Established 1865



magazine



www.dailypioneer.com

: DELHI I LUCKNOW I BHOPAL I BHUBANESWAR I RANCHI I RAIPUR I CHANDIGARH I DEHRADUN I HYDERABAD I VIJAYWADA

## WELCOME TO THE NATIONAL CAPITAL

## Nightmare in the skies

RAJESH KUMAR ■ NEW DELHI

id air scares targeting Indian airlines Lcontinued 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

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 causing is inconvenience to passengers and losses to carriers.

According to officials, six flights against which bomb threats were made via social scheduled media made landings 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 named 'Adha'. user mentioned flights of several

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 unscheduled costs for 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 saving 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



UK107 Frankfurt), (Mumbai to Singapore), UK121 (Delhi to Bangkok) and UK131 (Mumbai to (Hyderabad Colombo). "Following the protocol, all relevant is cognisant of a situation authorities were promptly alerted and all security and procedures are being adhered to, as per the guidance from the authorities and security agencies," the national capital and agencies," an airline spokesperson said in a customers have disembarked statement. Besides, there was the aircraft.

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 airlines, though only six were UK106 (Singapore to threats - 6E 11, 6E 17, 6E 58, 6E scheduled to land at Mumbai Mumbai), UK027 (Mumbai 108, and 6E 184. They are 6E17 threats - 6E 11, 6E 17, 6E 58, 6E

(Mumbai to Istanbul), 6E11 (Delhi to Istanbul), 6E184 (Jodhpur to Delhi) and 6E108 Chandigarh). The airline said it

involving flights from Mumbai Delhi Istanbul.Regarding Jodhpur to Delhi flight, the carrier said the plane landed in

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

#### Chaos

**RAJESH KUMAR** ■ NEW DELHI

he 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 traffic campaign on management, congestion, 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 **Continued on page 5** facilities like a Railway Station,

Bus Terminus Interstate (ISBT), Metro and Rapid System Railway Transit (RRTS) have come up. traffic Due to heavy

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 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 A PINEER CAMPAIG enough space to walk on even

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 encroached by illegal vendors, 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 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 by densely surrounded Indirapuram, populated 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

#### **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 Babulal Marandi from hanwar, 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 67year-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 IMM.

Meanwhile, fissures surfaced among INDIA Bloc partners ahead of the Assembly elections as the Rashtriya Janata Dal











Sudarshan Bhagat

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

unilateral," RJD spokesperson Manoj Kumar Jha said. Continued on page 5

#### **Remove acting DGP Anurag Gupta: ECI**

PNS RANCHI

head of the Jharkhand polls, Athe Election Commission on Saturday directed the state government to remove Acting DGP-level officer in the cadre,

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

two phases - November 13 and 20. The decision to remove Gupta

during previous elections, the sources said. As an interim, the charge of the DGP will now be handed over to the senior most 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

Assembly elections will be held in named the next DGP. The state government has to submit a compliance report of these was based on a history of directions by Saturday evening. complaints and action taken by During the 2019 Lok Sabha polls,

the Commission against him Gupta was relieved of his duties as ADG (Special Iharkhand, following allegations of biased conduct made by the Iharkhand Mukti Morcha (IMM). He was reassigned to the resident commissioner's office in Delhi and barred from returning to Iharkhand 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

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 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



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

"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 reclaiming process, constitutional rights and protecting the identity of the people of Jammu and Kashmir.

Protection of Jammu 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

Chief Minist Adityanath-led Minister 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 breathtaking witness 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 meticulously crafted to support 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 Pradesh Tourism Department for approval. Various elements such as concept development. screenplay, background music composition, voiceovers, narration, and laser

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 effects are being memorable celebration for all.

**Lucknow (PNS):** A Star Air barked. CISF personnel conflight from Lucknow to ducted a thorough security Kishangarh received a bomb threat on Saturday afternoon, leading to heightened security measures at Chaudhary Charan Singh International Airport (CCSI). According to a statement from the CCSI Airport spokesperson, the threat was received at 1:52 pm. The air-port's Bomb Threat Assessment Committee immediately convened to assess the situation and implement necessary security protocols, it said.

"The aircraft, flight S5 223, was moved to an isolation bay, and passengers were safely disem-

ment stated. "After the security clearance was obtained at 4:10 pm, passengers were allowed to proceed to the terminal. The terminal team facilitated a smooth flow of passengers to ensure minimal disruption," the statement added. The incident is in line to the spate of such threats being received across the country. More than 30 flights of various Indian airlines, including Vistara, Air India and IndiGo, received bomb threats on Saturday, according to sources.

Dalit man

drinking

water from

handpump

near temple

Bhadohi (PTI): A Dalit man

was allegedly beaten by seven people for drinking water

from a handpump near a temple, police said on Saturday. The victim was

identified as Abhishek

The incident occurred on

July 26. As per the police complaint, the assailants used

casteist slurs and physically

assaulted Gautam, pressing his neck with their feet "until

his tongue protruded". They also threatened to harm him

and his family if he reported

the incident to the police,

Superintendent of Police

Gautam, a BA student and kabaddi player, had been tar-

taken. He subsequently filed

a petition in a special court

The court on Thursday

ordered the registration of a

case against the seven accused

under various sections of the

Bharativa Nyava Sanhita and

the Scheduled Castes and

Scheduled Tribes (Prevention

of Atrocities) Act. The accused are currently

absconding. "As per the direc-

tions of the court, the FIR was

registered on October 17

tself. The investigation of

the case has been assigned to

Circle Officer Prabhat Rai,"

NOTICE

**NOTICE** 

**NOTICE** 

ARBAZ ZAFAR

said the SP.

here, seeking justice.

Meenakshi Katyayan said.

the complaint.

Gautam (24), police said.

assaulted for

ducted a thorough security check of the aircraft," the state-



#### **NOTICE**

It is to inform general public that Original Sale Deed, executed by Ram Asre and Sharda Prasad through GPOA holder Pyare Lal in Prasad through GPOA holder Pyare Lal in favour of Sushila Srivastava, in respect of Plot No.7, Area 1620 Sq.Ft., Part of Khasra No. 598/2, Village Obri, Parganaand Tehsil Nawabganj, District Barabanki, registered in the office of Sub Registrar Nawabganj, Barabanki, in Bahi no.1, Zild No. 764 on Pages 360-361 at Serial No. 2622 on 25.11.1987., now owned by Smt. Rekha Singh, has been lost by Smt. Rekha Singh at Nawabganj, Market on 02.10.2024 at 5 PM-6PM during cetting its photocopy. Now Smt. Nawaugani, Market Urioz. 10.2024 at 3 r h 6 PM during getting its photocopy. Now, Smt. Rekha Singh(Present Owner) is mortgaging said property with ICICIHFC against loan. Use of this lost sale deed by any other person will be void. If any person or financial institution has find it kindly return or has any interest or objection in this repard, place interest or objection in this regard, please contact to Advocate mentioned below with objection in writing and with relevant documents, within 7 days from the date of

publication of this notice.

Mr. Amit Kumar Singh Rathaur Advocate,
Chamber No.7, UGF, Krishna Tower,
Chakbast Road, Quaiserbagh, Lucknow.
Mobile No. 9559811119

#### **ADMISSION NOTICE**

#### UNITY DEGREE COLLEGE

Justice Murtaza Husain Road, Sector-B, IIM Bypass Road, Basantkunj, Lucknow- 226101

**DIRECT ADMISSIONS** 

D.El.Ed(BTC)

Eligibility for D.El.Ed Course:-

Gen Catg. Minimum 50% and OBC/SC/ST:- Minimum 45% marks

Also apply online application on our website https://unitypgcollege.com/admission/ Registration open: 16.10.2024 (From After Noc Registration closed: 22.10.2024

Mob. 7570006104, 7570006113

#### **NOTICE**

It is informed to the general public that a kita property is located s village katghar Lalgani tahsil Lalganj Dist Azamgarh vide plat no.519 Area 0.250 Hects or 618 links the boundaries of which are East chak Daya and sarvesh west chak of Hiralal chak of Yaarmuhammad etc. south chak of Ramjeet Singh and Omprakash Singh the original sale dead no. 3022 Dated 09-10registrar (Regd)tahsil Lalganj Dist Azamgarh infavour of Vidya Devi w/o jitendra singh and Sunil Kumar S/o umasankar and Bharath s/o Bramhdatta Singh all R/o village Lahunva tah Lalganj Dist Azamgarh and plot no. 518kh area 0.019 Hects. Or 047 East chak of Radha Devi West Road Azamgarh to Varanasi North house of Ghanshyamdas and etc No.3020/1998 Dated 09-10-1998 favour of Vidya Devi w/o S/o umasankar and Bharth s/o Bramhdatta Singh all R/o village Lahunva tahsil Lalganj Dist Azamgarh of the said property have been last /misplaced which extensince searching regarding the furnished to P.S kotwali Lalganj azamgarh the abouw said property is being mortgage 10 union Bank of India branch Lalganj azamgarh if any person/organisations has any objection than come to o the bank within 15 days of publication of the notice and present your illegal union Bank of India branch Azamgarh Mo.no.9137636010 PREM SAGAR RAI Advocate civil

## Flight receives bomb threat Adityanath renews BJP membership



Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath renewed his membership under the BJP's Sakriya Sadasyata Abhiyan on Saturday

PNS LUCKNOW

Uttar Pradesh Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath, on Saturday, renewed his membership with Bharatiya Janata Party, reaffirming his commitment as an 'active member'. He renewed his membership under the BJP's Sakriya Sadasyata Abhiyan, a campaign launched in line with the 'Nation First' ethos, inspired by Prime Minister Narendra

Taking to social media, Chief Minister Yogi expressed his honour and pride in serving the world's largest political

party. In a post on X, he wrote, "Enlightened by the spirit of 'Nation First', I felt great happiness in renewing my membership as an active worker of @BJP4India under the 'Sakriya Sadasyata Abhiyan."

"I urge all my respected workers to join this campaign, initiated under the visionary leadership of Prime Minister Shri @narendramodiji, and help strengthen the resolve of 'Ek Bharat-Shreshtha Bharat," he said.

The aim of the campaign is to broaden the membership base of the BJP and to promote its core principles among the public. With nationalism and development as its foundational pillars, the BJP seeks to enhance its ideological strength through this initiative.

As part of this membership drive, millions of workers and supporters across the country are being encouraged to join the party. Yogi Adityanath's active participation will further fortify the BJP and strengthen its dominance in Indian politics. Chief Minister Yogi urged peo-

ple to actively engage in this campaign and contribute to steering the country in a new

#### Woman alleges exploitation, blackmail by brother-in-law

man has been accused of Aman has been accused.

Ablackmailing his wife's younger sister by creating a fake social media account and shar-ing it within his social media group, police said on Saturday. The incident was reported in the Hasanganj police station area. The victim, a woman from Daliganj, filed a com-plaint against the accused, alleging that he was eyeing her parental property and attempting to sexually exploit her.

In her complaint, she stated

that the accused used the fake account to send friend requests in a group, leading to her original account being inundated with obscene messages. The victim explained that her

sister is an assistant teacher with the Madrasa Board, currently posted in Deoria district. "Her husband is blackmailing me by creating an ID on Instagram and sending obscene messages to her," she alleged. She further alleged that her sister was complicit in the situation. "My sister appears to be involved. When I brought this to her attention, she did not help resolve the issue. In fact, it had no effect. To mislead me. my brother-in-law claimed that the mischief was being done by someone else and assured me he would get it canceled," she stated.

The victim also alleged that her brother-in-law told her that the creator of the fake ID was demanding her obscene photos. She recounted that during one encounter, he said the person behind the fake account was powerful and was asking

for her to send compromising photos and videos with him. The accused reportedly pressurised her to engage in a physical relationship to produce such videos together. "After this, I informed my ailing mother about the entire incident," she said, expressing her suspicion of her sister's involvement in the conspiracy. "I believe my sister and brother-in-law are doing this to usurp our father's property," she

YOUTH ARRESTED FOR FRIEND'S MURDER

gating the case.

The PGI police claimed to have arrested a youth accused of murdering his friend and abandoning the body in a forested area.

alleged. The police are investi-

The victim, Ankur from Shakurpur Revatpur, had been missing since September 25, prompting his family to file a missing complaint.
On October 10, Ankur's skele-

tal remains were discovered in a forest in Revatpur village and the deceased was identified by his brother Vishal with the help of clothes. Following this, the police launched an investigation, which turned their attention to Ankur's friend Atul, also from Revatapur Shakurpur. During interrogation, Atul confessed that the murder occurred during a drunken altercation. He explained that both had been drinking in the forest when Ankur began making derogatory remarks about Atul and

Angered by the insults, Atul strangled Ankur and fled the

his family.

scene, leaving the body behind. He also admitted to discarding Ankur's mobile phone in the Neelmatha area. To solve the case, three police teams were formed, utilising CCTV footage and surveillance to track down Atul.

His arrest has brought some closure to Ankur's family as the investigation continues.

#### YOUTH STABBED, CRITICAL

Two men allegedly stabbed the nephew of their rival in his stomach during a Ramlila show in Sarojininagar, police said on Saturday. The victim youth, identified as Shani of Kakori, has been admitted to a hospital, where his condition is said to be critical.

As per reports, Shani had gone to his maternal uncle's house in Munshi Khera in Sarojininagar on the fateful day. While watching Ramlila, the accused, identified as Shubham and Shivratan Rawat, both of Sarojininagar, picked a fight with Shani and later attacked him with a knife. A case was registered against the accused at Sarojininagar police station. It was alleged that Shani, a resident of Bhadmat Kheda under Kakori police station area, had gone to the house of his maternal uncle Ram Vilas Yadav in Munshi Khera. While watching Ramlila in the village, he got involved in an argument with the accused, one of whom stabbed Shani in the stomach before fleeing the scene. Family members said that Shani's maternal uncle had a rivalry with the accused and he was attacked for the same reason.

#### Woman crushed to death by bus, kin protest

PNS LUCKNOW

geted by the group for frequenting the public ground near the temple. They had previously warned him against using the hand pump or sitting on the temple, as per Angry relatives and residents staged a protest at Kaiserbagh crossing in Lucknow on Saturday, follow-Despite filing a complaint with the police, Gautam alleged that no action was ing the death of a woman, Rashmi Sonkar, in a road accident on Friday. They placed her body at the

crossing, demanding action against the driver of the errant roadways bus and compensation for her family. Rashmi Sonkar was killed

when a roadways bus, whose brakes reportedly failed, crushed her shortly after she filled her scooty with petrol at a nearby station.

On Saturday, family members protested by placing her body at the Kaiserbagh bus station, chanting slogans against the police administration. They demanded strict action against the bus driver and financial

support for Rashmi's family. Despite police efforts to negotiate, the family refused to move, causing severe traffic disruption in the area.

The incident occurred on Friday night at Daliganj crossing, where a bus from the Uttarakhand depot ran over Rashmi Sonkar, a scooty rider from Khatikana, due to brake

Reports said that she became trapped under the front of the bus and was dragged several feet. Following the accident, police contacted Rashmi's husband, Pradeep Sonkar, using a phone found on her.

As the protest escalated, many participants, including numerous women, expressed grie over Rashmi's sudden death. Despite police requests to clear the road, the demonstrators remained steadfast. Pradeep Sonkar alias Kallu

recounted receiving a call from the police late at night, informing him of the accident and urging him to go to the KGMU Trauma Centre.

