganj, and Rishabh Manna of Papermill Colony in Nishatganj also lost their mobile phones. In addi-tion, the phones of many other people were also stolen," the complaint said.

#### **FIRE BREAKS OUT**

A huge fire broke out in a shop selling medical equipment in the Thakurganj area late on Friday night. It was reported that the fire started due to a short circuit on the second

floor of a building.

As per reports, medical equip-ment worth lakhs of rupees were reduced to ashes in the fire. As soon as the information was received, four vehicles from the police and fire brigade rushed to the scene. The fire was brought under control after about three hours

of strenuous efforts. Thankfully, there was no loss of

life in the incident. The flames were so fierce that they caused panic in the surrounding area. Head Constable, Chowk fire station, Rajesh Kumar Pandey said that the fire broke out on the first floor of the building next to RR Lawn.

registered against us in retali-ation to that incident," he added. The police have registered a case under sections of the Bharatiya Nyaya Samhita related to group violence, unlawful confinement and assault causing injuries. The case names Sanjay Mishra, two others, and two unidentified individuals. An investigation is filed. This false case has been

## **Road crash** leaves five members of family dead

Lucknow (PTI): An SUV rammed into a tree here, leaving four members of a family dead and three injured, according to a report from Bijnor. Car driver Sultan's wife Gulfsa (28), daughters Anadia (8), Alisha (6) and sister Chand Bano (35) died on the spot while he along with his five-year-old son Shad and niece Adiba (14) was seriously injured. All three have been admitted to the district hospital.

Meanwhile, three people, including a woman and her son, were killed in two separate road accidents in Sultanpur on Saturday, police said. In the first incident, a 22-year-

old man, identified as Pritam Patel from Damri village in Pratapgarh district, died after his motorcycle collided with a culvert in the Lambhua police station area. Patel was on his way to attend a wedding in Sarai Makar Kola village when his motorcycle lost control near a petrol pump on Baba Janwaria Nath Dham Road.

"Locals rushed him to the community health centre in Lambhua, where doctors pronounced him dead," SHO Akhand Dev Mishra said.

In the second incident, a JCB machine collided with a motorcycle on the Tanda-Banda National Highway near Bawra Madhavpur village, killing a woman and her son.

According to police, Usha Devi (40) and her son Saurabh (17) of Balipur village in Ambedkar Nagar, were returning home from Sultanpur when the accident occurred. The collision caused Usha Devi to fall into a ditch while Saurabh was crushed under the JCB, leaving both underway, according to police. dead on the spot, the police said.

## Former BJP MLC, aides booked for assault

Police Sanjay Kumar, citing the complaint, said, "The vic-tim, Vishal, a resident of Danyapur village under the Ramchandra Mission police station, was in the city for work on Friday when he was allegedly taken by Sanjay Mishra and others to a field in

the Roza area and severely beaten with PVC pipes." "After the assault, the accused

took Vishal to their intermediate college, where he was again beaten with pipes and sticks. When his mother arrived to save him, the accused misbehaved with her as well," he

added. Refuting the allega-tions, Mishra said on November 18, some people assaulted his brother, leaving him in a critical condition. "When I took him to the police station, only a minor NCR (non-cognisable report) was



## city 03

# Yogi credits Modi for BJP's win UP bypolls most distorted form

Says INDIA bloc's 'loot and lies' politics coming to end

#### PNS/PTI LUCKNOW

Uttar Pradesh Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath, on Saturday, credited Prime Minister Narendra Modi for Bharatiya Janata Party's victorv in the Uttar Pradesh bypolls and said the results made it clear that Sanajwadi Party-INDI Alliance politics of "loot and lies" was coming to an end. The bypolls were held in nine assembly constituencies.

"If we look at Uttar Pradesh, elections were held in nine assembly constituencies spread across the state, and the BJP alliance has emerged victorious aniance has emerged victorious in seven of them," Yogi Adityanath said during a press conference, flanked by BJP's UP president Bhupendra Chaudhary and Deputy Chief Ministers Keshav Prasad Maurya and Brajesh Pathak. "The credit for this historic victory goes to the visionary leadership and guidance of our Honorable Prime Minister Narendra Modi. His exemplary leadership continues to steer the double-engine government toward ensuring security, good governance and prosperity, while inspiring us to implement welfare schemes effectively on the ground," he said.

"This resounding mandate reflects the unwavering trust of the people in Prime Minister Modi's leadership. The public firmly believes that his policies and decisions are aligned with the nation's and society's best interests, and this belief has been reaffirmed through this election," Chief Minister Yogi said. He also extended heartfelt congratulations to all the dedicated BJP workers, office-bearers and victorious candidates. "Their hard work has been instrumental in achieving this success," he noted.

are deeply grateful to them," he The chief minister pointed out said. that the country has witnessed Yogi said, "This result underan exceptional alignment of scores the people's endorse-ment of Modi's resolve and heritage and development across the nation under Prime makes it clear that the politics Minister Modi's leadership. of 'loot and lies' practised by the Minister Modi's leadership. of 'loot and lies' practised by the "The model of security, good Samajwadi Party and the INDI



Uttar Pradesh Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath with Deputy Chief Minister Keshav Prasad Maurya and state BJP President Bhupendra Singh Chaudhary during the celebration of the party's victory in the state bypolls at party headquarters, in Lucknow on Saturday

governance and economic prosperity is evident to all of us today," he added.

Katehari, Majhawan and

Phulpur have given their man-

date in favour of the BJP. "We

What was once a dream is now becoming a reality. Today, the victory in Uttar Pradesh, where the BJP alliance secured seven seats in the assembly bypolls, stands as a testament to the commitment of the people of Uttar Pradesh toward supporting Prime Minister Modi's vision and campaigns," he said. The people of Meerapur, Ghaziabad, Kundarki, Khair,

Alliance is coming to an end." "Naturally, this victory is the result of the tireless efforts of our office-bearers and workers, and I extend my heartfelt grat-

itude to them," he added. Yogi Adityanath also congratulated the BJP-Mahayuti for the historic victory in Maharashtra assembly polls. He, however, refrained from using his slogan 'batenge toh katenge' and used Prime Minister Modi's poll pitch in Maharashtra - 'Ek hain toh safe hain' (We are safe, only if united).

"Hearty congratulations to BJP-Mahayuti for the historic victory in Maharashtra legislative assembly elections 2024! Under the leadership and guidance of the Honorable Prime Minister

Narendra Modi ji, there is the blessing of the people for security, prosperity and good gov-ernance," Yogi said.

### 'SLAP ON FACE OF THOSE INDULGING IN CASTE, Religion Politics' Uttar Pradesh Bharatiya Janata

Party president Bhupendra Singh Chaudhary on Saturday hailed the party's decisive victory in the state assembly bypolls, attributing the success to the public's unwavering faith in the leadership of Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath. Citing the BJP's victory in Kundarki seat of Moradabad district, Chaudhary said the results are also "a slap on the face of those who indulge in caste, region and religion-based politics". "I respect the decision of the great people of Uttar Pradesh. They have expressed their trust in Modi ji, Yogi ji and the poli-cies of the BJP, and showered us with affection and blessings.

For this, I extend my heartfelt gratitude to them," he told PTI Videos.

PTI

Chaudhary noted the "over-whelming support" for the BJP's welfare-oriented approach and said "our policies aimed at public and poverty welfare will continue to progress with full strength". Reflecting on the bypoll results, he pointed to Kundarki constituency in Moradabad district, which delivered the largest margin of victory in the state where BJP candidate Ramveer Thakur registered victory by over 1.40 lakh vote margin. "The mandate in Kundarki is a clear message in support of the prime minister's vision of 'Sabka Saath, Sabka Vikas'. It is also a slap in the face of those who indulge in casteist, regionalist and religion-based politics," he said.

of electoral politics: Akhilesh

#### PNS/PTI LUCKNOW

Samajwadi Party president Akhilesh Yadav, on Saturday, termed the Uttar Pradesh assembly bypolls the "most distorted form of electoral politics", adding that "now the real struggle has begun". "The tactics of those who have

"The factics of those who have made 'election' synonymous with 'corruption' have been captured in photographs and exposed before the world," Akhilesh Yadav sai in a post on 'X' in Hindi.

'The world, the country and Uttar Pradesh saw the most distorted form of electoral politics in this by-election. There may be a time for falsehood but not an era. Now the real struggle has begun... clench vour fist. tighten your fist and make the PDA proclaim 'Judenge toh

The SP chief alleged that "the BJP has maligned the democ-racy as power has gone to its head and it will have to face the head and it will have to face the consequences of the unforgivable crime against democracy and institutions".

Samajwadi Party leaders admit that the by-elections to nine assembly seats in Uttar Pradesh have come as a huge setback for the party, claiming to be in striking distance from power. "The 2024 Lok sabha elections in which SP won 37 seats, was a one-off event. Even if the event had any political substance and subsequent eupho-ria, the party neither did any-thing to sustain that sentiment generated from the spectacular performance nor it had any basis to sustain that euphoria," said a SP MLA.

SP and Congress, during the Lok Sabha election, had vociferously campaigned that the BJP, if voted back to power, would amend the Constitution and scrap reservations for Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes and Other Backward Classes. The INDIA bloc had won 43 Lok Sabha seats in UP, including six by the Congress. Large section of SC and OBCs

## **SP chief hails INDIA bloc** for Jharkhand victory, congratulates Priyanka

Lucknow (PTI): Samajwadi Party president Akhilesh Yadav congratulated the winning candidates of the INDIA bloc after results of assembly elections in Maharashtra and Iharkhand, and bypolls in sev-

eral states were declared. He congratulated SP candi-dates who won their seats in the assembly polls in Maharashtra and Congress leader Priyanka Gandhi Vadra for emerging victorious in the Wayanad parliamentary byelections.

Yadav's SP is part of the larger Indian National Developmental Inclusive Alliance (INDIA), formed by multiple parties to take on the Bharatiya Janata Party-led

had deserted the BIP and had voted for the SP and Congress resulting in huge setback to BJP, which was reduced to 33 Lok Sabha seats in the state. Moreover, the SP leaders main-

tain the support the party got from Dalit community during the Lok Sabha elections was a one-off event. "Dalit votes were badly divid-

ed in all nine constituencies and besides Bahujan Samaj Party, the BJP was also a big beneficiary of the community's support. Congress' absence from the electoral battle (in UP) also prevented the Dalits from casting vote for INDIA bloc and voting for cycle election symbol was never first preference for the Dalits in the last many decades," they said. "The absence of Congress from the poll scene damaged the electoral prospects of the party. The SP-Congress bonhomie during the Lok Sabha elections had benefitted both the parties,"

National Democratic Alliance (NDA). "Heartfelt gratitude and thanks

to all the voters, supporters, workers and leaders for making both the Samajwadi Party candidates win as the joint candidates of INDIA alliance in the Maharashtra assembly elections," he said.

"Hearty congratulations to Mr Abu Asim Azmi from Mankhurd Shivaji Nagar assembly seat and Mr Raees Kasan Sheikh from Bhiwandi East assembly seat for their victory," the former chief minister of UP posted on X. He lauded the INDIA bloc for

victory in Jharkhand, where he said "public opinion has defeated deceit and force".

said a SP leader. Besides the strategic distance maintained by the Congress during the election campaign for nine assembly seats, the PDA (Pichda, Dalit, Alpsankhyak) plank of the Samajwadi Party failed to click during the bypolls. The issues of reservation, Constitution and caste census were also conspicuous by their absence

during the election campaign of the Samajwadi Party. "If the Samajwadi Party was so confident about the efficacy of the issues like Constitutionreservation, PDA and caste census, then the party should have crafted a viable political narrative based on these issues. Not a word was uttered by any leader during the election campaign by any party leader," a senior SP leader said and added, "The situation arising after the bypoll results demands serious introspection by the party leadership.



## 'Batenge to katenge' to remain central theme in UP

PTI LUCKNOW

The 7-2 result in the bypolls to nine assembly seats in Uttar Pradesh in favour of the Bharatiya Janata Party reasserted Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath's political authority in the state's politics, espe-Illy after the recent reverses

That's why even before the Election Commission officially confirmed the byelection results, a confident Adityanath arrived at the UP BJP office in Lucknow around 3.30 pm on Saturday to reiterate the importance of "ek hain toh safe hain" and "batenge toh katenge" (united we are safe, divided we

the bypolls largely revolved around "Ram aur Rashtra (religious unity and nationalism)" - the twin poll planks tailored to blunt the opposition Samajwadi Party's hope of con-solidating its OBC-Dalit-Muslim voter push.

Not surprisingly then, Aditvanath during his briet of BIP.

assembly seat. Here, SP's Sumbul Rana, daughter-in-law of former MP Kadir Rana, lost to RLD's Mithilesh. Here also the split in Muslim votes cost the SP as two Muslim candidates including one from AIMIM polled 41,000 votes, more than the victory margin

from where SP chief Akhilesh Yadav had won. The BJP had put up Akhilesh's

relative Anujesh Yadav in the bypolls and was successful in reducing the victory margin of Akhilesh's nephew Tej Pratap by making it a 'Yadav vs Yadav' election.

e fact that in almost However th

BJP leader Arun Govil offers sweets after the party's victory in six of UP bypolls, in Meerut on Saturday

## **₹45L jewellery stolen from** Sanghmitra Maurya's house

Lucknow (PNS): A case of The matter came to light when theft of jewellery worth Rs 45 lakh from the house of former Budaun MP Sanghmitra Maurya was registered at the PGI police station following her complaint. Sanghmitra Maurya resides in Vrindavan Awas Yojana in Lucknow. The watchman of the property is said to be a suspect.

Sanghmitra is the daughter of Uttar Pradesh leader Swami Prasad Maurya. In the complaint lodged at the police station, it has been alleged that her long-time trusted watchman, Rajendra, committed the crime by making duplicate keys.

Sanghmitra explained that she spends little time at her home due to her political activities. In her two-storey house, the keys to the lower portion were in the possession of the watchman, while the upper portion was under her supervision.

A few days ago, the watchman had taken leave on the pretext of his daughter's wedding.

Sanghmitra took out her jewellery from the locker for a function. She discovered that fake iewellery had been placed in

place of her real items. When a goldsmith inspected the pieces, the fraud was uncovered. In her complaint, she reported that four gold bangle sets, two bangle sets, one bangle set, six gold chains, two thick gold chains, a gold ring, a bracelet, a diamond locket with 'SM' inscribed on it, seven pairs of gold earrings, and cash were missing.

Sanghmitra alleged that Rajendra had got duplicate keys made and committed the theft. She claimed an attempt was made to deceive her by replacing the real jewellery with fake items. The police have launched an investigation and are conducting raids in search of the watchman. Authorities are also investigating the watchman's mobile location and bank | Before 2017, the GIDA region accounts.

in Lok Sabha polls.

At the same time, the Congress not contesting and the Bahujan Samaj Party's yet another below-par show meant that despite losing ground, the Samajwadi Party continues to dominate the opposition space in the most populous state. The results were immaterial from the issue of the UP BJP government's stability and yet much pride was at stake, especially for the ruling party as the bypolls were the first electoral test of the BJP-led-NDA and INDIA bloc after the 2024 Lok Sabha polls in which the opposition had limited the BJP to its worst show in UP since 2014. The saffron party had won 33 seats, while the SP had emerged on top with 37 seats out of 80. In each of the seven assembly seats that the BJP won on Saturday, all the winning candidates were unanimous that Adityanath and his call for unity were a "big factor" in their victory.

perish)' - slogans that virtually became a call for Hindu unity to counter's the opposi-tion's "caste politics" in the mini-polls.

Through his "batenge toh katenge slogan that Adityanath first raised in August and which set the narrative for the bypolls, the BJP upped the ante with its cadres explaining the slogan's underlying "Hindu unity" content during its door-to-door contact campaigns.

"During our interactions, we urged the masses to not get divided on caste lines and vote as one. The 'batenge toh as one. The batting ton katenge' and 'ek rahenge ton safe rahenge' slogans raised by our leaders helped in driving the message home quickly," a BJP leader told PTI.

The Muslim-dominated Kundarki assembly seat in west UP's Moradabad was a test case for BJP's Hindu unity plank, mainly because it had not won the seat since 1993. The BJP's campaign pitch in

media interaction at the UP BJP office chose to describe BIP's Kundarki win as a success of "rashtrawaad (nationalism)". "On this seat, the BJP's first win since 1993 was possible as people unitedly backed BJP while the opposition's caste ploy fell flat," a senior BJP leader said.

"The presence of 11 Muslim candidates in the fray there didn't help the opposition SP either. So while their vote was divided we could secure our vote and in this cleverly crafted unity slogans by our leaders played a big role in setting the narrative," this BJP leader from Kundarki told PTI.

Kundarki winner Ramvir Singh claimed that Muslims also voted for the BJP. "Muslims trust me and that showed in the massive vote I received from them. I will keep their trust intact," he said.

Another seat with an impressive Muslim presence that the SP lost was the Meerapur

In the Katehari assembly seat of Ambedkarnagar, it was BJP's first win since 1991. This was a seat whose responsibility Adityanath had assumed and thus this win too has its own importance. The confidence from the

byelection win showed in Adityanath's interaction as he pointedly referred to SP's reduced win margins in Sisamau seat in Kanpur Dehat and Karhal assembly segment of Mainpuri since the 2022 UP polls when SP had won both the seats. "If you look, in Sisamau the

SP's win margin was around 8000 votes, markedly less than 12000 vote win in 2022 while in Karhal seat the SP won by 67000 odd votes in 2022, the victory margin was 14000 odd votes. Next time as Keshav ji (deputy CM Keshav Prasad Maurya) said, we will win Karhal too," Adityanath said. The reference to Karhal was important as it is a SP bastion

all the seats it was a straight BJP vs SP contest meant that SP will continue to dominate the opposition space in Uttar Pradesh. More so, as in the absence of Congress and a lacklustre BSP campaign, this election was reduced to a virtual bipolar contest.

While Adityanath has stressed on 'batenge toh katenge and ek rahenge toh safe rahenge', SP chief Akhilesh Yadav's first post-result assertion to cadre judenge toh jeetenge (united we win)' only meant that in the run up to 2027 UP polls, both sides would hold on to their respective strategies.

"The BJP knew it was losing all nine seats, that is why all the official machinery was deployed to win the polls any which way. The force had orders to prevent Muslims from casting their vote," SP chief Akhilesh Yadav alleged. The BJP also retained Khair, Phulpur, Ghaziabad and Maihawan seats.

# Govt to allot 88 new industrial plots in GIDA on Nov 30

#### **PNS** GORAKHPUR

The pace of industrial development in Gorakhpur has seen remark-

PTI

able growth in recent years, thanks to the Gorakhpur Industrial Development Authority (GIDA). Authority (GIDA). Established 35 years ago to foster industrial progress in the region, GIDA's objectives have been largely realised in the past seven years since Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath took office.

