



magazine



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# WELCOME TO THE NATIONAL CAPITAL

## Nightmare in the skies

RAJESH KUMAR ■ NEW DELHI

Mid air scares targeting Indian airlines continued on Saturday, as at least 30 flights operated by Vistara, Air India, IndiGo, SpiceJet, Star Air and Akasa Airlines were forced to make emergency landings after bomb threats, which later turned out to be hoaxes. So far this week, at least 70 flights of Indian carriers have received bomb threats, and all of them turned out to be hoaxes. The hoax threats comes right in the middle of festive season when a large number of Indians plan to fly. Worried over increasing trends of bomb threat messages, the Bureau of Civil Aviation Security (BCAS) has called the chief executive officers (CEOs) of the airlines for a meeting to discuss ways to tackle the issue, which is causing inconvenience to passengers and losses to carriers. According to officials, six flights against which bomb threats were made via social media made scheduled landings at Mumbai's Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj International Airport. These threats came from a single X account and were categorised as "hoax" and "non specific" after thorough checks, the official added. The account, of a user named 'Adha', mentioned flights of several airlines, though only six were scheduled to land at Mumbai

international airport, the official said. These were from Delhi, Goa and Darbhanga. Hoax bomb threats can wreak havoc on the Indian aviation sector since they are not easy to trace. Given the Khalistani threats to airlines, the government or airlines can't take such calls lightly even if they think these to be hoax calls. Notably, the spate of hoax bomb threats against Indian airlines has led to major financial repercussions, with airline officials estimating losses running into crores of rupees. According to Aviation Industry sources, the overall financial damage of the hoax, including costs for unscheduled landing, passenger accommodations, aircraft grounding, and crew replacements, is projected to exceed Rs 3 crore. Top sources said more than 30 flights, including domestic and international ones, operated by domestic airlines have received bomb threats through social media since Saturday morning. In at least one of the flights, a note was found in the lavatory saying there was a bomb in the flight. On Saturday, Vistara said five of its flights on international routes received security threats through social media while IndiGo said at least four of its flights got security-related alerts. The five flights of Vistara are UK106 (Singapore to Mumbai), UK027 (Mumbai



to Frankfurt), UK107 (Mumbai to Singapore), UK121 (Delhi to Bangkok) and UK131 (Mumbai to Colombo). "Following the protocol, all relevant authorities were promptly alerted and all security procedures are being adhered to, as per the guidance from the authorities and security agencies," an airline spokesperson said in a statement. Besides, there was a security concern regarding Vistara flight UK624 from Udaipur to Mumbai, and after landing, the aircraft was taken to an isolation bay for mandatory checks. A note was found in the lavatory of the aircraft saying there is a bomb in the flight, a source in the know said. IndiGo also issued statements for at least five international flights with respect to the threats - 6E 11, 6E 17, 6E 58, 6E 108, and 6E 184. They are

6E17 (Mumbai to Istanbul), 6E11 (Delhi to Istanbul), 6E184 (Jodhpur to Delhi) and 6E108 (Hyderabad to Chandigarh). The airline said it is cognisant of a situation involving flights from Mumbai and Delhi to Istanbul. Regarding the Jodhpur to Delhi flight, the carrier said the plane landed in the national capital and customers have disembarked the aircraft. About the Hyderabad to Chandigarh flight, IndiGo said that upon landing, the aircraft was isolated and all passengers were safely disembarked. Sources said that the plane was being checked at Chandigarh airport thoroughly by the airport authorities at the isolation bay. The Air India flight numbers AI 101, AI 105, AI 126, 119, and AI 161 were disrupted following the bomb scare.

## Chaos on the roads

RAJESH KUMAR ■ NEW DELHI

The worsening traffic congestion across the city particularly at major junctions such as ITO, Moolchand, Chirag Delhi, Nehru Place, RTR has taken a toll on the city's road infrastructure which cater to both the Delhiites and floating population from the National Capital Region (NCR) regions like Noida, Gurgaon resulting in daily chaos. The Pioneer has already sustained a month long campaign on traffic congestion, management, solution and this time the Capital's new age destination across "Jamuna Paar" Anand Vihar has been carved out, to off load the in-traffic situation and has several commuters facilities like a Railway Station,

Interstate Bus Terminus (ISBT), Metro and Rapid Railway Transit System (RRTS) have come up. Due to heavy traffic congestion, it is now considered one of the busiest areas in Delhi since it lies on the border, close to the bustling metropolis of Ghaziabad and Noida and millions throng here each day. The Anand Vihar ISBT falls under the Madhu Vihar traffic circle. According to Delhi police, it has started a crackdown and issued 205 challans under different heads were also issued against the violators and encroachers. During a visit by senior police officers recently, it was observed that the road was

encroached by illegal vendors, and hawkers from both sides. They display articles on the pathways, clothes are hung on hangers and rings and illegally parked vehicles such as TSRs, Buses, Private Taxis add to the heavy traffic congestion, police said on Saturday. Due to this, the once wide road has been shortened from both the sides and pedestrians and commuters were not getting enough space to even walk on footpaths. Analysing the situation, the police evolved a strategy to clear IN/OUT congestion at the road of Anand Vihar ISBT and to make carriageway congestion free. A meeting was then arranged with the Deputy Commissioner, Municipal

Corporation of Delhi (MCD), Shahdara South Zone and local police and they were requested to arrange joint drives for removal of encroachment at Anand Vihar ISBT. A special drive was carried out along with MCD, to clear congestion and most of the encroachments were removed. Anand Vihar is a major transit hub connected with Railway, RRTS and Metro network and is always abuzz with lakhs of commuters using various modes of transport. It is surrounded by densely populated Indirapuram, Surajmal Vihar, Ramprastha in Ghaziabad, Noida, Dilshad Garden, Shahdara, Mayur Vihar, Patparganj. This leads to chaos and traffic congestion due to encroachers and heavy traffic volumes. It takes road commuters 15 to 20 minutes to cross the outside the ISBT on Chaudhary Charan Singh Marg. Buses, autorickshaws, e rickshaws and private vehicles are always stationed at wrong points leading to traffic jams. A large number of non destined vehicles entering Delhi from UP also added woes to the commuters. It is around 9 pm, when the Delhi-Uttar Pradesh border at Anand Vihar becomes messy as the legal time to enter into the Capital for the commercial vehicles begins. Besides increasing parking fees, Lieutenant Governor Vinai Kumar Saxena issued orders to regulate traffic / buses inside and outside the three ISBTs including Anand Vihar last month. Inside the ISBT, the situation has improved but outside, it remains the same.

## BJP ready for Jharkhand

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE ■ RANCHI / NEW DELHI

The Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) on Saturday released its list of 66 candidates for the Jharkhand Assembly elections, fielding party president Babul Marandi from Dhanwar, and former Chief Minister Champai Soren from Saraikela. The party named Sita Soren, the sister-in-law of Jharkhand Mukti Morcha (JMM) leader and Chief Minister Hemant Soren, as its nominee from Jamtara. The list also has the names of Geeta Kora and former Union minister Sudarshan Bhagat. The BJP is contesting 68 of the 81 Assembly seats in the state, leaving the rest for its allies. Assembly polls will be held in two phases on November 13 and 20 and counting will take place on November 23. Champai Soren, who contested from Seraikela, joined the BJP on August 30, two days after he resigned from the JMM citing "insult" and dissatisfaction with the party's current style of functioning and facing "bitter humiliation". The joining of the 67-year-old leader in the BJP was seen as a significant boost for the party's efforts to strengthen its connection with the Scheduled Tribes, a strong support base of the JMM. Meanwhile, fissures surfaced among INDIA Bloc partners ahead of the Assembly elections as the Rashtriya Janata Dal



(RJD) expressed disappointment over announcement of JMM and Congress contesting 70 of 81 seats in the State. The RJD said the decision on seat sharing by the two INDIA Bloc constituents was "unilateral". "We express our disappointment over the offer of seats to us. The decision is unilateral," RJD spokesperson Manoj Kumar Jha said.

## Remove acting DGP Anurag Gupta: ECI

PNS ■ RANCHI

Ahead of the Jharkhand polls, the Election Commission on Saturday directed the state government to remove Acting Director General of Police (DGP) Anurag Gupta from his post with immediate effect due to a "history" of complaints against him in previous elections, sources said. The Jharkhand Assembly elections will be held in two phases - November 13 and 20. The decision to remove Gupta was based on a history of

complaints and action taken by the Commission against him during previous elections, the sources said. As an interim, the charge of the DGP will now be handed over to the senior most DGP-level officer in the cadre, they said. The state government has also been asked to submit a panel of names of senior Indian Police Service (IPS) officers by October 21 morning to enable the EC to pick an officer to be named the next DGP. The state government has to submit a compliance report of these directions by Saturday evening.

During the 2019 Lok Sabha polls, Gupta was relieved of his duties as ADG (Special Branch), Jharkhand, following allegations of biased conduct made by the Jharkhand Mukti Morcha (JMM). He was reassigned to the resident commissioner's office in Delhi and barred from returning to Jharkhand until the election process was completed, the sources recalled. During the Rajya Sabha elections from Jharkhand in 2016, Gupta, then an additional DGP, faced serious charges of misuse of authority. The Commission had formed an inquiry committee following which a charge sheet was issued to him for departmental enquiry.



## We will not give Kashmir

MOHIT KANDHARI ■ JAMMU

Setting the stage for the first round of showdown between the newly elected government in Jammu and Kashmir and the Union government headed by Prime Minister Narendra Modi, Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha has approved the resolution passed by Chief Minister Omar Abdullah-led Cabinet urging the Centre to restore the statehood to the Union territory. The Central leaders including PM Modi and the Union Home Minister Amit Shah had repeatedly announced and reiterated the commitment made on the floor of the Parliament that the statehood of Jammu and Kashmir would be restored at an appropriate time. According to the spokesperson of the Department of Information and Public Relations, J and K the Cabinet has authorised the Chief Minister to take up the matter with Prime Minister Narendra Modi and the Government of India for restoration of statehood. He said the CM will go to New Delhi in the coming days to meet the Prime Minister and Union Ministers in this regard. Meanwhile, the cabinet headed by Omar Abdullah has also decided to summon the Legislative Assembly at Srinagar on November 4 and advised the LG to summon and address the assembly, the spokesperson of the



Department of Information and Public Relations said in a written statement released on Saturday. The draft address of the Lt Gov to the Legislative Assembly at the commencement of the first session was also placed before the Council of Ministers which the Council decided shall be further considered and discussed, he said. "The Cabinet which met under the chairmanship of Omar Abdullah earlier on Thursday passed a unanimous resolution for restoration of statehood in its original form," an official spokesperson said. The spokesperson further added that the restoration of statehood will be the beginning of a healing process, reclaiming the constitutional rights and protecting the identity of the people of Jammu and Kashmir.

Protection of Jammu and Kashmir's unique identity and constitutional rights of people remains the cornerstone of the newly-elected government's policy, the spokesperson said. However, the Omar Abdullah-led government faced criticism as Kashmir-based political parties described the resolution only on statehood and not on Article 370 as an "utter surrender" and a departure from the stand of the ruling National Conference. Various political parties, including the People's Democratic Party (PDP), People's Conference (PC) and Awami Ittehad Party (AIP), denounced the move, reminding the NC of its poll promise to "strive to restore (Articles) 370-35A and statehood as prior to August 5, 2019", and saying it was a departure from the pre-election stand.