"When we reached there, I found my wife had already passed away," he said, noting that the accident occurred around 7:45 pm as the was returning from Faizullahgani in Madiaon.

He emphasised their family's financial struggles, stating, "We come from a very poor background. Our demand from the government is that considering our situation, one family member should be given a government job."

A police spokesperson said that they have forwarded the family's requests for compensation and employment to the district administration.

Meanwhile, a man allegedly committed suicide by hanging

#### himself inside a toilet in police custody in Jaunpur on Saturday, officials said.

The deceased was identified as Matru Bind (56), a resident of Barauna, they said.

Superintendent of Police Ajaypal Sharma said that Bind was accused of stealing Rs 35,000 from a person named Jamir Ahmed. He was caught by the locals and handed over to the police.

However, on Saturday morning, the police found him hanging from a hook in the ceiling in the toilet of the Shahganj police station, Sharma said.

Upon receiving the information, District Magistrate Dines Chandra also reached the spot and launched an investigation, he said. A case was registered on Bind's wife's complaint and further investigation is underway, he added.

## Singh said the joint team of

and the local police station arrested the 12 cyber fraudsters during the raid on a tip-off. Those arrested were identified as Chandan alias Ricky

#### centre busted; 12 held (40) of Kanpur, Mohan Shyam

**Fake international call** 

PNS LUCKNOW

With the arrest of 12 fraudsters, the PGI police claimed to have unearthed a fake international call centre on Saturday.

DCP (East) Shashank Singh said in a press conference that the case was solved by a joint police team of surveillance (DCP East) and PGI police station.

He said the accused were running the racket for a long time and had duped several people in the past. The DCP said the police team

raided flat number 201 of Everest Enclave in Sector 18 of Vrindavan Yojana at 1:15 pm on Saturday and recovered laptops of different companies, seven laptop chargers, one tablet, two airfiber units, two routers of different companies, five headphones, two mouse, 17 mobile phones from

DCP (East) surveillance unit

Sharma (24) of Bharatpur in Rajasthan, Utkarsh (33) of Thakurganj, Neeraj Kumar (33) of Rae Bareli, Karan Singh (28) of Hazratganj, Lucknow, Tarun Gupta (24) of Sant Kabir Nagar, Neeraj Pandey (27) of Delhi, Siddharth Kashyap (24) of Gonda, Rituraj Gupta (27) of Aliganj, Lucknow, Somnath Singh (29) of Bahraich, Virat Kumar (26) of Chandauli and Ramjanak (49) of Basti.

In their confession, the accused disclosed that a disruption was created in the system of the customer by giving a popup error/bug in the software on the laptop/computer system of foreign nationals (US/Canada). After injection of this disruption, an error used to appear on the targeted persons' screens and the foreign nationals used to call on the contact numbers shown on their screens and contact them. In the name of fixing the system error of their computer through the Axis Ultra Viewer application, the accused used to siphon off lakhs of rupees every day from the bank accounts of the targets through cryptocurrency/gift cards.

#### **Specialised shoulder and elbow** rehab clinic comes up at SGPGI

PNS LUCKNOW

The department of physical medicine and rehabilitation at Sanjay Gandhi Postgraduate Institute of Medical Sciences has inaugurated a specialised shoulder and elbow rehabilitation clinic at the Apex Trauma Centre (ATC), operational every Tuesday from 9 am onwards. ATC chief Prof Arun Srivastava said that this dedicated clinic offers comprehensive services, including diagnosis, ultrasound assessments, preparation of regenerative medicine such as PRP (Platelet-Rich Plasma), and physical and occupational therapy—all under one roof. 'This integrated approach not only saves time for patients but also enhances convenience. For conditions like sports injuries affecting the shoulder and elbow, a holistic treatment programme and post-treatment rehabilitation are crucial for returning individuals to their pre-injury sports levels," he explained.

The clinic aims to conduct

der pain, assessing the entire musculoskeletal system and the biomechanics of the joint. For precise assessments, the outpatient department is equipped with a modern musculoskeletal ultrasound machine, allowing investigations to be performed during the same visit, followed by customised treatment plans. "Shoulder pain is a prevalent issue in many households, often accompanied by stiffness and difficulty in perform-

ing daily tasks like dressing, tying hair, or retrieving items from overhead shelves. Elbow pain is also one of the most common complaints seen in our musculoskeletal pain OPD. This trend can be attributed to overuse, repetitive strain, and microtears in the shoulder and elbow muscles. Additionally, comorbid conditions like diabetes and hypothyroidism contribute to these pathologies," said Srivastava.

Dr Siddharth Rai, a physiatrist, highlighted the issue of misdiagnosis: "Not all shoulder pain is a frozen shoulder, and not every elbow pain is tennis elbow. Accurate diagnosis is essential to address the root cause of the problem. The issues could stem from the joint and bones, rotator cuff muscles and tendons, surrounding bursa, muscles in the wrist and forearm, the cervical spine, nerves, or faulty biomechanics." Prof Srivastava added that regenerative medicine is considered the future of healthcare. "Our department offers USGguided regenerative therapies, including PPP injections and prolotherapy, which stimulate the body's healing mechanisms at the tissue level."

The department is also equipped with advanced modalities for pain management, such as extracorporeal shock wave therapy, laser therapy, and cryotherapy.

Once we achieve pain control, a team of physiotherapists and occupational therapists will initiate individualised muscle training, exercises, tendon loading programmes, and work modifications, ensuring overall functional improvement and reducing the risk of pain relapse," he added.

#### Raising people's voice a crime in Yogi rule: AAP PNS LUCKNOW

Aam Aadmi Party state chief spokesperson Vanshraj Dubey said on Saturday that in the Yogi Adityanath rule, it was a crime to raise the voice of the people.

He said people were suffering

due to the poor condition of government hospitals in the Yogi rule and criminal cases were being registered against those who raise their voice. Dubey said in UP, the government hospitals had become centres of private practice. He condemned the incident in which a doctor misbehaved with Samajwadi Party MP from Ghosi, Rajiv Rai, and attacked a journalist. He demanded action against the doctor of the Mau district hospital.

A case has been registered against Ghosi MP Rajiv Rai after he made a surprise inspection of Mau district hospital. On the complaint of the district hospital's doctor Saurabh Tripathi, a case has been registered against Rajiv Rai in Saravlakhansi police station on charges of obstructing government work.

#### ISR/SCRM/2024/001) INSTITUTE OF SEISMOLOGICAL RESEARCH Knowledge Corridor, Gandhinagar, Gujarat, India 382426

Tender Notice (ISR/TDEM/2024/001 &

www.isr.gujarat.gov.in Phone: 079-66739009 Online global tenders are invited from reputed OEM/Indian

suppliers for the supply of 1) Time Domain Electromagnetic (TDEM) with accessories.

2) Single Channel Resistivity Meters with accessories.

Bidders may quote for any one or more tender. The e-tender may be downloaded from https://tender.nprocure.com or www.isr.gujarat.gov.in. The last date for submitting the tender form with offer is 13-11. 2024. Tender will be opened on the 14-11-2024 at on n-procure

INF/1340/2024-25

**Director General** 

GOVERNMENT OF ODISHA

OFFICE OF THE CHIEF CONSTRUCTION ENGINEER, JEYPORE (R&B) CIRCLE, JEYPORE INVITATIONS FOR BIDS (IFB) Bid Identification No. C.C.E.J.C (R&B) - 05/2024-25

No. 3484 1. Nature of the work **ROAD & BRIDGE WORK** 

4. Period of completion:

01 (One) to 24 (Twenty-Four) Calendar Months as per column no. 04 of IFB.

5. Cost of Bid Document 6. Bid Security (EMD):

Rs. 1.00 Lac to 7.11 Lac as per column no. 06 of IFB.

17.00 hours of 05.11.2024

9. Last date / Time for receipt of bids in the Portal: 17.00 hours of 05.11.2024

Chief Construction Engineer, Jeypore (R&B) Circle, Jeypon

Any addendum / corrigendum / cancellation of tender can also be seen in the said website only Chief Construction Engineer Jeypore (R&B) Circle. Jeypore

#### Silver karwas witnessing brisk sale PNS LUCKNOW cious to their daughters. Chauth," Jain noted.

There has been a brisk sale of silver metal karwas in the lead-up to Karwa Chauth celebrations. Adheesh Jain, senior vice-president of Lucknow Sarrafa Association, noted that sales are up compared to last year, despite high silver and gold prices. "Silver karwas are in high demand, selling for between Rs 10,000 and Rs 1.5 lakh. In contrast, gold metal karwas cost around Rs 8 lakh

traditionally gifted by parents to their daughters celebrating their first Karwa Chauth. "This tradition has been upheld

Purchases vary based on individual budgets," he added. He emphasised the wide range of designs available at local jewellery shops, which has attracted many buyers.

tive season, with many people purchasing items to honour their rituals. There were large crowds at jewelry shops on Saturday, just before Karwa

He also provided current market prices, stating that silver is priced at Rs 96,900 per kg, while gold is at Rs 80,300 per 10 grams. One buyer shared her thoughts,

saying, "I am purchasing a silver karwa for myself this Karwa Chauth. I wanted something precious but not too expensive. and I feel the silver karwa is

2. Total No. of Works 05 (Five) Nos. 3. Estimated cost: Rs. 1.00 Crs. to 7.11 Crs.

7. Class of Contractor: "B", "A" & "Special" Class as per cl no. 05 of TCN & according to Financial Eligibility 8. Date & time of availability of bid from 11.00 hours of 22.10.2024

10. Opening date of Bid: 10.00 hours of 06.11.2024 11. Name and address of the Officer Inviting Bid: -

Further details can be seen from the e-procurement portal https://tendersodisha.gov.in

courts Azamgarh

Baranwal and Radha Devi North My high school mark sheet has an error in the date of birth as 04-01-2008. While the correct date of birth is 04-01-2007. The correct date of birth should be written read and understood. Sunny Agarwal son of 1998 which registered on sub Ramesh Agarwal, reside A-1405/6 Indira Nagar Lucknow. I have changed my name ARBAZ ANSARI S/O ZAFAR WASIM for future purpose. Add-BABUPURWA KANPUR. links the boundaries of which are house of motichand, & sons south the original sale deed My name has been mistakenly mentioned as Vipin Sonkar in all my which registered on sub registrar certificates and ID, which is wrong whereas my correct name is Sunny. In tahsil Lalganj Dist Azamgarh in future I should be known by this name only. Sunny son of late Chandra jitendra singh and Sunil Kumar Shekhar Sonkar, address 2/3, Latous could not be found after same on information has been

objection after that the use of the above original from will be

#### **NOTICE**

मैने अपना नाम TAJ MOHAMMAD से बदलकर MOHD TAJ कर लिया है भविष्य मे मुझे इसी नाम से जाना पहचाना जाए, MOHD TAJ S/O SADDIK R/O BAHADURGANJ. FARRUKHABAD 209625 U.P

**NOTICE** 

I,SONI SINGH W/o No 3010703X Havildar Raju Singh, R/o Vill & Post-Bagapur, Dist-Maharajganj, State-Uttar Pradesh, declare that my correct name is SONI SINGH, I, e as per Aadhar card, Pan card and educational documents but my name was wrongly mentioned in my husband's service records as SONY SINGH, So, henceforth my correct name be know as SONI SINGH, for all future correspondence and

thorough evaluations of shoul-

and are made to order; we have received orders for three gold karwas," he explained. Jain highlighted the popularity of silver karwas, which are

for many years, and parents prefer to give something pre'The market is lively this fes-

## BJP reviews preps for UP bypolls Demolition notices strike fear

 $T^{
m he}$  ruling Bharatiya Janata Party held a crucial meeting on Saturday to review the preparations for the by-elections to nine Uttar Pradesh assembly seats. The meeting was presided over by Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath and was attended by top leaders of the state party organisation and district presidents. Deputy Chief Minister Brajesh

Pathak, cabinet ministers Swatantra Dev Singh and Surya Pratap Shahi, along with several senior ministers and BJP office-bearers, including ministers in-charge, also attended

the meeting.
The meeting held in-depth discussions focused on the electoral landscape and the development of targeted strategies aimed at securing victories in all seats. Yogi Adityanath assigned specific responsibilities to the party's district in-charges and office-bearers, underlining the party's commitment to a cohesive and effective campaign in the lead-

up to the polls.

During the meeting, Chief Minister Yogi highlighted the need for stronger teamwork between ministers and party office-bearers. He emphasised that party leaders must fully commit to their responsibilities in the upcoming by-elections, leaving no stone unturned. He stated that winning these byelections would not only be a political achievement but also a sign of public trust, urging everyone to work with loyalty and dedication.



Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath presides over a meeting with BJP state leaders to review the party's preparations for UP assembly by-elections

The chief minister directed party leaders and workers to effectively manage the elections right down to the booth level, stressing that every seat is important. He called for precise management and oversight at the grassroots level.

Yogi asked party leaders to stay active in their communities and engage with the public through 'chaupals' (local meetings). He then highlighted the importance of understanding and addressing public issues in these gatherings to build greater trust in the party.

Additionally, the chief minister instructed ministers and party office-bearers to spend more time in districts where byelections are taking place. He emphasised the importance of establishing direct communication with the local residents, listening to their concerns and ensuring quick solutions. The chief minister called for

enhanced electoral prepara-tions through coordination with local district leaders of the

In the upcoming by-elections, BJP state president Bhupendra there are 10 seats at stake, with five previously held by the Singh Chaudhary also reviewed

Samajwadi Party and five by the National Democratic Alliance. The BJP held three of these seats, and the Rashtriya Lok Dal and NISHAD Party one each. In the 2022 elections, the Samajwadi Party won the Katehari, Karhal, Sisamau, and Kundarki assembly seats, along with the Milkipur seat in Ayodhya, which is not yet scheduled for by-elections. Apart from this, by-elections are to be held on Phulpur, Majhawan, Ghaziabad Sadar, Khair, Meerapur assembly

## in Bahraich shopkeepers

Shopkeepers in Bahraich scrambled to salvage their goods on Saturday, apprehending a demolition drive by the authorities. According to a local lawmaker, the Public Works Department has served demolition notices to 23 establishments – 20 of them belonging to Muslims.

The crackdown comes days after a 22-year-old Hindu man was shot dead in the Maharajganj area of the district during a communal flare-up.
BJP MLA from Mahsi,
Sureshwar Singh, told PTI, "People are vacating their shops. Those who don't, will be dealt with by the administra-

Of the shops served notices, "three belong to Hindus, while 20 belong to Muslims," he said. "In all, there are around 50 shops. Barring one or two, most of them on the Mahrajganj bypass may face action," he said, adding, no one will be spared whatever maybe their religion.

Sonu Maurya, who runs an eatery on rent, said he was asked by his landlord to vacate the shop and take out his merchandise before it gets demolished.

"I have a shop in Bhagwanpur, eight kilometres away from Maharajganj. The landlord told me that a notice of encroachment had been put on his con-struction and if a demolition took place, I would suffer losses," Maurya, who was on his way to Bhagwanpur, told PTI. Samiullah, Sabina, and Rani Jaiswal, all locals, claimed they were being selectively targeted. The PWD on Friday carried out inspections in the Mahrajganj area and took measurements of 20-25 houses, including that of Abdul Hameed, one of the men accused of having a role in the killing of Ram Gopal Mishra

on Sunday. An official on the condition of anonymity said it was a routine exercise conducted annually "to demolish houses built on the intersections, S curves or junction points of the road." The person said the illegal houses identified will be served notices under the Road Control Act 1964.