On November 30, the 35th foundation day of GIDA, this momentum will reach new heights as Chief Minister Yogi is set to allocate 88 new industrial plots. This move will unlock investments worth Rs 1,286 crore and create employment opportunities for 5,200 people, further bolstering Gorakhpur's industrial ecosystem.

struggled with poor law and order, lack of basic facilities, and government neglect, making investment seem like an impossible dream. However, under the Yogi government, GIDA has transformed into a hotspot for investment.

Industries, which once hesitated to set up units here, are now flourishing every year. The assurance of safety for entrepreneurs and their investments, combined with industry-friendly policies and Minister Yogi Chief Adityanath's regular engage-ment with industrialists, has significantly improved the business environment. Today, GIDA is emerging as an attractive investment destination, much like Noida.

For decades, the relationship between industries and Gorakhpur remained at odds. However, the scenario has drastically changed in the past seven years under the leader-

ship of Chief Minister Yogi. Today, industries and Gorakhpur are seen as complementary to each other. Once a region where even local entrepreneurs hesitated to invest, Gorakhpur is now

witnessing a surge of interest from some of the country's top companies. As demand for industrial plots has increased, GIDA has expanded its land bank significantly.

In the past year alone (as of October 31, 2024), GIDA acquired 501.68 acres of land double the 250.46 acres acquired in 2023-24. This growing demand for land and the accelerated pace of acqui-sitions highlight GIDA's emergence as a major industrial hub in Purvanchal.

In recent years, Gorakhpur has witnessed the launch and establishment of several major industrial units, including multinational companies — something that seemed unimaginable three decades

GIDA now hosts operational units like PepsiCo's bottling plant, CP Milk (Gyan Dairy), plant, CP MIIK (Gyan Dany), Tatva Plastic, Gallantt Group and Ankur Udyog. The Central Warehousing Corporation's storage facility is also complete, while other large units, such as Kevan Distillery, are under construction.

Leading industrial giants like Coca-Cola, Bisleri, Adani and JK Group (for a cement factory) have also expressed interest in setting up units in GIDA, further boosting the region's industrial profile.

To accelerate this momentum, the chief minister will distribute allotment letters for new industrial plots during GIDA's 35th Foundation Day celebrations. According to GIDA CEO Anuj Malik, 88 industrial plots allotted over the past year have attracted

investment proposals worth Rs 1,286 crore.

Major companies, including APL Apollo Tubes Limited, SLMG PET Plant, Kapila Krishi Udyog, Ison Air Cooler, Technoplast Packaging Private Limited, Modern Packaging Private Limited, Novamax Industries and Hotel Neelkanth Grand, have secured plots ranging from 3,500 to 72,000 square metres. Proposed investments for these units range from Rs 50 crore to Rs 320 crore.

On this occasion, Chief Minister Yogi will also inau-gurate infrastructure development projects worth Rs 86 crore, lay the foundation for Rs 123 crore worth of new projects, and launch 20 integrated services on the Nivesh Mitra portal to enhance ease of doing business in the region.

Notably, road, rail and air connectivity have played a

pivotal role in creating a strong investment ecosystem in the region. GIDA is currently developing a 25-acre Garment Park and an 88-acre Plastic Park, along with a Rs 34 crore Flatted Factory Complex.

The Plastic Park, located in Sector-28 along the Gorakhpur Link Expressway, spans 88 acres and will host 92 plastic manufacturing units. These units will have access to all necessary infrastructure facilities, creating employ-ment for nearly 5,000 people. Additionally, the Uttar Pradesh government is working on a massive 5,500-acre Industrial Corridor in Dhuriyapar, further cementing Gorakhpur's place on the industrial map. Enhanced connectivity and targeted infrastructure projects are transforming GIDA into a preferred destination for industries.

## state 04



# **BJP** workers celebrate poll victory

#### PIONEER NEWS SERVICE VARANASI

 $T_{Janata\ Party\ (BJP)\ celebrated}^{he\ workers\ of\ Bharatiya}$ in Maharashtra assembly elections and Uttar Pradesh assembly by-elections. In the programme organised at the BIP office located in Gulab Bagh here on Saturday evening, the BJP workers burst firecrackers and offered sweets to each other. They also danced to the beats of drums.

On the occasion, party's regional president (Kashi) Dilip Patel said in the assembly byelections held on nine seats in UP, the party has won seven seats and out of these seven seats, Phulpur and Manjhwa seats come under Kashi region. 'The voters of assembly constituencies have given a stamp on the public welfare schemes and good governance of Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath and made BJP win with a huge number of votes", he said.

Patel further said Mahavuti (BJP alliance) has achieved a historic victory in the assembly elections held in Maharashtra. "The entire credit for this goes



BJP leaders in Varanasi on Saturday evening celebrating party's win in Maharashtra assembly and UP bypolls

to the state government for taking the public welfare schemes of the Centre to the people", the regional BJP chief said, adding that rejecting the Muslim appeasement of Congress, the people of Maharashtra made the development-oriented government win.

On the occasion UP Minister of State (Independent Charge) Ravindra Jaiswal said the way the INDI Alliance had 'cheat-

ed' the people of the country in the name of 'Khata Khat' in the last Lok Sabha elections, the people have understood it well. In the assembly elections of Maharashtra as well as in the by-elections of Uttar Pradesh, where the party has won seven out of nine seats and BJP's

votes have increased on two seats, it proved that the party's victory is the result of the faith and trust of the people on the

works of Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath", Jaiswal said.

Mayor Ashok Tiwari said the victory of BJP in the Maharashtra assembly elections and the party's win in the assembly by-elections held in UP is a stamp of the people's faith on the works being done by PM Modi. District BJP president and MLC Hansraj

Vishwakarma said the victory of BJP on seven seats in the assembly by-elections held in UP is a rejection of the Muslim appeasement and casteism politics of SP and Congress. City BJP president Vidyasagar Rai said the massive victory of BJP in the Maharashtra assembly elections and the assembly by-elections held in Uttar Pradesh is the result of 'Sabka Saath Sabka Vikas' by PM Modi and CM Yogi. "The elections have Yogi. proved that the people's trust in BJP has increased", he added. Among other impor-tant jubilant BJP leaders who were also present in the celebration were Rakesh Sharma, regional media in charge Navratan Rathi, co-in charge Santosh Solapurkar, Naveen Kapoor, Sanjay Sonkar, Madhukar Chitransh, Ashok Yadav, Abhishek Mishra, Ashok Kumar, Ashok Patel, Madhukar Pandey, Hari Keshari, Neeraj Jaiswal, Mahendra Singh Gautam,

Rachna Agarwal, Geeta Shastri, Rajneesh Kannojia, Siddhnath Sharma, Sushil Tripathi, Ratan Maurya and Kushagra Srivastava.

# Minister visits IIVR, reviews vegetable research projects

#### PIONEER NEWS SERVICE VARANAS

Union Minister of State for Agriculture and Farmers Welfare Ramnath Thakur visited the Indian Institute of Vegetable Research (IIVR) here on Saturday. He reviewed the vegetable research projects being implemented at the institute and also visited the research fields and laboratories.

Thakur was welcomed by acting Director Dr Anant Bahadur who briefed him about the various advanced varieties of vegetables and technologies developed by the institute. The minister appreciated the farmerfriendly work being done by the IIVR and its scientists. The union minister said the success of scientists lies in taking their research work and technologies to the fields and providing direct benefits to farmers.

He emphasised that vegetables are a guarantee of nutritional security in the country and are fully capable of



Union Minister of State for Agriculture and Farmers Welfare Ram Nath Thakur addressing a programne at IIVR in Varanasi on Saturday

benefiting farmers. He appreciated the work done by the institute on grafting, brinjal and pomato-like technologies and advanced varieties of vegetables like chili, brinjal, and tomato. He also appreciated the work done on organic and

natural farming. On the occasion, Thakur also planted a sapling in the institute campus.

**Advocates continue work boycott** 

The programme was conducted by Dr Neeraj Singh and the vote of thanks was proposed by Dr Arvind Nath Singh, Chairman of the Crop Protection Department. The programme was attended by Dr SK Singh (Chairman of the PME Cell), Dr DP Singh (Chairman of the Media Cell), scientists, administrative and financial officials, and research scholars.

## **UP Police Flag Day celebrated**



-CP Mohit Agarwal addressing the cops on UP Police Flag Day at Police Lines in Varanasi on Šaturday.

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE VARANASI dedicated to our duty every moment.

Commissioner of Police (CP) Mohit Agarwal hoisted the flag on Uttar Pradesh Police Flag Day at a function held at the Police Lines here on Saturday. On this occasion, the CP also read the message of Director General of Police unwavering dedication and (DGP) while addressing the police personnel by hoisting the

police flag. The Uttar Pra desh Police Flag

## DM inspects under construction road

#### PIONEER NEWS SERVICE VARANASI

District Magistrate (DM) S Rajalingam on Saturday inspected the road under construction on the right side before Rohania police station of Mohansarai-Lahartara road and gave necessary instructions to the PWD officials. He expressed displeasure over the non-start of drain construction work on the right side of the road, non-shifting of electric poles, lack of progress in the work of cutting trees ahead of the police station and directed PWD Executive Engineer KK Singh to start the work soon.

The DM directed the officers to prepare a chart for shifting the



Department, remove the dilapidated truck on the left side of the road and get the road widened and strengthened by cutting the trees. He talked to

the people there regarding the construction of the drain and assured to start the construction work soon. MLC Dharmendra Rai was also present on the spot.

office.

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE PRAYAGRAJ police officers reached the DM office. The lawyers also raised The anger of the advocates is slogans against the police. The Increasing over the death of lawyer Akhilesh Shukla alias police officers, including the DM, pacified the lawyers by assuring them that proper Guddu here. On Saturday too on the announcement of the action will be initiated against all the accused. The District District Advocates Association, the advocates boycotted the Advocates Association has judicial work and gheraoed given a memorandum of the office of the district magdemands to the officials conistrate. The advocates who cerned in which a demand was were abstained from judicial work protested vehemently. made for compensation of Rs 1 crore to the family of Akhilesh Shukla, a govern-Hundreds of angry lawyers reached the DM office shoutment job to the son, licence of ing slogans from the district weapons to the family, etc Earlier on Friday also, the court. The lawyers created a ruckus at the gate of the DM lawyers had gone on strike on the announcement of the On getting information the District Advocates Association.

LABOURER DIES: A 35-yearold labourer died after being hit by a dumper coming from Sahson near Berui village under Tharwai police station area on Saturday. According to a report received here, Vinay Kumar alias Bhola Saroj of Berui village, was going for work as usual on Saturday morning when he was hit by speeding due to which he was seriously injured. The matter was reported at the Tharwai police station following which its in charge arrived with his team, took the injured to the hospital where the doctors declared him dead. The body was sent for post-mortem examination.

## **Juna Akhara** establishes Dharma Dhwaj poverty, greed, anger, heat etc are destroyed. Prominent among those present in the procession were Kewal





# Kashipuri, grief, attachment,

The Bhairav Pradakshina Yatra was taken out under the aegis of Shri Laat Bhairav Kashi tra Mandal on the auspicious

of

# Maha Bhairavashtami: Bhairav Pradakshina Yatra taken out

#### PIONEER NEWS SERVICE VARANASI

is a symbol of the glorious history of the Police department and dedication of brave person-nel. soldiers. According to the CP, this flag is an indelible legacy of our valorous tales, which inspires us to remain aware and

this historic and inspiring day, which underlines the glory of the flag and the firmness of our path of duty. Senior police officer of Varanasi Police Commissionerate were present on the occasion.

The red and blue flag, a sym-

bol of strength and loyalty, was

presented to the UP Police on November 23, 1952, by the first Prime Minister of independent

India. This proud flag is an

indelible symbol of the bravery,

glorious history of the brave

personnel of Uttar Pradesh

Police. In honour of the Police

Flag a parade was organised on

occasion Bhairavashtami here on Saturday. On the occasion the protectors of all the eight directions of Kashi were worshipped in this city of Lord Shiva. The yatra started from Laat Bhairav Temple situated at Kajjakpura.

## Man's body found

#### PIONEER NEWS SERVICE PRAYAGRAJ

The body of an unidentified 30-year-old man was found on the Prayagraj-Mirzapur highway in front of Garetha village under Manda police station area on Saturday morning. On getting information Dighiya outpost in charge been taken into possession and sent for post-mortem.

According to the police, injury marks have been found on the body of the deceased, which appear to be due to a road accident.

Adi Guru Shankaracharya. In The police is investigating from both the angles of murder and the yatra, devotees were walkaccident. Dighiya outpost ining barefoot in simple tradicharge Dr Baburam said the tional attire, with 'tripund' on their foreheads doing 'jaap' body has been sent for post-Baburam reached the spot with his team. The body has istered against unknown per-(chanting). With the proclama-tion of 'Jai Bhairav Bam Bhairay' devotees had darshan sons and investigation has been started in the matter of Ashta (eight) Pradhan

Bhairav Pradakshina Yatra being taken out in Varanasi on Saturday.

water of the ancient Shri Kapal Mochan Kund, the place of lib-Bhairavs, protectors of the four eration of Brahma Dosh. After corners and four directions of taking a pledge in front the idol Kashi that is the eight direcof Lord Laat Bhairay, the yatra tions.

was started by reciting Bhairavashtakam composed by The vatra was completed by visiting Asitang Bhairav situated at Mahamrityunjay, Chand Bhairav (Durgakund), Ruru Bhairav (Harishchandra Ghat), Krodhan Bhairav (Kamakhya Devi, Kamachha), Unmatta Bhairav (Batuk Bhairav), Kapal Bhairav (Kajjakpura), Bhishan Bhairav (Bhoot Bhairav Nakhas),

Sanhaar Bhairav (Gaighat) and other nearby Bhairav temples. Eight types of bhog were offered to Lord Laat Bhairav. Lamps were lit in front of Ashta Bhairav. Kewal Kushwaha, an officebearer of the mandal, said Bhairavnath is the 'God of

Justice'. By worshipping Baba Bhairav Nath, who is called Mahakaal, the time of all times, devotees get freedom from the fear of death. By worshipping the Swami of

Dharmendra Shah, Ritesh Kushwaha, Utkarsh Kushwaha, Jai Prakash Rai, Anand Maurya, Narendra Prajapati, Krishna Yadav, Rudra Agrahari, Hari Vitthal, Akash Shah and Ramakant. Besides, various events, including cultural programmes, were organised in the temple premises at Kajjakpura. On the occasion a grand Annakut Shringar of Anadikaleshwar Baba Shri Laat Bhairav was done and the attractive tableau of Ashta Bhairav was taken out. A musical 'Sundarkand Paath' was also organised on the floor of the temple. A grand 'bhan-dara' was also held. Laat Management Bhairav Committee secretary Munna Lal Yadav, media in charge Shivam Agrahari and others

were also present.

ishwaha, Shiyam Agrahari

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE PRAYAGRAJ

Preparations are also going on continuously on the part of the Akharas for the Maha Kumbh to be held here. On Saturday, the largest Akhara — Juna Akhara established the Dharma Dhwaj in the Mela area here on Saturday.

Along with the saints of Juna Akhara, president of Akhil Bharativa Akhara Parishad Mahant Ravindra Puri and other saints were present. Before establishing the Dharma Dhwaj in the Mela area, the

Juna Akhara performed puja with rituals. The saints worshipped the Dharma Dhwai. After that the Dharma Dhwaj was established in the Mela area.

Mahant Ravindra Puri said Dharma Dhwaj is a symbol of Sanatan. He said he will talk to the Mela administration so that the devotees coming to the Maha Kumbh did not face any kind of problem. Preparations for the Maha Kumbh are also going on from the side of the Akharas so that it can be made grand and divine.

## Efforts of make Ganga, tributaries pollution free showing results

#### PIONEER NEWS SERVICE VARANASI

The continuous efforts being made by the government in Varanasi to make the Ganga river and its tributaries pollution free are now showing results. Under the Namami Gange programme started by the Government of India in the year 2014, STPs of 200 MLD capacity have been established in Varanasi. Apart from this, a STP of 120 MLD capacity has been installed at Goitha under the JNNURM programme.

According to Project Manager of Ganga Pollution Control Unit, UP Jal Nigam (Rural), Varanasi, Ashish Kumpur Singh, till the year 2017 the purification capac-ity of STP in Varanasi was only 100 MLD, which has now increased to 420 MLD.

"Due to the increase in capacity, there has been an expected improvement in the quality of water of the Ganga river. Before the year 2022, the Ganga river in Varanasi was placed in priority section-4 by the Central Pollution Control Board, which has now

ority block is 6-10 ppm, where-as the amount of BOD in priority block-5 is 3-6 ppm and faecal coliform was found to be 1300 in the upstream of Ganga river and 23000 MPN/100 ml in the downstream in the year 2017, whereas in the year 2024, 490 MPN/100 ml has been found in the upstream and 4900 MPN/100 ml in the downstream in Ganga river.

that the amount of BOD in pri-

He said this is also reflected by the testing of Ganga river water samples in Varanasi in the year 2017 and year 2024 under the National Water Quality Monitoring Programme by the Uttar Pradesh Pollution Control Board.

At present, a 55 MLD capacity STP is under construction in Bhagwanpur under Namami Gange programme and a 7 MMD capacity STP is under construction in Sujabad under Amrit 2.0. "If we talk about future projects, a 55 MLD STP for Durga Nala flowing in Lohta and a project to increase the capacity of 80 MLD STP installed in Dinapur to 220

which is likely to be approved soon", Singh said. He said after the construction of

these STPs, the quality of Ganga and Varuna rivers is expected to improve further. At present, 8 MLD Bhagwanpur, 12 MLD BLW, 80 MLD Dinapur, 140 MLD Dinapur, 120 MLD Goitha, 50 MLD Ramna and 10 MLD Ramnagar are installed and operational in Varanasi. CLEAN FUEL CAR RALLY: The

Amul's Clean Fuel Car Rally arrived in the city to celebrate National Milk Day and promote sustainability in milk production. The country celebrates November 26, birth anniversary of Dr Verghese Kurien, the father of India's milk revolution, as the National Milk Day. The dairy cooperative movement inspired by Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel led to the formation of Amul in 1946, which was replicated across the country, resulting in India emerg-ing as the largest producer of

milk in the world. To spread awareness of clean fuel and sustainability, Amul has organised a series of four mega been removed and placed in pri-ority section-5", he said, adding the Namami Gange programme, part of National Milk Day cele-

aim to raise awareness of the circular economy while honouring the legacy of Índia's dairy cooperatives.

A car rally which started from Kolkata will cover more than 2,000 kms travelling across the states of West Bengal, Bihar and Uttar Pradesh (UP) to culminate at Delhi. At Delhi the Ministry of Animal Husbandry and Dairying, Government of India is organising celebrations on the occasion of National Milk Day.

This timeline also coincides with the event organised by International Cooperative Alliance (ICA) to officially declare the year 2025 as International Year of Cooperatives'.