## Dancing drones will light up Ayodhya's night sky this Deepotsav

Lights mounted on 500 drones will showcase key episodes from the Ramayana

BISWAJEET BANERJEE ■ LUCKNOW

Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath-led Uttar Pradesh government is all set to enhance the grandeur of Deepotsav in Ayodhya with a stunning aerial drone show. The event will feature a captivating display of 500 drones equipped with colourful lights, set to illuminate Ayodhya's night sky. The 15-minute show, a major highlight of the Deepotsav celebrations, will showcase the prowess of Made-in-India drones. Attendees can expect to witness a breathtaking presentation of the 'veer mudra' of Lord Ram, Laxman, and Hanuman, brought to life through a combination of laser

lights, voiceovers, and musical narration. The show will also include dynamic displays depicting key episodes from the Ramayana, such as Ravan Vadh, the Pushpak Viman, scenes from Deepotsav, Ram Darbar, Valmiki, Tulsidas, and the Ram Temple. "The mesmerising visuals promise to enthral the audience, with the logos of Deepotsav, the UP government, and the tourism department also projected onto the sky," the government spokesman said. This year's Deepotsav holds special significance as it marks the first celebration since the idol of Lord Ramlala was enshrined in the grand temple. To make this occasion unforgettable, meticulous



preparations are underway to ensure the drone show meets international standards. A full rehearsal is scheduled for October 29, one day before the main event, to ensure flawless coordination and precise drone formations. The grand show will take place at the iconic Ram Ki Paidi. The drone show will feature 15 distinct formations in the sky. To execute this, a detailed storyboard with animations will be prepared and submitted to the Uttar Pradesh Tourism Department for approval. Various elements such as concept development, screenplay, background music composition, voiceovers, narration, and laser light effects are being

meticulously crafted to support the aerial displays. In addition to the drone show, Ram Ki Paidi will host a laser light and sound presentation that highlights the inspiring moments from the life of Lord Shri Ram. While daily laser and sound shows are a regular attraction at Ram Ki Paidi, this special presentation during Deepotsav remains a centrepiece of the festivities. Complementing the drone spectacle, a sound and laser display featuring artistically crafted green firecrackers will further elevate the atmosphere, lighting up the skies above Ayodhya and the event venue, making this Deepotsav a memorable celebration for all.

FILE PHOTO

# Indian roads set to outshine US infrastructure by 2047: Gadkari

STAFF REPORTER ■ BHOPAL

Chief Minister Mohan Yadav said that it is important to not only discuss modern technologies and methods in road and infrastructure construction but to also draw inspiration from the effective techniques used in ancient times. He highlighted Bhopal's "Upper Lake", constructed by Raja Bhoj over a thousand years ago, as a remarkable example of economical and efficient water management. Additionally, the depiction of roads on coins from the eras of Emperor Ashoka and Emperor Vikramaditya underscores the significance of roads in those times. These historical examples demonstrate that when we talk about new technologies, ancient methods often serve as the foundation for their development.

Yadav made these remarks during the inaugural session of the two-day seminar on "Latest Emerging Trends and Technologies in Road and Bridge Construction," held at Ravindra Bhawan under the joint aegis of the Public Works Department, Madhya Pradesh, and the Indian Road Council, New Delhi. The seminar was inaugurated with a ceremonial lamp-lighting by Chief Minister Yadav, Union Minister for Road and Transport Nitin Gadkari and State Public Works Minister Rakesh Singh. Yadav stated that, in line with Prime Minister Narendra Modi's vision, it is essential to prioritize local skills, competencies, and practical conditions alongside the latest technologies and techniques. He emphasized that this seminar will play a crucial role in promoting quality road and infrastructure construction while

ensuring the economical use of resources. Yadav expressed his gratitude for the opportunity to attend this national-level seminar in Bhopal, which focuses on the latest technologies, techniques, and innovations in road and infrastructure development. He also appreciated the guidance provided by Union Minister Nitin Gadkari, a dynamic leader in Prime Minister Modi's cabinet. Yadav thanked Gadkari for approving the Bhopal-Kanpur four-lane project, which will be constructed at a cost of ₹3,589 crore. Additionally, he shared the exciting news that Gadkari will soon provide a ₹25,000 crore investment for infrastructure development in Madhya Pradesh, a significant boon for the people of the state. The Chief Minister said that industrial conclave are being

organized at the regional level to evenly expand industrial activities in all areas of the state, in which various industry groups are interested to invest. The development of a quality road network in various areas of the state will make transportation easier. Along with this, industrial activities and investment will also give impetus to the overall development of the state. Ujjain has been the center point, coins are proof of this. Chief Minister Dr. Yadav said that we have an old technology of coins. Coins have their own scriptures. Chief Minister Dr. Yadav told about the theory of coins that in ancient times, Ujjain was the center of every route. He said that there is a similarity between the rule of King Bhoj 1000 years ago, Emperor Vikramaditya 2000 years ago and Emperor Ashoka (then

Governor of Ujjain) 2250 years ago. The coins had the symbol of the king of Ujjain on one side and the sign of four routes (intersection) on the other side. This is proof that Ujjain was the center point of all the routes. Union Minister Gadkari said that by 2047, Indian road infrastructure will outshine American road infrastructure. We will achieve this goal with the cooperation of the country's engineers and the general public. Prime Minister Modi is working with the aim of making the country the third-largest economy in the world. He said that water, power, transport and communication play the most important role in the development of any country. Trade and industry develop only on these 4 factors. Along with this, employment opportunities are also created.



Union Minister for Road Transport and Highways Nitin Gadkari being greeted by Minister for PWD Rakesh Singh as Madhya Pradesh Chief Minister Mohan Yadav looks on during the Indian Road Congress Seminar-2024 on 'Emerging Trends and Technologies in Road and Bridge Construction and EPC Contract Execution', at Ravindra Bhawan on Saturday. Pioneer photo

# World Anaesthesia Day observed at AIIMS Bhopal

STAFF REPORTER ■ BHOPAL

The Department of Anaesthesiology at AIIMS Bhopal On Saturday, October 19th 2024 marked World Anaesthesia Day with a special awareness program themed "Workforce Well-Being." The event aimed to highlight the essential role of anaesthesiologists in ensuring patient safety and delivering high-quality care. Prof. (Dr.) Ajai Singh, Executive Director of AIIMS Bhopal, expressed his appreciation for the Department of Anaesthesiology's dedication to promoting education and awareness in this field. He stated, "Anaesthesiologists are at the forefront of patient safety and well-being. Their commitment extends beyond the operating room, playing a pivotal role in pain management, intensive care, and overall patient recovery."



The theme of 'Workforce Well-Being' this year reflects the need to acknowledge and support the challenges faced by these professionals in delivering continuous, high-quality care. The program featured insightful online lectures, including a session by Dr. Gaurav Sindwani, Associate Professor at ILBS New Delhi, on the "Anaesthetic Management of Liver Transplantation," and a presentation

by Dr. Sunaina Tejpal Karnia on "How to Take Consent for Brain-Dead Patients." These lectures provided valuable knowledge on complex anaesthetic procedures and ethical considerations, underscoring the critical role anaesthesiologists play in multidisciplinary patient care. To engage participants further, a PG Quiz and a Photography Competition were organized,

emphasizing the importance of anaesthesia in patient management and the need for timely medical intervention. Prof. (Dr.) Vaishali Waindeskar highlighted about the evolving role of anaesthesiologists as perioperative physicians who are involved in the comprehensive care of patients throughout their surgical journey. She emphasized their expertise in anaesthesia, pain management, and critical care, which is vital for supporting patients facing severe illnesses, including cancer. Dr. Harish Kumar reiterated the department's commitment to fostering learning and promoting best practices in anaesthesia. The program succeeded in bringing together experts and budding professionals, thereby advancing the mission of AIIMS Bhopal to enhance healthcare through education and awareness.

# Farmer registration in 6 distts till Oct 21

STAFF REPORTER ■ BHOPAL

Food, Civil Supplies and Consumer Protection Minister Govind Singh Rajput has informed that on the demand of farmers, the period of farmer registration for procurement of paddy, jowar and bajra at support price in 6 districts has been extended till October 21. The period of farmer registration has been extended for Narmadapuram, Rewa, Satna, Singrauli, Damoh and Betul districts. It is noteworthy that more than 7 lakh 66 thousand farmers have registered in the entire state. Procurement of millets will be done from November 22 and paddy from December 2.

# Differently-abled artisans, entrepreneurs at fair

PNS ■ JABALPUR

Over a hundred differently-abled artisans and entrepreneurs from all over the country are participating in a fair at the MLB Sports Complex in Jabalpur as part of Prime Minister Narendra Modi's vision for the divinely-abled. The fair, which allows the artisans to showcase their crafts and products, got underway on 17 October and will continue to enthrall visitors and shoppers until its conclusion on 27 October. The closing ceremony will be preceded by a colourful cultural programme for participants and visitors. Besides helping the differently-abled craftsmen find new buyers for their wares, the 'Divya Kala Mela' also opens new vistas for the



craftsmen-entrepreneurs, presenting them with an opportunity to interact with each other and create networks for the future promotion of their products. The fair, hosted by the Department of Social Justice and Disabled Welfare in Madhya Pradesh, also includes a merit-based recruitment event for differently-abled job aspirants. The divinely-abled participants and visitors to the multi-faceted event will also be presented with assistive devices and aids by the state government. The 'Divya Kala Mela' draws inspiration from Prime Minister Modi's welfare initiatives for the divinely-abled, whom he describes as an inspiration for the nation due to their unflinching vigour and dedication.



Madhya Pradesh Congress party leaders and workers during a fast protesting against increasing crime against women and minors under Beti Bachao campaign, in Bhopal on Saturday. Pioneer photo

# Four-day Udbhav Utsav concludes with soulful presentations

PNS ■ GWALIOR

Four-day Greenwood Public School Udbhav Utsav 2024 concluded here today with exciting performances and prize distribution. The fourth night of the international festival was really something special. The soulful presentation of classical dance with blaster music beats by the artists of the added the colour of dance to the atmosphere, while foreign artists also danced in their traditional costumes on the enchanting music in such a way that the audience kept applauding. This colourful shade of songs, music and dance from the country and abroad dominated the night at the auditorium of The Rajmata Vijayaraje Scindia Agricultural University, where the gala night and closing ceremony of the four-day international dance festival Greenwood Public School Udbhav Utsav was organized. The magic of the gala



night of Udbhav Utsav was overwhelming for the audience. The wonderful presentation from India and abroad and the melodious tunes of songs and music along with the attractive costumes of foreign artists left such an impact on the hearts and minds of the people that people were not getting tired of praising Udbhav Utsav. The artists created such an atmosphere with their mesmerizing performance that the entire

auditorium echoed with applause. Speaking during the program, Ajanta Rupalya of Sri Lanka, Tatiana Masigokya of Kyrgyzstan, Nadivida of Bulgaria and Gareth Molinke of Netherlands expressed their happiness and gratitude. They said that the culture, civilization, language, food and lifestyle here is pleasant and that the people here are very nice, their understanding of music and dance has increased our respect. The final competition was held among the teams of Bulgaria, Kyrgyzstan, Sri Lanka and Netherlands. The judges of the competition, Vani Madhav Gurgaon, Mansi Saxena Jalandhar and Ruchi Gupta Delhi declared the winning teams. Payal Sachdeva, Secretary Qatar Embassy was present in the program. The program was presided over by former Chairman of MP Housing Board Ashutosh Tiwari. Udbhav chairman Keshav Pandey, Secretary Deepak Tomar, IITM Director Alok Sharma, Greenwood Public School Director Aditya Bhadoria and Chairperson Kiran Bhadoria presented prizes and mementos to the winning teams. The program was conducted by Yashvini Sharma and Abhik Jain and in the end, Greenwood School Chairperson Kiran Bhadoria expressed the vote of thanks.

# Man caught in Satna district for posing as Army jawan, raping

STAFF REPORTER ■ BHOPAL

A man has been arrested in Satna district for allegedly raping a woman after posing as an Army jawan and befriending her on Facebook. According to the police, in 2023, the accused, Kapilesh Sharma, posed as an Army jawan on Facebook and befriended the woman. The two then entered into a relationship. However, when the woman discovered that the accused was not an Army jawan but worked as a cook at a private hostel, she ended the relationship. The accused then repeatedly raped the woman, blackmailing her with her private photos and videos. Later, the woman filed a complaint against Sharma under several sections of the Indian Penal Code (IPC), including section 376 (related to rape). A probe was launched in connection with the matter, and the accused was arrested by the police on October 18 in Maharashtra's Nagpur. Earlier, in a similar case, a

**Last year, the accused, Kapilesh Sharma, posing as an Army jawan on FB, befriended the woman, the two later entered into a relationship**  
28-year-old man was arrested by the Delhi Police for allegedly raping a woman constable on the pretext of marriage after posing as an Indian Army officer. The accused, his family members, and at least 30 others also locked up the police team that arrived to arrest him and attacked the officials, but he was eventually caught. The woman, a constable with the Central Industrial Security Force (CISF), stated in her complaint that she came into contact with the accused through a matrimonial website, where he pretended to be a serving Major in the Indian Army.