According to the notice put up at Abdul Hameed's house, the PWD said the construction was "illegal" since it was built within 60 feet of the central

point of the road in rural areas,

which is not allowed. rooftop of a house in a frenzy The notice asked Hameed to and supplanting it with a saffron flag. He was shot immediately afterwards. vacate the construction within three days or it would be demolished "and the expenses

Locals vacate their shops after PWD pasted notices on the properties of several

people, asking them to remove any illegal construction and warning of action, in

violence-hit Maharajganj area of Bahraich on Saturday

revenue means." District Magistrate Monika Rani on Friday told reporters that the "encroachments" were being removed to widen the roads in Mahrajganj.

incurred for this action will be

recovered from you through

On Saturday, Samajwadi Party leader Mata Prasad Pandey was stopped from coming to Bahraich through an advance notice by the collector.

The Leader of the Opposition in the state assembly said he was told not to go to Bahraich as the situation may get worse there. "If something goes wrong, they will blame us. The organisation has also given me the same advice and the DM has also asked me to come only after three days," Pandey said. By Friday, the UP Police had nabbed 87 people in Bahriach in connection with the rioting. Ram Gopal Mishra was part of a Durga idol procession pass-ing through the Maharajganj area on Sunday when he was

A video which circulated after the incident showed him removing a green flag from the

The district teetered on edge for days in the wake of the killing with incidents of arson and vandalism witnessed from across its areas, forcing the authorities to suspend the internet for four days.

Five men suspected to be involved in Mishra's death were arrested on Thursday after an encounter with the UP Police in which two of them suffered gunshot injuries.

The five were allegedly trying to flee to Nepal, which shares a border with Bahraich. They were identified as Mohammad Faheen, Mohammad Sarfaraz, Abdul Hameed, Mohammad Taleem alias Sabloo, and Mohammad

At least 11 FIRs had been registered in connection with Mishra's killing till Friday and around 1,000 people were booked. Circle Officer Rupendra Gaur, Tehsildar Ravikant Dwivedi and District Information Officer Ghulam Waris Siddiqui were removed from their positions after the violence. A station house officer and a police outpost in charge were suspended.

#### 3 cops suspended after Bishnoi gang shooter speaks to media

 $T^{\text{hree policemen have been}} \\ \text{suspended for alleged neg-}$ ligence in duty, taking cognisance of videos in which a sharpshooter of Lawrence Bishnoi gang interacts with reporters while in police custody and comments on NCP leader Baba Siddique's killing, officials said on Saturday. In the purported videos that

went viral on social media, Yogesh (26) alias Raju said tions with India's most-wanted criminal Dawood Ibrahim. Taking action in the matter. Mathura

Shailesh Kumar Pandey on Friday night ordered the suspension of three policemen, including a sub-inspector, the officials said.

According to the officials, Yogesh is associated with the Lawrence Bishnoi-Hashim Baba gangs. He has been arrested in connection with last month's killing of gym owner Nadir Shah in Delhi's Greater Kailash area.

They, however, said Yogesh is not linked with the killing of Baba Siddique, a former

dead outside his MLA son Zeeshan Siddique's office in Mumbai's upscale Bandra area. Yogesh was arrested on Thursday morning after he suffered injuries in an encounter with a joint team of the Delhi Police's Special Cell and the Mathura Police. The police seized a .32-bore pistol, ammunition and a motorcycle from his possession.

After being shot in the leg, Raju was taken to the district Siddique, , who was killed in Mumbai recently, was not a good man and had connecments about Siddique while speaking to reporters on Thursday. While being transferred from the district hospi-Senior tal to the district jail, Raju Superintendent of Police made additional statements on camera to some mediapersons. Several videos of his comments went viral on social media, and the incident was also covered by news channels

and newspapers. SP (City) Arvind Kumar said the police took action following Yogesh's media statements. SSP Shailesh Kumar Pandey suspended Sub-Inspector Ramsanehi, Head Constable Vipin Kumar, and Constable Sanjay Kumar for negligence in security of the accused, he said. An inquiry has been ini-

Maharashtra minister, on October 12. Siddique was shot dead outside his MLA son directed to investigate and submit a report, Kumar added. Speaking to reporters on Thursday, Yogesh had said, "Baba Siddique was killed because he was not a good man. There were charges against him under the Maharashtra Control of Organised Crime Act (MCOCA). It is said that he was associated with Dawood, the man behind the 1993 Mumbai bomb blasts. When people get involved with such individuals, something is bound to happen. This is exactly what happened to

Talking about criminals gathering information before committing a crime, he said, "These days we have mobile phones, the internet, Google and so on. We can find out a lot about a person through these means." Regarding the murder case in Delhi, Yogesh claimed that he had no direct contact with anyone. "It was only through my friends from Delhi that we

communicated," he said. "We are given direct targets. Anyone who gets in the way and does something wrong will face consequences," he

#### **Irate villagers protest** outside Meerut DM's office with man's body

announced.

the party's preparations, encouraging all workers. He announced that the party is

fully prepared to contest all

nine seats and, under Chief

Minister Yogi's leadership, it will approach the elections

with great strength.
Chaudhary expressed confidence that the party would not only secure the nine seats going

to bypolls, but also the tenth, by-election to which is yet to be

A group of villagers staged a protest outside the district magistrate's office on Saturday with the body of a 35-year-old man, demanding action against those responsible for demolishing their house, which they claimed caused his death from shock. Officials said a police probe into the demolition case is already on and further action in the man's death will be taken based on the postmortem report. The incident took place in Badam village in Meerut's Rohta area early this week. The family of the deceased, Rahul alleged that some local goons demolished the wall of their ancestral house in their absence. Speaking to PTI, SDM Sadar Kamal Kishore said the dispute between the two parties involved an ancestral house in Badam village. "The first party claimed ownership of the house, while the other party, led by Sonu, alleged that it was built on the site of a temple. Sonu's group had allegedly demolished the wall four days ago, prompting the family to file a complaint against them," Kishore said.

Officials said a police probe into the demolition case is on and action in the man's death will be taken based on the autopsy report

tion in-charge Devendra Gautam, while Rahul himself lived in Kankarkheda and worked as a driver, his mother and young children lived in the disputed house near the temple. ul's family members claimed he died due to shock from the demolition incident and staged a protest outside the district magistrate's office, demanded justice for him and action against the accused. Kishore said Rahul's death, which occurred a few days after the demolition incident, has been prima facie deemed natural, adding that the body has been sent for postmortem to determine the exact cause of

death. "The investigation into

the incident has been handed

over to the tehsildar, and further

action will be taken based on the

findings," the SDM added.

According to Rohta police sta-

#### CPI (ML) questions move to bulldoze houses in Bahraich

The Communist Party of India (Marxist-Leninist) has raised questions over the Uttar Pradesh government's move to bulldoze 30 houses, including that of an accused from the minority communi-ty, in Maharajganj village after the communal riot in Bahraich.

The CPI (ML) asked why the

government thought of running bulldozers on these houses only after the riot and why unilateral action was being taken to hide administrative failure in Bahraich. It also asked why the accused were shot in their legs when they were already in police custody. CPI (ML) state secretary Sudhakar Yadav said in a statement on Saturday that the Bharatiya Janata Party was fueling the politics of polarisation keeping the by-elections in

mind.

While it (BIP) had a hand in starting the Bahraich riots, the actions after the riots are also being driven with the intention of taking political mileage in the by-elections. Be it the question of arrest of the accused, the police shooting in the legs or the plan of bulldozer action, the BJP is doing this due to fear of defeat in the byelections so that there is polarisation of votes," he said.

The CPI (ML) leader demanded an impartial investigation into the riots, including the incident of two accused being shot in the leg by the police, and a stop to the bulldozer action.

He said that a viral video

statement of the sister of an accused who was injured in the police action has put a question mark on the police story of the half encounter.

Referring to the news published recently, he said notices for bulldozer action had been pasted on 30 houses in Maharajganj. "It is illegal to run a bulldozer on a house even if someone is accused or proven guilty. This is being done when the Supreme Court has put a stay on bulldozer justice. There is a plan to bring women and children of 30 houses on the streets under the guise of encroachment. A particular community is being targeted. In UP, the chief minister's bulldozer is not only running on houses but also on the Constitution and democracy," the CPI (ML) leader said.

thereon

#### Prayagraj sees influx 7-yr-old girl bludgeoned to of visitors ahead of death after rape attempt Maha Kumbh-2025 Accused arrested in police encounter

PNS PRAYAGRAJ

A head of Maha Kumbh 2025 to be held in January-February, Prayagraj is already witnessing a significant influx of visitors from across India and even from Malaysia. Pilgrims are arriving to take a holy dip at the Sangam, drawn not only by the spiritual significance of the site, but also by the transformative work carried in the holy city. A group from Malaysia was spotted bathing and meditating at the Sangam, praising the positive changes happening in the state. Additionally, a group from South India, consisting of information technology professionals and chartered accountants, was seen on the banks of the Sangam. These individuals, employed in various multinational companies, visited Ayodhya, the sacred city of Lord Ram, and then traveled to Prayagraj to observe the preparations for Maha Kumbh 2025. Next on their journey is a visit to the city of Baba Vishwanath in Varanasi.

Tourists from across India and abroad are amazed by the rapid development taking place in Uttar Pradesh. Those who visited Prayagraj a decade ago are

astonished by the transformation, including the wide roads and cleanliness of Sangam Nagari. The state's improved law and order situation has made people from all over the world feel safe and welcome, removing any hesitation to visit the state's holy cities.

Rani Nair from Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia, visited the 'Lete Hanuman' temple and shared that her husband, GN Nair, a chartered accountant in Kuala Lumpur, is equally impressed. After taking a holy dip in the Sangam, they explored nearby pilgrimage sites. Rani shared that they had heard

about Prayagraj for a long time, and now their relatives living abroad are excited about visiting Uttar Pradesh. She noted that they are proud to see a saint leading the largest state in India. Gopalakrishnan from Chennai, visiting Triveni Mata, shared that he had long planned a trip to Prayagraj. His family's journey through Uttar Pradesh began in Ayodhya, where they visited Lord Ram temple. Now in Pravagrai to witness the preparations for Maha Kumbh 2025, he is excited about what

lies ahead and is fully prepared for their next stop — Kashi.

**Budaun:** A seven-year-old girl was abducted by a man and bludgeoned to death with a brick after a failed rape attempt here, police said on Saturday. The accused was arrested following an encounter with police. The incident took place on Friday evening when the girl had gone to the market to buy

After the girl did not return home, her family members started looking for her and found her semi-naked body inside an abandoned house. After the girl's family lodged a complaint, several police teams including Special Operations Group (SOG) personnel launched a search for the

vegetables, they said.

accused, they said. Senior Superintendent of Police (SSP) Brijesh Singh said CCTV footage from the surrounding areas was scanned on Friday night on the basis of which the accused, Jaane Alam (22), was identified.

Alam was arrested following an encounter on the Beenpur road at 4 am on Saturday. Constable Manoj was injured as Alam opened fire at the police team. The police team retaliated and he was shot in the right leg, the arrested in this connection. SSP said. Both the injured are undergoing treatment at a hospital, he added.

During interrogation, Alam revealed that he tried to rape the girl but when she started shouting, he hit her head on the wall several times. He then killed her by hitting her on the head with a brick and fled by jumping from the back wall of the house, Singh said.

An illegal country-made pistol and ammunition were recovered from the accused, he said. The SSP said the exact cause of the girl's death will be known after the post-mortem report

BODY OF WOMAN FOUND, HUSBAND ARRESTED

Banda: Police have recovered the body of a 35-year-old woman who went missing while returning home from a court in Banda district of Uttar Pradesh on Friday evening, a police official said on Saturday. According to the police, there is a possibility of murder, as injury marks were found on the body. The woman's husband has been Banda Additional Superintendent of Police (ASP) Shiv Raj said the body of the woman was recovered near a dam in Aahar village under Baberu police station area on Friday evening. She is suspected to have been

murdered as injury marks were found on her face. The woman has been identified as Suman Patel, Raj said. He added that the woman had gone to a court in Banda district headquarters on Thursday to plead in a domestic violence case against her husband Rambabu Patel. She

went missing while returning

from the court to her mater-

nal home in Aahar village. The Additional SP said the woman's father Raja Bhaiya Patel has lodged a case of murder against her husband Rambabu Patel and other inlaws of Kari village, after which the woman's husband Rambabu Patel (37) has been arrested and is being questioned about the incident. Efforts are on to apprehend

other named accused in the



#### Indian Bank (A Govt. of India Undertaking)

POSSESSION NOTICE (for Immovable Property) [Under Rule-8 (1) of Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002]

Whereas, the undersigned being the authorised officer of the Indian Bank under the Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act 2002, (Act 54 of 2002) and in exercise of powers conferred under section 13(12) read with rule 3, 8 and 9 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002 issued a demand notice as detailed here in below calling upon the borrower to repay the amount mentioned in the notice within 60 days from the date of receipt of the said notice.

The Borrowers/Guarantors having failed to repay the amount, notice is hereby given to the Borrowers/ Guarantors and the public in general that the undersigned has taken possession of the properties described herein below in exercise of the powers conferred on him/her under section 13(4) of the said Act read with Rule 8 and 9 of the said Rules. The Borrowers in particular and the public in general is hereby cautioned not to deal with the properties and any dealings

with the properties will be subject to the charges of the Indian Bank.

The Borrower's / Guarantor's attention is invited to provisions of sub-section (8) of Section 13 of the Act, in respect of time available, to redeem the secured assets.

This Possession Notice is being served to the Borrower (s), Guarantor (s) & Mortgagor (s) to deposit the said dues Details as under:

Name & Address of the Borrower (s)/ Description of the Guarantor (s)/ Proprietor / Mortgagors Branch: CMS Vivek Khand Branc 1. Shri Suraj Kumar Gupta S/o All that part and parcel of the property H.No C-3259 Block 25.04.2024 Late Pramod Kumar Gupta C Rajajipuram Yojna, Lucknow PIN 226010, Area-59.83 18.10.2024

(Borrowet/ Mortgagor), C-3259 sq mtr Rajajipuram Avas Vikas Colony Sale deed No-4295 Bahi No-01, Zild No-15355 Page no-151 to 168 Registered with sub Registrar Sadar Lucknow 2. Smt Saumya Dubey W/o Sura on 01.06.2022 Kumar Gupta, C-3259 Rajajipuram Bounded by:- North: 9 mtr wide road, South: House No Avas Vikas Colony Lucknow C-3159, East: House of Shya, Sunder Gupta, West:

Date: 20.10.2024 **Authorised Officer Indian Bank** Place: Lucknow

#### PM Modi to give over ₹6,600 cr Diwali gift to Kashi today

Prime Minister Narendra Modi is all set to visit Varanasi on Sunday, bringing a Diwali gift for his parliamentary constituency. Kashi is fully prepared to offer a grand wel-come to its Member of Parliament.

As a third-term Member of Parliament from Varanasi and the prime minister, Modi will inaugurate and lay the foundation stones of 23 development projects valued at Rs 6,611.18 crore.