The conference, themed 'Cooperatives Build Prosperity for All', will be attended by global leaders, academics and practitioners. A special screening of Amul's national award-winning film Manthan is also organised at the ICA Global Conference in Bharat Mandapam, New Delhi, on

brations. The rallies, powered on November 18 from Eco Park by Maruti Suzuki and Bajaj Auto, in Kolkata, arrived here. The next day the rally visited the Dugdh Utpadak Sahkari Sangh Ltd plant (Parag) where it was welcomed and felicitated by Managing Director, Varanasi Milk Union, Rajendra Kumar Siagal. He highlighted the vital role of cooperatives in promoting a circular economy and how Mrida (a NDDB subsidiary) processes 100 MT of cow dung daily to produce clean energy and how the rally is a good initiative to promote clean energy on a nationwide level.

With its BioCNG pilot project in Banas Dairy, Gujarat, Amul is now striving to become a key player in representing the circular economy.

This initiative not only provides farmers with an additional income source but also offers clean fuel and organic fertilis-

By setting up multiple plants across the state for processing dung, it underscores the positive and sustainable impact of this project on both the agricultural November 26. and energy sectors. Banas Dairy The rally, which was flagged off has also a plant in Varanasi.

## Conference of Indian Society for Medical Statistics ends

#### PIONEER NEWS SERVICE VARANASI

 $T_{Indian\ Society\ for\ Medical}^{he\ three-day\ Conference\ of\ the}$ on a high note here on Saturday. The day began with a plenary and technical sessions, where experts presented cutting-edge research and innovations in medical statistics. These sessions set the stage for an engaging and insightful conclusion to the conference.

The valedictory function, the high-light of the day, began with the introduction of the chief guest and Vice-Chancellor of Gopal Narayan Singh University, Rohtas (Bihar) Prof MK Singh by the Director of the conference Prof KK Singh. Addressing the gathering, Prof MK Singh, an esteemed ophthalmologist, shared a soulful doha from the Ramcharitmanas, leaving the audience deeply moved and mesmerised.

In his concluding remarks, president of ISMS Prof SN Dwivedi commended the efforts of the organising committee and expressed his gratitude to all par-

ticipants and speakers. General secretary of ISMS Dr B Binukumar reflected on the success of the conference and honoured the organising secretary Prof Brijesh Pratap Singh, with a certificate, shawl and memento in recognition of his outstanding contributions to the event.

President-Elect of ISMS Prof N Sreekumaran Nair gave an inspir-ing 'way forward' for the society, emphasising future collaborations and initiatives in the field. Later, the winner of the prestigious CM Pandey Memorial Award was announced. Dr Prafulla Swain was recognised for his exceptional contribution to the field of medical statistics, marking a fitting end to the conference.

The event concluded with heartfelt applause and a sense of fulfillment as attendees expressed their gratitude for the enriching experience. The ISMS Conference 2024, organised by the Department of Statistics at Banaras Hindu University, was hailed as a resounding success, leaving everyone excited for future events and collaborations.

## nation 05



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Maharashtra.

the ĊM.

Pawar and Fadnavis, it is

Modi and Shah who will

ultimately decide as to who

## AAP turncoat Kailash Gahlot nominated to **BJP** election committee STAFF REPORTER

NEW DELHI

Former Delhi BJP president Satish Upadhyaya, AAP turncoat Kailash Gahlot and state general secretary Vishnu Mittal nominated as a member of the BJP's Delhi Assembly coordination election committee. Gahlot, an MLA from Najafgarh seat in West Delhi, stepped down as Transport minister in the Delhi government, and also resigned from the primary membership of the AAP on November 17. Next day he joined the BJP. Gahlot also had a meeting with BJP national president JP Nadda and Union Health Minister to discuss the planning for the upcoming assembly polls which are slated to take place next year. After the meeting, Gahlot termed the discussion as a 'courtesy call' where key topics like organization goals and public service. In Delhi, the Jat community constitutes about 4-5 per cent of the entire population, mainly spread across northern and western rural belts.

Though the incumbent, Eknath Shinde is making a The election for the 70-member desperate effort to convince Delhi Assembly is due in February next year. his allies in the MahaYuti that he is the best bet for becoming

## **Fadnavis makes a Maha comeback**

cryptically, "Yes, I have come back after breaking two parties" - a reference to splits of the Shiv Sena and NCP.

His supporters say that after the BJP-led MahaYuti's historic victory in the polls, Fadnavis has given a fitting reply to the Opposition Maha Vikas Aghadi leaders' earlier criticism: ek-akela-Devendrakya-karega.

Now a six-time MLA, Fadnavis - after losing out on the chief ministership in July 2022 --has redeemed himself. Hailing from Nagpur, Fadnavis has the full backing of the Rashtriya Swayamsevak Sangh (RSS). A Brahmin in Maratha-dominated the politics of the state, he has become a force to reckon with his own way in in

Maharashtra politics. His father, Gangadhar Rao Fadnavis, was an MLC from Nagpur while his mother, Sarita Fadnavis, was the director of Vidarbha Housing Credit Society.

Born in the year 22nd July, 1970, Fadnavis holds a graduate degree in law from Nagpur University. He also holds a post graduate degree in business management and a diploma in methods and techniques of project management from DSE, Berlin. He began his career as an elected member of the Nagpur Municipal Corporation, and served two consecutive terms, in 1992

and 1997.

Victory of development, social justice and good governance: Modi

Backward Classes (OBC) in

small groups. This is a solid

slap on their faces," Modi said. Modi congratulated and thanked all the workers of

alliance in the state and

expressed appreciation for

#### PIONEER NEWS SERVICE NEW DELHI

Terming the historic verdict, Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Saturday hailed the Maharashtra assembly results a victory of development' and 'defeat of lies', saying the mandate was a firm rejection of the negative politics of the Opposition. He further said the election in Maharashtra proved the maxim of "Ek hai toh safe hai (there is safety in unity" which has become a mantra to the whole country. "It is the victory

Eknath Shinde, Devendra Fadnavis and Ajit Pawar. of development, social justice Maharashtra, he said, has and good governance in Maharashtra and and it is the become the sixth state to choose the BJP for a third defeat of negative politics and dynastic politics," Modi said consecutive term, after Goa, Gujarat. Chhattisgarh and Madhya Pradesh. He also in his victory speech. Referring to the poll outcome in Maharashtra as a big boost to its cadre, Modi said opposition affected the parivarvad Vikas Bhi...Virasat Bhi. Earlier, Modi received a opposition adversely and strengthened the people's resolve for a developed India by choosing Mahayuti.Addressing party workers at BJP headquarters Upadhyay Marg. The BJP-led Mahayuti alliance secured a over the historic mandate to decisive Maharashtra on Saturday, the NDA in Maharashtra elections, Modi said, "After retaining control over 230 of Haryana, the biggest message of this election is unity. 'Ek the 288 Assembly seats. In a scathing attack on Congress, Modi said the latest hain toh safe hain' has become the 'maha-mantra' of the round of elections has endorsed the message of development and defeated the country. The sentiment of 'ek hain toh safe hain' has taught

politics of lies and betraval a lesson to those who make people fight in the name of propounded by the Congress caste, religion, language and region.The Congress and its and its allies. Modi said divisive forces, ecosystem had thought that politics ecosystem had thought that by spreading lies in the name of the Constitution, they could divide the Scheduled Castes (SCs), Scheduled Tribes (STs) and Other

negative and dynasticism have been defeated in the Maharashtra election and bypolls in various states. He said the people of Maharashtra have voted for stability and taught a lesson to those who tried to create instability. "Every segment of the country

voted for BJP... The Congress is unable to gauge this changed mood of the country. They don't want to understand the reality. The voter does not want instability. The voter is with the nation first feeling," PM Modi said, in a harsh takedown of the Congress.

"People have made divisive gave a new mantra for Maharashtra. He said in the forces bite the dust. The Congress and its allies have failed to grasp the changed realities of the country's mood," the prime minister coming years, Maharashtra will run on the mantra of added. He asserted that voters rousing welcome at the party do not want instability and headquarters at Deebn Dayal they believe in nation first and do not like those dreaming about "chair first".

Voters in Maharashtra also in evaluated Congress on the basis of the false promises made in other states like Karnataka, Telangana and Himachal Pradesh, he added. "Neither their false promises nor their genda worked in Maharashtra," Modi said.

#### the CM once again, the will be the next CM of Bharatiya Janata Party's (BJP) Maharashtra. That he wants to become the next CM is an central leadership is unlikely to oblige him - especially after open secret. But he has chosen its historic mandate in not to talk about his desire to return as the CM, because he Given that he was the face the realises that there can be a slip BJP in the state Assembly

between cup and lip. If everything falls in place, Fadnavis will be sworn as the polls and his claims were ignored when it formed a next CM of Maharashtra at government two-and-a-half years ago with Eknath Shinde Wankhede stadium in south Mumbai on Monday. It was at the helm, Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Union the same venue he had been home minister Amit Shah are likely to go with Fadnavis as sworn in as the CM in front of a 30,000-strong crowd for the first time on October 31, More than the newly-elected 2014. MLAs, Shinde, his deputy, Ajit

Ahead of the Lok Sabha Election, when asked about Me-Punha-Yain.... his statement. Fadnavis had said

## A weekend of wheezing in NCR

TN RAGHUNATHA MUMBAI

Not many in Maharashtra political circles can forget

his much-discussed statement

Me-Punha-Yain-Me-Punha-

Yain that he had made

repeatedly in the run-up to

the 2019 state Assembly polls

to suggest that he would

return as the chief minister of

the state. It did not happen

then. But, this time around,

Devendra Fadnavis will in all

likelihood return as the chief

minister

Maharashtra.

(CM)

of

#### From page 1

In nine areas of Delhi, the AQI level remained above 300 and between 400. It was 394 in Aya Nagar, 384 in Mathura Road, 397 in IGI Airport, 390 in Dilshad Garden, 388 in ITO, 394 in Jawaharlal Nehru Stadium, 398 in Pusa, and 388 in Sri Aurobindo Marg. In 27 areas of Delhi, the AQI level remained between 400 and above 500.

The AQI was 452 in Alipore, 458 in Anand Vihar, 457 in Ashok Vihar, 458 in Bawana, 422 in Burari Crossing, 440 in Chandni Chowk, 420 in Dr. Karni Singh Shooting Range, 419 in DTU, 432 in Dwarka Sector 8, 463 in Jahangirpuri, 418 in Major Dhyanchand Najafgarh, 437 in Narela, 448

ehru Nagar, North

Campus 419, 401 in NSIT Dwarka, 420 in Okhla Svstem, 426 in Patparganj, 454 in Punjabi Bagh, 430 in RK Puram, The score is 450 in Rohini, 439 in Shadipur, 406 in Siri Fort, 453 in Vivek Vihar, 467 in Wazirpur. The AQI in Delhi-NCR's Saturday.

various cities also remained high. Faridabad AQI was at 290, Gurugram was at 324, Ghaziabad at 357, Greater Noida at 295 and Noida was at 345.

According to the Air Quality Early Warning System for Delhi, moderate fog was reported at Safdarjung airport early on Saturday morning. Safdarjung airport recorded lowest visibility 300 m during 0630 hours to 0900 hours IST which improved Stadium, 418 in Mandir thereafter becoming 500m at Marg, 443 in Mundka, 406 in 0930 hours IST. Palam airport recorded lowest visibility 800 m during 0730

hours to 0900 hours IST 39 which improved thereafter, becoming 1000 m at 0930 hours IST. Mainly smog conditions with wind speed less than 06 kmph variable direction prevailed over the region in the forenoon on

Saturday. The Decision Support System for Air Quality Management in Delhi pointed out that the transport sector is the most significant contributor at 16. 423 per cent. While the residential sector contribution is 4. 051 per cent, industries contributed

3. 125 per cent, construction 2. 35 per cent, construction 1.196 per cent, waste burning 1.469 per cent, and road dust 1.249 per cent. The dense smog also

impacted visibility, causing delays in train schedules. The Shatabdi (Kanpur to New Delhi) experienced a delay of

minutes, while the Jansadharan Express (Anand Vihar terminal to Danapur) faced a significant delay of 661 minutes. Other trains, including the Hazrat Nizamuddin Humsafar Humsafar Express and Runicha Express, also experienced delays.

Delhi environment minister Gopal Rai inspected the Narela-Singhu border on November 22nd to monitor the implementation of GRAP stage IV.Speaking to the media, he stated: "The AAP government is continuously working to mitigate the level of pollution in Delhi. Entry has been banned for those vehicles that cause pollution, as Grap 4 is implemented. Today, we have received several complaints that vehicles are being allowed to enter Delhi without proper checking; hence I am here to inspect the same

### AAP wrests Cong seats in Punjab by-poll PIONEER NEWS SERVICE NEW DELHI, CHANDIGARH

In a boost to the ruling Aam Aadmi Party (AAP) in Punjab, the party wrested three Assembly by-polls in Gidderbaha, Dera Baba Nanak and Chabbewal, all three of which were vacated by Congress MLAs who were elected to the Lok Sabha while the Congress won the Barnala seat in the by-polls. With this victory, the AAP will have 94 seats and the Congress will have 16 in the 117-member Assembly. The AAP managed to breach the Congress bastion in Gidderbaha and Dera Baba Nanak segments, however, it lost its own stronghold of Barnala Assembly segment to the main Opposition party.

The Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) drew a blank in the bypolls as its candidates emained at a distant third

spot in the four seats. The Shiromani Akali Dal (SAD) had stayed away from the bystate.

polls. The by-polls, which took place on November 20, were necessitated after the incumbent legislators were elected to the Lok Sabha earlier this year.

The by-polls were seen as a litmus test for Punjab Chief Minister, Bhagwant Mann, as a victory was important for him because his party faced a drubbing in the 2024 Lok Sabha election, in which it could win just three of the 13 Parliamentary constituencies in Punjab. The stakes were also high for the main opposition, Congress. Prestige was at stake for its MPs, Amrinder Singh Raja Warring and Sukhjinder Randhawa, whose wives contested the by-polls from Gidderbaha and Dera Baba Nanak seats, respectively. The BIP was also looking to

put up a strong show in the by-polls after it drew a blank in the General Election from the

As the results came in, AAP leaders and workers burst firecrackers, distributed sweets and danced to the beats of dhol, while victory marches were taken out by the successful candidates in their respec-

victory

tive constituencies. Chief Minister Bhagwant Mann congratulated the people of Punjab for the "spectacular" victory in the by-polls. "Under the leadership of @ArvindKejriwal ji, Aam Aadmi Party is touching new heights day by day across the country. We are working day and night honestly and without any discrimination for the progress and prosperity of Punjab. We will fulfil every promise made to Punjabis nearest rival and Congress during the by-elections on a nominee Ranjit Kumar by a priority basis. Best wishes to

everyone," he posted on X. AAP national convener Arvind Kejriwal, posted on X, the people of Punjab have once again expressed their faith in the ideology of the AAP and the work of the state government by giving three out of four seats to his party in the by-polls. In Gidderbaha, AAP candidate

Hardeep Singh Dimpy Dhillon defeated his nearest rival Congress nominee Amrita Warring, who is the wife of Punjab Congress chief Amrinder Singh Raja Warring. In a three-cornered contest, Dhillon defeated Congress nominee Amrita Warring by a margin of 21,969 votes.

AAP nominee Ishank Kumar Chabbewal won the Chabbewal segment in Hoshiarpur. He defeated his margin of 28,690 votes

#### From page 1

Such is the MahaYuti victory that the ruling alliance has made gains in all the six regions of the state, including Mumbai. Of the 36 seats in Mumbai, the MahaYuti won 23 seats, as against 12 seats won by the MVA. In the neighbouring Thane and Konkan region, out of the 39 seats, the MahaYuti walked away 32 seats, while the MVA won mere four seats. In western Maharashtra once considered the stronghold of the erstwhile Sharad Pawar-led NCP, the ruling grand alliance won 42 out of 58 seats, while the MVA won just four seats. In Marathwada where the MVA had performed very well in the recent Lok Sabha polls, the MahaYuti won 36 out of the 46 seats while the MVA won a meagre two seats. In north Maharashtra, the ruling grand alliance walked away with 41 out of 47 seats, while the MVA won just three seats. In Vidarbha - a region on which the Congress was pinning its hopes, the MahaYuti performed exceedingly winning 48 out of the total 62 seats.

#### JHARKHAND SAYS JOHAR TO JMM

#### From page 1

Another former CM and incumbent Governor of Odisha Raghubar Das' daughter in law Poornima Sahu Das managed to win from Jamshedpur East constituency.

Addressing a press conference at his residence Hemant Soren credited the victory of INDIA Bloc to the people of Jharkhand. Soren posted a video on 'X' with a caption "Jharkhand has won". He thanked the people of Jharkhand for believing in the alliance once again and promised to fulfil their aspirations.

You have played a crucial role in fortifying democracy. I extend my heartfelt thanks to everyone who participated in this electoral process and those who worked tirelessly to bring the essence of democracy to the people," he said.

He further remarked, "A new chapter in the history of 'Abua Raj, Abua Sarkar' is being written in Jharkhand. This election is unlike any you have witnessed before. We have successfully

of you." The BJP's state president Babulal Marandi congratulated Hemant Soren and his party on social media for his win. He said that this election result was unexpected for BJP, but in democracy the decision of the people is paramount. "We respect the mandate. BJP will thoroughly review these results," he added.

Political experts credited the conclusive win of INDIA block in Jharkhand to the recently launched "Maiyan Samman Yojna" by the Hemant Soren led government in the State, through which four instalments of Rs 1000 were given as honorarium to more than 45 lakh women of Jharkhand.

Also, they said that the 'Bangladeshi infiltration' rhetoric launched by the BJP to woo party's traditional voters miserably failed in the tribal belts that still long for tribal identity and basic amenities.

Notably, this is for the first time in the history of 24 years of formation of Jharkhand that any coalition or a party upheld the principles of democracy. I has secured 56 seats to run the extend my sincere gratitude to each one government comfortably for a full term. has secured 56 seats to run the

### WAYANAD SENDS PRIYANKA TO PARLIAMENT

#### From page 1

in the constituency voted en masse for the Congress candidate and this helped the Shafi Parambil, the sitting MLA from Palakkad had won GOP to score a spectacular the 2021 Assembly poll by a majority of 3859 votes and he win. Though the results from the two constituencies do not resigned from the seat on make an impact on the Kerala Legislative Assembly, the CPI(M) winning the getting elected as Member of Parliament in the 2024 general election. The ruling CPI-M retained the Chelakkara Assembly constituency from where its nominee UR Pradeep was chief M V Govindan. The Congress-led United Democratic Front (UDF) had elected by a majority of 12,201 votes. He defeated his campaigned on the "unholy alliance" between the CPI(M) Congress rival Remya Haridas and the BJP candidate K Balakrishnan. Both the by-polls to the Assembly constituencies of Palakkad and Chelakkara saw

support extended by the high voltage campaigns and dramatics. At one stage, it Social Democratic Party of India (SDPI), an 'extremist' looked like the BJP candidate organisation, to the Congress may make it to the Assembly candidate has taken a lot of from Palakkad. sheen from the victory of

But the Muslim community Mamkoottathil.