# 9-year-old raped at Shivpuri bus stand

STAFF REPORTER ■ BHOPAL

A nine-year-old girl was allegedly raped by a man at a bus stand at Shivpuri. The police have arrested the 33-year-old accused, a garbage collector, in connection with the assault that occurred on Friday night, an official said. Kotwali Police Station in-charge Rohit Dubey said the accused, Krishna Pal Rawat alias Tonta, has been booked under relevant provisions of the Bharatiya Nyay Sanhita (BNS) and Protection of Children from Sexual Offences (POCSO) Act. He said the child was waiting at the bus stand with her grandparents and five-year-old brother as they missed the bus to their village after travelling from Ahmedabad, where they were employed as labourers. According to the girl's grandfather, he had gone with his wife to get the children some fruits and had left them behind with another person accompanying them. On their return, the grandparents found the girl had blood stains on her body, and she told them about the assault, he said.

# HC notice to State government for not giving pension as per sixth pay scale

STAFF REPORTER ■ BHOPAL

The double bench of Chief Justice of Madhya Pradesh High Court Justice Suresh Kumar and Justice Vivek Jain has sought a reply from the government as to why pensioners are not being given pension as per the sixth pay scale. Madhya Pradesh Pensioners Welfare Association has filed this petition in the High Court. If this decision goes in favor of pensioners, then more than 3.5 lakh pensioner employees of Madhya Pradesh will get its benefit. The Pensioners Association of Madhya Pradesh had filed a petition against the state government. In this petition, the Pensioners Association had demanded that they should be given pension as per the sixth pay scale. In the petition, the Pay Revision Rules 2009 in the state have been challenged by the state president of Madhya Pradesh Pensioners Organization, Amod Saxena. There are

about 3.5 lakh pensioner employees in Madhya Pradesh. During the hearing on the petition, Senior Advocate K Gildiyal argued that in 2005, the Central Government had recommended the sixth pay scale, which was implemented in Uttar Pradesh and Chhattisgarh, but the sixth pay scale was not given to the employees in Madhya Pradesh. It has also been argued in the petition that in 2012 the then Chief Secretary had prepared the draft, but the government did not agree to it. Therefore, the Pensioners Association had to bring this matter to the High Court. This petition is being heard continuously since 2018. The division bench of Chief Justice Suresh Kumar and Justice Vivek Kumar Jain of Madhya Pradesh High Court, while hearing this petition, has sought a reply from the state government in 4 weeks. Now, in this matter, the state government will give its reply in 4 weeks as to why it is not giving pension to the pensioners as per the sixth pay scale.

# Symbiosis 2024: Exhibition held at St Mary's

STAFF REPORTER ■ BHOPAL

St Mary's Convent Tulsi Nagar conducted Symbiosis 2024 Exhibition in the school campus here on Saturday. The big event was sparked off by the guest of honour Fr Ishwardas Minji, Vicar General, Archdiocese, Bhopal by releasing the balloons. He also unwrapped the mascot of the event amidst the cheering crowd. The most unique mascot depicted a St Marian girl student holding the earth in her hands highlighting the theme 'One earth, one family, one

future'. Every nook and corner of the school was given a facelift with unique creative pieces and colourful rangolis. There were separate rooms for each subject well arranged with attractive models and charts. The models were a perfect blend of innovation, creativity and information. Students were conferred with prizes in the categories of charts, models and exclusive items. The special guests included Fr Maria Stephen, Heads of different schools and retired teachers of the school. Cultural programmes went on uninterruptedly on the out-

door stage which was a full on entertainment for the parents, students and guests. The selfie points and the tattoo points were the two best attractions of the event. There were food stalls also for the gathering. The best models were a robot made out of discarded bottles and a drone. The mammoth event was a huge platform for the students to showcase their talents. The principal Sr Maria Jagtap in her concluding speech expressed her appreciation and gratitude for the hardwork and dedication of the students and teachers and the whole staff to make the event a grand success.

Parishad works actively to link the govt and society: CM

Chief Minister Mohan Yadav said that Jan Abhiyan Parishad is dedicated to the welfare of the people. Former Union Minister Late. Anil Madhav Dave had initiated the formation of the Parishad to make every resident of the state self-reliant through voluntary, collective and community participation.



Along with this, by organizing men and women along with children to fight evil in the form of Kansa, the message was given about the organizational capacity of the society and its meaningful use for public welfare.

Chief Minister Dr. Yadav said that the true essence of India resides in its villages highlighting the need to strengthen village-level systems. He praised the commendable efforts of the Jan Abhiyan Parishad in this direction.



Madhya Pradesh Chief Minister Mohan Yadav addresses a workshop organised by MP Jan Abhiyan Parishad at Samarany Bhawan in Bhopal on Saturday.



Madhya Pradesh police contingents during full dress rehearsal ahead of the police commemoration day in Bhopal on Saturday.

100 kg limit for fireworks retailers

Setting a 100 kg limit for the nearly 1,100 fireworks retailers this Diwali season, the district administration has stated that the 20-day licences will only be issued to those adhering to safety norms.

APS Mhow hosts exhibition

Army Public School, Mhow, geared up for its much-anticipated Annual Exhibition and Book Fair on October 19, 2024. The event featured an impressive lineup of vendors from across the town, offering a wide variety of educational resources.

Fire at Sehore namkeen factory

Edibles and equipment worth several lakhs were gutted when a fire broke out at a namkeen factory in the Dev Nagar locality of Sehore on Saturday morning. Three fire engines and scores of fire brigade employees struggled for hours before the flames could be brought under control.

Ex-servicemen, widows to participate in rally

Bhopal: War widows, ex-servicemen, and widows of former services personnel will participate in a rally in the state capital on Sunday. Chief of Naval Staff Admiral Dinesh K Tripathi PVSM, AVSM, NM will be the special guest at the event, which will be presided over by Chief Minister Mohan Yadav.

CM expresses grief

Bhopal: Chief Minister Mohan Yadav has expressed grief over the death of MBBS girl student Srishti Sharma, a resident of Maihar district, studying in Russia, in a road accident.

Advaita Vedanta philosophy is helpful in nation coordination: Pathak

Ujjain: The first special lecture was organized in the memory of Padmashree V Venkatachalam on 18 October 2024 at Maharishi Panini Sanskrit evam Vedic Vishwavidyalaya, Ujjain.

Annual Day celebrated at SPS Saket Nagar

Bhopal: Sagarites of Sagar Public School, Saket Nagar presented a spectacular two-day Annual Function 2024 by celebrating the essence of personal happiness and societal progress with the themes 'Happiness - The Journey Within' and 'Pillars of Progression' in colourful and vibrant performances.

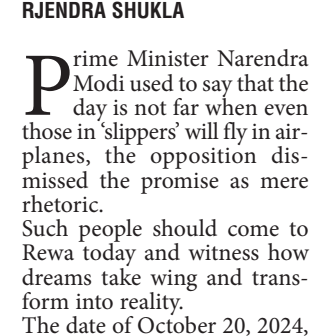
Change of Name

My old name was ARSALAAN. Written in my previous Passport. Now in my present documents. My New & Complete right name written as SYED ARSALAAN ALI. Now in future I will be known as SYED ARSALAAN ALI S/O SHAKEEL AHMAD.

WEST CENTRAL RAILWAY E-Tender Notice

No. DYCE-C-I-BPL-06-2024 dated 11.10.2024. E-Tender on behalf of the President of India acting through Deputy Chief Engineer (Construction)-I, West Central Railway, Bhopal for the following work (Two Packet system): TENDER No. DYCE-C-I-BPL-06-2024. Brief Description: REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL (RFP) FOR ENGAGEMENT OF DETAILED DESIGN CONSULTANT (DDC) FOR CONSTRUCTION ORGANIZATION, WEST CENTRAL RAILWAY, Approx. tender value (Rs.): 1309.49 Lakh, Earnest Money (Rs.): 804800.00.

Rewa Airport adds golden wings to Vindhya's soaring aspirations



Prime Minister Narendra Modi used to say that the day is not far when even those in 'slippers' will fly in airplanes, the opposition dismissed the promise as mere rhetoric.

For those wanting to invest in education and health sectors, it opened new vistas. Coincidentally, the Vindhya Investor Summit and Regional Industrial Conclave is being organized in Rewa on October 23. This airport will act as an accelerator for the holistic development of the Vindhya region, a belief I hold firmly.

national flights. The day is not far when planes will take off from here to foreign countries as well. The airport has been constructed in record time since its foundation was laid, and the Airports Authority of India and local administration deserve praise for this accomplishment.

Bank of Baroda E-AUCTION SALE NOTICE

"APPENDIX- IV-A [See proviso to Rule 6 (2) & 8 (6)] SALE NOTICE FOR SALE OF MOVABLE PROPERTIES

Table with columns: Name & Address of Borrowers / Guarantors / Mortgagee, Description of the movable property with known encumbrances, if any, Reserve Price, Date & Time of E-Auction, Demand Notice Possession Date. Includes details for M/s Sagar Cable Network.

PM Modi to inaugurate multiple projects in Varanasi

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE ■ NEW DELHI



Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi will inaugurate and lay foundation stone of multiple airport projects worth over Rs 6,100 crore during his visit to Varanasi on Sunday. He will also inaugurate multiple development initiatives in Varanasi. A statement by Prime Minister's Office (PMO) here on Saturday said he will visit Varanasi on Sunday. At around two PM he will inaugurate R J Sankara Eye Hospital. Thereafter, at around 4:15 PM, he will inaugurate and lay the foundation stone of multiple development projects in Varanasi. The eye hospital will offer comprehensive consultations and treatments for various eye conditions. Prime Minister

will also address the gathering on the occasion. In line with his commitment to boost connectivity, Prime Minister will lay the foundation stone for expansion of airport runway and construction of a new terminal building and allied works of Lal Bahadur Shastri International Airport, Varanasi worth around Rs 2,870 crore. He will also lay the foundation stone of New Civil Enclave at Agra airport worth more than Rs 570 crore, at Darbhanga airport worth around Rs 910 crore and at Bagdogra airport worth around Rs 1,550 crore. Prime Minister will inaugurate new terminal

buildings of Rewa Airport, Maa Mahamaya Airport, Ambikapur and Sarsawa Airport worth over Rs 220 crore. The combined passenger handling capacity of these airports will increase to more than 2.3 crore passengers annually. The designs of these airports are influenced and derived from the common elements of heritage structures of the region. In line with his vision to provide top-quality infrastructure for sports, Prime Minister will inaugurate Phases 2 and 3 of redevelopment of Varanasi Sports Complex worth over Rs 210 crore under Khelo India scheme and the Smart City Mission. The project aims to create a state-of-the-art sports complex featuring a National Centre of Excellence, players' hostels, sports science centre, practice fields for various sports, indoor shooting ranges, combat sports arenas among others. He will also inaugurate 100-bed girls' and boys' hostels and a public pavilion at Dr. Bhimrao Ambedkar Sports Stadium, Lalpur. Prime Minister will inaugurate tourism development works of Buddhism related areas in Sarnath. These enhancements include the construction of pedestrian-friendly streets, new sewer lines and upgraded drainage system, organised vending zone with modern designer vending carts to promote local handicraft vendors, among others. He will also inaugurate multiple other initiatives like tourism development works at Banasar Temple and Gurudham Temple, beautification and redevelopment of parks etc.