The prime minister will inaugurate a range of public facili-ties, including those related to healthcare, education, sports, religion, tourism, employment, housing, and aviation. Among the key projects, he will lay the foundation stone for the expansion of Varanasi airport and the construction of a new terminal. Additionally, he will inaugurate the RJ Sankara Eye Hospital and address an audience of over 20,000 people at the Sigra

Sports Stadium.
The prime minister may announce a new initiative by the Kashi Vishwanath Temple Trust to provide free meals for caretakers at Sanskrit schools and hospitals.

As per the schedule, the prime minister's plane will land at Babatpur International Airport in Varanasi at around 1 pm and depart by 6 pm.

Governor Anandiben Patel and Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath will welcome the prime minister. Several Central and state cabinet ministers, including both deputy chief ministers of Uttar Pradesh, are expected to attend the event. Officials from the Civil Aviation Ministry and the Olympic Association are also likely to be present. After inaugurating the Sankara



Preparations going on on Ring Road on Eve of PM visit in Varanasi on Saturday

Eve Hospital on Harhua-Ghazipur ring road, the prime minister will travel by road to the Sigra Sports Complex, where he will inaugurate and lay the foundation stones of several development projects. In addition, the prime minister will address a large public gathering comprising athletes, sports enthusiasts, intellectuals, dignitaries, public representa-tives, and Bharatiya Janata Party workers at Sigra Stadium. Besides, 14 projects, including the Sigra Stadium built at a cost of Rs 380.13 crore, will be dedicated to the people. The foundation stones of two major projects costing Rs 2,874.17 crore will also be laid.

The prime minister will inaugurate the modern RJ Sankara Eye Hospital, constructed at a cost of Rs 90 crore on Harhua-Ghazipur Ring Road-1, Madhopur village, under the auspices of the Srikanchi Kamakoti Medical Trust.

The hospital aims to provide superior and free eye care to economically disadvantaged individuals across Purvanchal and neighbouring states of Uttar Pradesh. The inauguration ceremony will also be attended by Jagadguru Vijayendra Saraswati, Peethadhipati of Kanchi Kamakoti Peetham, along with saints and mahants of the peetham, as well as over a thousand people associated with their tradition.

According to Vishwa Bhushan Mishra, Chief Executive Officer

of the Shri Kashi Vishwanath Temple Trust, the trust, in collaboration with Natyakotam Sanstha, has arranged to provide meals for students in 16 Sanskrit schools and attendants in three hospitals. A trial run of the Satvik Sanatan kitchen was conducted at the Annakshetra in Jammu Kothi, located in Godaulia, within the Shri Kashi Vishwanath

Temple premises.
The scheme will initially serve meals to around 3,000 beneficiaries, with plans to expand to 5,000 beneficiaries in the future. A successful trial of the free food initiative was completed on Friday, and the prime minister is expected to announce the programme on

#### Activists perform special Ganga aarti

The activists of Namami Gange performed a special Ganga aarti on Saturday to welcome Prime Minister Narendra Modi in his parliamentary constituency.
Prime Minister Modi will

arrive in Varanasi on Sunday. For the grand welcome of Modi, the Namami Gange activists performed aarti at Scindia Ghat amidst the chanting of Vedic mantras by Vedpathi batuks (Sanskrit students). The special Ganga aarti was performed in the name of Prime Minister Modi, while his picture was included in the aarti and welcome was written with flowers.

In line with Prime Minister Modi's message to include cleanliness as a sanskar, the activists offered shramdaan to make the Ganga ghats and foothills clean. Prayers were offered to Maa Ganga for the all-round development of India under the leadership of Prime Minister Modi.

The participants appealed to the people to make Kashi and Ganga ghats polythene-free. Kashi region coordinator of Namami Gange and brand ambassador of Varanasi Municipal Corporation, Rajesh Shukla, asserted that Prime Minister Modi has always been special in Kashi and will always remain so.

"The welcoming tradition of Kashi has been full of culture and spirituality. By performing the aarti of Maa Ganga, we have wished for the happiness and prosperity of the nation. We have spread the message that cleanliness is the basis of a healthy life," he said. Representative of National Clean Ganga Mission, New

Delhi, Atharvaraj Pandey, said that the Central government was committed to the purification of the Ganga under the leadership of Prime Minister

Prominent among those present in the event were Rajneesh Yadav, students of Maharishi Yogi Ved Vigyan Vidyapeeth and citizens.

Meanwhile, in front of the Malviya bridge on the banks of Ganga, the workers of Namami Gange Ganga Vichar Manch expressed special gratitude to Kashi's beloved Member of Kashi. Parliament and prime minister by holding pictures of Modi and displaying placards of developed India.

District coordinator of the manch, Shivam Agrahari, said on Sunday, the prime minister would inaugurate and lay the foundation stone of many pro-jects and the most important of these projects was the construction of another bridge parallel to the Malviya bridge at Raighat, being built at a cost of thousands of crores of rupees. He said this bridge

Namani Gange activists performing special Ganga Aarti in Varanasi on Saturday to welcome PM Narendra Modi

would enhance the grandeur of

"The construction of this bridge being built in the lap of Ganga will not only increase the convenience of transportation, but will also be many times more useful from the tourism point of view." he said, expressing his gratitude to the Central government for approving this project.

Rashmi Sahu, Kiran Pandey, Sapna Verma, Deepshikha Kannaujiya, Ajay Kannaujiya, Ratan Sahu, Pratima Kashyap and others were also

#### Varanasi decked up in saffron hue ahead of PM visit

PNS VARANASI

Varanasi, the parliamentary V constituency of Prime Minister Narendra Modi, is ready to welcome him on his arrival here on Sunday.

The roads and crossings of the city have been painted in saffron colour to welcome Modi. Bharatiya Janata Party's Kashi region president Dilip Patel said that the prime minister will be welcomed with great enthusiasm at Lal Bahadur minister's route have been dec-Shastri International Airport at Babatpur, where BIP workers and local people would be present with drums and flower

petals. rom roads and intersections have been covered with saffron colour hoardings, flags and banners. The party workers have started finalising the preparations for the grand welcome of the prime minister.

According to Patel, the prime minister will interact with about 1,000 people associated with Sankara Eye Hospital to be inaugurated by him after which he will inaugurate the Varanasi Sports Complex built at a cost of Rs 200 crore in Sigra. After this programme, the prime minister will address a public meeting at Sigra Stadium at 3

common people of Varanasi will participate in large num-

According to Patel, the party has set up welcome points at various places on the prime minister's route from Harhua Ghazipur Ring Road to Sigra Stadium, where Modi will be given a grand welcome with flower showers amid drums and blowing of conch. Major intersections and the prime orated with BJP flags and saffron cloth banners.

Addressing a joint meeting of the party and its frontal organisations at the party's Rohania office. Patel before the arrival of Prime Minister Modi in Varanasi, a three-day special cleanliness campaign was being run in Varanasi district and city areas from October 18.

Under this campaign, major temples, squares, statues of great men, monuments and parks are being cleaned. Ministers, public representatives, BJP officials and workers are participating in this campaign with great enthusiasm. According to BJP regional spokesman Navratan Rathi, the party has set a target of gathering 20,000 people for the public meeting to be held



Regional BJP chief Dilip Patel addressing party workers on the eve of PM visit at party office at Rohania in Varanasi

in Sigra Sports Complex. For this, a comprehensive public relations campaign is being run in Varanasi district and city

BJP regional president Dilip Patel, district president and MLC Hansraj Vishwakarma, city president Vidyasagar Rai, UP cabinet minister Anil Raibhar, ministers of state with independent charge Ravindra Jaiswal and Dr Davashankar Mishra 'Dayalu', MLAs Dr Neelkanth Tiwari, Saurabh

Srivastava, Dr Awadhesh Singh, T Ram and Sunil Patel, MLC Dharmendra Rai, ex-MLA Surendra Narayan Singh and other leaders made door to door contacts in their respective Vidhan Sabha areas, distributed invitation cards and invited the general public to participate in the public meet-

Joint meeting of all seven fronts of the party, namely Yuva Morcha, Mahila Morcha, Kisan Morcha, Scheduled Caste

Morcha, Scheduled Tribe Morcha, Minority Morcha, was held at BJP's regional office in Rohania with Dilip Patel in the chait. According to the decision taken in the meeting, party workers of all the seven frontal organisations will reach the public meeting in a big procession with pomp and show In-charge of Varanasi district and city units MLC Arun Pathak, Sanjay Sonkar, Praveen Singh Gautam and many oth-

ers were also present.

## **BJP leaders, ministers take** part in clean-up drive

PNS VARANASI

Public representatives, BJP office-bearers and workers conveyed the message of clean-liness to the public by sweeping around temples, major crossings, statues of great figures, and monuments on the second day of the three-day cleanliness programme being run in Varanasi district and city areas here on Saturday.

The cleanliness programme was launched prior to the arrival of Prime Minister Narendra Modi, the source of 'Clean India - Healthy India' and 'Cleanliness is Service', scheduled for October 20.

BJP regional president Dilip Patel raised awareness by cleaning alongside workers at Chaura Mata Mandir, Sundarpur, in Ravidas Mandal booth numbers 131 and 132 of Varanasi city.

UP Minister of State Charge) (Independent Ravindra Jaiswal, along with corporator Sushil Gupta and Mandal president Siddhnath Sharma, conducted a cleanliness campaign at Nadesar



crossing.

District and city in-charge MLC Arun Pathak, along with corporator Vinay Sajeda, cleaned the area around Orderly Bazar and Mahavir

Mandir by sweeping it. City president Vidyasagar Rai led a cleanliness drive around Badi Gaibi crossing. Dozens of workers, including programme coordinator and corporator Sharad Pandey Munna, were

present. BJP district president and MLC Hansraj Vishwakarma cleaned the area of Mundeshwar Mahadev Temple in Mudadev Varanasi, part of the Shultkeshwar Mandal of Rohania Assembly. MLA and former minister Dr

Neelkanth Tiwari, along with city media in-charge Kishore Seth, swept the premises of Azad Park and its surroundings in Lahurabir, cleaning and washing the statue of Chandrashekhar Azad and garlanding it.

During this, Deendayal Mandal president Gopal Ji Gupta and corporators Shravan Gupta, Manish Gupta, Sanjay Kesar Indresh Singh, Amresh Gupta, Anant Raj Gupta, and Rajiv Singh Dabbu were present. Cantt MLA Saurabh Srivastava.

along with corporator Punnu Lal Bind, cleaned Sheel Nagar Colony by sweeping and made the public aware of cleanliness while encouraging participa-tion in PM Modi's public meeting. Regional media in-charge Navratan Rathi conducted a cleanliness drive in Jawahar Nagar in Bhelupur, while comedia in-charge Santosh Solapurkar led a cleanliness drive at Panchganga Ghat in Bindu Madhav ward.

#### **Yoga to help cops keep police** personnel calm at Maha Kumbh

PNS PRAYAGRAJ

Preparations for the Maha Kumbh 2025 have ramped up, with over 40 crore people expected to attend the mega event. Managing security and traffic, while maintaining calm and respectful interactions with devotees and saints, presents a significant challenge for the

police force. To address this, the Maha Kumbh Mela police administration has implemented a yoga programme designed to help police personnel stay calm and focused. Daily yoga sessions will take place before training at the Police Line located at the Parade Ground, allowing officers to perform their duties effectively and with reduced

stress during the event. The arrival of police forces began on October 15 at the temporary Police Line in the Mela area, with over 40,000 police and security personnel set to be deployed.

More than 500 officers from other districts have already arrived in the first phase, and training has commenced.

Emphasis is being placed on encouraging respectful behavior towards the large influx of devotees and saints, with strict advice against any negligence mitted to providing a grand

or misconduct. Police and security personnel will remain in the Mela area for approximately six months, away from their families. During this time, they must engage politely with the numerous visitors. To support their well-being, the police department's yoga instructors have initiated yoga sessions from day one of training.

Officers are practising techniques such as Anulom-Vilom, Shavasana, Bhujangasana, Vrikshasana, and Balasana, which will help alleviate stress and maintain physical health. SSP, Kumbh Mela, Rajesh Dwivedi emphasised that officers must prioritise good behaviour alongside their security duties.

"It is crucial for police person-nel to remain physically and mentally healthy. The daily yoga practice is arranged to help them perform their duties without stress," he stated.

#### 4 ENTRANCE GATES

TO COME UP Four magnificent entrance gates are being constructed at key points along the district boundaries, welcoming visitors and emphasising Prayagraj's cultural significance. The state government is comwelcome for the millions of visitors expected for the event, embodying the spirit of 'Atithi Devo Bhava.

These four gates will greet devotees and tourists entering the district from all directions-north, south, east, and west. Rohit Kumar Rana, Project Manager of the Construction Development Services (C&DS), noted that these gates will give visitors a glimpse of the spiri-tual aura of 'Kumbh Nagari' as

they enter Prayagraj.
Of the four gates, three—dedicated to the rivers Ganga,
Yamuna, and Saraswati—were originally built for the 2019 Kumbh and are now undergoing renovation and beautification. A new entrance gate, named Shiva Dwar, has also been approved by the National Highway Authority of India (NHAI) and construction will

begin soon. The administration anticipates that over 30 crore devotees will arrive by road for the event. The Ganga, Yamuna, Saraswati, and Shiva gates will serve as symbolic landmarks, welcom-

ing them to Prayagraj. The overall project budget is Rs 18.93 crore, with the Shiva Gate alone allocated Rs 4.95

#### Food safety, quality control discussed at SHUATS

**PNS** PRAYAGRAJ

seminar organised by the A Society of Food Engineers and Technologists, under the department of Processing and Food Engineering at Sam Higginbottom University of Agriculture, Technology and Sciences (SHUATS), took place

on Saturday.
Ashish Mishra, Quality
Manager at the Food
Corporation of India (FCI) in Prayagraj, was the chief guest. In his address, he emphasised the latest developments in food safety, quality control, and food processing, highlighting the crucial role of the younger generation in these fields. The head of the department

and the organising committee expressed their gratitude to Ashish Mishra for his valuable insights, noting that students greatly benefited from his guidance. The programme concluded with a vote of thanks by Prof Ajay Singh, who expressed optimism about future prospects in food technology. Additionally, students from the Society of Food Engineers and Technologists, including Rananjay Singh, Nimesh

Chauhan, Nitin Thakur, Animesh, Vivek, and others, played a significant role in the programme's success.

#### COMPUTER VISION, MACHINE LEARNING SHAPING FUTURE

Computer vision and machine intelligence are rapidly advancing fields poised to revolutionise various industries and daily life, Prof BB Chaudhuri said while speaking as the chief guest at the third International Conference on Computer Vision and Machine Intelligence (IEEE CVMI-2024) at the Indian Institute of Information Technology,

Allahabad, on Saturday. Also the Patron of CVMI-Prof Chaudhuri explained that computer vision enables computers to interpret visual information, while machine intelligence focuses on developing algorithms and models that allow machines to learn and make decisions based

on data. Both fields have attracted significant interest and investment, sparking a range of opinions about their potential

#### **Four leptospirosis** cases in Prayagraj

Prayagraj (PNS): Four cases of leptospirosis have been confirmed in Prayagraj, all involving residents of Rangpura vil-

lage in Soraon. Recently, the superintendent of the Soraon Community Health Centre sent samples from 20 suspected patients in the village to Motilal Nehru Medical

College for testing. The results, received on Friday, revealed that four individuals were infected with the disease. Doctors have warned that leptospirosis primarily spreads through the faeces and urine of rats or the infected tissues of dead animals, making it a serious health concern.