Ummidon Ke Geetkar... From page 1

Zaman said as she travels to different corners of the country to promote the book and have discussions with people, she has realised why Mahmood's popularity has stood the test of time.

"People want to know about him, and that's why they Chelakkara constituency has attend my events... There are a come as a morale booster for lot of family stories about him chief minister Pinarayi that I've included in the Vijavan and the party's state book," she said about the selfpublished book that came out in December last year. She said she also got to talk to many of Mahmood's colleagues, most of whom are and the BJP which has been now in their 90s.

"What's so interesting is that he was the first Indian proved a misnomer if the final results are any indication. The musician to introduce the concept of world concerts. He went on his first world tour in 1956, and I got to speak to his concert manager-the person responsible for the orchestra," she added.

fractures and ensured the

## Cong now back in analysis mode...

From page 1

The outcome revealed that the Congress continued to falter on the slippery electoral landscape. struggling to win or improve in states where it is ruling and failing to uplift alliances where it is the senior partner. In Haryana, where the Congress and BJP were in direct contest, the party could not convert the antiincumbency of BJP's two terms into a win. Now in Maharashtra, it was unable to retain its Lok Sabha gains or help its allies pull through.

Questions are also expected to be raised on the modus operandi of Congress party's chief strategist Rahul Gandhi who has of late focused heavily on caste census as both issues appear to have failed to resonate among the people at large in the pollbound states.

In the run up to the General Elections several leaders in the likes of Nitish Kumar, K Chandrashekar Rao, Mamata Banerjee, Akshilesh Yadav, M K Stalin were hobnobbing to lead a Third Front but Congress finally convinced to lead the family of non-BJP members. Interestingly Mamata and Nitish, both Chief ministers and boss of their party had to call it a day from the Congress hegemony and chose different path. While Nitish's JDU is now part of BJP-led National Democratic Alliance (NDA), Mamata joined the chorus after performance in the 2024 Lok Sabha.

## **BJP dominates by-polls across 15 diverse states**

#### From page 1

Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath celebrated the victory, attributing it to the BJP's governance, welfare policies, and strategic outreach. "The BJP-NDA's success is a testament to the people's faith in the double-

Karnataka, sweeping all three seats, including the high-profile Channapatna constituency. Karnataka Deputy Chief Minister D.K. Shivakumar hailed the results as a reflection of public trust in the Congress

dominance in West Bengal, winning all six contested seats, including the BJP stronghold of Madarihat. Congress candidate Gulabsinh Rajput defeated BJP's Swarupji Thakor in the by-elections to the Vav

Assembly seat in Gujarat's engine government under Banaskantha district. Prime Minister Narendra In Bihar, the ruling NDA

Modi's leadership. I thank the voters for their unwavering support," he said. In binar, the ruling NDA retained its grip on four constituencies, with the JD(U) winning key seats and dealing a setback to the INDIA bloc. The BJP also retained two Assembly seats in Assam and gained leads in three other constituencies. In Rajasthan, BJP won 5 out of seven seats with Anil Kumar Katara securing the Chorasi Assembly seat by a margin of 24,370 votes.

In a high-stake battle, the BIP government. In a high-stake battle, the BJP Meanwhile, the Trinamool was successful in winning the

Congress solidified its by-poll for the Kedarnath Assembly seat. BJP nominee Asha Nautiyal, who got 23,814 votes, defeated Manoj Rawat of the Congress by a margin of 5622 votes.

However, in a setback for the ruling BJP in Madhya Pradesh, Forest Minister Ramniwas Rawat lost the Vijaypur Assembly bypoll to Congress candidate Mukesh Malhotra by a margin of 7,364 votes. Rawat, a six-time

MLA from Vijaypur in Sheopur district, had won the seat in 2023 as a Congress candidate before defecting to the BJP, which appointed him as a minister in Mohan

Yadav's government. The Aam Aadmi Party (AAP) won three seats in Punjab, Chabbewal, Gidderbaha, and Dera Baba Nanak, while Congress won the Barnala constituency. In

Meghalaya, the National People's Party (NPP) secured the Gambegre seat with a victory by Chief Minister Conrad Sangma's wife, Mehtab Chandee Agitok Sangma. In Sikkim, the Sikkim Krantikari Morcha (SKM) clinched both the Soreng Chakung and Namchi-Singhithang seats. Chakung and by-elections The underscored shifting political dynamics across states, with the BJP regaining momentum in Uttar Pradesh, Congress consolidating its hold in Karnataka, and regional parties like TMC and NPP solidifying their dominance. The results set the stage for intense political battles ahead, particularly in the 2027 Uttar Pradesh Assembly elections, where the BJP and SP are likely to go head-to-head once again. | campaigned against the MVA

### The lotus blooms yet again government and highlighted leaders helped avoid internal

From page 1

The BJP surge came on the back of a strong showing in the Vidarbha region. The BJP contested the highest number of seats (47) in the region, which is home to a large chunk of both large-and small-scale farmers. Following the Lok Sabha rout, the BJP-led Mahayuti focused on its core OBC vote bank that was highly alienated during the general elections. The fall of Sharad Pawar led NCP is another reason to sweep the Maharashtra polls. Another big reason for this is farmers supporting the MY in a big way after BJP reached out to the cotton and soybean farmers with assurances on the MSP issue.

BJP relentlessly The

alleged corruption, mismanagement and internal strife. The party successfully reminded voters of the 25month "misrule" of the MVA and pointed to incidents like the Palghar sadhu killings, the Antilia case and allegations corruption against NCP leader Anil Deshmukh. The BJP's attacks on Uddhav Thackeray's alleged departure from his father's Hindutva legacy and his alliance with the Congress and the NCP further undermined the Opposition's credibility.

Another reason is that the BJP tackled its internal rebellion issues head-on and prevented key figures such as Prakash Mehta and Gopal Shetty from contesting as independent candidates. The strategic withdrawal of rebel

party's full strength in the election. The BJP also managed dissent within its ranks by persuading potential troublemakers, who include Maratha leader Manoj Jarange-Patil, to step back from the electoral fray. It prevented a split in votes. The Mahayuti's victory in Maharashtra, coming close on the heels of the BJP's win in the Haryana Assembly elections, has come as a morale-booster for the BJP's rank and file which was dejected to an extent after it failed to secure an absolute majority in the Lok Sabha elections. For the BJP, retaining Maharashtra would cement its dominance ahead of another round of key elections in Delhi and Bihar

next year.

## world 06



# At least 11 killed, dozens injured in Israeli strikes in Beirut

### Diplomats push for ceasefire

#### AP BEIRUT

Israeli airstrikes Saturday killed at least 11 people and injured dozens in central Beirut, officials said, as diplomats scrambled to broker a ceasefire. Lebanon's Health Ministry said the death toll could rise as emergency responders dug through the rubble looking for survivors. DNA tests are being used to identify the victims, it said, adding that 63 people were wounded.

The strikes were the fourth in the Lebanese capital in less than a week. The escalation comes after US envoy Amos Hochstein traveled to the region this week in an attempt to broker a cease-fire deal to end the more than 13 months of fighting between Israel and Hezbollah, which has erupted into full-on war in the past two months.

Israeli bombardment has killed more than 3,500 people in Lebanon and wounded more than 15,000, according to the Lebanese Health Ministry. The fighting has displaced about 1.2 million, or a quarter of Lebanon's population. On the Israeli side, about 90 soldiers and nearly 50 civilians have been killed by rockets, drones

and missiles in northern Israel and in fighting in Lebanon.

#### **AIRSTRIKES REDUCE A BUILDING INTO RUBBLE**

The strikes at 4 am destroyed an eight-story building and left a crater in the ground. Also on Saturday, a drone strike killed one person and injured another in the southern port city of Tyre, according to the state-run National News Agency.

strike from a nearby hotel overlooking the beach, said he had watched the fishermen set appeared to be young teenagers. Israel's military did

not issue a warning for resi-dents prior to the strikes in central Beirut and did not comment on the casualties. It warned residents Saturday in parts of Beirut's southern suburbs that they were residing near Hezbollah facilities, which the army would target in the near future. The warning, posted on X, told people to evacu-ate at least 500 metres (yards) away. The army said that over the past day it had conducted intelligence-based strikes on Hezbollah targets in Dahiyeh, in Beirut's southern suburbs, where Hezbollah has a strong

presence. It said it hit several

command centres and weapons

storage facilities.

The agency said the victims were fishermen. An Associated Press journalist, who saw the up nets beforehand and both

AT LEAST 6, INCLUDING CHILDREN, DEAD IN GAZA Strikes also continued in Gaza on Saturday. At least six people, half of them children and including two women, were

killed in the southern city of Khan Younis, according to AP reporters and staff at Nasser Hospital. The death toll from the 13-month-long war in the Gaza Strip between Israel and Hamas has surpassed 44,000 this week, according to local health officials. The Gaza Health Ministry does not distinguish between civilians and combatants in its count, but it has said that more than half of the fatalities are women and

children. The Israeli military says it has killed over 17,000 militants, without providing evidence. The war began when Hamasled militants stormed into southern Israel on October 7, 2023, killing some 1,200 people, mostly civilians, and abducting another 250. Around 100 hostages are still inside Gaza, at least a third of whom are believed to be dead. Most of the rest were released during a cease-fire last year.

The Israeli offensive in Gaza has caused heavy destruction across wide areas of the coastal territory, leading many to wonder when or how it will ever be rebuilt.

has been displaced, often mul-

Around 90 per cent of the pop-ulation of 2.3 million people



thousands are living in squalid tent camps with little food, water or basic services. The United Nations humani-

tarian office warned of a "stark increase" in the number of households experiencing severe hunger in central and southern Gaza. In Deir al-Balah, local bakeries shut down for five days this week and the price of a bag of bread climbed above USD 13, as bread and flour vanished from shelves before

At least two women were fatally shot on Saturday while waiting in a line for bread in the city, relatives and witnesses told the AP.

Heba Ajam, who was waiting at the bakery and saw the shooting, said that one was shot in the head and another in the neck. It was unclear who shot them and why. The lack of food and security have forced some bakeries to close in central and southern Gaza.

## ICC issues arrest warrant for Netanyahu over 'war crimes'

#### Nottingham

Conversation): International Criminal Court (ICC) has issued arrest warrants for Israeli prime minister, Benjamin Netanvahu, his former defence minister, Yoav Gallant, and Hamas leader, Mohammed Deif.

The court claims both sides have committed crimes against humanity and war crimes from the day Hamas attacked Israel on October 7 onwards.

Although a warrant was issued for Deif, Israel has said he was killed in an air strike in July. But Hamas has neither confirmed nor denied this claim. If they were ever to be judged at the ICC, a conviction is conceivable. The charges of the court against Netanyahu are severe. The three-judge panel unani-mously said that he and Gallant are "co-perpetrators for com-mitting the war crime of starvation as a method of warfare, and the crimes against humanity of murder, persecution, and

other inhumane acts". The judges also "found reasonable grounds to believe that they bear criminal responsibility" ... "for the war crime of intentionally directing an attack against the civilian popula-

(The tion". The charges are also The backed by the work of the tion of Ukrainian children. But Putin was not arrested on a International Court of Justice, recent visit to Mongolia, a which has found that it is state that is party to the ICC, "plausible" that Israel has comafter the Mongolian authorities had assured him he would mitted acts in Gaza that violate the Genocide Convention. If arrested, Netanyahu would

go through a trial, and he could then be acquitted, or convicted. In the latter case, Netanyahu

would join the ranks of leaders considered perpetrators of crimes against humanity, such as Charles Taylor of Liberia, Hissène Habré of Chad, Saddam Hussein of Iraq, Augusto Pinochet of Chile, Slobodan Milosevic of Serbia, Radovan Karadžic of Serbia, Idi Amin of Uganda, Pol Pot of Cambodia, Joseph Stalin of the former Soviet Union, Mao Zedong of China, and Adolf Hitler of Germany.

#### NEXT STEPS

The arrest warrants rely on ICC member states carrying them out. And this is by no means a foregone conclusion. Russia's president, Vladimir Putin, has been wanted by the court since 2023 for his role in directing attacks at civilians in Ukraine and illegal deporta-

be safe. That said, he was unable to travel to South Africa when leaders from the Brics economic bloc of Brazil, Russia, India, China and South Africa met in Johannesburg in 2023. This was due to the experience in South Africa of former Sudanese president, Omar Al-Bashir. Bashir, for whom the ICC granted arrest warrants in 2009 and 2010 for allegedly

#### directing a campaign of mass killing, rape and pillage against civilians in Darfur, travelled to South Africa in 2015 to attend an African Union summit. But he had to leave abruptly for fear of arrest. South Africa's Supreme Court

of Appeal ruled in 2016 that the government's failure to arrest him was unlawful. And the ICC ruled against South Africa on its "shameful failure" to arrest Bashir the following year. He was also able to travel freelv to other ICC member states, including Chad, Kenya and Jordan.

## **37 killed in Pak's Khyber** Security tightened ahead **Pakhtunkhwa province**

#### PTI PESHAWAR

A t least 37 people have been killed and over two dozen others injured in tribal sectarian violence in northwest Pakistan's restive Khyber Pakhtunkhwa province during the last 24 hours, police said on Saturday.

The clashes between Alizai and Bagan tribes in Kurram district, bordering Afghanistan, took place following Thursday's attack on a convoy of passenger vans near Parachinar in which 47 people were killed. Top ranking officials from the administration and police have rushed to the area in a helicopter.

"At least 37 are dead as at now (but) the death toll is still rising," an official tasked with collecting details of the carnage told the media here. More than 30 peo injured, he added. The tribes are targeting each other with heavy and automatic weapons, police said.

damaged in the fighting and

people from various villages have fled to safer locations. All educational institutions in the district remained closed on Saturday, confirmed Muhammad Hayat Hassan, Inspector General of Police, has chairman of the Private departed for Kurram tribal district by helicopter, officials Education Network. Videos shared from the area said.

showed at least six bodies of the attackers and some charred bodies of the victims. Police also said that there were reports of six women taken as captives but "due to limited connectivity, information and communication is scant to ascertain anything more."

Gunfire continued in Balishkhel, Khar Kali, Kunj for common citizens. Alizai and Maqbal through the day, police said, adding, currently there is intermittent firing from at least three areas in the district, while the Thallthem of safe convovs. Sada-Parachinar Highway remained closed from traffic towards Kohat district. As officials struggled to reinforce peace in the volatile Homes and shops have been region, communication from land in Kurram district.

authorities on Saturday began the elders of both the tribal shutting down major entry Islamabad, a day ahead of a planned protest march by jailed former prime minister Imran sects suggested further inten-sified attacks. A high-level government delegation comprising Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Law Minister, Chief Secretary and

founder Khan has issued a "final call" for the protest, urging his supporters to march to Islamabad to demand the The delegation aims to calm release of all PTI prisoners, including himself; the recognithe security situation in the district which has been marred by tion of his claimed victory in extreme sectarian violence. Tribal leaders have expressed the Feb 8 elections; and the deep concerns as for the past annulment of the 26th constione and a half months, they tutional amendment that had been demanding the gov-ernment to ensure safe travel changed the process for appointing judges and the chief

justice. The National Motorway and Two weeks ago, more than 1,00,000 people participated in a peace march to reopen and Highways Authority announced the closure of the secure the main highway, after M-1 and M-2 motorways, as well as other key routes, citing which the government assured repair work. The M-1 and Mconnecting Peshawar and Lahore to Islamabad, are critical routes often used by protesters heading to the capital. To bolster security, the federal government has summoned

## of planned protest by PTI paramilitary Rangers and Frontier Corps (FC) personnel to assist police in maintaining

In a further security measure, the federal administration evacuated all student hostels in the city on Friday. The Punjab government has also enforced Section 144 across the province from November 23 to November 25, banning protests, public gatherings, rallies, and sit-ins. Similarly, Section 144 has been in effect in Islamabad since November 18. The federal government has also summoned paramilitary Rangers and Frontier Corps (FC) for deployment in the capital to help police in maintaining peace. Despite the heightened security and restrictions, the PTI has remained persistent about proceeding with its protest march and subsequent sit-in to press for its demands. Khan, 72, has been implicated

## Multiple cases against Bushra for remarks on Saudi Arabia

the video released on Thursday.

Incarcerated at the Adiala Jail

since last year, Khan, 72, howev-

er, defended his wife on Friday

and said she "did not mention

Ishaq Dar, and former army chief

Bushra Bibi over her comments.

These multiple cases were regis-

Friday. As the controversy heat-

the country, Sharif and many

#### PTI LAHORE

Multiple cases have been reg-istered in Punjab province of Pakistan against jailed former prime minister Imran Khan's wife Bushra Bibi for allegedly speaking against Saudi Arabia, officials said here on Saturday. At least four cases were registered against Bushra Bibi under the Telegraph Act of 1885 and other provisions on the complaint of citizens who blamed her for inciting religious hatred, misleading the public and attacking a brotherly country, Saudi Arabia, officials said.

In a video statement, Bushra Bibi said Khan's problems began when he visited Madina and was seen coming out of his plane without shoes.

She claimed then army chief the Pakistan Muslim League-Oamar Javed Baiwa received calls after the incident. "Soon action will be taken against after Khan's return. Baiwa startthose trying to sabotage Paked getting calls 'Ye tum kya utha key laa aaye ho (whom have you brought)? We are ending the Sharia system in this country and you have brought promoters of Sharia," she said, referring to

**Philippine vice president threatens** 

to have president assassinated

Khan's September 2018 visit, in controversy due to the indirect reference towards Saudi Arabia's alleged role in his ouster from power. Saudi Arabia and China have been two of Pakistan's biggest supporters helping it Saudi Arabia at all" in the video tide over the economic crisis. hours after Prime Minister However, in the 9:27-minute Shehbaz Sharif, Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister video, which is also available on PTI's official X handle, Bushra Biwi did not name any country. Qamar Javed Bajwa flayed Apart from defending his wife, Khan - in a post on PTI's official X account, also asserted that his government's downfall was tered in Dera Ghazi Khan, Guiranwala, Multan, Rajanpur orchestrated by Bajwa and and Muzaffarghar districts of Punjab after Prime Minister accused him of preventing inves-tigations into the alleged conspir-Sharif criticised Bushra Bibi on acy. Prime Minister Sharif, while addressing a ceremony at Islamabad on Friday, warned the ed up the political atmosphere in propaganda targeting Saudi Arabia was against the national other leaders and ministers from interest. "A statement has come Nawaz (PMLN) said strong out yesterday, which I think there can be no greater enmity against Pakistan than this that you spew venom against the country that has never demanded anything in return and always opened its doors for Pakistan," he said in an apparent reference to Bushra Bibi's remarks.

# Islamabad (PTI): Pakistan

order in the capital. Khan's party. Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI)

people were killed and 120 others injured in clashes spread over eight davs between Shia and Sunni tribes over a piece of

September, more

in dozens of cases since his government was dismissed through a no-confidence motion in 2022. He has been in Adiala Jail at Rawalpindi since last year facing over 200 cases.