Military leaders must embrace critical thinking and technological advancement: Rajnath Singh

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE ■ NEW DELHI



Defence Minister Rajnath Singh on Saturday here called upon the military leaders to think critically, adapt to unforeseen circumstances and leverage latest technological advancements to gain a strategic advantage in today's ever-evolving geopolitical landscape. Addressing the MPhil Convocation ceremony of 62nd National Defence College (NDC) course (2022 batch), he urged the officers to become strategic thinkers who are capable of anticipating future conflicts, understanding global political dynamics and leading with both intelligence and empathy. "Warfare, today, has surpassed the traditional battlefields and now operates in a multi-domain environment where cyber, space and information warfare are as critical as conventional operations. Cyber-attacks, disinformation campaigns and economic warfare have become tools that can destabilise a whole nation without a single shot being fired. There is a need for military leaders to possess the ability to analyse complex problems and devise innovative solutions," Rajnath said. He described the rapid technological advancements in today's times as the most crucial force which drives the evolution of a future-ready military. "From Drones and Autonomous Vehicles to Artificial Intelligence (AI) and Quantum Computing, the technologies shaping modern warfare are evolving at a breath-taking pace. Our officers must understand these technologies and be able to harness them," he stated. The defence minister exhorted the defence officers

to carry-out in-depth analysis on how best to leverage niche technologies, such as AI, which has the potential to revolutionise military operations. He also stressed on the need to decide on the threshold level of the decisions AI is allowed to take, highlighting the importance of human intervention. Increasing reliance on AI in decision-making processes can raise concerns about accountability & the potential for unintended consequences, he said. Rajnath underlined the need to stay prepared to tackle the possibility of adversaries weaponising the tools and technologies used by people on a daily basis. "The mere thought that our adversaries exploiting the tools serves as a reminder of the urgency with which we must prepare for these threats. Institutions like NDC must evolve their course curriculum to not only incorporate case studies on such unconventional warfare but also to drive strategic innovation. The ability to anticipate, adapt and respond will define our readiness in the face of ever-evolving challenges," he said. On the aspect of ethical dilemma faced by military leaders about the extent to which machines should make life-and-death decisions, the defence minister said academic learning in ethics, philosophy and military history will provide officers with the tools to handle the sensitive subject and make sound decisions. He highlighted the critical role played by defence academic institutions, such as NDC, in instilling the moral framework in future leaders to deal with the challenges of present-day warfare. He urged the officers to have a firm grasp of geopolitics, international relations and the complexities of global security alliances, as the decisions made by them can have far-reaching consequences that extend beyond the battlefield and into the realm of diplomacy, economics and international law. Rajnath added that the curriculum of academic institutions must remain dynamic and adaptable to ensure its relevance to practitioners in the field. He described the challenges of modern warfare, ethical dilemmas, and strategic leadership as not just topics for reflection, but the foundation upon which the future of India's national security will be built. Emphasising that learning must be a continuous process not confined to the duration of a course, he suggested the introduction of online, short-term modules on critical subjects to extend the reach and impact of NDC. Defence Secretary-designate R K Singh, Commandant NDC Air Marshal Hardeep Bains, Registrar, University of Madras Professor S. Elumalai, senior officers of Ministry of Defence and faculty members of NDC were present on the occasion.

AIIA protocols focusing on breast cancer



PIONEER NEWS SERVICE ■ NEW DELHI

Protocols focusing on integrative management strategies for breast cancer, comparative organoleptic profiling of herbs, and standard guidelines for labor and post-natal care through ayurveda were key highlights of discussion at the three-day global event by All India Institute of Ayurveda (AIIA) here that was concluded on Saturday. The initiative seeks to validate and adapt ancient wisdom to address contemporary health challenges so as to explore and integrate these time-tested practices into modern healthcare solutions. On the last day of the international conference, 'Advancements of Research & Global Opportunities for Holistic Ayurveda - AROHA-2024', Prof. (Dr.) Tanuja Nesari, Director AIIA, said the event represents a milestone in the global recognition and integration of Ayurveda into modern healthcare systems. "Our collaborations with esteemed institutions worldwide and the exchange of knowledge during this conference will undoubtedly drive new innovations and opportunities in Ayurvedic research and practice," she added. The event successfully brought together some of the brightest minds from around the world to discuss and advance the role of Ayurveda in addressing global health challenges. The three-day conference featured 15 scientific sessions and workshops, with over 400 research papers presented, covering a broad range of topics, including ethnomedicine, quality control, diagnosis, and the globalization of Ayurveda, as per a statement here. In his keynote address on the inauguration day, Minister Prataprada Jadhav said, "Ayurveda's global recognition has grown tremendously. This conference signifies our continuous efforts to integrate traditional wisdom with modern science, making Ayurveda a part of mainstream healthcare." AIIA's global footprint spans over 17 countries, with academic and scientific collaborations with renowned organizations like the London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine, FIGZ Germany, AIST Japan, Western Sydney University Australia, UHN Canada, and national institutions such as IGB, AIIMS, CSIR, and IIT, said the statement.

Vijaya Kishore Rahatkar is NCW's ninth chairperson

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE ■ NEW DELHI



Vijaya Kishore Rahatkar has been appointed the ninth chairperson of the National Commission for Women (NCW) succeeding Rekha Sharma, according to an official order. The appointment made under Section 3 of the National Commission for Women Act, 1990, will be for a period of three years or until she reaches the age of 65, whichever comes first, a government notification issued on Saturday said. Rahatkar's tenure will begin with immediate effect. The announcement will also be published in the Gazette of India. In addition to the appointment of Rahatkar,

Archana Majumdar has been officially named a member of the NCW for a tenure of three years, as per a notification issued by the Ministry of Women and Child Development. The NCW, a statutory body, is empowered to work towards the advancement of women's rights. Its mandate includes reviewing the constitutional and legal safeguards provided for women. According to a statement issued by the Union Women and Child Development Ministry, Rahatkar has demonstrated leadership skills across various political

and social responsibilities. During her tenure as the chairperson of the Maharashtra State Commission for Women (2016-2021), she spearheaded initiatives like "Sakshama" (support for acid attack survivors), "Prajwala" (linking self-help groups to Central government schemes), and "Suhita" (a 24x7 helpline service for women). She also worked on legal reforms focusing on issues like Protection of Children from Sexual Offences (POCSO), anti-triple talaq cells, and anti-human trafficking units. Rahatkar also introduced digital literacy programmes and launched a publication named "Saad" dedicated to women's issues.

ED raided YSRCP MP and others in money laundering probe

PTI ■ HYDERABAD



The Enforcement Directorate on Saturday raided the premises of former YSRCP MP and Telugu film producer M V V Satyanarayana and some others in Andhra Pradesh as part of a money laundering probe linked to a land grab case, official sources said. At least five locations in Visakhapatnam, including that of the former MP and an auditor, were being raided by the officials of the federal agency, they said. The agency officials collected some documents during the raids, according to the sources. Satyanarayana, a YSRCP MP from 2019 to 2024, unsuccessfully contested the Andhra Pradesh Assembly polls earlier this year from Visakhapatnam East seat. He has produced a number of Telugu films. The money laundering case stems from a Visakhapatnam police FIR filed against Satyanarayana and others on June 22 for allegedly grabbing government land meant for building a residential facility for senior citizens and orphans.

The complainant in the police case is Ch Jagadeeswarudu who said he and his wife were promoters of Haigreeva Infratech Projects Ltd., a company which was registered in April 2006. He said they were given 12.51 cents of land in Yendada village by the Andhra Pradesh government in 2008 to build homes for senior citizens and orphans. Jagadeeswarudu told police that he engaged an auditor named G Venkateswara Rao, who in turn introduced him to Satyanarayana and a man named Gadde Brahmaji for developing the government-

Enforcement Directorate issues new guidelines for summons

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE ■ NEW DELHI



The Enforcement Directorate has issued a fresh circular directing its officials or Investigating Officers (IOs) to not question people called on summons at "unearthly" hours and not keep them waiting for hours at their office. The technical circular was issued on October 11 after the Bombay High Court directed ED to issue directives in this context as it took up the petition of a person who was summoned by the ED and "detained overnight and interrogated." The HC found that the 64-year-old petitioner was summoned to the ED office for questioning and was kept waiting post mid-night. Recording of his statement, at unearthly hours, "definitely results in deprivation of a person's sleep, basic human right of an individual", it said. The court said it "disapproved" of such a practice by the agency and directed it to issue a circular or directive to its IOs regarding timing and

recording of statement of people following issuance of summons under section 50 of the Prevention of Money Laundering Act (PMLA). The ED subsequently informed the court that it has issued a fresh technical circular on October 11 in this context. The circular said that the authorised officer or IO of the ED "shall be well prepared with copies of documents to be confronted as well as questionnaire to examine the person summoned at appointed date and time". The IO, while fixing the date and time of the compliance of the summons, should ensure that the person so summoned is taken up for examination on appointed time and date without keeping him waiting for hours, said the circular.

The circular added that considering the nature of money laundering offence, where a person can transfer or conceal the proceeds of crime or destroy digital evidence in short time using online tools or by using mobile phone or other digital media, the IO "shall endeavour to conclude the examination of the person summoned expeditiously, ideally on the same day or the following day". "This approach may minimize the opportunity to the person summoned either to transfer or conceal proceeds of crime or to fabricate make believe and concocted explanations," it said. The circular added that the IO should be made to record statement of person summoned during "earthly hours", which is during office hours rather than stretching it too late at night. It added examination of senior citizens, persons with serious medical condition, sick or infirm (subject to verification of medical records or condition), should be "restricted" to earthly hours and that it would be "appropriate to adjourn the examination to next date or any other mutually agreed date as a matter of practice". In exceptional circumstances, the circular said, where the IO has "credible" information or material that the person if allowed to leave without completion of examination will either alienate proceeds of crime or destroy evidence or past conduct of person summoned or abscond or may not join investigation, the IO may record the statement "beyond earthly hours" after recording such reason on case file and taking approval of a senior officer. The HC bench of Justice Prithviraj K Chavan and Justice Revati Mohite Dere asked the ED to put up this circular on its website and X handle in its final order issued while disposing off the petition on October 14. The ED has power to question people linked to a case investigation and accused under the PMLA, the Foreign Exchange Management Act (FEMA) and the Fugitive Economic Offenders Act (FEOA).

BJP government is 'anti farmer' : Congress

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE ■ NEW DELHI



The Congress on Saturday accused the Narendra Modi government of being "anti-farmer" and alleged that neither is adequate procurement being done nor are farmers getting fair price for their produce. AICC general secretary Jairam Ramesh, in a post of X, alleged that the policies of the "non-biological prime minister" have been anti-farmer since he assumed power in 2014. "Neither is adequate procurement taking place nor are farmers getting fair prices, nor is there any legal guarantee of MSP (minimum support price)," Ramesh said, alleging that the "deception, fraud and cheating" done by this government with the farmers stand exposed. Congress' media coordinator

Abhay Dubey alleged that the way the Modi government has "mistreated" farmers in the last 10 years, this has made it clear that "Narendra Modi is anti-farmer". "Our demand farmers should get legal guarantee of MSP. The support price for soybean crops of farmers of Maharashtra and Madhya Pradesh should be fixed at least at Rs 6,000. "If the support price for this crop is fixed at Rs 6,000, then the difference amount should also be deposited in the accounts of those farmers who have already sold their crop for less. PM Modi should consider the formality of declaring the support price," Dubey told reporters. He claimed that one of the first decisions taken by the Modi government after coming to power was that if the state government gives a bonus of Rs 150 to farmers

on MSP on paddy and wheat, they will stop buying grains on MSP. In the second decision, he said, the BJP government brought three ordinances to trample the law brought by the Congress government on fair compensation for farmers' land. In the third decision, the Modi government gave an affidavit in the Supreme Court saying if farmers are given a support price of 50 per cent of the cost, the market would collapse, he said. Narendra Modi said in a rally that 'we are bringing the world's best crop insurance scheme', but the result was that this scheme became a profit-making scheme for private companies," he alleged. Dubey claimed that a report of the Parliamentary Standing Committee has made a shocking revelation that the then agriculture minister Narendra Tomar was writing letters to Narendra Modi since 2017 to remove GST on agricultural equipment but the Modi government never took cognisance of it. "Now the Modi government has announced the support price for the Rabi season but every time neither adequate procurement is done nor is fair price is given nor is there any legal guarantee of the support price. That means in the last 10 years, the Modi government has always beaten the farmers with sticks and hit them hard," he said.