A Health department team

recently visited Rangpura village, compiling a list of residents suffering from fever. Superintendent of Soraon CHC Dr Anupam Dwivedi noted that during the campaign, rats were found near several homes. Based on this finding, samples from 20 residents were collected and sent for testing, leading to the discovery of the four leptospirosis cases. The infected individuals are now receiving treatment.

District Malaria Officer Anand Singh confirmed that the testing identified multiple infections among the 20 samples. He emphasised that leptospirosis is a significant health threat, with a death rate of 30%.

#### Woman bitten by snake, dies

A<sup>35</sup>-year-old woman died after being bitten by a snake in Ramnagar Fursat Ram Ka Pura village, located in the Meja police station area of Prayagraj, on Saturday. The incident occurred when the woman intervened in a fight between a snake and a mongoose.

As per reports, Phoola Devi, the wife of Lal Chandra Bhartiya, had gone outside to feed chickens when she noticed the two animals fighting nearby. In an attempt to protect her chickens, she threw a brick at the snake and monIn response, the snake chased her and bit her. Family members rushed to her aid upon hearing her cries and took her to Ramnagar Community Health Centre, where she was pronounced dead upon arrival. After biting Phoola Devi, the snake remained at the scene. and it reportedly died shortly after her. This unusual turn of events has become a topic of discussion in the community. Antrik Tiwari, the in-charge of Sirsa police station, confirmed that the woman died due to the snakebite. However, her familv has declined to have a post-

#### Seminar on change mgmt at IM-BHU

mortem conducted.

Varanasi (PNS): An interactive seminar on 'Change Management' was held at the Institute of Management Studies, Banaras Hindu University (IM-BHU). The event was led by Prof Manoj

Patwardhan from ABV-IIITM Gwalior. Dean Prof SK Dubey felicitated the guest speaker by presenting a memento. The session was organised by Dr Anindita Chakraborty, coordinator of the Student Leadership & Life Skills Development Initiative. Manoj Patwardhan began with a story titled 'A Wise Camel', which illustrated how our skills, talents, and knowledge are only beneficial if we are in the right place.

He emphasised that change is the only constant and differentiated between how organisations functioned in the past and how they have evolved. By highlighting how Tata has reduced its hierarchical structure from 16 to 11 levels, he explained the shift from tall hierarchical structures to flatter ones. He further illustrated the necessity of adaptability for survival, using the example of dinosaurs, which became extinct due to their inability to adapt to changing environments. He discussed the focus of change and how it triggers transformations within organisations and the market as a whole.

### Maharashtra Assembly polls: MVA resume seat sharing talks, to sign pact on Monday

After AICC General Ramesh Chennithala met Shiv Sena Uddhav (UBT) chief Thackeray amid reports of three constituents of the Opposition Maha Vikas Aghadi (MVA) resumed negotiations on Saturday Assembly polls by Monday. Ahead of the start of Ahead of the start of The meeting between nominations for the State Uddhav and Chennithala Assembly on Tuesday (October 22), the MVA constituents -- Congress, Shiv Sena (UBT) and NCP (Sharad Pawar) -- are expected to make a formal announcement about their

among them on Monday. A day after Uddhav cautioned the MVA constituents that "the differences should be stretched to breaking point", the Congress high command rushed Chennithala to meet stalled seat-sharing talks, the Sena (UBT) chief to sort out issues between the two parties over the sharing of seats in Vidarbha regions. Chennithala met Uddhav on afternoon with a resolve to finalise the seat tie-up among them for the November 20 Maharashtra

Saturday morning, following which the stalled talks among the MVA constituents resumed at 3

should be seen in the backdrop of a statement by Sena (UBT) spokesperson who had openly accused State Congress chief Nana Patole of adopting an merely following party "adamant approach" in the protocols in consultation seat-sharing arrangement seat-sharing negotiations in with his party leaders based



matters relating to the seats from Vidarbha. However, Patole had said that he was

in New Delhi. Informed sources in the MVA said that the three constituents Congress, Sena (UBT) and NCP (Sharad Pawar) had

reached a consensus on 265 out of the total 288 Assembly seats in the state. A majority of the remaining undecided 23 seats are from Vidarbha. From these seats,

claim 0n 12 seats including Ramtek, Kamthi, Nagpur (south), Warora, Armori, Bhandara, Sindhkhed Raja, Aarni, Wardha, Yavatmal and Digraj. On its part, the Congress – which it considers as its bastion – is reluctant to give that many seats to the Sena (UBT). However, during the final round of seat-sharing negotiations – in which State Congress president Nana Patole, Shiv Sena (UBT)

leader Sanjay Raut and NCP Pawar) state (Sharad (Sharad Pawar) state president Jayant Patil are taking part – were expected to adopt "give-and-take" approach to sort out the differences over the underdecided seats either on Saturday night or on Sunday. 'Though the three parties will arrive at the seat-tie during the next 24 hours, we

announcement about the seat-sharing arrangement on Monday ahead of the start of the nomination process on Tuesday," a senior MVA leader said.

According to the MVA sources, the major MVA constituents will give out seats to smaller parties like the Samajwadi Party (SP), CPI, CPI-M and Peasants and Workers' Party (PWP) from their respective seat quotas.

For instance, the Samajwadi Party was earlier insisting on 12 seats and now it has scaled down its demand to 6 seats. The Congress is dealing with the Samajwadi Party on the sharing of seats for the State Assembly polls. Earlier on Friday, Patole of the Congress and Sanjay Raut had exchanged words between them. A miffed

"adamant attitude" was coming in the way of the MVA formalising the seatsharing talks and said that the Sena (UBT) would not take part in the seat-sharing talks if the State Congress chief takes part in the talks. On his part, Patole said that if someone talks about the Congress leaders, it was natural that he would respond to the statements. He had admitted that a certain procedure was adopted in the seat-sharing by his party in consultation with his party high command.

However, the stalemate between the Congress and Sena (UBT) over the sharing of seats in Vidarbha region ended. Both Patole and Raut participated in the final round of resumed talks on

#### Pradhan to visit Singapore, Australia soon to strengthen education ties

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE

n a significant move to Lenhance bilateral cooperation in the education sector, Union Minister for Education Dharmendra Pradhan will visit Singapore and Australia from October 20 to 26 October. The visit is expected to foster collaboration, participation, and synergy in critical areas of mutual interest in education, ministry of education said here on

Indian diaspora on Sunday. of IITs and IIMs and engage The next day, he will meet
Prime Minister of Singapore
Lawrence Wong, Deputy
Prime Minister Gan Kim

On 17s and this and chigage
in discussions related to the
education ecosystem of both
countries.

During the three-day visit to Yong, Education Minister Chan Chun Sing and Foreign Minister Vivian Balakrishnan.

Pradhan will visit the National University of Singapore ranked number Australian International one in Asia. He will also visit Education Conference. The

a local secondary school to

discuss the scope of syllabus Giving details, officials said during the two day visit in Singapore, Pradhan will address the members of representatives from alumni

Australia, on October 23, Pradhan, in Melbourne, will meet Jason Clare MP, Minister for Education. Pradhan will also deliver the plenary address at the

Minister will be visiting the South Melbourne Primary School which is known for integrated approaches to learning. He will visit 'Discovery to

Device' at RMIT University which is a unique centre for MedTech prototyping and manufacturing. The visit will explore collaborative approaches to commercialisation medical technologies and role of industry-academia linkages innovation..

Pradhan will meet Jacinta

along with Education Australian Minister Jason Clare MP. He industries, will also visit Monash technology University to observe their pharmaceuticals economic benefit. Innovation Lab and Centre Nano-fabrication.

During his stay in Melbourne, the minister will also interact with senior academics of Indian origin. To explore opportunities for partnerships in educating early childhood education workforces, Pradhan will visit Auburn Long Day Child Care Centre in Sydney on October 24. The Minister will interact with the representatives of the

Innovative Research Universities (IRU) and will attend the 2nd Australia India Education and Skills Council. The next day, he will visit the Granville South Creative

and Performing Arts High School. Pradhan will visit the site of the Macquarie Park Innovation District (MPID). As home to over multinational companies, MPID facilitates the practical application of

telecommunications, digital medical

Later in the day, the minister will interact with Indian research students hosted by the Group of Eight, Australia's most research intensive universities.

He will visit the UNSW Energy Institute and the Trailblazer for Recycling and Trailblazer for Recycling and Clean Energy (TraCE) at the Tyree Energy Technologies Building, Kensington. Here, he will observe real-world examples of practical research applications with commercial impact through the UNSW Energy Institute, which brings together which brings together world-leading researchers and the energy industry. He will also visit UTS Moore

Park Sports and Exercise Precinct to explore cooperation in sports education and sports research. UTS's Moore Park Precinct is a state-of-the-art teaching, research and sporting facility.

#### Term life insurance, health cover for senior citizens may get GST exemption

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE ■

Term life insurance policies, and senior citizens' health insurance premium are likely to be exempted from GST as most members of a state ministerial panel favoured cutting taxes to benefit the common man, an official said on Saturday. The GoM to decide on GST on health and life insurance premiums in its meeting on Saturday decided to exempt GST on premiums paid by individuals, other than senior citizens, for health insurance with coverage of up to Rs 5 lakh. However, 18 per cent GST will continue to be levied for health insurance cover of over Rs 5

Separately, the GoM on GST rate rationalisation, too, met on Saturday and suggested that the GST Council rejig tax rates on a host of goods, including packaged drinking water, bicycles, exercise



notebooks, luxury wrist watches, and shoes. A final decision on GST on

health and life insurance premiums, as well as rate rationalisation, is likely to the taken by the GST Council, chaired by Union Finance Minister and comprising state counterparts, in its meeting scheduled to take place next month. "The rate rejig exercise will help the states and Centre to realise revenue gain of Rs 22,000 crore, which will help cover the revenue loss from reduction in GST rates for

official added. GoM on rate The rationalisation proposed

insurance premiums," the

reducing GST on packaged drinking water of 20 litre and above to 5 per cent from 18 per cent. If the GoM's recommendation is accepted by the GST council, GST on bicycles costing less than Rs 10,000 will be reduced to 5 per cent from 12 per cent.

Also, GST on exercise notebooks will be reduced to 5 per cent from 12 per cent. The GoM also proposed hiking GST on shoes above Rs 15,000/pair from 18 per cent to 28 per cent. It also proposed hiking GST on wrist watches above Rs 25,000 from 18 per cent to 28 per cent.

Talking to reporters after the GoM meetings, Bihar Deputy Chief Minister Samrat Chaudhary, who is the convenor of the health and life insurance GoM, said "every GoM member wants to give relief to people. Special focus will be on senior citizens. We will submit a report to the Council. A final decision will be taken by the

#### BJP wants to gain power not for serving Delhi people but to stop AAP Government's schemes, says Kejriwal

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

The BJP wants to come to power in Delhi not to work for the people but to stop the AAP government's schemes like free electricity, education and healthcare, party supremo Arvind Kejriwal said on Saturday.

Addressing a party workers' meeting in Pitampura, Kejriwal warned them against infighting saying it could lead to AAP's defeat in the Delhi Assembly polls in February.

"Do not care for who is there (in the elections) because Kejriwal will be fighting on all these 70 seats. I will get your work done no matter who is elected as an MLA," he said. Kejriwal said if the BJP comes to power, it will stop all the free schemes including those for electricity, water, bus ride for women, healthcare and education.

may not come to power. I am worried what will happen to electr the government schools if



up..." Kejriwal claimed. He said works like road

repair, old age pension, free medicines at hospitals, Farishtey scheme for free treatment of accident victims and free coaching for reserved category schemes were stopped when he was in jail. All these are being restarted now, and the Farishtey and the free coaching schemes have already been resumed, he said.

'They (BJP) have government "My worry is not that AAP in 22 states where people are now demanding free electricity, schools and hospitals. So they want to AAP does not win -- the rates of electricity and water will go cost to stall the schemes

provided by the AAP government," claimed the AAP convener.

The BJP wants to gain power not for working to serve the Delhi people but to stop their works, he charged.

Kejriwal said the 'mandal' (ward) in-charges of the party will have a most crucial role

in the coming Assembly polls to connect with booth level workers and the voters. Each 'mandal' unit in-charge will supervise five booths and teams of 11 workers for each

Keiriwal asked the AAP workers to be ready to take off for next three-four months from their jobs and other works to help the party win

Assembly elections. "The AAP was founded for the country, not for power. If Bhagat Singh, Ambedkar, Gandhiji and Nehru had worked part time, the country would not be free now," he

He said the Assembly polls are meant for saving Delhi and the schemes for the welfare of the people.

#### **MOHIT KANDHARI** ■ JAMMU

n his maiden visit to the 'hot seat', Chief Minister Omar Abdullah Saturday reacted strongly to the allegations that the National Conference is a party of 'Muslims' and a Kashmirbased dynastic party that cannot tolerate leaders from Jammu.

Addressing a gathering of party leaders and workers who accorded a warm reception to him here at Shere-Kashmir Bhawan, Omar said the National Conference was under no compulsion to appoint a deputy chief minister like the previous coalition governments headed by Mufti Mohammad Sayeed, Ghulam Nabi Azad and himself to give representation to both the regions. My only aim was to send a message to the people of Jammu that they have an equal share in the government, just like Kashmir.

"The Congress has so far not taken any decision to join the



deputy chief minister (Surinder Choudhary) from our party.

"It was an answer to those who during election campaigning used to say that NC is a party of Muslims and a Kashmir-based dynastic party that cannot tolerate leaders from Jammu. Now we have a deputy CM who is a new cabinet. We took a Hindu and has nothing to do decision and appointed a with my family," the chief

minister said.

In a veiled reference to the BJP, Omar delimitation and reservation were done in a way to benefit one party but "all tactics including use of government machinery can never help you win elections". On the occasion, Omar

Abdullah assured the people that they would be heard by his government and "your

voices won't be lost in the darkness anymore". He asked the party workers not to "misuse the government" for

their benefit. The chief minister also asked the party workers not to lose their hearts and said JK is presently a UT which cannot

be such for long.
"We will get back our rights.
We will fight for all that which
was taken away from us and

there is no need to get annoyed or disappointed," he

In a lighter vein Omar shared his personal experience of losing the Lok Sabha elections, admitting that at the time, he felt it was difficult to rise again. "But nature has its ways. Many officers and friends must have thought, 'Khatam, Maklou, it's over for Omar.' But today, the same people greet me in the morning, afternoon, and evening. Many ask if I've had lunch. Many now text me, 'Good night, have a nice sleep.' This is the Almighty's way of doing things," Omar said. "But we should not be arrogant about winning the elections. Just as the people have given us this opportunity, they can punish us tomorrow."

Omar also reached out to the media fraternity, assuring them that no iron-fist policy will be applied to the media in Jammu and Kashmir. "I will not punish you for writing against me. I will ensure that the media remains free and works in a free and fearless

#### Two ITBP personnel killed, 2 policemen injured in Naxalite IED blast

NARAYANPUR

 $T^{\text{wo personnel of Indo-}}_{\text{Tibetan Border Police}}$  (ITBP) were killed and two policemen injured on Saturday when Naxalites operation.

Chhattisgarh's Narayanpur district, police said.