Saudi relationship. The video was meant to motivate supporters of Khan's Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) party to join the protest on Sunday in Islamabad but instead kicked up

## S Korea won't attend Sado mines memorial event in Japan amid historical tensions

#### AP SEOUL

South Korea's government Said Saturday it will not attend a memorial service near Japan's Sado Island Gold Mines due to disagreements with Tokyo over the event, which stirred longstanding tensions over the abuse of Korean forced labourers at the site before the end of World War II.

The decision marked a rare display of friction between the countries since the 2022 inauguration of South Korean President Yoon Suk Yeol. Yoon has prioritised improving relations with Japan following years of disputes over their bitter history and solidifying three-way security cooperation with Washington to counter North Korean nuclear threats, but has

he was neglecting the suffering of Korean survivors. South Korea's Foreign Ministry

said in a statement it was impossible to settle the disagreements between both governments before the planned event near the mines on Sunday. Masashi Mizobuchi, assistant

press secretary at Japan's Foreign Ministry, called the South Korean decision "disappointing." He said Japan has thoroughly communicated with the South Korean side, but declined to comment on details of the diplomatic exchanges.

Some South Koreans had criticised Yoon's government for throwing its support behind an event without securing a clear Japanese commitment to highlight the plight of Korean labourers. South Korean sentifaced accusations at home that ment over the event worsened

after the Japanese government said this week it would send Akiko Ikuina, a parliamentary vice minister to the event. Ikuina had reportedly visited Tokyo's controversial Yasukuni Shrine following her election as

a lawmaker in 2022. The shrine honours the country's 2.5 million war dead, including convicted war criminals. Japan's neighbours view the shrine as a symbol of the country's past militarism.

In an interview with MBN television, South Korean Foreign Minister Cho Tae-vul acknowledged that Ikuina's Yasukuni visit was an issue of contention between the countries' diplomats. "That issue and various other disagreements between diplomatic officials remain unresolved, and with only a few hours remaining until the event,

we concluded that there wasn't sufficient time to resolve these differences," Cho said. "We notified them of our decision in the afternoon."

There were also complaints over South Korea agreeing to pay for the travel expenses of Korean victims' family members who were invited to attend the ceremony.

Ties between Seoul and Tokyo have long been complicated by grievances related to Japan's brutal rule of the Korean Peninsula from 1910 to 1945, when hundreds of thousands of Koreans were mobilised as forced labourers for Japanese companies, or sex slaves at Tokyo's military-run brothels during World War II. Many forced labourers are already dead and survivors are in their 90s.

#### AP MANILA

Philippine Vice President Sara Duterte said Saturday she has contracted an assassin to kill the president, his wife and the House of Representatives speaker if she herself is killed, in a brazen public threat that she warned was not a joke.

Executive Secretary Lucas Bersamin referred the "active threat" against President Ferdinand Marcos Jr to an elite presidential guards force "for immediate proper action". It was not immediately clear what actions would be taken against the vice president. The Presidential Security Command immediately boost-

ed Marcos' security and said it

considered the vice president's

brazenly in public," a national security issue. The security force said it was "coordinating with law enforcement agencies to detect, deter, and defend against any and all threats to the president and the first family". Marcos ran with Duterte as his vice-presidential running mate in the May 2022 elections and both won with landslide victories on a campaign call of national unity. The two leaders and their camps, however, rapidly had a bitter falling-out over key differences, including in their approaches to China's aggressive actions in the disputed South China Sea. Duterte resigned from the Marcos Cabinet in June as education secretary and head of an anti-

threat, which was "made so

father, former President Rodrigo Duterte, the vice president became a vocal critic of Marcos, his wife Liza Araneta-Marcos and House Speaker Martin Romualdez, the president's ally and cousin, accusing them of corruption, incompetence and politically persecut-ing the Duterte family and its close supporters.

Her latest tirade was set off by the decision by House members allied with Romualdez and Marcos to detain her chief of staff, Zuleika Lopez, who was accused of hampering a congressional inquiry into the possible misuse of her budget as vice president and education secretary. Lopez was later transferred to a hospital after falling ill and wept when she heard of a plan to temporarily lock her

Pak's spl coin to mark Guru Nanak's 555th birth anniv

Lahore (PTI): Pakistan has issued a commemorative coin to mark Guru Nanak's 555th birth anniversary as more than 2,500 Indian Sikhs pilgrims who were here to attend the special occasion departed for their homes on Saturday.

The celebrations to mark the 555th birth anniversary - which was on November 14 - started last week at the Gurdwara Janam Asthan Nankana Sahib, where the founder of Sikh religion was born. Sikh pilgrims from all over the world, including from India, participated in the religious rituals at the gur dwara, about 100-odd km from

The special commemorative coin of PKR 55 denomination has on one side a picture of Gurdwara Janam Asthan Nankana Sahib and '555th Birthday Celebrations' and 'SRI GURU NANAK DEV JI 1469-2024' written above and below it respectively. "On the obverse side, there is the crescent moon and five-pointed star facing north-west in a rising position in the centre. Along the periphery on the top are inscribed 'Islami Jamhuria Pakistan' in Urdu (Islamic Republic of Pakistan) and below the crescent are two springs of wheat with arms curved upward." According to the State Bank of Pakistan, the coin -- released on Friday - consists of 79 per cent brass, 20 per cent zinc and 1 per cent nickel; measures 30mm in diameter and weighs 13.5 grams. This commemorative coin will be available at exchange counters across all branches of State Bank of

Pakistan, the bank said.

sponsors of the resolution, led by Mexico and Gambia and backed by 96 other countries, a new treaty will fill the gap. Kelly Adams, legal advisor at the Global Justice Centre, also called the resolution "a historic breakthrough" after many delays. Pointing to "the proliferation of crimes against humanity around the world," she expressed hope

that a treaty will be "strong, progressive and survivor-centric". Amnesty International's Secretary General Agnes Callamard expressed disappointment that the timeline had been extended until 2029, but said, "What's important is that this process will deliver a viable convention."

#### here. insurgency body. Like her equally outspoken up in a women's prison.

NATO head, Trump meet for UN motion paves way for Ist-ever treaty on crimes against humanity talks on global security gaveled the resolution's approval. Court was established to pun-**AP** UNITED NATIONS

Brussels (AP): US Presidentelect Donald Trump and the head of NATO have met for talks on global security, the military alliance said on Saturday. In a brief statement, NATO said Trump and its secretary general, Mark Rutte, met on Friday in Palm Beach, Florida. "They discussed the range of global security issues facing the Alliance," the statement said without giving details. It appeared to be Rutte's first meeting with Trump since his November 5 election. Rutte had previously congratulated Trump and said "his leadership will again be key to keeping our Alliance strong" and that he looked forward to working

with him. Trump has for years expressed scepticism about the Western alliance and complained about the defence spending of many of its member nations, which he regarded as too low. He depicted NATO allies as leeches on the US military and openly questioned the value of the alliance that has defined American foreign policy for decades. He threatened not to defend NATO members that fail to meet defence-spending goals. Rutte and his team also met Trump's pick as national security adviser, US Rep. Michael Waltz, and other members of the president-elect's national securitv team

A key UN General Assembly committee adopted a resolution late Friday paving the way for negotiations on a first-ever treaty on preventing and punishing crimes against humanitv after Russia dropped amendments that would have derailed the effort.

The resolution was approved by consensus by the assembly's legal committee, which includes all 193-member UN nations, after tense last-minute negotiations between its supporters and Russia that dragged through the day.

There was loud applause when the chairman of the committee

It is virtually certain to be adopted when the General Assembly puts it to a final vote on Dec 4.

"Today's agreement to start up negotiations on a much-needed international treaty is an historic achievement that was a long time coming," Richard Dicker, Human Rights Watch's senior legal adviser for advocacy, told The Associated Press.

"It sends a crucial message that impunity for the kinds of crimes inflicted on civilians in Ethiopia, Sudan, Ukraine, southern Israel, Gaza and Myanmar will not go unheeded," he said

The resolution calls for a time-

bound process with preparatory sessions in 2026 and 2027, and three-week negotiating sessions in 2028 and 2029 to finalize a treaty on crimes against

humanity. Dicker said Russia's proposed amendments left in question whether treaty negotiations would have been completed. Russia's deputy UN ambassador Maria Zabolotskaya said Russia withdrew the amendments "in a spirit of compromise." But she said Russia "dissociates itself from consensus".

This, of course, does not mean that we are not ready to work on this crucial convention," Zabolotskava told the committee. The International Criminal

ish major perpetrators of war crimes, crimes against humanity and genocide and it has 124 countries that are parties to it. The ICC says crimes against humanity are committed as part of a large-scale attack on civilians and it lists 15 forms including murder, rape, imprisonment, enforced disappearances, sexual slavery, torture and deportation.

But the ICC does not have jurisdiction over nearly 70 other countries. There are global treaties that cover war crimes. genocide and torture - but there has been no specific treaty addressing crimes against humanity. And according to







## THE FILM UNVEILS THE INFLUENCE OF POLITICAL CLOUT AND JOURNALISTIC INTEGRITY IN THE WAKE OF A HISTORICAL TRAGEDY, SAYS ABHI SINGHAL

initially by irected Ranjan Chandel and later helmed by Dheeraj Sarna, The Sabarmati Report intricately explores the interplay of political dominance and media influence against the backdrop of one of India's most contentious events—the *Godhra train* burning incident of February 27, 2002. This film, inspired by real-life events surrounding the Sabarmati *Express* tragedy, delivers a the gripping storyline. compelling narrative steeped in The plot meticulously recreates

dynamics, and the moral dilemmas of media reporting. The movie begins with an

electrifying depiction of the bustling newsroom environment, bustling newsroom environment, immediately pulling viewers into the heart of the journalistic world. The talented cast, led by *Vikrant* Massey as Samar Kumar, Raashii Khanna as Amrita Gill, and Riddhi Dogra as Manika Rajpurohit, along with Barkha Singh's impactful cameo as Shloka, infuses life into

investigative journalism, political the harrowing events of the

*Godhra train* incident, where 59 individuals, predominantly Hindu pilgrims and karsevaks returning from Ayodhya, tragically perished in a devastating fire. With a meticulous portrayal of the horrific aftermath, the movie confronts viewers with the sheer magnitude of the tragedy while shedding light on the media's struggle to strike a balance between truth and sensationalism. *Riddhi Dogra's* portrayal of *Manika* Rajpurohit, an English news anchor with an air of arrogance and confidence in her abilities,

adds depth to the media-focused narrative. The first half captivates audiences with its vivid storytelling and intricate character development. However, it is post-intermission where the film takes a gripping turn, delving into the core of the investigative efforts to uncover the truth behind the train-burning case. Vikrant Massey delivers a

masterful performance as Samar Kumar, transitioning from an idealistic journalist to a relentless investigator with remarkable ease. His character's transformation is

riveting, offering a nuanced look at the challenges faced by those who dare to question authority. Raashii Khanna shines as Amrita Gill, a determined intern navigating the salted waters of media politics. Her journey alongside *Samar* not only drives the narrative forward but also marks a significant milestone in her acting career. While the film boasts strong

performances and a compelling storyline, it does falter slightly in its attempt to inject humour into serious moments, which at times feels forced and disrupts the

intensity. The background score, ethics, to take out the truth and the however, compensates by complex interplay of truth and effectively amplifying the gravity of each investigative sequence, adding a layer of immersion for the audience.

The Sabarmati Report follows in the footsteps of recent titles like The Kashmir Files and The Kerala *Story* of having hits and more profits. The film has a crafting a fiery and provocative narrative designed to resonate with viewers on an emotional level. However, it stands apart by striving to present a nuanced perspective on media

complex interplay of truth and political agendas.

With good performances which could have been improved while playing the characters, a thought-provoking storyline, and a reflection on the moral quandaries of journalism, The Sabarmati Report is a cinematic endeavour that not only entertains but also compels viewers to question the very fabric of truth and power in today's world.

RATING: 4/5



Mehendi looks. There were regal Wedding ensembles, striking Reception pieces and chic ensembles, striking Reception pieces and chic Cocktail attire that perfectly balanced tradition with modern aesthetics. The collection also included sophisticated outfits for Destination weddings, catering to the growing trend of weddings in exotic locales.

What truly stood out was the sheer attention to detail in every outfit. The models strutted down the runway in models strutted down the runway in exquisitely crafted garments, flamboyant lehengas, royal sherwanis, and embellished sarees, each reflecting the intricacy of Indian craftsmanship. Rich fabrics such as silks, velvet and brocade were paired with delicate embroidery, beadwork and sequins, making the outfits feel both luxurious and timeless. The Haldi outfits in shades of yellow were a burst of joy, while the Wedding and Reception ensembles in regal reds and golds exuded grandeur and sophistication sophistication.

The choreography of the show also played a crucial role in



a modern twist. Shoppers Stop's new wedding collection, available across its stores and online, is more than just a display of luxury fashion; it is a celebration of every aspect of Indian weddings. From the first haldi ceremony to the grand reception, the collection offers something for every moment, ensuring that customers can find the perfect ensemble for every wedding occasion.

With over 500 premium brands to choose from, it has positioned itself as the ultimate destination wedding shopping, for high-quality combining craftsmanship witĥ contemporary flair. The fashion show was an impressive showcase of the brand's dedication to providing stylish, accessible and diverse options for wedding wear.

PHOTOS: PANKAJ KUMAR

First Constitution Museum, inaugurated on

Saturday, at its *Sonipat* campus. The museum aims to deepen the understanding of the Constitution through diverse sections that highlight its historical significance and the pivotal debates shaping its formation. Designed to be a hub for education and reflection, the museum employs innovative approaches to engage visitors, offering a vivid narrative of the Constitution's 75-year journey.

Through interactive installations, cutting-edge technology, and AI-driven displays, the museum will bring history to life. Visitors will get to experience 3D installations, progressive displays, and guided tours powered by the S.A.M.V.I.D. Project, a collaboration between JGU and IIT Madras. This advanced language model enhances the visitor experience by providing in-depth insights into every exhibit, including profiles of Constituent Assembly members and their contributions.

The museum will integrate textual, audiovisual, and experiential formats, ensuring an engaging and immersive experience for all. Visitors can explore sections dedicated to each part of the Constitution, its evolution, and its

enduring significance. *The Constitution Gardens* would add an artistic dimension, with sculptures symbolising the core principles of liberty, equality, justice, and fraternity. Drawing inspiration from illustrated manuscripts and original excerpts, these artworks also celebrate India's geographical diversity while reflecting the unifying ethos of the Constitution.

A highlight of the museum is the art display featuring pieces from the original handcrafted document and artworks inspired by it. The museum will also house an archive of expert interviews exploring various aspects of the Constitution, making it an invaluable resource for scholars and enthusiasts alike.

As the first initiative of its kind at an educational institution, the *Constitution Museum* underscores JGU's commitment to integrating education, culture, and technology. Open to the public with free entry via appbased pre-registration, it promises to be a transformative space for growing constitutional awareness and pride in India's democratic heritage.

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sunday magazine Lucknow, November 24, 2024

or Comparison of the pioneer Comparison of the

"A recipe has no soul. You, as the cook, must bring soul to the recipe" – Thomas Keller





Pawan Soni Food critic and founder of the Big F Awards



xciting culinary happenings continue to enrich NCR's food scene, with innovative pop-ups and eateries introducing diverse menus. The latest buzz? The celebrated London-based chain *Burger* & Lobster has brought its famous

pop-up at *Grappa, Shangri-La Eros Hotel.* As a seafood enthusiast, I couldn't resist the allure of this pop-up, and I'm thrilled to say it didn't disappoint. These aren't the usual *lobsters* found locally, which primarily offer meat in the tail. Instead, these are exquisite *Atlantic lobsters flown* in from Canada, boasting sweet, chunky meat in both the claws and the tail. For the uninitiated, their texture and flavour might even be mistaken for crab—but one bite will make their unique charm unmistakable.

Served steamed or grilled, these lobsters are paired with a delightful lemon butter garlic sauce that compliments their natural sweetness without overpowering it. Every bite was pure indulgence. Priced at ₹5,800, they're a luxurious yet fairly priced treat, especially given the five-star ambiance. The European-style patio



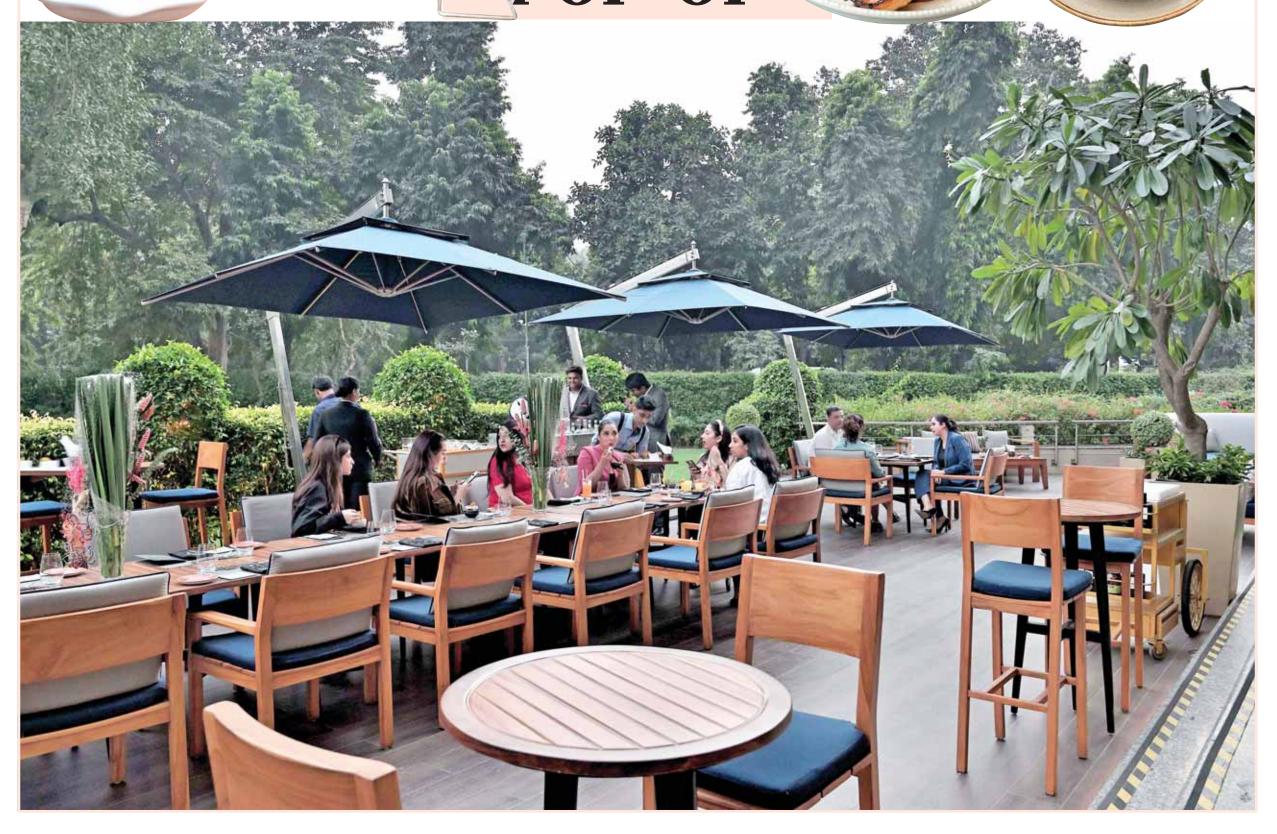


(Left to right): Abhishek Sadhoo, General Manager, Shangri-La Eros New Delhi; Chef Brian Chang, Corporate Development Chef, Burger and Lobster and Chef Gagandeep Singh Sawhney, Executive Chef, Shangri-La Eros New Delhi

seating overlooking lush greenery further elevates the experience. For those who crave a pasta twist, the *Lobster Mac & Cheese* is a musttry. Even as someone who typically steers clear of pasta, I found it irresistible. Rich with *lobster meat* and coated in a decadent threecheese sauce blended with *lobster bisque*, the dish is creamy and perfectly balanced. At ₹1,800, it's a satisfying portion worth every rupee.