Nari shakti blessings inspire PM Modi

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE ■ NEW DELHI



Prime Minister Narendra Modi said on Saturday that blessings from women inspire him to keep working to build a developed India, after a BJP leader shared a story of a tribal woman who insisted on giving Rs 100 to convey her gratitude to Modi. Sharing pictures, BJP vice president Baijayant Jay Panda said in a social media post that he met the tribal woman during the party's membership drive in Odisha's Sundargarh district. "This Adivasi lady insisted on giving me Rs 100 to 'convey thanks' to PM Narendra Modi. She brushed aside my demurrals & explanations that it wasn't necessary, &

simply would not take no for an answer until I finally relented. "This is a reflection of the transformation that Odisha & Bharat is experiencing," he said in his post. Modi responded, "Very touched by this affection. I bow to our Nari Shakti for always blessing me. Their blessings inspire me to keep working to build a Viksit Bharat."

# Please give up hunger strike: Mamata appeals to junior doctors

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE ■ KOLKATA

West Bengal Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee on Saturday appealed to the junior doctors protesting the rape and murder of their colleague at R G Kar Hospital to end their fast-unto-death, stating that most of their demands have been addressed while rejecting their insistence on removing the state health secretary.

Swaroop Nigam, besides addressing other issues. In response, Banerjee acknowledged their frustration but said, "You know why I did not remove the health secretary. It is not possible to remove everybody in a department in one go. We had earlier removed the DHS and DME. Please rise above politics and rejoin work."

to resolve the deadlock. The Chief Minister stressed that the doctors should withdraw their strike and meet her at state secretariat Nabanna on Monday to further discuss their demands.



West Bengal on October 22 if their demands were not met. Moreover, they are in discussions with their counterparts in other states about holding a countrywide strike on Tuesday, further intensifying the pressure on the West Bengal government.

tem. They are seeking accountability and a thorough investigation into the circumstances surrounding the tragic incident. Banerjee reassured them that the case is being probed by the Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI), saying, "I hope that CBI will bring you justice."

promised to address most of their concerns within three to four months, the doctors remain firm in their demand for immediate action. A mega rally is planned for Sunday to further press their demands, and the threat of a statewide and potentially nationwide strike looms on October 22 if no resolution is reached.

we will cooperate to the fullest extent possible. It is up to you whether you want to restore normalcy or not," she said, urging the doctors to return to work while their demands are being addressed.

## With focus on dalits, backwards, Yogi holds meeting to strategise for UP bypolls

BISWAJEER BANERJEE ■ LUCKNOW

Uttar Pradesh Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath held a crucial meeting at his residence to discuss the upcoming by-elections for nine assembly seats in the state.



petition. According to sources, a key agenda of the meeting is how to attract support from Dalits and other backward communities for the upcoming elections.

and order as well as progress in various sectors." Minister Ashish Patel emphasized the importance of the meeting, saying, "Today's meeting centered on the by-elections, and we are determined to win all nine seats."

State Minister KP Malik echoed similar sentiments, saying, "We discussed the by-elections, and directions have been issued to ensure victory on all nine seats."

## Sea phase of MALABAR 2024 concludes at Visakhapatnam: Navy

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE ■ NEW DELHI

The sea phase of MALABAR 2024 concluded on Friday at Visakhapatnam, navy said here on Saturday. This edition of MALABAR, witnessed participation of warships with their integral helicopters, long range maritime patrol aircraft and submarine.



challenges. The sea phase culminated with a closing ceremony that included a review of operational aspects of the sea phase and enabled all participating navies to interact and exchange views by sharing experiences and best practices.

## Don't give communalists room to create issue at Sabarimala temple: UDF

PTI ■ WAYANAD

The opposition UDF on Saturday urged the Left government in Kerala not to give any room for communalists to create an issue at the famous Sabarimala Lord Ayyappa temple during the upcoming pilgrimage season.



had limited this to 80,000 only per day, he said. Urging the government not to create a situation in which devotees have to go back without having darshan at the Lord Ayyappa Temple due to restrictions, Satheesan asked the CM not to "mess up" the Sabarimala pilgrimage as had happened in Thrissur Pooram in April this year.

## Derogatory language against women has no place in courtrooms: CJI

PTI ■ PANAJI

Chief Justice of India D Y Chandrachud on Saturday said all forms of derogatory language, particularly against women, have no place in courts, noting that insensitive words can perpetuate stereotypes and may disproportionately affect women and marginalised communities.



He said the insensitive or dismissive language can perpetuate stereotypes and may disproportionately affect women and marginalised communities.

level, must remember the thumb rule of uplifting the legal discourse. "The litigants come before the court with a sense of trust and a sense of vulnerability; practices within the court should uplift legal discourse rather than undermining the dignity, often the faith.... Future of the individual is in your hands," the CJI noted.

seeking justice, reflecting the idea of a conscious court. Mentioning the redesigning of the statue of the Lady of Justice, the CJI stressed the law is not blind and that it views everyone equally.

## Andhra CM restarts CRDA project works

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE ■ AMARAVATI

Andhra Pradesh Chief Minister N Chandrababu Naidu on Saturday restarted the Capital Region Development Authority (CRDA) project works here.



Reddy-led government between 2019 and 2024, he said. "Because all those (capital) works got stalled, we are making new estimates. Because of their (YSRCP government's) deeds, the financial burden has increased by Rs 7,000 crore to Rs 52,000 crore. We will start the works with Rs 52,000 crore," the Chief Minister said.

CRDA office could start functioning in four months' time and all regions of the state would be developed along with Amaravati. Noting that Amaravati would be a 'self-financing' city, Naidu said some more land would be left in the 54,000 acre greenfield capital city after developing it.

## Death toll in hooch tragedy rises to 37 in Bihar, two more succumb to spurious liquor

PTI ■ PATNA

Two more persons died after allegedly consuming spurious liquor, raising the toll in the hooch tragedy in the dry Bihar to 37, an official said on Saturday.



Over 25 people from the two districts are still battling for their lives at different hospitals in Siwan, Saran and Patna districts, officials said.

to ensure that the consumption of liquor increases in dry Bihar. According to the report of National Family Health Survey (NFHS), despite prohibition in Bihar, more people drink alcohol in Bihar than in Maharashtra. Currently, 15.5 percent people consume alcohol in Bihar.



SET FOR FIRST TIME CHAMPION AS NEW ZEALAND-SOUTH AFRICA CLASH IN FINAL

WOMEN'S T20 WORLD CUP FINAL



year-old Bates has more than 10,000 runs to her name. Pacer Tahuhu, 34, has 112 wickets in ODIs and 93 in T20Is. They won't leave any stone unturned to ensure that they have a World Cup trophy in their cabinet. South Africa on the other side...

will be equally determined to complete the unfinished business as they had lost the 2023 World Cup final to Australia at home. They have an opportunity to erase painful memories as they had lost by a mere 19 runs in the close contest. New Zealand have one or other player to rise the occasion in the tournament and in the semifinal against the West Indies, if they failed to set a target big enough to daunt the free-flowing Caribbean batters, their bowlers responded with tidy spells throughout the game to eke out a memorable win.

केनरा बैंक Canara Bank स्पर्ण आभूषण नीलामी हेतु सूचना. नीचे वर्णित उधारकर्ता को बैंक द्वारा, स्वर्ण आभूषणों को गिराई रखकर प्रदत्त ऋण की बकाया राशि का भुगतान करने हेतु नोटिस जारी किया गया था...

इंडियन बैंक Indian Bank DEMAND NOTICE Notice under Sec. 13 (2) of The Securitization and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act 2002. A notice is hereby given that the following Borrower/s have defaulted in repayment of principal and interest of the loans facility obtained by them from the Bank...

कार्यालय नगर पालिक निगम, भोपाल केन्द्रीय कर्मशाला ( बैंक. शाखा ) निविदा सूचना. क्र.161/के.कर्म/2024 भोपाल, दिनांक 18.10.2024. नगर निगम भोपाल केन्द्रीय कर्मशाला के द्वारा 05 नग नवीन स्किड स्टीयर (रोबोट मशीन) क्रय करने हेतु ऑनलाइन निविदा निम्नानुसार आमंत्रित की जाती है।

केनरा बैंक Canara Bank Regional Office Ujjain, Near Cosmos Mall, Manakheda, Ujjain-456010 Ph. 7974875163, 9830687877, 7999556244

POSSESSION NOTICE (For Immovable Properties) Whereas, The undersigned being the Authorised Officer of the Canara Bank under Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 and in exercise of the powers conferred under section 13 (12) read with Rule 3 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002 issued a Demand Notice date mentioned below to the following borrowers/guarantors, calling upon them to repay the amount mentioned in the respective notices within 60 days from the date of receipt of said notices.

जिला रोजगार कार्यालय भोपाल रोजगार मेला स्थान :- जिला रोजगार कार्यालय इंदगाह हिल्स भोपाल, जिला प्रशासन भोपाल के माध्यम से रोजगार मेले का आयोजन 25 अक्टूबर 2024 समय 10:00 बजे से जिला रोजगार कार्यालय भोपाल में किया जा रहा है।

HINDUJA HOUSING FINANCE LIMITED Corporate Office: 167-169, 2nd floor, Near Little Mount Metro Station, Saipet, Chennai - 600015 Regional Office - 101-B, 1st Floor, NRK Business Park, Vijaynagar, Indore(MP) - 452010 Email - auction@hindujahousingfinance.com

Appendix IV : Symbolic Possession NOTICE (for Immovable property) Whereas, the undersigned being the Authorized Officer of Hinduja Housing Finance Limited (HHFL) under the Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act 2002 and in exercise of power conferred under section 13(12) read with Rule 3 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules 2002, Demand Notice (s) issued by Authorized Officer of the Company to the Borrower(s) / Guarantor(s) mentioned herein below to repay the amount mentioned in the notice within 60 days from the date of receipt of the said notice.

Table with columns: Name of Borrower/Guarantor/Co-Borrower, Demand Notice Issued Date, Loan Account No., Amount Due as on Notice Date, Description of Secured Asset (Immovable Property), Date of Symbolic Possession. Contains multiple entries for various borrowers.

STATUTORY NOTICE TO BORROWERS/GUARANTORS Borrower(s)/Guarantor(s) are hereby put to caution that the property may be sold at any time herein after by way of public auction/tenders and as such this may also be treated as a notice under Rule 6, 8 & 9 of Security (Interest) Enforcement Rules, 2002. Authorised Officer Mobile No. - Vaibhav Shrivastav - 9896998903, Rajesh Chakotiya - 84355 71111, Sameer Singh - 9584290575, Shivendra Mishra - 8839287191 Place : Jabalpur, Date : 20/10/2024

Table with columns: पदनाम, योग्यता, आयु. Lists various job positions and their requirements for the recruitment drive.

E-AUCTION SALE NOTICE Regional Stressed Asset Recovery Branch, Gwalior, 1st Floor, BSNL Building, City Center Gwalior M.P. 474001, Mob. No. 7880153116 Email id: sarsag@bankofbaroda.co.in | Web: www.bankofbaroda.com

"APPENDIX- IV-A [See proviso to Rule 6 (2) & 8 (6)] SALE NOTICE FOR SALE OF MOVABLE PROPERTIES E-Auction Sale Notice for Sale of movable Assets under the Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 read with proviso to Rule 6 (2) & 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 movable property mortgaged/ charged to the Secured Creditor, possession of which has been taken by the Authorised Officer of Bank of Baroda, Secured Creditor, will be sold on "As is where is", "As is what is", and "Whatever there is" for recovery of below mentioned account/s. The details of Borrower /s/Guarantor/s/Secured Asset/s/Dues/Reserve Price/E-Auction date & Time, EMD and Bid Increase Amount are mentioned below.