The incident occurred around 12 noon near Kodliyar village in Abujhmaad area when joint teams of security personnel were out on an anti-Naval were out on an anti-Naxal operation, a police official

The personnel belonging to the ITBP, Border Security
Force (BSF) and District

Karnataka, he said, adding that the duo belonged to 53rd battalion of ITBP.

Reserve Guard of police were involved in the operation launched from Orchha, Irakbhatti and Mohandi areas, he said. The blast took place when patrolling teams were returning

succumbed to injuries while the condition of the injured policemen was stated to be out of danger," he said. Those killed were identified as Amar Panwar (36) of Satara in Maharashtra and K Rajesh (36) of Kadappa in Karnataka, he said, adding

#### **Nightmare** in the skies

A Star Air flight from Lucknow to Kishangarh received a bomb threat on Saturday afternoon, leading to heightened security measures at Chaudhary Charan Singh International Airport (CCSI). According to a statement from the CCSI Airport spokesperson, the threat was received at 1:52 pm. The Airport's Bomb Threat Assessment Committee immediately convened to assess the situation and implement necessary security protocols, it said.

Most of the hoax threat messages and calls are made using VPN which makes it difficult to trace them. Police have intensified their investigation into several hoax bomb threats targeted at domestic and international flights. The Civil Aviation Ministry plans to put in place strict norms to prevent incidents of hoax bomb threats to airlines, including placing the perpetrators in the no-fly list.

#### **BJP releases list, RJD...**

From page 1

Earlier in the day, Jharkhand CM Hemant Soren announced that the JMM and the Congress would contest 70 seats in the upcoming Assembly elections. Jha claimed, 'We were not consulted. All options are open to us."He said that the RJD has identified at least 15 to 18 seats in Jharkhand where it has potential to defeat the BJP on its own. Last time the party had contested seven seats and ended as runner-up in five of

In 2019, the JMM-led alliance won 47 seats in the Jharkhand assembly, including 30 of JMM and 16 of the Congress. The BJP had secured 25 seats, JVM-P 3, AJSU Party 2, CPI-ML 1, NCP- 1

and independents 2. Congress leader Rahul Gandhi while addressing a meeting in Ranchi claimed that the Constitution is "under attack" by the BJP as he accused the saffron money," he claimed.

party of controlling institutions such as the Election Commission, bureaucracy and central agencies. He also said no force can stop the caste census and removal of the 50 per cent cap on reservation.

"The Constitution is under constant attack from all sides, including Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Home Minister Amit Shah, and it needs to be protected," Gandhi alleged while addressing 'Samvidhan Samman Sammelan' in Ranchi ahead of the Jharkhand Assembly

În a no-holds-barred attack, he accused the BJP of "controlling the Election Commission, Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI), Enforcement Directorate (ED), Income Tax department, bureaucracy and judiciary". "The BJP also controls funds and institutions but we possess honesty. The Congress fought the Lok Sabha elections without

#### Naxalite couple with cumulative bounty of ₹8 lakh on their heads surrender in Maharashtra

A Naxalite couple with a cumulative bounty of Rs 8 lakh on their heads surrendered on Saturday in Maharashtra's Gadchiroli district, a

police official said. The official identified them as Asin Rajaram Kumar (37) alias Anil and his wife Anju Sulya Jale (28) alias Soniya. "Kumar was area committee member of the Maoists' press team in Odisha. He is a resident of Narwana in Haryana and was staying under assumed identity in an area near

Shimla in Himachal Pradesh. Jale, a resident of Gadchiroli, was also part of the same press team in the eastern state and was staying in HP," the official said.

"They surrendered in front of officials of Gadchiroli police and CRPF. Kumar has worked for the Jagrut Chatra couple," the official said.

Morcha and was recruited in the Maad area press team in 2006. He was living in HP under a fake name since 2018 along with Jale. The couple has two encounter cases

registered against his name," he said. Jale was an aide to Naxal "commander" Dinkar from 2007 and also worked as a teacher at the Maoists' 'janatana sarkar school' in Ghamandi village in Maad, the official

"Kumar had a reward of Rs 6 lakh against his name, while the bounty on Jale was Rs 2 lakh.

As part of the Maharashtra government's surrender and rehabilitation policy, they will get Rs 11 lakh in total. Kumar will get Rs 5 lakh, Jale Rs 4.5 lakh, while Rs 1.5 lakh will be given as additional assistance cepted.

#### Drone targets Netanyahu's house as strikes in Gaza kill 50

 $T_{\text{a drone targeted the prime}}^{\text{he Israeli government said}}$ minister's house Saturday, though there were no casualties, as Iran's supreme leader vowed Hamas would continue its fight following the killing of the mastermind of last year's deadly October 7 attack.

Sirens wailed in Israel warning of incoming fire from Lebanon. The military said dozens of projectiles were launched. Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu's office said the drone targeted his house in the Mediterranean coastal town of Caesarea, though neither he nor his wife were home.

The barrage comes as Israel considers its expected response to an Iranian attack earlier this month and presses its offensives against Hamas militants in Gaza and Hezbollah in Lebanon.

In Gaza, Israeli forces fired at hospitals in the battered northern part of the Palestinian enclave, and strikes in the strip killed more than 50 people, including children, in less than 24 hours, according to hospital officials and an Associated Press reporter there.

In September, Yemen's Houthi rebels launched a ballistic mis-

sile toward Ben Gurion Airport when Netanyahu's plane was landing. The missile was inter-

Barrages from Lebanon target northern Israel: In addition to

the drone launched at Netanyahu's private residence. Israel's military said some 55 projectiles were fired in two separate barrages at northern Israel from Lebanon on Saturday morning. A 50-year-old man was killed after being hit by shrapnel while sitting in his car in northern Israel, and four people were injured, Israel's medical services said. Israel's war with Lebanon's Hezbollah — a Hamas ally backed by Iran — has intensified in recent weeks. Hezbollah said Friday that it planned to launch a new phase of fighting by sending more guided missiles and exploding drones into Israel. The militant group's longtime leader, Hassan Nasrallah, was killed in an Israeli airstrike in late September, and Israel sent ground troops into Lebanon earlier in October.

Israel also said Saturday it killed Hezbollah's deputy commander in the southern town of Bint Jbeil. The army said Nasser Rashid supervised attacks against Israel In Lebanon, the health ministry



Smoke rises from an Israeli airstrike on Dahiyeh, in the southern suburb of Beirut, Lebanon, on Saturday. AP/PTI

said an Israeli airstrike Saturday hit a vehicle on a main highway north of Beirut, killing two people. It was unclear who was in the car when it was struck.

Israeli strikes pound Gaza as Hamas rejects hostage release: A standoff is also ensuing between Israel and Hamas, which it's fighting in Gaza, with both signalling resistance to ending the war after the death of Hamas' leader Yahya Sinwar this week.

On Friday, Iran's supreme leader, Ayatollah Ali Khamenei, said Sinwar's death was a painful loss but noted that Hamas carried on despite the killings of other Palestinian militant leaders before him. "Hamas is alive and will stay alive," Khamenei said in his first comments on the killing. Since Israel claimed Sinwar's

Hamas has reiterated its stance that the hostages taken from Israel a year ago will not be released until there is a ceasefire in Gaza and a withdrawal of Israeli troops.

death Thursday, confirmed by

a top Hamas official Friday,

of Israeli troops.
The staunch position pushed back against a statement by Netanyahu that his country's military will keep fighting until the hostages are released, and will remain in Gaza to prevent a severely weakened Hamas from rearming.
Sinwar was the chief architect of the 2023 Hamas raid on Israel that killed some 1,200

Israel that killed some 1,200 people, mostly civilians, and kidnapped another 250. Israel's retaliatory offensive in Gaza has killed over 42,000 Palestinians, according to local health authorities, who do not distinguish combatants from civilians but say more than half the dead are women and chil-

More strikes pounded Gaza on Saturday. The Palestinian Health Ministry said in a statement that Israeli strikes hit the upper floors of the Indonesian Hospital in Beit Lahiya, and that forces opened fire at the hospital's building and its courtyard, causing panic among patients and medical

At Al-Awda hospital in Jabaliya, in northern Gaza, strikes hit the building's top floors, injuring several staff members, the hospital said in a statement. Three houses in Jabaliya were struck overnight Friday, killing at least 30 people, more than half of them women and children, said Fares Abu Hamza, head of the health ministry's ambulance and emergency service. At least 80

people were injured. In central Gaza, at least 10 people were killed, including two children, when a house was hit in the town of Zawayda, according to the al-Aqsa Martyrs Hospital in Deir al-Balah, where the casualties were taken. Another strike killed 11 people,

all from the same family, in the Maghazi refugee camp, the same hospital said. Associated Press journalists counted the bodies from both strikes at the hospital. The strikes knocked out inter-

net networks in northern Gaza. said Paltel, the Palestinian communications company, on Facebook Saturday.

The war has destroyed vast swaths of Gaza, displaced about 90% of its population of 2.3 million people, and left them struggling to find food, water, medicine and fuel.

#### Putin plans to end dominance of US dollar

Russian President Vladimir Putin has said the multi-nation BRICS group should explore a SWIFT-like crossborder payments system immune to Western sanctions as well as use national digital currencies in financing investment projects to end US dollar dom-

Ahead of the 16th annual summit of leaders of BRICS to be hosted by Russia, Putin also said the time has not come yet for a common BRICS currency but added that the 10-nation bloc is exploring the use of digital currencie for which his country is working with India and other nations.

Russia, which was slapped with sweeping sanctions by the US and its allies in the aftermath of the conflict with Ukraine that erupted in February 2022, wants to circumvent the global financial system by creating a new payments system based on a network of commercial banks linked to each other through the BRICS central banks.

Advocating a cautious approach in creating a new reserve currency due to differences in the structure and quality of the economies of the BRICS member states. Putin said these countries should focus on the use of the national currencies, new financial instruments and the creation of an analogue of

Prime Minister Narendra Modi is scheduled to attend the summit in the Tatarstan city of Kazan on October 22 and 23. It will also be the first ever sum-

mit of the grouping after its expansion with the entry of Egypt, Ethiopia, Iran, Saudi Arabia and the United Arab Emirates (UAE). Brazil, Russia, India, China and South Africa are the original members of the

"At this point of time it (a BRICS currency) is a long term prospect. It is not under consideration. BRICS will be cautious and act gradually, move slowly. The time has not come yet," Putin told a select group of senior editors from the BRICS member states at a media interaction on Friday at his official residence in Novo-Ogaryovo, about 50 km from Moscow.

The Russian strongman's remarks came in reply to a question about plans by the BRICS — a grouping conceived as a geopolitical and geoecocounterweight to the West — to create a reserve cur- ment projects.

Replying to a question, Putin said the BRICS was now studying the possibility of expanding the use of the national currencies and creation of instruments that would make such work safe. In particular, the BRICS states were considering the possibility of using electronic instru-ments, he added.

"We are looking into the possi-bility of expanding the use of national currencies and settlements, and want to establish the tools that would make this safe and secure enough." Putin said the grouping will have to come up with a toolkit that will be under the supervision of the respective BRICS institutions.

'It may be another very good step in the development of the Global South with our direct active engagement. We will be talking about that during the (Kazan)summit. We are already in consultations with the Chinese and the Indian friends with the Brazilians. Also, we have had a round of consultations with South Africa."

On a potential BRICS reserve currency, Putin said the member states needed to work gradually without haste.

"Considering their population the BRICS economies in terms of structure should be comparable and more or less equal. Otherwise, we will face even bigger issues than those that occurred in the European Union (EU) for one when a single currency was introduced to the countries whose economies were not comparable and not equal. So it is a long term prospect," he said. The Russian president also underlined the need for establishing relations between the central banks and to ensure reliable exchange of financial information that is independent of those international instruments of international information exchange that introduce "certain restrictions for political reasons and violate the principles of

global economy."
He said he was referring to the formation in BRICS of an analogue of SWIFT, something that "ensures international settlements." SWIFT provides the main messaging network through which international payments are initiated.

Putin mentioned that Russia, along with other BRICS members, has already been working on a SWIFT-like financial messaging system and the use of national digital currencies in financing high-growth invest-

#### UN expands arms embargo on Haiti to all types of arms

**AP** UNITED NATIONS

 $T^{\text{he UN Security Council}}_{\text{voted unanimously Friday}}$ to expand the arms embargo in Haiti to all types of weapons and ammunition, expressing grave concern at the extreme-ly high levels of gang violence and criminal activities in the impoverished Caribbean nation.

The resolution authorizes the 193 UN member nations to take "appropriate steps to prevent the illicit trafficking and diversion of arms and related materiel in Haiti." UN experts have said increasingly sophisticated weapons that end up in the hands of gang members and criminals are being traf-ficked from the US, especially from Florida.

The resolution also extends a travel ban and asset freeze on individuals on the UN sanctions blacklist for a year. In late September, the council committee monitoring sanctions on Haiti added two people to the list, which included five gang

One was Elan Luckson, leader of the Gran Grif gang, which killed at least 115 people in the town of Pont-Sondé in the Artibonite region next to the capital in early October in one of the biggest massacres in Haiti in recent history. The other was Victor Prophane, a former member of the Haitian parliament accused of being involved in arms trafficking. The power of gangs in Haiti has grown since the 2021 assassination of President Jovenel Moïse, and they are now estimated to control up to 80% of the capital, Port-au-Prince. They also have moved into sur-

rounding areas. The surge in killings, rapes and kidnappings has led to a violent uprising by civilian vigilante

groups.
The Security Council voted unanimously in early October to extend the mandate of the Kenya-led multinational force trying to help the Haitian

National Police quell the gangs. The leaders of Kenya and Haiti last week urged international partners to honor their commitment to the UN-backed force in Haiti, saying the mission needs more resources and that its budget will run out in March 2025.

Kenyan President William Ruto, who met with Haiti Prime Minister Garry Conille in Nairobi a week ago, said Kenya would deploy 600 additional officers next month to join the 400 officers already in the country.

Nearly two dozen police officers and soldiers from Jamaica are also in Haiti, but the numbers fall significantly short of the 2,500 pledged by various countries, including Chad, Benin, Bangladesh and Barbados, for the mission.

The council resolution adopted Friday, co-sponsored by Ecuador and the United States also encourages the Haitian government to reinforce the management of police weapons, ammunition as well as seized arms and "to strengthen border and customs control to curb illicit trafficking and diversion."

It extends the panel of experts monitoring the implementation of sanctions for 13 months. Ecuador's political coordinator, Irina Barba Bustos, told the council after the vote that sanctions are part of the comprehensive response that is essential to address the crisis in Haiti and promote a political solution and a peaceful and prosperous future for its people. The arms embargo previously applied to "small arms, light weapons, and ammunition." The resolution expands it to include "arms and related material of all types."

Bustos said the expansion of the arms embargo "bolsters our efforts to combat transnational organized crime, which uses all forms of violence against the civilian population, particularly against women.

#### UK's ex-minister claims blocking India FTA over visa demands: Reports

**PTI** ■ LONDON

Britain's former business and trade secretary Kemi Badenoch, who is the frontrunner to succeed Rishi Sunak as Conservative Party chief and Opposition Leader, has claimed that she blocked the India-UK that she blocked the India-UK free trade agreement (FTA) over demands for more visas, according to UK media reports. The Nigerian heritage shadow minister, who is going head-to-head in an ongoing Tory membership vote with former Cabinet colleague Robert Jenrick, has indicated that one of the reasons the FTA could of the reasons the FTA could not be signed off by the Sunak-led Tory government was due to the Indian side expecting more concessions over the issue of migration.