The menu also offers a variety of burgers. I shared the *Waffle Chicken Burger* with a friend, and it was a delightful surprise. A crispy *fried chicken* thigh nestled in a Belgian waffle and drizzled with ranch sauce, simple yet satisfying. If you're intrigued, don't wait too long. Book your slot before this popup ends, or you might find yourself chasing these lobsters all the way to London!







FOOD, IN THE END, IN OUR OWN TRADITION, IS SOMETHING HOLY. IT'S NOT ABOUT NUTRIENTS AND CALORIES. IT'S ABOUT SHARING. IT'S ABOUT HONESTY. IT'S ABOUT IDENTITY - LOUISE FRESCO

Lucknow, November 24, 2024



Step into Melt House for a warm ambiance with culinary delights, from cheesy grilled sandwiches to delightful desserts, writes ABHI SINGHAL

ucked on a road full of cafe's and eateries, between the streets of Greater Kailash II, the Melt House café invites you to step inside and have the essence of a cozy vibes like you feel on the mountains while enjoying inside.

The warm yellow colour mixed with brown, with bulbs hanging above the wooden tables, while the aroma of fresh ground coffee and wine mingles with the soft humming of acoustic music. Melt House is the kind of place where time seems to slow, promising a cozy experience with posters of coffee and scenic

experience with posters of corree and scenic beauty giving you a beautiful time. From the dishes to the bar menu to *malted milkshakes the Melt House* caters everyone for a quality time and quality treat. Beginning with the grilled cheese speciality of the coff the *Diri Diri Cottage Charge Crilled* 

the café, the Piri Piri Cottage Cheese Grilled Cheese sandwich is zesty containing pulled cottage cheese with onions, peppers, cheddar, mozzarella and American cheese. The Piri Piri Cottage Cheese Grilled Cheese sandwich gave a texture of firm and crunchy on the outside but the cheese enhanced the taste of the same.

After the mouth-watering sandwich, you can embrace yourself and order the flavourful Smoky Cajun Penne Alfredo under the Big Plates menu. Indulged with a luscious blend of butter, heavy cream, and freshly grated Parmesan for that perfect creamy Alfredo sauce, *the pasta* with *garlic bread* will activate your taste buds.

If you are a pizza lover and a vegetarian, trying Burrata Margherita will be a delicious one. Bursting with vibrant, tangy flavour, balancing richness with just the right amount of acidity, Burrata Margherita is filled with Burrata cheese, red and yellow cherry tomato and fresh basil which will not be very visually

Jumping but is tasty and soft. Jumping into the small plates menu, *Pink Garlic Aioli Parmesan Truffle Fries* with *russet* potatoes cut into matchsticks with freshly grated Parmesan cheese, black truffle oil and

grated Parmesan checke, black fulfile off and mayonnaise for the aioli are moreish. Reflecting on the history and the aura of the café Chef *Rohit Negi* said, "The Melt House basically started from Gurugram itself as an artisanal sandwich shop and then we have opened to big places having the speciality of opened to big places having the speciality of cheese. There is the melted cheese concept we infuse in our dishes. Now, after we have all the totally cheesy flavours in our food, and we have differentiated it from any other restaurant you get on to. We have some Italian have cuisine in it, and we have mixed it with cheese for the cheese lovers."

The café also has different offerings in Vodka, Tequila, Red Wines, White Wines, Gin and more. For the milkshake enthusiasts and the



hot chocolate connoisseurs, the Classic Hot Chocolate at the Melt House is a must try beverage. The Cold coffee at the Melt House is a refreshing blend of smooth, chilled coffee, served with ice for an invigorating lift. Its rich, bold flavour comes alive with each sip, perfectly balanced between the sweetness and

the robust, aromatic essence of freshly brewed coffee for the caffeine kick.

This signals a shift towards indulgence, setting the stage for dessert as the grand finale. So, Nutella lovers assemble as the Chocochip Walnut Nutela is a treat that combines the richness of Nutella with the satisfying crunch of toasted walnuts and the delight of chocolate chips. Each bite bursts with soft chocolate chips. Each bite bursts with so and nutty layers of flavour, balanced perfectly by the sugar content. The ones looking for mouth watery chocolate and high sugar *Melt's Matilda Cake* is a decadent masterpiece that promises to masterpiece that promises to satisfy even the most discerning sweet tooth. With its spongy layers of chocolate sponge, every bite melts effortlessly in your mouth, leaving behind a trail of luxurious sweetness. In conclusion, the Melt House Café offers more than just a meal; it provides an experience. Whether you're seeking a cozy corner to unwind with a cup of freshly brewed coffee, wanting the cheesy delights, or treating yourself to decadent desserts, Melt House promises to deliver warmth and comfort with every



attributes its errai inception to the *terrain* and rich historical culture and culinary Legacy of the State of Telangana. Situated in the southern-central part of the Indian peninsula on the high Deccan Plateau, cuisine of *Telangana* is influenced by the region's rich history of Deccan and Telugu culture. Nizam culture is a blend of opulent traditions, art, and cuisine that reflects the historical grandeur diverse and heritage of Telangana. Founded by the visionary restaurateur, Rohit Kasuganti and the creative powerhouse, Anisha Deevakonda, Terrai derives its name from terrain defining the topography of the young-historical State. Reinventing traditional cuisine, propagating the culture and community is the ethos of this new restaurant, Terrai.



NARRATIVE

distinctive

identity

#### Telangana's culinary traditions,

## THE ART AND SPIRIT OF CAKE

#### TEAM AGENDA

#### AT CROWN PLAZA. MAYUR VIHAR

he Crowne Plaza Mayur Vihar recently hosted its annual Cake Mixing embracing

charming theme of an English



#### THE VISION

he objective of Terrai is simple - it aims to propagate the deeply rooted culinary culture of the State, becoming synonymous with it. Terrai is a glorious homage to the rich heritage, culture and culinary prowess of Telangana. At Terrai, every dish serves as a resplendent tribute to the land, celebrating local women farmers and tribal chefs who utilise timehonoured techniques and ingredients

Rohit Kasuganti, Founder and CEO, TSK Food Works, says, "Telangana food has been overshadowed by the popularity of its neighbouring cousin. Taking immense pride in our roots, our thought and vision behind Terrai is to simply showcase the tradition and history behind the food from our State, designed for the modern diner. We want Terrai to lead a revolution, of sorts and to propagate Telangana cuisine to the World and enlighten our colleagues and guests to the rich legacy that it represents."



**ELEGANT WITH LOCAL** 

CHAFIS prawling in 12000 sq. ft., is the dining Shere is the dining destination, offering a luxurious experience with seating for 250 guests across four distinct dining halls, each designed to provide a unique ambiance. As you step in Terrai, you are



From terrain to table, Terrai presents the evolution of Telangana Cuisine, says SHARMILA CHAND



enveloped in an ambiance that exudes sophistication and warmth. Influenced by and representing the rich crafts of the State, the terracotta walls, adorned with intricate Ikkat mouldings and exquisite Dokra art, radiate an earthy elegance, while the captivating Bathukamma-inspired ceiling lights create a mesmerising glow throughout the space. Crafted by Community is integral to the the renowned Sona Reddy Studio, Terrai experience. The founders every detail - from the repurposed traditional doors to prioritise partnerships with local women farmers, artisans, and the stunning original artworks by home cooks, ensuring that every Narahari invites guests on an ingredient is fresh, ethically sourced and imbued with the enchanting journey through Telangana's rich cultural tapestry. spirit of Telangana. This commitment to collaboration Terrai is a creative canvas where we weave the rich cultural and extends beyond the kitchen, celebrating the invaluable contributions these communities artistic elements of Telangana into every detail. From collaborating with local artisans make to the state's culinary on the stunning Dokra art to sourcing textiles for our Ikat-inspired decor, every partnership reflects the soul of Telangana, legacy, transforming each meal into a traditional story of connection. Terrai aspires to elevate bringing its stories to life. Our Telangana's cuisine to its rightful place on the global gastronomic mission is to ensure that every guest experiences the essence of stage, offering a dining experience that transcends mere our heritage through innovative and traditional cuisine", adds

Anisha Deevakonda, Creative Head and Partner, Terrai. THE COMMUNITY

Indian influences. Guests are invited to embark on a glorious culinary adventure, reconnecting with the land through an exquisite array of flavours.

## A MELANGE OF FLAVOURS & TEXTURES

Picture indulging in the Karim Nagar Fried Chicken Wings, a fiery sensation complemented by tangy pickled onions, or experiencing the opulence of Terai Mutton Curry paired with spiced Masala Pooris. The Golichina Mamsum, crowned with crispy fried curry leaves, is a flavour explosion, while the refreshing Not So Mirchi Cocktail adds a zesty flourish. Round off your culinary adventure on a sweet note with the delectable Saffron Cheesecake, Kandha Doodh, adorned with delicate saffron pearls, each a testament to the glory of Telangana's rich culinary heritage.

Terrai is more than just a celebration of exquisite flavours; it is a cultural sanctuary where the stories of Telangana come alive. Each dish encapsulates the region's unique traditions and customs, inviting diners to embark on a journey that honours the past while embracing contemporary flair. Here, every bite is a narrative, woven from the intricate tapestry of spices and age-old recipes passed down through generations, all set against a backdrop that resonates with the soul of the Deccan.

In a world brimming with dining options, Terrai emerges as a celebration splendid of Telangana's heritage, inviting food enthusiasts to partake in an unforgettable journey that captures the very essence of the region. It's not merely a meal; it's a resplendent experience that delights the senses and nourishes the soul.

Sharmila Chand is an author, columnist and journalist who writes on Food, Travel, Culture and Lifestyle

ADDRESS:

Country Christmas. This delightful event transformed the This hotel into a festive wonderland, inviting guests to partake in a time-honoured tradition that has brought people together for centuries.

The roots of cake mixing trace back to 17th-century Britain, where this delightful ceremony marked the end of the harvest season. Farmers would gather to soak fruits and nuts in spirits, preserving them for the rich Christmas cakes that would grace tables during the cold winter months. This joyful gathering symbolised abundance, gratitude and the spirit of community, a celebration of nature's bounty and the warmth of togetherness.

At the Crowne Plaza, the atmosphere was filled with excitement and laughter as guests rolled up their sleeves and joined in the festive fun. The delightful aromas of dried fruits, fragrant spices and rich spirits filled the air, creating an inviting and warm environment. This year's theme of an 'English Countryside Christmas' was beautifully reflected in the décor, featuring the traditional red, white and green colours that evoke feelings of warmth and festivity. The venue was adorned with charming elements reminiscent of the British countryside, where cosy cottages and snow-covered landscapes create a magical setting for the holiday season. This theme perfectly encapsulated the simplicity of nature, celebrating the spirit of family and community gatherings that are central to the festive season. As guests stirred the mixture, they shared stories and laughter, reinforcing the bonds of friendship and family. This camaraderie mirrored the gatherings of the past, where communities would unite to prepare for the joyous celebrations ahead. Once the mixing was complete, the cakes created during the ceremony would be set aside to mature in their rich blend of flavours, ready to be enjoyed during the Christmas festivities. The sharing of these cakes with the wider community reflects the

essence of the occasion, joy is amplified when shared with others.

The Cake Mixing Ceremony at Crowne Plaza embodies the essence of tradition, community and connection. In our fast-paced world, such events encourage us to pause, reflect and appreciate the simple pleasures that life offers. As attendees departed, they left not only with a sense of festivity but also with cherished memories of laughter and connection.

#### AT LE MERIDIEN, NEW DELHI

n recent years, *cake mixing* has become a much-anticipated L ritual in the culinary calendar, where the joy of the holiday season is brought to life through the vibrant mixing of ingredients that will eventually turn into Christmas cakes. Traditionally marking the beginning of Christmas preparations, cakemixing ceremonies have their roots in the mediaeval custom of feeding the Christmas cake with spirits and fruits, infusing it with rich flavours that are synonymous with the festive season. In hotels, restaurants and homes around the world, cake mixing symbolises warmth, joy, and a shared experience of holiday spirit.

The *cake mixing* ceremony serves as a festive kick-off, celebrating togetherness and the joy of giving. This tradition often includes the blending of dried fruits, such as raisins, cherries, apricots, and

nuts, along with a blend of warming spices and a generous pour of spirits. The ingredients are then left to mature, allowing the fruits to soak in flavours, adding depth and complexity to the Christmas cakes and other holiday treats that will be shared with family and friends.

Each year, Le Meridien New Delhi joins in this timeless tradition, creating a unique and memorable experience for guests and locals alike. This year, the hotel launched its '#WinterOfJoy' celebration with a magical cake mixing ceremony at their elegant venue, Longitude.

The event drew food enthusiasts, media, and hotel guests together, where they witnessed the rhythmic blending of exotic fruits, spices, and luxurious ingredients, building anticipation for the holiday treats that await. Meena Bhatia, Vice President and General Manager of Le Meridien New Delhi, remarked on the occasion, "We are thrilled to embark on our '#WinterOfJoy' celebration with this heartwarming timeless tradition. We invite everyone to join us in experiencing a symphony of flavours, sights, and sounds as we embark on a festive journey."

The cake-mixing ceremony at *Le Meridien New Delhi* symbolises more than just the beginning of Christmas preparations; it represents a celebration of life, tradition and community.

nourishment. It embodies a Terrai, Sattva Knowledge Park, Silpa modern renaissance, a movement Gram Craft Village, HiTECH CITY, dedicated to establishing a for Hyderabad



ITS THE NOT THE DESTINATION, IT'S THE JOURNEY. RALPH WALDO EMERSON

**Travel** Lucknow, November 24, 2024



nvision a captivating tale of Invision a captivating tale of luxury and sophistication in the heart of *Hong Kong*: This exquisite *five-star harbour* front gem has been a beacon of elegance since ago, hosting a prestigious clientele of celebrities, dignitaries, and CEOs. Its allure knows no bounds, boasting flawless service, state-of-the-art amenities, and a culinary experience that is simply unparalleled.

HARBOUR VIEWS, URBAN VIBES Message against the stunning backdrop of Victoria Harbour, with the vibrant pulse of Hong Kong Island at its core, Four Seasons Hong Kong effortlessly combines opulence with convenience. Step outside to breath-taking views of the harbour, while being seamlessly connected to the glamour of the *IFC mall* via air-conditioned walkways. Stroll along these pathways to access the Central Ferry and *Star Ferry piers*, the bustling Central business district, the *Macau ferry* terminal, as well as the Airport Express and Central MTR subway station. A flawless fusion of luxury and accessibility awaits at this unforgettable destination. As I approach the hotel's majestic entrance, I am immediately enveloped by the brilliance of its gleaming surfaces and soaring three-story windows, illuminated by the warm embrace of the sunlight. It feels as though I am stepping directly into the vibrant heart of the harbour itself. I find the hustle and bustle of people-watching utterly delightful— there are elegantly attired billionaires in Ferragamos gliding gracefully across the polished marble, while men in dark suits equipped with sockets, USB ports, and engage in hushed, intense negotiations, their powerful presence palpable. The air is rich with accents from around the transition from day to night. The globe, creating a symphony of cultures bathroom is a lavish escape, adorned in converging in this one place. Settling into rich honey marble that tempted me to



the Glass Room lobby lounge with a steaming cup of coffee in hand, I immerse myself in the spectacle of Hong Kong at its glamorous, cosmopolitan

#### **INDULGE IN LUXURY**

tepping into my superior harbour front suite feels like entering a serene sanctuary bathed in natural light. The elegance of the space is unmistakable, with its clean, contemporary lines and a harmonious palette of neutral tones. I am instantly drawn to the inviting textures—the pale gold lozenge-patterned headboard, the sleek glossy lacquer cabinetry, and the softly striped carpeting that added warmth beneath my feet. The sumptuous bed beckons, flanked by high-tech panels equipped with sockets. USB ports and front suite feels like entering a serene intuitive touch-button controls for lighting and curtains, making it easy to



Experience an unparalleled luxury at the prestigious harbour front 'Four Seasons' hotel in Hong Kong, where elegance meets world-class amenities and panoramic views of



indulge in long, relaxing soaks. As a guest with access to a suite, I also enjoy the privilege of the Four Seasons remarkable 45th-floor Executive Club *Lounge*. It is an absolute delight, offering complimentary breakfast and afternoon tea, along with all-day refreshments, including beer, wine, soft drinks, and hot beverages. As evening approaches, the lounge transforms into a vibrant social space, serving champagne, cocktails, and a delightful array of both hot and cold buffet options—truly one of the city's best-kept secrets.

#### SIP, SAVOUR, CELEBRATE

he Four Seasons is an extraordinary culinary haven, boasting an

each dish as a masterpiece. *Caprice*, under Chef *Guillaume Galliot*, masterfully blends classic French cuisine with global influences, showcasing fresh ingredients, inventive techniques, and an exceptional wine and cheese selection for a remarkable dining experience. The French fine dining restaurant mesmerises me with a stunning visual and culinary symphony, also graced with and culinary symphony, also graced with three stars. Then there is the renowned Sushi Saito, where the expertise of Japanese seafood truly shines, earning its well-deserved two stars. Each morning, I savour a *sumptuous international* breakfast served in The Lounge on the ground floor. The offerings are nothing short of delightful: a vibrant selection of tropical fruits, delicate *dim sum, eggs* cooked to order, and an endless array of breads and pastries that set a luxurious tone for the day ahead. In the evenings, I discovered cocktail bar *Argo*, one of the world's best bars, presenting a new world's best bars, presenting a new cocktail menu featuring 12 creations that celebrate familiar *Hong Kong fruits* and *botanicals*, showcasing their versatility. Its deco-inspired interior of glass and mirrors creates an enchanting atmosphere as I relish some sensational mixology. The *Silver Fox*, a remarkable





The author is an independent food & the first Indian to have trained at Osteria Francescana, in Modena, Italy, rated as the world's best restaurant in the World's 50 Best Restaurants, in 2016 and 2018 and currently in the Best of The Best Category

Victoria Harbour, writes **AKANKSHA** DEAN

impressive eight Michelin stars pread across three of its exceptional restaurants. I am fortunate enough to indulge in Lung King Heen, the first three-Michelin-star Chinese restaurant, delivering exceptional Cantonese cuisine through teamwork, quality ingredients, and outstanding hospitality, presenting

concoction featuring Havana Club rum, fig leaf, oak lactone cordial, preserved lemon, and tonka, feels like drinking a piece of bliss. Each moment at The Four Seasons *Hong Kong* is a celebration of the finest flavours and experiences.