हवाई सेवाओं का विस्तार  
मध्यप्रदेश विकास की नई उड़ान को तैयार



नरेन्द्र मोदी, प्रधानमंत्री

₹450 करोड़ लागत के  
**रीवा एयरपोर्ट**  
का  
**लोकार्पण**



डॉ. मोहन यादव, मुख्यमंत्री

प्रधानमंत्री  
**नरेन्द्र मोदी**  
द्वारा (वर्चुअल माध्यम से)

गरिमामयी उपस्थिति  
**डॉ. मोहन यादव**  
मुख्यमंत्री, मध्यप्रदेश

20 अक्टूबर, 2024 | अपराह्न 2:00 बजे



मध्यप्रदेश में निरंतर बढ़ती वायु सेवाएं

6  
विमानतल

25  
हवाई पट्टियां

हवाई अड्डों का  
आधुनिकीकरण

पीएमश्री एयर  
एम्बुलेंस सेवा

पीएमश्री पर्यटन  
वायु सेवा

पीएमश्री धार्मिक  
पर्यटन हेली सेवा

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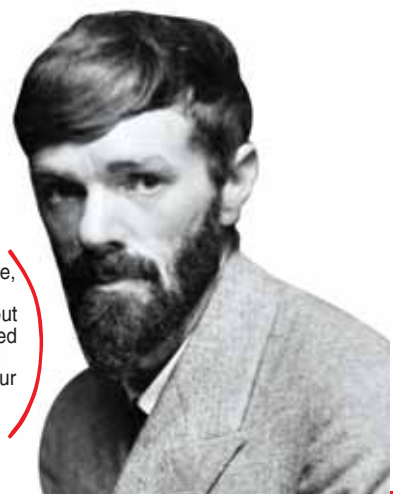


JansamparkMP

#RewaTakesFlight



“Love is the flower of life,  
and blossoms  
unexpectedly and without  
law, and must be plucked  
where it is found, and  
enjoyed for the brief hour  
of its duration”  
—DH Lawrence



## A SYMPHONY OF BLOSSOMS IN THE HIMALAYAS

PHOTO: SATISH JAKHMOLA

A journey to the Valley of Flowers is nothing short of a magical experience. It overwhelms and rejuvenates like no other place on the planet, writes **GYANESHWAR DAYAL**

During the last rainy season, I packed my bags to venture into a rather unexplored destination, a hidden gem – the *Valley of Flowers*. Nestled in the heart of the western Himalayas, it is a vibrant tapestry of natural beauty and a haven for nature enthusiasts and adventure seekers. This UNESCO World Heritage Site, located in Uttarakhand, India, is renowned for its breathtaking landscapes, diverse flora, and serene ambience. My trip to this enchanting valley was nothing short of magical, filled with memorable anecdotes that made the journey truly unique. However, it is not for the faint-hearted or those accustomed to leisurely travel. From the very start, you must brace yourself for adventure at every turn. From the food to the transport to accommodation, everything has a distinct local flavour. You quickly get to know the place and its people as you go. If you are visiting during the rainy season, which is the best time, be prepared for landslides, traffic jams, packed hotels, and sudden downpours that begin and stop at will. A raincoat comes in handy; an umbrella, however, flies away. The journey to the *Valley of Flowers* began in Rishikesh, a bustling town known for its spiritual significance and adventure activities. After a night of rest, we set off early in the morning, winding our way through the scenic roads that led us to the small village of Govindghat. The drive itself was a prelude to the beauty that awaited us, with the Alaknanda River accompanying us on one side and towering mountains on the other. From Govindghat, we embarked on a 13-kilometre trek to Ghangaria, the base camp for the *Valley of Flowers*. The trail was a blend of steep ascents, gentle slopes, and narrow pathways, each offering a unique view of the surrounding landscapes. Along the way, we encountered cheerful pilgrims heading to Hemkund Sahib, a sacred Sikh shrine situated nearby. One particular moment that stood out during the trek was a sudden downpour. As we took shelter under a large rock, a local guide shared tales of how the valley transforms with each season, painting vivid pictures of snow-covered landscapes in winter and vibrant blossoms in summer. His stories, combined with the rhythmic sound of raindrops, added a mystical charm to our journey. Reaching Ghangaria, we spent the night at the Gurudwara, preparing ourselves for the main highlight of the trip. It is a

“  
NESTLED IN THE HEART OF THE WESTERN HIMALAYAS, IT IS A VIBRANT TAPESTRY OF NATURAL BEAUTY AND A HAVEN FOR NATURE ENTHUSIASTS AND ADVENTURE SEEKERS. THIS UNESCO WORLD HERITAGE SITE, LOCATED IN UTTARAKHAND, INDIA, IS RENOWNED FOR ITS BREATHTAKING LANDSCAPES, DIVERSE FLORA, AND SERENE AMBIENCE  
”



beautiful and humbling place where most travellers to the *Valley of Flowers* or Hemkund Sahib take rest. The hotels in town are modest and almost fully booked during the season. The next morning, we began the 4-kilometre trek to the *Valley of Flowers*. Some paperwork needs to be completed, and certain precautions must be taken, as everyone is required to return on the same day. There are no resting places, not even a tea shack, in the valley. As we entered the valley, the sight that greeted us was nothing short of spectacular. A vast expanse of colourful flowers stretched out before us, with hues of red, blue, yellow, and pink creating a natural mosaic. Walking through the valley, we encountered a variety of flowers, each with its own unique charm. From the delicate Brahma Kamal to the vibrant Blue Poppy, the valley was a botanist's dream. One of the most memorable moments was when we stumbled upon a group of rare Himalayan Monal pheasants, their iridescent feathers glistening in the sunlight. While the flowers were undoubtedly the stars of the valley, the fauna added an element of surprise and delight. We spotted a herd of Bharal, or blue sheep, grazing on a distant slope. Their graceful movements, against the backdrop of snow-capped peaks, created a postcard-worthy scene. Taking a break by a bubbling brook, we enjoyed a simple picnic of sandwiches and fruit. The sheer tranquility of the place, with only the sound of the water and occasional bird calls, made it a perfect spot for reflection. In that moment of quietude, I truly appreciated the untouched beauty of the *Valley of Flowers*. As we made our way back to Ghangaria and eventually to Govindghat, I couldn't help but feel a deep sense of gratitude for the experience. The *Valley of Flowers* is not just a destination; it's a journey that immerses you in nature's splendour and leaves you with



memories that last a lifetime. The camaraderie with fellow trekkers, the tales of local guides, and the sheer beauty of the landscape all contribute to making it a one-of-a-kind adventure. The *Valley of Flowers* serves as a reminder of the incredible diversity and beauty that our planet holds. It calls us to explore, appreciate, and preserve these natural wonders for future

generations. If you ever find yourself yearning for an escape into nature's embrace, the *Valley of Flowers* awaits, ready to enchant and inspire. As I left from the *Valley of Flowers*, I realised it wasn't just the destination that left a lasting impression, but the journey itself, each step revealing nature's unspoiled beauty. It's a place that calls adventurers to return, with new tales waiting to be discovered on every visit.

DURING HOLI, MY MOM PREPARES LOVELY PURAN POLIS, AND EVERYONE IN MY FAMILY MAKES AN EXCEPTION IN THEIR DIET PLAN TO INCLUDE THIS DELICIOUS FOOD ITEM!  
— SONALI BENDRE

Rose Café

A BLEND OF NOSTALGIA AND NEW CULINARY DELIGHTS

For anyone seeking a haven of timeless elegance and warmth, the newly opened *Rose Café* at Malviya Nagar's Eldeco Centre is a must-visit, writes **GYANESHWAR DAYAL**

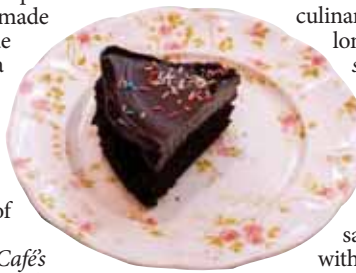


**N**estled within the vibrant neighbourhood of Malviya Nagar, *Rose Café* has opened its doors at the Eldeco Centre, offering a delightful retreat from the hustle and bustle of the city. With its charming vintage-inspired interiors, welcoming atmosphere, and a menu that celebrates home-style cooking with a Mediterranean twist, this beloved New Delhi eatery continues to create a space where time slows down, and cherished memories are made.

Founded in 2012 by the mother-daughter duo *Sarita and Tarini Ahuja*, *Rose Café* first began its journey in the serene bylanes of *Saidulajab*. Now, with its new location in *Malviya Nagar*, the café retains its timeless charm while introducing a fresh and airy space where patrons can

unwind. The high ceilings, chandeliers, floor-to-ceiling windows, and distressed furniture create an ambience that is both captivating and comforting. Hand-painted murals, petal-patterned floors, and custom-made furniture add unique touches that evoke a sense of nostalgia and renewal, making every visit feel like a step back in time, without losing the comfort of contemporary style. At the core of *Rose Café's* philosophy is *Sarita and Tarini's* passion for home-style cooking and crafting joyful dining experiences. Their aim is not just to offer meals, but to create moments where guests can relax, connect, and feel at ease. Whether it's a casual lunch, a romantic dinner, or an

all-day breakfast indulgence, the café's commitment to heartfelt hospitality ensures that every visit feels special. Even pets are welcomed with open arms, with the café's pet-friendly policy making it a perfect spot for furry companions to join in the fun. Owner *Sarita Ahuja* says, "Whether you're joining us for a quick bite, high tea, or a comforting dinner, we aim to make every visit special. We invite you to savour our home-style food, experience our hospitality, and become a part of our café's ongoing story." The café's décor also reflects the *Ahuja* family's personal history. Treasured knick-knacks passed down through generations are displayed thoughtfully throughout the space, blending seamlessly with more modern design elements to evoke the warmth of a familiar, lived-in home. This DIY ethos extends to the handcrafted details, from custom-designed chandeliers to hand-painted blackboards and rose accents, all contributing to the charm of the atmosphere.



aromatic spices. Mediterranean food, more broadly, features an array of *grilled vegetables, seafood, flatbreads, and flavourful dips*. Together, they offer a rich culinary tradition that balances light, wholesome fare with bold, satisfying tastes. *Rose Café* brings these to the heart of Delhi with its own improvisations. The food is, of course, served with a smile by warm staff, complementing the warmth of the place. Though new in *Malviya Nagar*, it is creating a lot of interest among people who relish exotic food. The café's all-day breakfast menu ensures that early risers and brunch enthusiasts can indulge in delights like *berry compote-topped French toast* or *creamy scrambled eggs* served with artisanal breads. Sweet treats like the signature *lemon cake, homemade gelatos, and chocolate chip cookies* remain menu staples, offering a familiar taste of comfort to loyal patrons. At *Rose Café*, the dining experience extends beyond just a meal—it's a chance to savour the beauty of the surroundings and lose track of time in a space that feels like an extension of one's own home. The café caters to every kind of visit, be it a relaxed high tea, a cosy lunch, or a romantic dinner date. The airy, light-filled environment invites guests to linger, enjoy the view through the floor-to-ceiling windows, and soak in the café's elegant yet homely ambience.

The combination of vintage charm, Mediterranean flavours, and thoughtful hospitality sets it apart as a place where the simple joys of life are celebrated over delicious meals and comforting surroundings. Whether you're revisiting an old favourite or experiencing the café for the first time, *Rose Café* offers a dining experience that leaves you feeling refreshed, connected, and truly at home.