"As business secretary, even as I was trying to do things to limit immigration, we had an India FTA where they kept trying to bring in migration and I said no. It's one of the reasons why we didn't sign it," leverage in negotiations than officials to offer up access to the leadership. Badenoch reportedly told 'The we did. There was a lot more labour market at any point," the leadership.

But some of her former Tory ministerial colleagues coun-

tered in 'The Times' that the claims are unlikely because Badenoch was pushing for a deal as she oversaw several rounds of negotiations towards an FTA expected to significantly enhance the GBP 38 billion a year bilateral trading partner-"Kemi just wanted to get a deal

at all costs and didn't really think that the objections that were being put forward were serious. She said they were ideologically driven, that they were impractical and weren't conducive to good relations with the Indians," a former Cabinet minister was quoted as

"Kemi wanted a trophy to show post-Brexit benefits and there was a zeal to achieve it," the former minister said.

"The reality was, all the bargaining power was with the Indians and they had more ning, and they were quite non-chalant about doing a deal. That was where the balance of power lay and we were always starting from a weaker position," the ex-minister said.

A source close to Badenoch, however, denied claims that she was prepared to sign a deal at any cost and said that the Indian government had decided not to sign a deal with the Conservative government in the hope that it might be able to negotiate better terms under

'Kemi didn't want to do a deal

that would have changed any UK immigration rules. It's categorically untrue, she would have never done that. India held out because they knew that under a Labour govern-ment, they would get a better deal on students and social security," the source was quoted as saying by 'The Times'. "She did not put visas on the table, she did not sanction her

India indicate the FTA negotiations under the Prime Minister Keir Starmer-led Labour Party government are set to commence next month, officials in the UK are not setting any timeline for picking up after 14 rounds of negotiations. "We remain committed to securing a trade deal with India and intend to resume talks as soon as possible," Starmer's foreign affairs spokesperson at 10 Downing Street told PTI this week.

Meanwhile, while reports from

Badenoch and Jenrick are trading blows on various policy areas, with immigration emerging as a key focal point as they continue on the campaign trail to win votes from an estimated 140,000 Conservative mem-

Sunak's successor is scheduled to be declared on November 2, following the British Indian leader's resignation in the wake of the party's bruising general election defeat in July under his

#### France vows support for Ukraine's plan to end Russian invasion

French Foreign Minister Jean-Noel Barrot pledged his support for Ukraine's plan for ending the two and a half-year war with Russia, telling reporters in Kyiv on Saturday that he will work with Ukrainian officials to secure other nations' backing

for the proposal.
Unveiled by Ukrainian
President Volodymyr Zelenskyy earlier this week, Kyiv's so-called "victory plan" hopes to compel Russia to end its invasion of Ukraine through negotiations.

The proposal is being considered by Ukraine's Western partners, whose help is vital for Kyiv to resist its bigger neighbour. A key element would be a formal invitation

into NATO, which Western backers have been reluctant to consider until after the war

"A Russian victory would be a consecration for the law of the strongest and would push the international order toward chaos," Barrot said at a joint press conference with his Ukrainian counterpart, Andrii Sybiha. "That is why our exchanges should allow us to make progress on President Zelenskyy's victory plan and rally the greatest number possible of countries around it." Barrot also said that France would deliver the first batch of Mirage 2000 combat jets to Ukraine in the first three months of 2025, with Ukrainian pilots and mechanics also trained to fly and maintain them.

Since the 2022 invasion, France has been one of Ukraine's staunchest military, diplomatic and economic supporters in Europe. It is currently training and equipping what will become a full new brigade of Ukrainian soldiers for front-line deploy-

"By resisting against the invader with exceptional courage, you are not only fighting for Ukraine's territorial integrity, but you are also holding a front line that separates Europe from Vladimir Putin's Russia, that separates freedom from oppression," the French minister said in

Russia and Ukraine exchange POWs: Barrot's visit coincided with a prison-

er swap between Russia and Ukraine late Friday night that included 190 POWs traded by the two sides under a deal negotiated by the United Arab Emirates.

Among the 95 Ukrainians were 34 Azov fighters who defended Mariupol and the Azovstal steelworks, the fortress-like plant in the now-occupied city of Mariupol where their last-ditch stand became a symbol of resistance against Moscow's invasion.

Ninety-five of our people are home again. These are the warriors who defended Mariupol and Azovstal, as well as the Donetsk, Luhansk, Kharkiv, Kyiv, Chernihiv, and Kherson regions," Zelenskyy wrote in a post on X.
The head of the Azov regi-

ment, Denys Prokopenko,

said on Facebook that 34 Azov fighters had been returned, but that another 900 remained in Russian cap-

tivity. A well-known Ukrainian human rights activist and service member, Maksym Butkevych, was also among the 95 exchanged. His release was announced by the ZMINA Human Rights Center, the organisation that he co-founded. The swap fol-lows the repatriation of 501 dead soldiers to Ukraine Friday in what appeared to be the biggest repatriation of war dead since Russia's fullscale invasion in February

Most of the soldiers were killed in action in the eastern Donetsk region of Ukraine, mostly around the city of

Avdiivka that Russian forces captured in February after a long and gruelling battle, Ukraine's Coordination Headquarters for the Treatment of Prisoners of War said in a statement. Russia also received the bodies of 89 of its soldiers, Russian lawmaker Shamsayil

Elsewhere, the Russian Ministry of Defence said that it shot down 16 Ukrainian drones over Russia's Bryansk. Rostov, and Belgorod regions in the early hours of Saturday

Saraliyev told reporters.

morning.
Local social media channels shared images that appeared to show a blaze at a factory in the Bryansk region specialising in microelectronics. Russian authorities did not confirm the strike.

#### Four new polio cases reported in Pakistan

PTI ■ ISLAMABAD/KARACHI

 $P_{\text{cases of poliovirus taking the}}^{\text{akistan reported another four}}_{\text{cases of poliovirus taking the}}_{\text{national tally to 37 this year, a}}$ media report said on Saturday. The regional reference laboratory for polio eradication at the National Institute of Health, Islamabad, on Friday, confirmed the detection of wild poliovirus type-1 (WPV 1) in three children from Balochistan and one child from Khyber Pakhtunkhwa (KP), The Dawn newspaper reported. The children affected by the wild poliovirus include a girl from Pishin, two boys from Chaman and Noshki in Balochistan, and a girl from Lakki Marwat district of KP,

polio eradication. Of the 37 cases detected from across Pakistan so far this year, the official said, 20 have been reported from Balochis-tan, 10 from Sindh, five from KP, and one each from Punjab and Islamabad. "Genetic sequencing of the cases is underway," he disclosed. "These were the first polio cases from Noshki and Lakki Marwat this year," he said, adding that both Chaman and Pishin had reported one poliovirus case each earlier as well. Officials claimed that the fight against poliovirus in Balochistan and southern KP suffered in 2023 and early 2024, as immunisation campaigns were according to an official of the regional reference laboratory for due to localised protests.



#### Xi Jinping calls for strengthening deterrence capabilities

Chinese President Xi Jinping has inspected a brigade of the military's strategic missile force that underwent a massive purge of officials for corruption in recent years, according to a media report on Saturday. Xi on Thursday visited at Hefei the Chinese People's Liberation Army's (PLA) Rocket Force, a key arm of the military operating the missiles, including nuclear weapons, state-run Xinhua news agency reported. He urged the strategic missile troops to strengthen their deterrence and combat capabil-

ities and resolutely fulfil the

tasks entrusted by the

Communist Party of China

(CPC) and the people, the

report said. The Rocket Force, established in 2015 as part of Xi's military overhaul, has been at the centre of the latest anti-corruption campaign targeting the mili-

Besides heading the ruling CPC and the Presidency, 71-year-old Xi also heads the Central Military Commission (CMC), the overall high command of the Chinese military. He visited the training field of the brigade which boasts a history of over 50 years, and learned about the tactical and technical performance of the newly-introduced weaponry and equipment, and examined its training in operating the

In a bid to shore up the morale

of the officers and soldiers, he asked them to have good com-mand and make the best use of the weapons in their hands while living up to the trust of the party and the people, the report said.

Later, Xi was briefed on the brigade's work and made a speech stressing the importance of upholding the party's absolute leadership over the armed forces and strengthening party-building at the primary level.

His visit to the Rocket Force, which operates the country's most powerful long and shortrange missiles, was considered significant due to the massive purges seen at the key military arm driven by alleged graft at its top echelons in recent years.

## sunday pioneer



#### EW OFFERINGS



**A MODERN TWIST ON ANCIENT STORIES**Meenakshi Jha Banerjee's solo exhibition, "Aadhura Kuch Bhi Nahin," offers a unique blend of contemporary artistry and Mithila folk traditions. With over two decades of experience, she reinterprets ancient motifs through a modern lens, showcasing her mastery in merging simplicity with intricate detailing. Her work reflects a dialogue between tradition and innovation, inviting viewers to explore the depth of her creative journey. Don't miss the chance to witness this unique exhibition, mark your presence!

#### **EVENT DETAILS**

Exhibition Dates: Till October 21, 2024 Timings: 11 AM - 8 PM Venue: Shridharani Gallery, Triveni Kala Sangam,

#### **EXPERIENCE THE PASSION**

"IN SOFT STROKES" by Art Konsult Featuring the Art of Awani Kant delves into the themes of love, desire and passion through vibrant and expressive paintings. His distinctive style merges sensuality and symbolism, using everyday
elements to highlight the



beauty of the female form while grounding it in life's realities. This exhibition invites viewers to reconnect with deep, forgotten emotions through a captivating visual journey. Art enthusiasts and the curious are encouraged to immerse themselves in this evocative experience

and discover how Awani Kant's works can inspire reflection and conversation about the beauty of human emotion.

#### **EVENT DETAILS**

Exhibition Dates: Till 30th October 2024 Venue: Art Konsult, 1, Basement, Hauz Khas Village, New Delhi - 110016 **Visiting Hours:** 11:00 a.m. – 6:30 p.m.

#### **AMERICAN PECAN FESTIVAL**

Indulge in the rich and versatile taste of American pecans with Indulgent" "The American Pecan Festival menu at Andaz Delhi by Hyatt. This exclusive menu showcases savoury and sweet pecan-infused delights like Pecan Quiche, Pecan Stuffed Mushrooms, Miniature Monkey Bread, and a Pecan Infused Café Mocha. Don't this miss culinary experience that brings the health benefits and



EVENT DETAILS Venue: Andaz Delhi by Hyatt, Asset No. 1, Aerocity, Dates: October 15 -November 15 Price for Two: Rs 1700

unique flavours of pecans to your

#### REETA SANYAL THE ADVOCATE OF THE UNEXPECTED

Reeta Sanyal has a promising start, but with a loose plot and flat comedy, writes ABHI SINGHAL

Stepping into the world of comedy and crime, 'Reeta Sanyal' is a legal crime thriller TV series on Disney Plus Hotstar, starring Adah Sharma as Reeta Sanyal in the lead, Rahul Dev as M. Raj Thakral, Manik Papneja as Ishan Dwivedi, and

Ankur Rathee as Jai Vardhan. The episodes for the ongoing series release every Monday to Friday. The first episode of the series opens with a light and funny scene of Reeta Sanyal (Adah Sharma) as the advocate and protagonist defending a case of the dog Rocky but frustrated in need of new and bigger cases.

The story unfolds with Reeta encountering Keshav outside the courtroom when Keshav's mother was arrested by the police in the case of local MLA Parav Rane's death. When Reeta forces Keshav for more information, he tells Reeta that it wasn't his mother who committed the crime, but he claimed that he killed the MLA like a "perfect murder." When Reeta decides to take on Keshav's case, she discovers that her opponent advocate is none other than *Raj Thakral* (played by Rahul Dev), a man with whom she shares a complicated history relating to her own father.

Talking about h





characters, Adah Sharma plays a serious and humorous role within the series. She shines as usual being the only one in the web series, making it gripping and giving a reason to the audience to watch. A strong entry for Adah stayed missing from the series but was covered up by her acting skills. *Rahul Dev* has a short but strong opening presence as a bad guy goon in the story till the first

four episodes. The introduction of a female character Zi played by Nirisha Basnett is an unclear but attention catchy performance. Manik Papneja as Ishan gives his bit as a

companion to Adah. Ankur Rathee as Jai Vardhan, a handsome cop in the series having a liking feeling towards the protagonist.

The upcoming episodes might also explore the romantic angle between either Adah and Ishan or Adah and Jai, still unclear in the opening.

Despite a strong performance by *Adah* in the beginning, 'Reeta Sanyal' fails to deliver a gripping narrative. The series struggles with a weak plot and uninspiring humor, leaving viewers feeling discontent.

Concluding to say that, 'Reeta Sanyal' comes across as an incompetent, and the first five episodes bring nothing new.

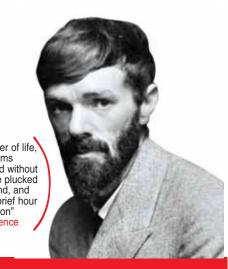
Although every possible care and caution has been taken to avoid errors or omissions, this publication is being sold on the condition and understanding that information given in this publication is merely for reference and must not be taken as having authority of or binding in any way on the writers, editors, publishers, and printers and sellers who do not owe any responsibility for any damage or loss to any person, a purchaser of this publication or not for the result of any action taken on the basis of this work. All disputes are subject to the exclusive jurisdiction of competent court and forums in Lucknow only. Readers are advised and requested to verify and seek appropriate advice to satisfy themselves about the veracity of any kind of advertisement before responding to any contents published in this newspaper. The printer, publisher, editor and any employee of the Pioneer Group's will not be held responsible for any kind of loss, consequences and further product-related damages on such advertisements.