# **Discovering the World's True Essence**

In a landmark celebration, Mercure Hotels recently unveiled its 1,000th address worldwide at Mercure Dubai Deira last month. This flagship location introduced the innovative '1,000-Hours of Local Flavours,' a 42-day culinary experience designed to showcase the rich tapestry of local food and beverages. This initiative underscores Mercure's commitment to unveiling the authentic tastes of each destination.

#### By RUPALI DEAN

Since its inception in 1973, Mercure has been a champion of wanderlust, inviting globetrotters to embrace their inner local in every corner of the world. With a footprint spanning 65 countries and boasting 1,000 distinctive addresses, *Mercure* is dedicated to enveloping guests in a tapestry of local charm while upholding the highest hospitality standards.

EMBRACING COMMUNITY THROUGH CUISINE: I was absolutely delighted to join the celebration at Mercure Dubai Deira for the grand occasion of their 1,000th hotel opening worldwide. With 1,000 locations under its belt, Mercure's mid-scale brand truly excels in forging authentic connections to local cultures around the globe. The evening's theme, 'Discover Local Elements,' set the stage for an exquisite culinary experience brimming with dishes crafted from locally sourced ingredients. The standout moment for me was savouring the cinnamon-infused UAE rack of lamb, clay-cooked to perfection, delivering unmatched tenderness and flavour. For dessert, we indulged in a delicious *pistachio* honey cake — a refreshing take on the beloved pistachio chocolate trend. To heighten the excitement, we got a sneak peek at the '1,000 Local Flavours' menu, launched on 1st November and delighting taste buds for 42 days. A highlight was



the desert salad, featuring the iconic ghaf leaves of the UAE, a beautiful homage to local culture and heritage. This gathering not only celebrated *Mercure's* unwavering commitment to showcasing local flavours but also strengthened community connections in a vibrant and fulfilling way. Paul Stevens, the chief operating wizard at *Accor* for the premium, midscale, and economy realms across the Middle East, Africa, and Türkiye, exclaimed, "Hitting the 1,000address mark isn't just a number; it's a vibrant badge of Mercure's unwavering commitment to

authentic, locally-inspired hospitality around the globe! The "1,000-Hours of Local Flavours" is a delightful dive into cultural richness and community bonds, whisking guests away on a culinary



adventure that truly captures the heart and soul of each destination. And the excitement doesn't stop there — Mercure is rolling out the welcome mat for over 200 new hotels by 2028!"

SUSTAINABLE LUXURY **REDEFINED:** Julia Schamne, cluster general manager, has truly transformed Mercure Dubai Deira into a beacon of sustainability since its January opening. With an unwavering commitment to ecofriendly practices, the hotel has embraced compostable materials, bid farewell to plastics, and ensures

guests enjoy unlimited, filtered

water right in their rooms. The

garden-to-table concept in the

showcases partnerships with local

suppliers, including Hatta's

Honeybee Farm, emphasising our

dedication to sustainability. Nearly

half of the menu is dedicated to

delightful plant-based options,

underlining our focus on health

and environmental care. Moreover,

representing 31 nationalities, embodies the 'heartist' spirit,

highlighted by strong female leadership in critical roles such as

guidance reflect a holistic approach

to hospitality, integrating sustainability and inclusivity at

COMMUNITY-DRIVEN

FUTURE AHEAD: Having learned about the hotel's future

diverse

team,

integrating

main

Mercure's

every level.

restaurant beautifully

lies ahead! The focus remains firmly on members, ensuring their needs are never overlooked. "The fantastic feedback we've received from our loyal Accor members speaks volumes about our robust loyalty programme. In fact, we rank among the top contributors in terms of member stays and direct bookings, thanks to Mercure's wellrecognised and widespread brand. As one of the largest and fastestgrowing mid-scale brands, we thrive on strong storytelling and high standards. Looking forward, we're committed to enhancing our personalised approach for members, providing them with dedicated attention and individual spaces," shares Julia Schamne. Accor is also eager to increase their community contributions, which is essential for them as a group. Additionally, they are exploring ways to deepen their involvement in charity work, allowing them to give back in significant ways. Their vision is to become the go-to spot for the community, whether it's for a cosy cup of coffee or laundry services. They want to be a place where neighbours can comfortably connect to Wi-Fi or hold quick meetings. Ultimately, the goal is to be the neighbourhood hub where everyone feels at home, capturing the essence of 'Discover Local' for the community. — Awarded the "Best food writer in

plans, I am truly excited about what

the country" by the Indian culinary forum, WACS and the Ministry of Tourism, Rupali Dean writes on food and travel



"A SACRIFICE TO BE REAL MUST COST, MUST HURT, AND MUST EMPTY OURSELVES. GIVE YOURSELF FULLY TO GOD. HE WILL USE YOU TO ACCOMPLISH GREAT THINGS ON THE CONDITION THAT YOU BELIEVE MUCH MORE IN HIS LOVE THAN IN YOUR WEAKNESS" - MOTHER TERESA

tarot 11 Lucknow, November 24, 2024





#### **ARIES** March 21-April 19

This week, you'll find yourself in a joyful state of mind, feeling content and complete. There's a chance for unexpected success, such as coming out ahead in a competition or achieving a significant milestone. Your efforts and dedication are about to bear fruit, bringing both material gains and spiritual fulfillment. Previous limitations will fade away, ushering in a sense of liberation and tranquility. Travel might be on the horizon, particularly journeys abroad. Mid-week provides a perfect moment for relaxation. You might step back from certain activities during this time of reflection. In the coming weeks or months, opportunities to resolve disputes or engage in crucial negotiations will arise. By week's end, there might be a slight sense of disappointment regarding anticipated gains, yet the overall progress remains substantial

Lucky number 9 | Lucky colour Mustard Lucky day Thursday

This week is shaped by a profound emotional awareness and

potential for gaining knowledge or authority, possibly through

quidance could be beneficial as you contemplate significant

reminding you that you have considerable control over your

destiny. Your effective communication skills likely contribute

to a positive impression on others, adding to your sense of

productivity. For those in leadership roles, recognition and

success are within reach, marking a notable period for career

life decisions. The impact of your choices is emphasized,

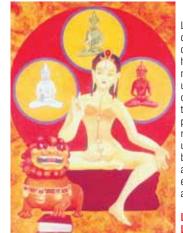
a tendency to express your feelings openly, enhancing

personal connections. For those already in partnerships,

there's an opportunity to deepen bonds through greater intimacy and mutual understanding. This period also brings a

established educational or mentoring avenues. Seeking

TAURUS April 20-May 20



#### LEO July 23-Aug 22

Last week was bustling with activity for you, balancing home duties and professional demands efficiently. Your determination to handle every task methodically ensured high-quality outcomes and a positive environment. Having navigated through these challenges, it's now time for you to unwind and reap the rewards of your efforts. Congratulations on a successful period! The dedication you showed is about to pay off beautifully. You'll find yourself in a prosperous phase, enjoying both material gains and harmonious relationships. Your ability to foster cooperation and understanding among those around you bolsters your business and personal connections, boosting your reputation as an influential figure. Expect mid-week opportunities for expansion and work-related travel, returning with accomplishments that will fill your loved ones with pride.

Lucky number 20 | Lucky colour Sapphire Blue Lucky day Wednesday

#### VIRGO Aug 23-Sep 22

In your current circumstances, you face an immediate need to make a critical decision. This period promises recognition and success for professionals like doctors and judges in their fields. To navigate through challenges effectively, adopting a disciplined approach is crucial. Health concerns might arise, potentially leading to moments of frustration. It's important to focus on the positives during such times. Midweek brings a subtle yet positive shift, marking a renewal of energy and a return to equilibrium. You will likely experience a surge of optimism and revitalization. A calm and joyful atmosphere prevails, paving the way for personal benefits. Collaborations may prove fruitful, enhancing your achievements. Expect to receive what is justly or rightfully yours, including tangible

Lucky number 22 | Lucky colour Amber Lucky day Saturday



#### **GEMINI** May 21-June 20

Lucky number 3 | Lucky colour Yellow

achievements

Lucky day Monday

This week, your emotional landscape may feel overwhelming, overshadowing your usual pragmatic approach. Minor domestic challenges could escalate into significant stressors, leading you to contemplate disengaging from day-to-day concerns. Thoughts of drastic changes in your personal life could divert your focus from current responsibilities. However, recognize that these feelings are transient. As the week progresses, the efforts you've put forth recently will begin to show positive outcomes, particularly in areas where you've recently invested energy or resources. To navigate through this period of uncertainty, strive to clear the fog of confusion. Gaining a clearer understanding of your goals will enhance your effectiveness. A fresh approach and unbiased thinking will quide you toward a more balanced path.

Lucky number 13 | Lucky colour White Lucky day Fridav



#### **CANCER** June 21-July 22 This week, individuals born under the sign traditionally



At times, you may feel as if harmony, beauty, and the finer things in life are just out of reach, causing you to experience excessive worry or fear. You might be dealing with sleep disturbances, unsettling dreams, and emotional turmoil. However, it's important to remember that hope is never truly lost. Soon, you'll find fresh opportunities and beginnings that could reignite your spirit and bring light to your situation. Midweek brings promising developments that could include affectionate messages, romantic gestures, or new ventures. Any current relationships you have will also start to strengthen, enhancing your emotional and physical resilience. Remember, maintaining patience is crucial; everything will settle into place in due time

Lucky day Thursday

SCORPIO Oct 23-Nov 21 You are on the brink of a transformative period, signaling



#### SAGITTARIUS Nov 22-Dec 21

This week signals a time of fair outcomes in your pursuits, despite not being straightforward. You may encounter several challenges, including disputes and significant opposition, which could leave you feeling mentally and physically constrained, disheartened, and agitated. It's essential to focus on nurturing healthier habits and making thoughtful choices that prioritize your well-being. Taking ownership of your decisions and interpersonal connections is crucial. Assessing the advantages and disadvantages of your situation will guide you. Despite the hurdles, you will navigate through these testing times successfully and gain the strength to handle upcoming challenges. As the week concludes, the opportunity for new beginnings or travel may arise, leading to resolutions in personal and professional relationships or issues related to personal assets, steering you towards a more positive path.

Lucky number 7 | Lucky colour Turquoise Lucky day Friday

#### **CAPRICORN** Dec 22-Jan 19

This period calls for a rejuvenating break, allowing for recovery and reflection. Some may need to heal from recent health setbacks. You might soon discover solutions and insights that were previously obscured, so stay observant of your environment. Navigating through such challenges often requires patience as they can initially lead to confusion or a standstill. Yet, the latter part of the week promises a shift towards positivity. You'll feel energized to embark on a new venture that demands guick action and daring decisions. This is your moment to pursue achievements with your inherent capabilities. There might even be signs of new beginnings in your personal life, perhaps hinting at major family developments. Embrace this surge of vitality and creativity, using it to maximize your advantages and seize the emerging opportunities.

Lucky number 17 | Lucky colour Blush Pink Lucky day Tuesday

#### AQUARIUS Jan 20-Feb 18

This week is characterized by fluctuating emotions and heightened tensions between rationality and passion. You might experience a temporary dip in financial stability at the week's onset, suggesting a period where income flows may be disrupted. Patience is essential during this transient phase. Engaging in meditation, yoga, or creative pursuits could prove beneficial in restoring your inner balance and navigating through these challenges effectively. It's crucial to avoid confrontations with superiors or colleagues, as an overly assertive demeanor could jeopardize the progress and goodwill you've previously established. The period calls for caution, urging you to maintain a grounded perspective. Distance yourself from misconceptions and consider adjusting your viewpoint to better adapt to the current circumstances.

Lucky number 4 | Lucky colour Yellow Lucky day Friday



PISCES Feb 19-March 20

This period marks the conclusion of a challenging phase,



# LIBRA Sep 23-Oct 22

rewards.

Lucky number 18 | Lucky colour lvory

associated with the crab will notice a significant shift in their emotional disposition, transitioning from reflective and serious to warm and caring. Those in leadership roles may find their capacity for empathy challenged as they encourage others to become more self-sufficient. Loyalty defines their relationships, and they respond sharply to any perceived threats. By midweek, their creative and dreamy side takes precedence, allowing them to revel in a personal transformation. Balancing the tangible and intangible aspects of life, they will find themselves feeling fulfilled and joyful, experiencing a satisfying blend of material success and spiritual peace. This newfound equilibrium enhances their relationships and personal growth.

Lucky number 2 | Lucky colour Coral Lucky day Sunday



both a physical move and a rise in your current circumstances. You possess a dynamic energy, eager for progress and quick results. This phase also hints at the potential for a new, invigorating romantic or creative chapter in your life. The middle of the week promises joy, celebrations, and success, enhancing your social connections and bringing cherished memories to the forefront. Encounters with old friends and family are likely, adding a warm, nostalgic touch. The atmosphere around you will be uplifting, infusing you with vitality. Expect harmonious family dynamics and significant gatherings, possibly marking new beginnings at home. This period offers a wonderful opportunity for meaningful engagement with those close to you

Lucky number 10 | Lucky colour Maroon Lucky day Tuesday

and you'll find yourself feeling relieved and unburdened Family matters will capture more of your attention, and the overall environment may not be optimal. You might have been grappling with a tough choice or holding on to something that wasn't beneficial for you, and now it's time to release it. This is a significant moment where the choices you make will shape your future. If you're feeling tested, it could be due to unresolved issues or negative feelings towards someone. The week ahead offers a chance to address and settle these conflicts once and for all. Embrace the power of affection and understanding-it has the strength to overcome even the most profound challenges. Trust your instincts, embrace your creative side, and approach situations with enthusiasm

Lucky number 6 | Lucky colour Copper Lucky day Monday

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Sri Sri Ravi Shankar Spiritual Guru

A combination of different measures is needed to relieve work-related tension so that it does not affect life at home

s times are getting tougher in the corporate world, many feel the Dinch. Stress impacts the way we think, feel and behave, thus, affecting all aspects of our life. The consequences of letting stress rule are nothing short of disastrous and tragic. First of all, do you know what stress is? Stress is too much to do and too little time or energy. So either you reduce your workload which doesn't seem to be a possibility these days. Or you increase your time which is not possible either. So let us look at some ways to not only increase our energy levels but also to change our mind and outlook, just a little bit. This will enable a less stressful and more productive work life. Here is an easy and simple 10-point solution. Strike a work-life balance: It's like

riding a bicycle. What is the secret to riding a bicycle? Balance! It's about staying at the centre: not letting it fall to the right or left. When it's falling on one side, you bring it to balance. When you go out of balance, you feel the pinch. Listen to that. Don't just ignore it, acknowledge it and come to the centre. Whenever you go out of balance in any aspect of life, listen to your inner voice, and come to the centre. If you have ignored your family, it pinches you. If you have ignored your social commitment, it pinches you. If you are ignoring your business, it pinches you. If you are ignoring your spiritual practices,

## Manage stress

it pinches you. So wherever anything pinches you, come back to the centre. The right amount of food and sleep: Not too much and not too little. A balanced diet with enough carbohydrates and proteins along with six-eight hours of sleep is advisable.

□ Meditation: Learn some deep breathing exercises to increase your energy level, relax your mind and relieve all types of stress. Meditation also enhances your abilities, strengthens your nervous system and mind and releases toxins from the body. Usually, I recommend afternoon meditation and meals in the workplace. When people sit together and meditate for a few minutes and then share a meal together, they find it so refreshing and are able to carry on through the day with the same energy which they came to the office.

**Don't let time manage you:** First of all, you must see to it that you have the feeling that you have time. When you put this thought in your mind that you don't have time, then that itself becomes a block. Everybody has only 24 hours, whether it is the Prime Minister or a clerk working in the bank. You have to hold on to this aphorism 'I can do it' because the pressure of time is more when you do not feel confident of accomplishing your work. Even when it appears to be impossible, even then you should have confidence; probably give miracles a chance. This very confidence



in yourself that 'I will be able to manage' will take you through.

**Take interest in some art form:** In the corporate world, you are loaded with left-brain activities like logical thinking, planning, analysis and so on. So you need to balance the left-brain activity with the right-brain activity. Painting, music, poetry or any other kind of creative and recreational activities activate the right brain. When the two hemispheres of the brains are balanced, vou can experience higher clarity, creativity, relaxation, efficiency and productivity.

Establish a congenial work atmosphere: Peace and prosperity are interlinked. Prosperity cannot flourish in a disturbed atmosphere. While working with others, you need to function as a team. Have a sense of respect for your

team members, and do not indulge in blame games. Create an atmosphere of trust, cooperation, a sense of belonging, and celebration. Nothing can last if the focus is only on productivity and net result.

**15-second gap:** Another clue, another technique you can follow. Whenever you have to do any important job, good or bad, give a fifteen seconds gap. A C.E.O. once wrote a very nasty letter to his boss. He was going to sign off and send it, when suddenly he remembered to give a 15-second gap. When he went through the letter again it was so nasty, he himself could not read it. That time lag made so much of a difference! Take home this technique. From today or tomorrow, practise this technique. The mind has a very strange tendency. Anything wrong it wants to do immediately. From now on, you postpone it. If you want to shout at somebody, postpone it to next week. We have a tendency of postponing doing something good. Anything that is good we tend to postpone it to later, to our next lifetime. So, we postpone doing something good and do immediately something that is harmful. So leave a 15second gap and just pause and reflect. Be calm. Can you do it?

#### **Do not worry about gaining**

position: Remember that the respect which you gain through virtue and the respect you gain through position are different. The respect you get through a

position is short-lived and temporary. But the respect that you gain just because of your smile, your attitude, your virtues are with you for all time. Are you a chairman of this committee, president of that committee, a barrister or governor of a state? These are all momentary and temporary. They come and they go. And the respect you get because of this position is short-lived, it is not genuine, it is not from the heart, it is not true. But the respect you gain because you are a nice person is genuine, it lasts long. It is spontaneous.

Extend your comfort zone: Anything creative, dynamic and great things can happen when you stretch beyond your comfort zone. We are often struck in our little comfort zone and we cannot go beyond that. And we think we cannot just make an effort and put one step ahead, and you will see that you can expand your comfort zone and not shrink it. Creativity expands your comfort zone. Or, when you step out of the comfort zone, your creativity comes into play.

**Do acts of service:** Be useful to people around you. It's the best antidote to stress. You must contribute to society. When you do some act of service and kindness, it brings an immediate feeling of inner rejuvenation. So, believe in yourself and remember that success is an attitude, not just a phenomenon.