*Rose Café's* menu is a delightful blend of classic comfort foods and new culinary offerings. Alongside long-loved dishes such as *spaghetti and meatballs, skinny pizzas, and bangers and mash*, the new location introduces exciting additions with a Mediterranean twist. Diners can indulge in savoury *churros*, made with parmesan and truffle for an irresistible blend of flavours, or savour the richness of *sun-dried tomato and pesto cream ravioli* served with burnt butter, adding a luxurious touch to an already beloved pasta dish. For those craving a taste of Lebanese cuisine, there are options like *hummus*

platters paired with *warm pita, falafel wraps* bursting with fresh vegetables, and roasted vegetable salads dressed in light, fragrant olive oil and herbs. These Mediterranean-inspired dishes complement the café's classic favourites, inviting diners to explore a range of flavours that are both comforting and adventurous. Mediterranean and Lebanese cuisines are known for their fresh, vibrant flavours and healthy ingredients. Rooted in the use of olive oil, fresh herbs, grains, and legumes, these cuisines emphasise simplicity and the natural taste of ingredients. Lebanese dishes often include staples like *hummus, falafel, tabbouleh, and baba ghanoush*, with generous use of garlic, lemon, and



INDIA'S LARGEST FOOD FESTIVAL

The *Grub Fest*, India's largest food festival, made a grand return to Delhi at Jawaharlal Nehru Stadium. With an exciting blend of culinary delights and live entertainment, this year's event offered food enthusiasts a memorable experience, celebrating the vibrant food culture of India, says **SAKSHI PRIYA**

Delhi was alive with excitement as it welcomed *The Grub Fest*, India's largest food festival, back to the iconic Jawaharlal Nehru Stadium. This year's festival promised a vibrant celebration of culinary diversity, live entertainment and community spirit, creating an unforgettable experience for food enthusiasts and families alike. Since its inception in 2015, *The Grub Fest* has evolved into a significant cultural phenomenon, expanding its reach across major cities, including Gurugram, Pune, Mumbai and Chandigarh. This year's edition proved to be the most ambitious yet, featuring over 100 stalls showcasing a diverse range of flavours from local street food to gourmet delights. Renowned restaurants such as *Indie QLA, Perilicious, and Leos Pizzeria* participated, presenting an array of dishes that delighted the taste buds of festival-goers. As attendees entered the festival grounds, they were



enveloped in a magical atmosphere enhanced by stunning decor, cascading flowers, twinkling fairy lights and art installations inviting exploration and engagement. The vibrant layout of the stalls was complemented by intoxicating aromas wafting through the air, promising culinary adventures at every turn. Music played a vital role in the festival, with an impressive lineup of live performances that entertained the crowd. The rhythmic beats and melodic tunes encouraged festival-goers to dance and sing along, fully immersing themselves in the experience. Families found ample opportunity to relax and bond



in the dedicated Picnic Park, a serene space equipped with cozy seating and interactive games for children. Meanwhile, the Beer Garden catered to adults, providing a charming setting where craft beer enthusiasts could sip refreshing brews while enjoying the lively entertainment. The festival

also featured themed booths and a Ferris wheel, ensuring there was no shortage of photo-worthy moments. Aman Kumar, the visionary behind *The Grub Fest*, expressed his passion for curating exceptional experiences that celebrate the rich culinary heritage of Delhi. His commitment to showcasing the city's diverse food culture was evident in the meticulous planning and execution of the event. The festival was not just a gathering; it was a celebration of the community, where people from all walks of life came together to savour, connect and enjoy. In a noteworthy parallel to *The Grub Fest*, *AVA Experience* had taken place earlier at The Khyber Himalayan Resort & Spa in Gulmarg, Kashmir. Speaking about the vision for the event, Samir Sehgal, Co-Founder of *AVA Experience*, shared, "Our vision for *AVA Experience* is to redefine India's music festival landscape with house music in Kashmir, creating community-

led experiences." The event aimed to offer a unique fusion of music and scenic beauty, setting a new benchmark for music festivals in India. Both *The Grub Fest* and *AVA Experience* demonstrated a shift towards innovative and engaging events that went beyond traditional formats. They reflected a desire for meaningful experiences that resonated deeply with audiences, highlighting the power of food, music and community to create lasting memories. As *The Grub Fest* unfolded in Delhi, attendees were treated to a weekend filled with an extraordinary array of flavours, live performances and vibrant interactions. This celebration showcased the best of India's culinary scene and created a sense of unity and joy, reminding everyone of the simple pleasures of good food and shared moments. The event solidified its place as a hallmark of the city's cultural calendar, setting the stage for future festivities that promise to delight and inspire.

CHEERS TO CULINARY CHAMPS!



BY TEAM AGENDA

The Indian Culinary Forum (ICF) held its 21st Annual Chef Awards at Hotel Ashok, coinciding with International Chefs Day. This prestigious event gathered esteemed chefs and industry leaders to recognise the exceptional contributions of culinary artists who have significantly impacted Indian cuisine on a global scale. Among the distinguished guests was *Nakul Anand*, former Executive Director of ITC Hotels, who presented awards to the night's winners. The presence of influential figures like *Chef Davinder Kumar*, President of the ICF and *Chef Vivek Saggur*, General Secretary, underscored the importance of the event in nurturing culinary talent. *Chef Kumar* expressed pride in showcasing the creativity and dedication of chefs, highlighting the event's role in inspiring future culinary professionals. This year's awards honoured 17 talented chefs across various categories, including the prestigious Lifetime Achievement Award, which went to *Chef Sanjiv Mediratta*. Other winners included *Chef (Dr.) Gautam Chaudhry*, who received the Golden Hat Chef Award and *Chef Divyas Wadhwa*, who was awarded the Silver Hat Chef title. Such recognition



The event was marked by a spirit of camaraderie and competition, with 150 chefs participating in rigorous culinary challenges leading up to the awards. The ICF continues to play a vital role in promoting the culinary arts in India, offering a platform for chefs to connect, learn and innovate. As the evening concluded, it was clear that the 21st Annual Chef Awards not only celebrated culinary excellence but also reinforced the community's commitment to elevating Indian cuisine on the world stage.

Photos: Pankaj Kumar



# SAFEGUARDING 'UNPROTECTED' CULTURAL HERITAGE AND INTACH

India's unprotected cultural heritage is vast and diverse, requiring active public participation for its preservation. Community engagement ensures the relevance and sustainability of these cultural assets

BY SUKHDEV SINGH

India, being a vast country with diverse populations, topography, and climate, and consequently, a rich cultural heritage, requires the active participation of its people to safeguard this heritage in various ways. Firstly, as genuine stakeholders, people should take ownership of it. Secondly, with public involvement, cultural heritage gains relevance in people's lives and becomes integrated into their everyday use and socio-economic activities. Thirdly, community participation ensures cost-effective and sustainable conservation. Lastly, it encourages local and authentic craftsmanship in its preservation, enriching the process with diverse knowledge resources based on geographical, cultural, linguistic, and religious variations.



Considering the immense diversity and long, disparate historical timeline that has shaped India's cultural imprints, its natural and human heritage cannot be confined to what is protected by the Central and State governments under the AMASR Act of 1958 (amended in 2010). The act provides for the protection and preservation of structures and sites of monumental value that are over 100 years old. These structures are primarily owned by the government and are preserved as abandoned monuments. The Archaeological Survey of India (ASI) oversees the care and conservation of monuments, sites, and remains of national importance, while State Departments of Archaeology and Museums manage monuments of state (regional) significance. Other structures are regulated under the Antiquities and Art Treasure Act, 1972 (Rules 1973).

However, the scope of these acts is limited and costly. As a result, much of India's vast cultural heritage, which is under threat from pressures other than natural decay, remains unprotected. Since the UNESCO 1972 World Heritage Convention, the understanding of cultural heritage has evolved significantly. It now includes a broader, people-centred approach, recognising that cultural heritage is not only about grand monuments but also encompasses everyday structures, such as common houses, shops, and other ordinary buildings, as well as the living traditions and environments that shape communities.

These cultural legacies, which form 'cultural landscapes' in the streets, markets, and avenues of old townships, are as valuable as monumental heritage but remain unprotected by any legal provisions and are under constant threat from insensitive urbanisation, modernisation, and development policies. Several initiatives have been introduced to safeguard this unprotected cultural heritage. These include the listing of sites, buildings, objects, and intangible systems for record, research, and conservation purposes; heritage walks to raise awareness and connect people to their own and others' cultural heritage; and heritage regulations by state governments and local bodies to create some legal provisions for safeguarding unprotected heritage. Listings serve as inventories for the identification, advocacy, and preservation of unprotected cultural heritage. These inventories



“ THE ARCHAEOLOGICAL SURVEY OF INDIA (ASI) OVERSEES THE CARE AND CONSERVATION OF MONUMENTS, SITES, AND REMAINS OF NATIONAL IMPORTANCE, WHILE STATE DEPARTMENTS OF ARCHAEOLOGY AND MUSEUMS MANAGE MONUMENTS OF STATE (REGIONAL) SIGNIFICANCE. OTHER STRUCTURES ARE REGULATED UNDER THE ANTIQUITIES AND ART TREASURE ACT, 1972 (RULES 1973) ”

can together form a National Register of Historic Properties for research and conservation action. Listed buildings may be graded and classified as Grade A, B, or C in descending order of importance, guiding decisions about conservation. Additionally, in modern cities, old townships displaying their existing architecture can be designated as 'Cultural Landscapes' or 'Heritage Zones', requiring sensitive planning within routine or comprehensive development initiatives. These landscapes can also be listed in the Master Plans of cities. To regulate development in such zones, state and local governments can pass heritage regulations that control interventions involving the modification of unprotected historical or old buildings and sites. To engage people with their cultural heritage,

heritage walks can offer a meaningful path forward. These walks could be made more popular by improving civic amenities and enhancing the visual appeal of heritage areas by reducing the clutter of advertising boards, electric and internet cables, and satellite dish wiring. Heritage walks and conservation projects would also boost the local economy by generating employment in crafts, local shops, and the service sector. This concept of 'living heritage' holds a symbiotic relationship with its architectural and natural surroundings. While protected monuments and archaeological sites must be conserved with minimal intervention as pure and true testaments to the past, other significant architectural structures and sites can be preserved with more flexible interventions, reclaiming

their meaning, relevance, and role as markers of the past within the present. In this way, the 'past' and 'present' are not seen as separate entities but as part of a continuous, evolving timeline. This approach supports 'living heritage' models in the form of heritage lanes, heritage trails, or zones of individual heritage structures. Separating cultural heritage from nature is impractical and artificial, as human culture depends on nature—not only using its elements, such as sand, soil, metals, and plants, but also incorporating natural systems, designs, and processes, like altering materials, colouring them, and varying patterns. This understanding of cultural heritage recognises its continuity and relevance through systemic arrangements. Established in 1984, the Indian

National Trust for Art & Cultural Heritage (INTACH) has developed into a think tank and practical resource for the protection of unprotected cultural heritage. INTACH is tasked with engaging the people of India in this effort by enrolling citizens as members while also engaging skilled human resources. INTACH has been cataloguing buildings over 50 years old that have architectural, historical, archaeological, or aesthetic value, organising heritage walks, and advocating for heritage regulations. It works in partnership with other organisations and individuals, complementing rather than competing with them.

Professor (Retd) SUKHDEV SINGH  
Guru Nanak Dev University, Amritsar  
Vice-Chairman, Indian National Trust  
for Art & Cultural Heritage, New Delhi

THE RELATION BETWEEN PRACTICAL AND SPIRITUAL SPHERES IN MUSIC IS OBVIOUS, IF ONLY BECAUSE IT DEMANDS EARS, FINGER, CONSCIOUSNESS AND INTELLECT  
— LUCIANO BERIO

**YOUR  
WEEK  
AHEAD**

MADHU KOTIYA



**ARIES** March 21-April 19

This week presents an excellent opportunity to channel your focus into your professional endeavors and see substantial results. You are currently harmonized in your physical, mental, and spiritual dimensions, radiating an aura of positivity. However, enhancing your communication skills could prove beneficial. Aim to be precise and persuasive in your interactions, as your ability to inspire others through your actions and words will be particularly impactful. Exercise caution, as not everyone may appreciate your successes; some might even attempt to undermine your efforts. Despite the competitive environment, your dynamic energy and resilience will help you overcome any negativity. Success hinges on your dedication—avoid overconfidence and hasty decisions. Health should not be overlooked; maintaining a well-regulated lifestyle with proper nutrition and exercise is crucial.

**Lucky number 10 | Lucky colour** Aquamarine  
**Lucky day** Saturday



**LEO** July 23-Aug 22

This week, your natural leadership shines as you focus on humanitarian efforts, setting personal ambitions aside. A significant opportunity may arise, possibly involving a pivotal job role or an invitation for a high-responsibility position. Maintain your core principles and unique perspective throughout. Embrace a proactive and supportive approach to foster better relationships both professionally and personally. Recognize the counterproductive nature of anger; mastering your responses can enhance communication and prevent conflicts. Rest assured, any challenges are only temporary, and you will soon regain control. Towards the week's end, you might encounter some disruptive influences prompting an emotional response. Remember, this is not the time for dejection or prolonged disappointment. Persistence and faith are your allies in navigating through this period.

**Lucky number 11 | Lucky colour** Mustard  
**Lucky day** Friday



**SAGITTARIUS** Nov 22-Dec 21

This week brings a wave of prosperity, enhancing your financial well-being. Expect an uptick in your financial reserves, signaling a phase of economic growth and stability. Your interactions with family and friends will be harmonious, enhancing your personal connections. The focus on financial matters might surprise you at times, but it will also bring opportunities for enjoyment and leisure. You'll find yourself adept at juggling your responsibilities with personal pleasures, maintaining a balanced lifestyle. Engage with peers globally through digital platforms, embracing an openness about your life choices, uninhibited by familial expectations. Travel may be on the agenda to fulfill professional obligations. However, as the week progresses, you might find yourself grappling with a newfound discipline that feels restrictive, challenging your ability to balance work with fun.

**Lucky number 8 | Lucky colour** Tangerine  
**Lucky day** Monday



**TAURUS** April 20-May 20

This week, it's crucial to steer clear of pessimistic thinking as feelings of sadness or overwhelm might make it difficult to feel revitalized. Numerous concerns, particularly about your professional life, may be weighing on your mind. Now is a good moment to reflect on whether you have been fair and diligent in your efforts. If the answer is affirmative, expect to see positive outcomes soon. You'll find that your business gains a solid foundation, and collaborations flourish due to shared goals and effective teamwork. Engaging in both imaginative and logical tasks will prove to be fruitful. As the week closes, a work-related trip appears likely. This journey will not only be enjoyable but also inspire you to set and pursue a new, fruitful objective.

**Lucky number 7 | Lucky colour** Magenta  
**Lucky day** Wednesday



**VIRGO** Aug 23-Sep 22

This week promises significant advancements in your life, including potential travel or important communications that could lead to exciting contracts or connections. Expect unexpected opportunities that could bring substantial benefits. Those who are meticulous and methodical will find themselves particularly well-positioned to capitalize on these prospects. Your quick wit and creative spirit are your greatest assets, driving you to pursue innovative endeavors that could surprise and impress those around you. Nothing seems to stand in your way as you move towards your well-deserved rewards. Additionally, you might find joy in personal celebrations, possibly welcoming a new addition to the family. Embrace this period of plentiful blessings with open arms, and be ready to embrace each moment as a step towards even greater successes.

**Lucky number 13 | Lucky colour** Peach  
**Lucky day** Tuesday



**CAPRICORN** Dec 22-Jan 19

Embracing change and letting go of old beliefs will benefit you greatly. It's a time for healing, where forgiveness plays a crucial role in moving forward. Reflecting on life with kindness and understanding will guide you through the week. Challenges in relationships and a sense of discontent may arise, signaling a significant transformation ahead. Embrace this shift, leaving outdated traditions behind and welcoming new possibilities. This week is filled with dynamic energies that might unsettle you. To find balance, engage in activities that nourish your soul like gardening, painting, or playing music. If you find yourself at a standstill, immerse yourself in creative endeavors and trust in the divine timing. Tensions might be apparent in your actions and interactions, but seeking solace in spiritual practices can provide comfort and peace.

**Lucky number 12 | Lucky colour** Emerald  
**Lucky day** Friday



**GEMINI** May 21-June 20

Self-reflection is a powerful method for gaining deeper insights. Although you might feel that a long-cherished goal has eluded you, it's important to recognize that sometimes external circumstances may not align favorably. Persistence is crucial, but so is tuning into your inner guidance and fostering positive interactions. This week, you may find that despite your efforts, the outcomes you're hoping for remain elusive. You might entertain the thought of launching a new venture, yet uncertainty about this path could leave you hesitant. However, clarity will emerge, helping you feel more settled as the week progresses. You're mastering the art of maintaining equilibrium in both professional and personal spheres, and managing your finances wisely.

**Lucky number 9 | Lucky colour** Slate Gray  
**Lucky day** Thursday



**LIBRA** Sep 23-Oct 22

This week is set to bring significant financial gains, potentially through unexpected sources. It's crucial to engage in thoughtful discussions with elder family members to maintain harmony. Focusing on proactive measures rather than reactive responses will guide you well during this time. Midweek, it's important to address specific concerns with your business or life partner, fostering a shared commitment to common goals. Decisions made now are likely to yield positive outcomes in the future. Expect a fresh burst of inspiration that could influence your thinking. Trusting your instincts will prove essential in reaching sound conclusions. Some may embark on new enterprises or take on roles that come with substantial responsibilities, marking a period of growth and initiative.

**Lucky number 17 | Lucky colour** Lilac  
**Lucky day** Saturday



**AQUARIUS** Jan 20-Feb 18

This week begins on an upbeat note, filled with the promise of travels, special gatherings, and festive moments. You might find yourself participating in sacred ceremonies or reconnecting with family members from your past. Expect opportunities to journey by air, signaling a period of active engagement and heartfelt pursuits. You may feel an urge to enhance your appearance, making it a good time to indulge in self-care such as spa treatments or wellness sessions. A leisurely stroll outdoors, embracing the natural world, will offer a refreshing boost to your spirits. Health-wise, longstanding ailments may show signs of improvement, bringing a sense of relief and renewal. Legal matters that have been a persistent concern are poised to resolve favorably. Savor these positive developments, though remain prepared for minor challenges—life's way of maintaining balance.

**Lucky number 3 | Lucky colour** Charcoal  
**Lucky day** Tuesday



**CANCER** June 21-July 22

You find yourself deeply entangled in your thoughts, facing restlessness and a sense of being stuck. Recent events might have unfolded rapidly and unexpectedly, leading to a dip in self-assurance and a strain in your spiritual beliefs. At home, minor disagreements, differing viewpoints, or feelings of betrayal in relationships may arise, contributing to emotional unrest. However, it's essential to realize that this period of discomfort is only temporary. Instead of spending nights awake, remember that you still hold the potential to steer through these challenges effectively. Your emotional response may cloud your recognition of the remaining possibilities and opportunities. Soon, positive developments from afar will bring joy and reassurance. As the week concludes, you'll find clarity and direction, either spiritually or materially. Keep faith and let go of the past.

**Lucky number 2 | Lucky colour** Plum  
**Lucky day** Monday



**SCORPIO** Oct 23-Nov 21

Those with a giving nature are in a period where their generosity shines, especially when it comes to taking on various responsibilities with ease. You might find yourself supporting a friend or relative financially, and it seems to bring you joy. Now is an opportune time for making wise investments and engaging in monetary exchanges. Acts of kindness towards those in need will enrich your spirit, guiding you along a path filled with deeper spiritual connections. Midweek could bring romantic opportunities, especially for those who are currently single, enhancing chances to connect deeply with someone special. Established relationships are likely to experience strengthened bonds. Emotional satisfaction will be a highlight of your week. However, towards the weekend, seeking balance in your tasks and overall approach will be crucial.

**Lucky number 5 | Lucky colour** Ivory  
**Lucky day** Sunday



**PISCES** Feb 19-March 20

Guidance from mentors will stabilize your emotional fluctuations this week. Initially, you might find yourself feeling disheartened, as your efforts seem to yield no results. Challenges in your projects, well-being, and unforeseen setbacks may cause concern. However, by midweek, you will discover signs of encouragement and moments that uplift your spirits. You'll harness your ideas into creative pursuits successfully. Joy also comes through interactions with young ones. You might contemplate initiating a new venture, though financial constraints could pose a dilemma. Consider partnerships or financial assistance, which could come from friends or family, to bridge these gaps. Feeling inspired, you'll aim higher in your aspirations. Engaging with spiritual practices will bring clarity and emotional satisfaction, enhancing your innate compassion and creativity, leading to rewarding outcomes.

**Lucky number 16 | Lucky colour** White  
**Lucky day** Friday

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**Is boredom a blessing or a curse?**

*There are 365 days in a year and there are so many years in your life. If for one or two days you feel you are wasted, life is a failure, it's okay, never mind!*



Sri Sri Ravi Shankar  
Spiritual Guru

*When life feels dull, there's this magical moment where everything becomes lively. You can repeat the same thing over and over, and it won't bother you*

**I**N an ocean, the waves keep coming non-stop, it doesn't get boring! Birds sing the same song, every morning, all their life, they don't get bored! It's only human beings who get bored! 'Oh! Once again the same thing.' And why do you get bored? It is because of memory. You remember whatever you have done before, so you get bored. Memory is both a blessing and a curse. It is because you get bored that you feel the need to look for something different, something new, and that is how creativity comes up; you look for the ultimate. Otherwise, you could have remained like an animal doing the same thing every day. But, you can't do it because you get bored!

So, in that sense, boredom is a blessing. Because you get bored, you move on, you look forward, you become a seeker and you rise higher. At the same time, boredom is also a curse because it doesn't

allow you to be centred and steady in one place. So your mind aimlessly keeps jumping from one place to another. Because you get bored of everything, you can't enjoy anything. There are two different paths that boredom leads you to. Boredom is a blessing when it leads you to wisdom. Boredom is a curse when it leads you to frustration and depression. Because you are bored, you can't enjoy it, and when you can't enjoy it you get depressed and frustrated. Or, because you are bored you wake up and begin with a quest.

When life feels dull, there's this magical moment where everything becomes lively. You can repeat the same thing over and over, and it won't bother you. It's like finding a spring of life. Just let go of the past, be like a carefree child, and every moment becomes priceless.

You move ahead and you look into the Self which is fresh all the



time! The Self is ever new. Because you are bored with the ephemeral, the surface, you go deep into the Self. So boredom is both a blessing and a curse. A blessing because it takes you away from the routine monotonous life, makes you aware and brings life into you.

And it is a curse because it doesn't let you stabilize. People who are in love don't get bored. The heart knows no boredom. The head knows boredom.

In life both are essential, the heart and the head. If you are only

in the heart, it is no good. And if you are only stuck in the head, that is also no good. Balancing both is Yoga. Spirituality is balancing the heart and head together. Anyone who feels that they are a failure, just wake up! So what?! Life is eternal.

Meditation acts like a bridge connecting your head and heart. Take a few moments to sit down, be open to boredom, and you'll effortlessly move into a deep meditative state. Otherwise, that boredom might just lead you to sleep. It's a choice — either you sleep, become more sluggish, or you seize the opportunity of boredom to delve into a deep meditation.

There are 365 days in a year and there are so many years in your life. If for one or two days you feel you are wasted, life is a failure, it's okay, never mind!

On a full moon, if it is cloudy and the light cannot shine on the Earth, the moon does not get

unset. If on one full moon night, you cannot see the moon rising, so what? The moon is still there. Like that, inside you there is potential, there is divinity which is so complete. If it has not come to the surface in one day, never mind! You have all the great qualities. If some do not exhibit on a particular day, never mind.

Don't blame yourself, don't analyze yourself too much. We start analyzing ourselves too much; to the extent that we feel upset and down. We are so hard on ourselves. I am saying this to those who feel bad about themselves. NEVER MIND, WAKE UP! Never mind if these many years are wasted. The future is bright and there is still so much for you to do. All regrets happen only when you are looking at the past. If you are walking and your head is turned backwards, then that is called regret. Turn your head and look forward, and you will see the future is always bright.

Now you can write to us at [agendapioneer@gmail.com](mailto:agendapioneer@gmail.com)