## sports 12

captain Bumrah deservedly got his 11th five-wicket haul

while debutant Harshit Rana

bowled a fiery opening spell

to dismiss the hosts for 104

at the stroke of lunch despite

a stiff last-wicket resistance from Mitchell Starc and Josh

Starc (26 off 113 balls)

shielded Hazlewood (7 not

out off 31 balls) admirably

during their 25-run last-

wicket stand that lasted 18

The day began with Bumrah

The day began with Burnan (5/30 in 18 overs) getting one to rear up from back of the length and Carey's edge carried at a good height to Rishabh Pant behind stumps.

The skipper's celebration was

understated as he purposefully strode back to

his bowling mark even before Nathan Lyon had

arrived. At the other end, the burly Harshit Rana (3/48 in

15.2 overs) carried on from

where he had left off on the

The rookie speedster used

more short balls, and one

accounted for Lyon, who was

Hazlewood.

understated

opening day.

overs.



# **Team India take commanding 218-run lead against Australia**

#### PTI PERTH

**T**ashasvi Jaiswal Y combined game awareness with perfect shot selection while KL Rahul remained technically unflappable in an unbroken opening stand of 172 as India looked set to bat Australia out of the match with an overall lead of 218

with an overall lead of 218 runs on the second day of the opening Test here. After skipper Jasprit Bumrah's game-changing 11th five-wicket haul decimated Australia for 104, young leiscuel (00 hettig decimated Australia for 104, young Jaiswal (90 batting, 193 balls) and seasoned Rahul (62 batting, 154 balls) decided to grind it out with some old fashioned Test match batting by waiting for the loose deliveries and respecting good fast bowling. bowling. The Indians showed their

compact defense by scoring 88 runs in 31 overs during the post-tea session as Jaiswal inched towards a coveted ton on his maiden outing on Australian soil. With enough time at their

this is going to be India's Test match to lose.

The way Rahul wore down the Australian attack was a sight to behold. There was no chatter from the slip cordon and at one point, the stitches of the Kookaburra came out.

The live grass died by the second afternoon and the seam movement also went out of equation making batting easier.

But no one can take away any credit from the two who were hardly troubled except for a mix-up that could have led to Rahul's run-out.

Jaiswal also showed that he had learnt his lessons from the first innings and curbed his urge to drive on the up initially, which was the best part about his batting. Each of his seven fours and two sixes were well-executed

shots. Once he had defended enough deliveries, the Australian pacers didn't have any option but to try either short or full length which he utilised well.

disposal and signs of cracks hit Starc for one-bounce four are slow," spoke volumes appearing on the surface, and then induce a grin from about how fearless the



The whip over mid-wicket to the pacer by telling him "you current generation of Indian cricketers is. In the final session, he

flicked him for good Cummins can easily be measure for a maximum. called the shot of the match Rahul's back-drive off Pat but it was heartening to see

Jaiswal put in a big stride forward while driving Mitchell Starc through covers apart from getting under the bounce and

under the bounce and playing the ramp shot. In case of Rahul, he kept a very loose bottom-hand and that helped with the deliveries, even the ones that took the thickish edge only to fall way in front of the slip cordon.

There was a spell of play in the post-tea session when Indians were kept quiet by Nathan Lyon but neither Jaiswal nor Rahul ran out of patience. Jaiswal's half-century came off 123 balls, his slowest in 15 Tests and spoke volumes about his adaptability. For Rahul, it was about

forgetting the unfortunate dismissal on Friday and concentrate, which he did splendidly.

Any target above 300 would be very difficult to chase on this track and Washington Sundar can come into play if those cracks open up, not to forget the three quicks who such well-directed delivery can use the variable bounce to good effect.

pouched at gully by KL Rahul. In the morning, India

## I'll make Deepika world's best drag-flicker: Harendra

#### PTI NEW DELHI

Tndian women's hockey chief Lteam's coach Harendra Singh says fastrising striker Deepika has the potential to be a brilliant drag-flicker as well and Harendra described Deepika helping her realise that as "special" but he said her potential will be one of his primary targets along with ensuring that the team's fitness levels never fall on his watch. Unlike most dragflickers in mentality has changed and the world, who are defenders, Deepika is a striker and showed her brilliance with field goals in the recentlyconcluded Asian Champions Trophy in Rajgir, Bihar.

"We need to give her some improve," he said. time, she is just 21. "We had one-on-one fruitful time, she is just 21.

She has already become a star. meetings with the players She is a good scorer from field play, and she will become a very good drag-flicker as well," he said. was in our hands." Fitness is one area Harendra had emphasised on since taking over in April this "I am sure very soon she will get the results," he said. year and he is quite happy with the results although he Mentality matters and her feels there is still scope for improvement. "The icing in the cake was the one-week camp in the INA (Indian Naval Academy) which Hockey India provided us. It played big role in team-

where we got in-depth details on all aspects and made a chart about what needs to be done and worked on what

# Harshit Rana has potential to become multi-format bowler for India: Coach Negi

#### PTI NEW DELHI

Harshit Rana's meteoric rise might have come as a surprise to many but not his coach in his formative years, NS Negi, who has seen the strapping youngster mature into a pacer with the "potential to become a multiformat bowler for India." Starting as a net bowler with Gujarat Titans in 2022, Harshit played a key role in guiding Kolkata Knight Riders to IPL glory in 2024, and announced his arrival on the international stage with a dream debut in the opening Border-Gavaskar Test at Perth, where he returned

figures of 48 for 3 in the first

innings.

hide his joy on seeing his ward's exploits on a bouncy wards exploits on a bouncy and seaming Perth pitch. "Harshit is a very talented bowler. He had been bowling extremely well in the last two seasons of the Ranji Trophy. Last year, when I was the

such player who should go on and play at least 70-80 Test matches for India... In fact he should go on and play all three formats for India," Negi told PTI Videos in an

odd first-class games under his belt. But Negi felt this was the right time to debut him in Tests given his amazing bowling statistics.

In 10 first-class matches, Harshit has taken 43 wickets at 24.00 and has an impressive as a bowler. batting average of 42.63, including a blazing unbeaten 122 against North-East Zone. Negi and Rana met in 2018 when the fast bowler was selected to play for the Delhi U19 team. Negi, who has also work on his fitness and been associated as a fielding gradually keeps increasing his pace," said Negi. Negi believes that Harshit has the coach with Gujarat Titans in the IPL, said that Harshit always had the drive to bowl Rana inclusion in the side raised many eyebrows given fast but gradual improvements in fitness played a big role in his ability to come good with the bat lower down the order. His advice to the

69:

success. "In 2018, when I was the head

youngster is to learn as much as possible from pace coach of the Delhi U19 team, spearhead Jasprit Bumrah I noted that he had a very and keep bowling to his smooth action and a good rhythm. He could bat well. He strengths to succeed in international cricket.

worked on his fitness and pace and gradually improved "He is a good batter as well and in the coming years may perform well with the bat as 'The most important thing well. He is someone who can is that he is a fighter. When I first picked Mayank (Yadav) and Harshit in the easily score 30-40 odd runs batting lower down the order for India. "Harshit should keep a check team, they were both very raw but promising. I just hope that he continues to

on his fitness and try to learn a lot from the modern-day legend, Jasprit Bumrah. He just needs to back his strengths while bowling and that will help him succeed in the international cricket... He has the talent, bounce and pace", concluded Negi.

Tilak Varma makes record-setting hundred; Shreyas smashes ton ahead of IPL auction

Negi, Harshit's coach from his the fact that he had just 10-U19 days in Delhi, couldn't

fielding coach of the Delhi Ranji team, he made his debut and bowled extremely well. "It is just the beginning; he is one

She emerged as the highest goal-scorer the in tournament with 11 strikes, mostly field efforts.

"I am not concerned about PCs because I know we are working and we are going to eradicate this problem very soon. I know we are looking at instant coffee from Deepika but I am sure I will make her one of the best drag-flickers of the world in women's hockey just like I made Harman," Harendra told PTI in an exclusive interview referring to his stint with men's team and the work done with its star captain Harmanpreet Singh.

approach to drag-flick needs to be work on.

she wants to be the best player. But it's always a process, we can't jump so fast. I am working on small details with her."

The chief coach, however, was satisfied with the performance of the players in the ACT and said it is just the first step towards his mission for the 2028 Los Angeles Olympics.

Whatever was the target, we have achieved but there are a lot of things which we need to achieve. We have improved on our attacking style, defence and circle penetrations. Whatever we took shots on goals were quality ones.

Paris is past...There was no point sitting and crying over it, rather it was important to

building and team unity. But to be frank the journey has just started, we can't be happy," he said. "Fitness is the biggest concern. The first day I

joined, I made it clear that whoever you may be, how bigger players you might be but if you are not fit you won't be part of the side. Whoever is not fit can't board this bus, this was my clear directive." Harendra said his vision is LA 2028 and earning a direct ticket to the quadrennial event through the World Cup, to be jointly hosted by

Belgium and Netherlands move forward and work on and the Asian Games in the areas where we needed to Japan, both in 2026.

PTI MUMBAI

Tilak Varma became the first batter ever to notch three successive hundreds in T20s, while Shrevas Iver underlined his credentials with a smooth century ahead of the IPL mega auction, as the two Indian batters hogged the limelight in the first round of the Syed Mushtaq Ali Trophy on Saturday.

In a Group A match, Tilak, who made hundreds recently against South Africa at Centurion and Johannesburg, added one more three-figure knock to the list against Meghalaya in Rajkot.

The left-hander made 151 off just 67 balls with 14 fours and 10 sixes to guide Hyderabad to 248 for four in 20 overs.

In the process, he also became the first Indian male cricketer to score a 150-plus score in T20s. India woman batter Kiran Navigere had made a 162 for Nagaland against

Arunachal Pradesh in the senior Women's T20 Trophy in 2022. Opener Tanmay Agarwal supported his skipper Tilak with a 55 off 23 balls. Anikethreddy and Tanay Thyagarajan shared seven wickets among them as Hyderabad bundled out their rivals for 69 to celebrate a

massive 179-run victory. Shreyas shines Shreyas, who was released by Kolkata Knight Riders despite leading them to the IPL 2024 title, made a timely reminder about his skills with an unbeaten 57ball 130 (11x4, 10x6) for Mumbai against Goa in a

Group E match. Shreyas' hundred led Mumbai to 250 for four, but Goa made a spirited chase before ending up at 224 for eight, going down by 26 runs.

Suyash Prabhudesai was their top-scorer with a 52 off 36 balls. Brief scores

Hyderabad 248/4; 20 overs

(Tilak Verma 151, Tanmay Agarwal 55) beat Meghalaya: runs. Ġ. 15.1 overs Anikethreddy 4/11, Tanay

Thyagarajan 3/15) by 179 Mumbai 250/4; 20 overs (Shreyas Iyer 130 not out) beat 2/18) by 26 runs.

Goa 224/8; 20 overs (Suyash Prabhudesai 52, Vikash Singh 47 not out; Suyansh Shedge



E-Auction Sale Notice for Sale of Immovable Assets under the Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcemen of Security Interest Act, 2002 read with rule proviso to 8 (6) of the security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002. Notice is hereby given to the public in general and in particular to the Borrower(s) and Guarantor(s) that the below described immovable mortgaged/charged to the Secured Creditor, the constructive possession of which has been taken by the Authorised Officer of Bank of ndia, Secured Creditor will be sold on "As is where is", "As is what is" and "Whatever there is" on below mentioned date for recovery o mentioned amount in demand notice issued due to the Bank of India, secured creditor from below mentioned borrowers / guarantors The details of the property as given below, reserve price and EMD amount are marked against all the properties.

SI. No.		Description of Mortgage Properties & Owner of Property	Reserve Price (in Lakh) Earnest Money Deposit (in Lakh)
Lal Banglow Branch, 98 A, Chandra Nagar, Lal Banglow, Kanpur- 208007			
1.	Borrower: 1. M/s Jagdambey Corporation of India (Prop. Jawaharlal Sarin), 2. Mr. Jawaharlal Sarin Guarantor: 1. Mrs. Veena Sarin, 2. Mr. Jaswant Rai Demand Notice Date: 21.05.2022 Amt.: Rs. 48,39,372.90 + Interest w.e.f. 18.05.2022 + other charges Possession Notice: 28.07.2022/Symbolic	All Land nd building situated at premises No.38 A on arazi no.253 (min) Muzaffarpur Pardevanpur Kanpur admeasuring area 176 sq Mtrs Owned By Mr. Jawahar lal Sarin, <b>Bounded as under: East</b> : 15' wide road and property of trust, <b>West</b> : 10' wide common passage, <b>North:</b> Residential Complex constructed by Satish Mahana, <b>South:</b> Common Passage thereafter part of same premises	Rs. 6.68

### Pitch behaviour on day two surprises I Jonald

of Test cricket that keeps both

the teams in hunt till the end.

"You've got the driver's seat at

the moment, but that's not to

say that tomorrow can't

#### PTI PERTH

The home team bowlers did not put a foot wrong but the pitch dried up quite quickly at the Optus stadium on the second day, eventually helping the Indian batters, reckons Australia head coach Andrew McDonald.

India openers Yashasvi Jaiswal (90) and KL Rahul (62) frustrated the hosts with their dogged unbeaten 172-run stand that has put the game in firm control of the visitors, who now lead by 218 runs.

While the wickets fell in heap on the opening day with as many as 17 batters getting out, only three Australian tailenders were dismissed on the

second day. "The su looked surface considerably dry today. It dried out fairly quickly," said McDonald during the postday press conference.

"We thought there may have been a little bit more there. So, I suppose if you want to sav changed, I'll state that," he that we were a little bit surprised, yeah, there wasn't said. "In terms of the way that we as much seam movement or bowled, I don't think it was swing.

too dissimilar, potentially early on we may have been a 'The bowlers were presenting the seam in a similar fashion to they were yesterday. So I fraction short, if it was to be think the conditions may critical, but I thought they went about their work well, it have had some say in that." could have been a different McDonald said there was

hardly any assistance for seam day." or swing, compared to the However, McDonald does not first day. think Australia do not stand a "If you look at the seam and chance in the series-opener, pinning hopes on the nature

it was down swing, comparative to yesterday. Yesterday was difficult work, I thought KL (Rahul) and Jaiswal played extremely well also.

You need to ride your luck a change very quickly. Test cricket ebbs and flows, we've little bit. Our guys got the balls in the right areas, and all been a part of a game when there was some plays and vou've been well ahead of the misses as well, so anything game and it can twist and can happen if you get some

edges on that. It could be a work on what it looks like for totally different day, but I think the conditions have us tomorrow morning," he said

"It's about 20 odd overs to the second new ball, we've got to work out a way to navigate through a few batters before that second new ball arrives and that could be our entry point back into the game." He though admitted that they have to "get tactics right". "If we're too aggressive then the scoreboard runs and then you put yourself right up against it. So it's a real about combination controlling the tempo of the creating and game opportunities within that." From the situation that India have batted themselves into, it is real a possibility that the hosts maybe looking at stiff chase of beyond 400 but McDonald would prefer not to look that far ahead.

"We're not looking that far ahead, we've got 10 wickets to turn, so we've got to get to

take first, so that's our first focus. No, no targets, clearly 10 wickets to get, first priority, then we'll move from there."

Talking about the frantic first day, the Australia coach admitted that it could be due to the nerves the players of both the teams felt due to the occasion.

"No doubt both the teams would have had some nerves there leading into a big series, so there might have been some error on the back of that, but I think as a batting unit when you get a look at a wicket and then obviously your bowlers go about their work and you get a second up opportunity, I think it looks a little bit different in terms of vour mindset, your knowing what to expect and you can work from there."

McDonald also backed Marnus Labuschagne, who consumed 52 balls for his two runs in the first innings.

Date: 24

Last date for submission of EMD for all the above properties is 26.12.2024 by 04.00 PM E-Auction of above mentioned properties will be held on Date 26.12.2024 Time at Morning 11 AM to 5.00 PM (with unlimited extension of 5 min. interval)

Terms and Conditions of Sale :- 1. This e-Auction is being held on "AS IS WHERE IS", "AS IS WHAT IS" and "WHATEVER IT IS" basis. 2. The property being auctioned by the Authorized Officer is free of charge till the maximum information and belief, yet the ntending tenderer should independently enquire all the encumbrances, title claim statutory dues (Customs and Excise Tax / Income Tax) before participating in the e-auction and or any other government agency etc. All assets are being sold with all current and future encumbrances known or unknown. The Authorized Officer will not be liable for any claim rights and liabilities of any third / third party. 3. It is the responsibility of the tenderers to inspect the property and satisfy itself completely before participating in the eauction. You can contact the concerned branch of Bank of India for property inspection. 4. Interested tenderers will be able to get their User ID and Password free of cost by registering on the web portal https://www.ebkray.in and EMD can be deposited through this portal. 5. After registration in the web portal, the interested bidders should upload the following documents in the web porta before submitting the tender. 1. Copy of PAN Card 2. ID Proof (KYC) like Self Attested Aadhar Card /Voter ID - Card / Driving License / Passport etc. 6. Only tenderers having valid User ID, Password will be able to participate in the e-auction process. 7. Only those nterested bidders who have made EMD payment by 26.12.2024 within the stipulated time will be able to participate in the e-auction process. 8. If the reserve price of the property is up to Rs. 50 lakh the incremental value bid will be in multiple of 25000 and if reserve price is above 50 lakh it will be Rs. 50000. 9. The highest bidder shall be declared the successful bidder with the permission of the authorized officer. The information of which will be given - to him by electric mode on his email address. 10. The Authorized Officer will not be bound to accept the highest bid and the Authorized Officer will have the right to accept/reject any bid. 11. EMD amount of successful bidder will remain in ebkray Wallet and all unsuccessful bidder's amount can be withdrawn from ebkray. No interest will be payable by ebkray on the EMD amount. 12. The successful bidder will have to deposit 25% (including EMD amount) of the selling price (i.e. maximum bid amount) immediately. He has to deposit the remaining balance amount within 15 days. In case successful bidder failed to deposit bid amount in prescribe time the amount deposited will be forfeited without any prior notice. 13. Bidders are advised to go through the detailed terms and condition at https://www.bankofindia.co.in, https://www.ebkrav.in before submitting the tender. 14. TDS tax will be payable by the successful bidder on the maximum sale price under Income Tax Act 1941 (A), if the selling price exceeds Rs. 50 lakhs or more and additional GST will be payable (wherever applicable) on the sale price as per Government rules. 15. The intending tenderer should have proper resources related to the bid, no objection will be accepted in this regard. 16. Bids above reserve price will be accepted.

#### 30 days sale notice to borrowers/guarantors/mortgagors

The above mentioned borrower / depositor / mortgagor is informed to pay the amount mentioned in section 13(2) before the date of auction. In case of failure to deposit the amount, the property will be auctioned and the balance amount along with interest and cos will be recovered from you or the borrower can also participate in the auction organized by the bank on the above date to recover the amount due in his account.

.11.2024 Place : Kanpur A	uthorised Officer: Bank of India
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