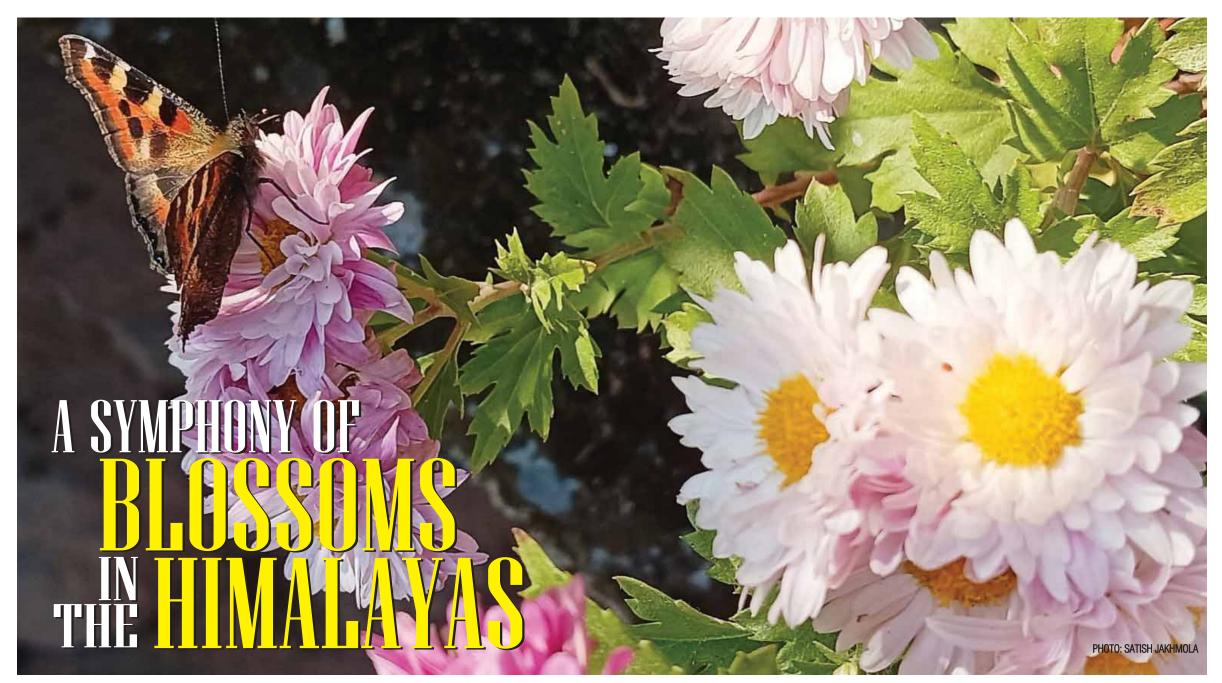
Printed and Published by Shobori Ganguli for and on behalf of CMYK Printech Ltd., 4th Floor, Sahara Shopping Centre, Faizabad Road, Lucknow-226016 and Printed at Tin Tin Printech Pvt Ltd., C-33 Amausi Industrial Area, Nadarganj, Lucknow. Editor-in-Chief Shobori Ganguli, Resident Editor Vijay Prakash Singh. RNI No. 2016/57. Lucknow Telephones: EPABX: 4036600 Fax: 2345582. Allahabad Office: (0532) 2420818, 2421018, 3290460. Kanpur Office: (0512) 2304006, 2304416. Varanasi Office: (0542) 2414294, 2414295. Delhi Office: 100K, Milap Bhawan, 8/A, Bahadur Shah Zafar Marg, New Delhi-110 002, Phone: 011-40110455. Corporate Office:- 201-205, 2nd Floor, Pratap Bhawan 5, B.S.Z. Marg, New Delhi-110002 Phone: 011-69342500.

Lucknow, October 20, 2024

## the pioneer

"Love is the flower of life and blossoms unexpectedly and without law, and must be plucked where it is found, and of its duration"





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 tanestry of natural beauty and 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.

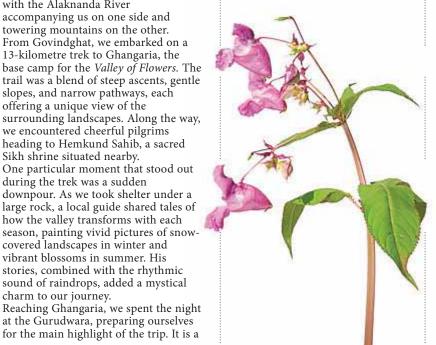
The journey to the Valley of Flowers began in Rishikesh, a bustling town known for its spiritual significance and adventure activities. After a night of rest, we set off early in the morning, winding our way through the scenic roads that led us to the small village of Govindghat. The drive itself was 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 snowcovered 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



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 tranquillity 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

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











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.

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



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

# A BLEND OF NOSTALGIA

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** 



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. Handpainted 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 Áhuja 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 cafe'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.

Rose Čafés 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 cafe'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

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,* 

signature temon cake, nomemate getatos, 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.



#### 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

elhi was alive with excitement 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 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 opportunity to relax and bond



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 complemented by was 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

in the dedicated Picnic Park, a serene space equipped with cozy seating and interactive children. games for 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 led experiences." The event 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 exceptional curating experiences that celebrate the rich culinary heritage of Delhi. commitment 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-

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

global scale.

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

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 Saggar, 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 Diwas Wadhera, who was awarded the Silver Hat Chef title. Such recognition







not only celebrates individual achievements but also enhances the reputation of Indian cuisine, motivating chefs to pursue excellence in their craft



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

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

ndia, 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 socioeconomic 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 CARÉ** 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)





requiring sensitive planning within

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,

routine or comprehensive

development initiatives. These

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

























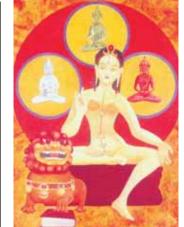




ARIES March 21-April 19

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.

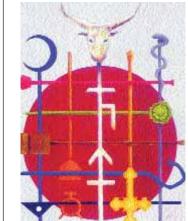
Lucky number 7 | Lucky colour Magenta Lucky day Wednesday



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 wiselv.

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



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

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

## GURUSPEAK

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

## 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!

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 is 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 vou

stabilize. People who are in love don't get bored. The heart knows no boredom. The head knows

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

upset. 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.

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

ew Zealand's golden generation, led by inspirational Sophie Devine, will have one last chance to lay hands on a global ICC trophy when it meets a gritty South Africa in the summit clash of the T20 World Cup which is set to throw a Cup which is set to throw a new champion, here Sunday.

New Zealand's women's team had won the ODI World Cup back in 2000 but none of the current squad members were part of that historic title triumph.

Before this event began, New Zealand were in the trenches having lost 10 matches on the trot in the format but under Devine this bunch, comprising of the venerable Suzie Bates and the assuring Amelia Kerr, has done wonders, bringing the side in contention for the ultimate prize.

It is most probably the last time the Black Shirts will have Devine, Bates and Lea Tahuhu playing of the national side in a global tournament.

Devine, 35, has more than 7000 runs under her belt in white-ball formats while the 37-year-old Bates has more than 10,000 runs to her name. Pacer Tahuhu, 34, has 112 wickets in ODIs and 93 in

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

Kerr's wicket tally has swelled to 12 in the tournament as she found apt support from the other end in the likes of Eden Carson (8), Rosemary Mair (7) and the experienced Lea Tahuhu.

New Zealand announced their intentions with a big win against India first up and followed that up with consistent performances across departments.

A 60-run loss to Australia, arguably the strongest team in



notwithstanding, the Kiwis weren't unnerved as they went on to pip the West Indies in the final over of their low-scoring semifinal to make their third

When the tournament began towards the end of the first decade of this century, New Zealand appeared to be the team to beat as they made two consecutive finals but got pipped by England and Australia once each.

Australia once each.
Bates and Devine, the survivors from those campaigns, will thus get a third crack in winning the first ICC trophy for New Zealand in white-ball cricket since 2000 when the men's team won the Champions Trophy in Kenya. But against them will be the formidable South Africa who scripted history of sorts to have stopped the all-dominating Australian team from reaching their eighth consecutive final in the last 15 years and seven editions of the T20 World Cup. If New Zealand has Kerr topping the charts for most successful bowlers, South Africa have two of their toporder batters - Laura Wolvaardt (190 runs) and Tazmin Brits (170 runs) lodged at the top of the batting charts in this tournament. South Africa's all-round might will pose the sternest challenge

off a comprehensive eightwicket thrashing of Australia, having restricted them to a mere 135/5 and knocked off the target with more than two

overs to spare. While a lot will depend on the pair of Wolvaardt and Brits at the top, SA will need the likes of Anneke Bosch and Marizanne Kapp to chip in with the bat too.

Similarly, Nonkululeko Mlaba (10 wickets) would also need the rest of the bowlers to replicate their performance from the semifinal, in which they collectively kept it tight to not allow Australia to get away with the bat.

**SQUADS:** 

New Zealand: Sophie Devine (captain), Suzie Bates, Eden Carson, Isabella Gaze (wk), Maddy Green, Brooke Halliday, Fran Jonas, Leigh Kasperek, Amelia Kerr, Jess Kerr, Rosemary Mair, Molly Penfold, Georgia Plimmer, Hannah Rowe, Lea Tahuhu.

**South Africa:** Laura Wolvaardt (c), Anneke Bosch, Tazmin Brits, Nadine de Klerk, Annerie Dercksen, Mieke de Ridder (wk), Ayanda Hlubi, Sinalo Jafta (wk), Marizanne Kapp, Ayabonga Khaka, Sune Luus, Nonkululeko Mlaba, Seshnie Naidu, Tu Sekhukhune, Chloe Tryon.



#### **Guirassy's late** goal earns **Dortmund a Bundesliga win**

**AP** ■ DORTMUND (GERMANY)

Serhou Guirassy scored late as Borussia Dortmund beat promoted St. Pauli 2-1 in the Bundesliga on Friday, easing some pressure on the club before facing Real Madrid. Substitute Jamie Gittens

invigorated Dortmund's attack, beating a defender and crossing for Guirassy to head the winner in the 83rd minute, just five minutes after Eric Smith had equalized with a thunderous strike for the visitors.

Dortmund had dominated from the start but failed to turn possession into chances. St. Pauli goalkeeper Nikola Vasili twice denied Guirassy when it seemed the Guinea star had to

Ramy Bensebaini broke the deadlock in the 43rd with a header to Pascal Groß' cross. St. Pauli had a goal by Morgan Guilavogui ruled out through

VAR for offside in the 30th. Dortmund next visits Madrid in the Champions League on Tuesday. The two teams met in last season's Champions League final, which Madrid won 2-0.

Dortmund was under pressure after losing 2-1 to Union Berlin before the international break.

## NZ edges closer to victory after 36 years in spite of Sarfaraz, Pant fight

In a stunning display of fight two men stood at the crease, Sarfaraz Khan resumes the day four with a score of (70) along with left hand batsmen Rishabh Pant who started his innings from day 4 after Virat dismissal on last ball of day

The Right-Left combination of batters piled up 113 runs on the morning session of day both Sarfaraz and Rishabh took India to strong position after first innings failure on day one. Rishabh who struck 53 unbeaten and Sarfaraz who score his maiden century at crucial stage of the match scoring 125 not out from 154 balls with 16 fours and three sixes before rain interrupted the play.



comeback in this match after 177 runs partnership between the duo got broke down with the wicket of Sarfaraz Khan on a mammoth score of 150 runs by Tim Southee and Rishabh Pant who misses out his 7th test century by one run (99).

Their innings gave a hope before their dismissals, but

hosts. Resuming the day's play at 438 for six after tea India's last 4 wickets just contributed 29 runs, KL Rahul who's poor form continues in second innings, got cheaply knock down again by William ORourke with 12 runs on his bank.

New Zealand bowlers shines again and India lost seven Two batters gave India a their dismissals gave a wickets for 54 runs with tall strong hand to make a significant decline for the bowlers Matt Henry and

William O'Rourke getting advantange of extra bounce and movement off the

Chinnaswamy surface. New Zealand openers begin their chase with Tom Latham and Devon Conway yet to open their accounts, rain brought an early end to the day's play with the visitors playing just four balls in the second innings, After the disintegrated lower order performance India managed to gave 107 runs to New Zealand to win the bengaluru test match.

Tom Latham's team is on the verge of creating history of winning the test match in India after 36 years. The last time New Zealand won a Test match in India was way back in 1989 when Sir Richard Hadlee got 10 wickets at the Wankhede to ensure a huge 136-run win.

#### Mohammedan Sporting look to exploit home conditions against visiting Kerala Blasters



PTI ■ KOLKATA

Debutants Mohammedan Sporting Club will seek their first home win in the Indian Super League (ISL) when they host Kerala Blasters FC in a tricky match

here on Sunday.
Both teams are hungry for victory, but for Mohammedan, this game is crucial, as they desperately need their first home win of the season, and the visiting Kerala Blasters aren't going to

make it easy. Mohammedan enter this game after a 0-3 defeat to Mohun Bagan Super Giant in the Kolkata derby. Andrey Chernyshov's men have managed four points from their first four games, leaving them 10th on the points table.

With two winless home results already, a victory against Kerala Blasters can prevent them from joining the likes of Jamshedpur FC, East Bengal, and Punjab FC as teams without a home win in their first three games this

season. For Kerala Blasters, an away fixture has thrown up defensive challenges. Their last nine trips on the road have seen them concede at least one goal in each game,

managing just one win.
A victory on Sunday would not only break that trend but also mark a significant milestone, bringing them their third consecutive win in Kolkata, an unprecedented feat in their history.

Their last two visits to Kolkata were fruitful, with a 1-0 victory over Mohun Bagan Super Giant and a 2-1 win against East Bengal FC. A victory on Sunday would strengthen their chances of getting into the top-six and signal their intent for the rest of the season. Sunday's match will be the first face-off between Mohammedan and Kerala Blasters in the ISL.

Mohammedan head coach Andrey Chernyshov gave an in-depth analysis of the Kerala Blasters FC setup, but expressed confidence that his team is ready for the challenge. "After a break we started our work for the game. Kerala Blasters are a good and strong team. They have players who have played for a long time in the ISL. This season they are doing well now. "They are really good in attack because they score every match. It doesn't matter if they play home or away because they score. We need to be ready for that. We worked in the training about it. We'll be ready for this situation tomorrow on the ground," Chernyshov said in pre-match conference.

#### Five Indian footballers selected to go through training session at Old Trafford in Manchester

 $F_{\text{go through training at Old}}^{\text{live Indian footballers will}}$  Trafford in Manchester afteremerging as winners in the fourth edition of United We Play, a grassroots football initiative. event saw The

participation of over 15,000 budding Indian footballers across 18 cities, culminating in a grand finale in the presence of Manchester United legend and all-time great Gary Neville in Chandigarh.

In the finale, PC Lalchhuanawma (Mizoram), Shreejal Kisku (Bhubaneswar), Ayan (Lucknow),



Bhakta Bahadur Pariyar (Nepal) and Chaiyatham (Bangkok) were

shortlisted. These players will be given the opportunity to visit Old

Trafford to participate in

activities like a match-day experience, training session with Manchester United Chanason Soccer School coaches and legend interactions. "Delighted to see the dedication and passion for

"Many congratulations to the young players whose hard work has paid off today. I am sure that the experience that they will have at the iconic Old Trafford, will be memories of a lifetime."

The launch of the fourth edition of United We Play took place at Kolkata in December last year, where former Manchester United and French footballer Louis Saha kicked-off the programme.

F1 SEASON RESUMES IN AUSTIN

football among young children in India," Neville, whose illustrious career includes eight

English Premier League titles and two UEFA Champions League titles for Manchester United, said in a release.

#### ढाक्र जी महाराज पुरवा / सफीपुर, उन्नाव में सत्र 2024-26 में सीधे प्रवेश हेतु सम्पर्क करें 9415149628 8896398398

ठाक्र जी महाराज

पुरवा, उन्नाव में

बी.एड.

सत्र 2024-26 में सीधे

प्रवेश हेतु सम्पर्क करें

9415149628

#### Lando Norris in hot pursuit of Max Verstappen at United States GP

**AP** ■ AUSTIN (TEXAS)

 $M^{\mathrm{ax}}$  Verstappen and Red Bull are in retreat as the Formula 1 season resumes in Texas.

The series returns from a month-long autumn break at the United States Grand Prix with the Dutch driver still leading the championship, but his car has gone backward in terms of performance and results while McLaren's Lando Norris pulls ever closer in the title chase.

The last time on the track, Verstappen finished second in Singapore, only to watch Norris drive off in the distance and win by a whopping 21 seconds. It was the kind of gap Verstappen crushed the field with all last season.

"After Singapore I just wanted to keep going. We were in a good rhythm. I think we still are in a good rhythm and have been for quite a while," Norris

consecutive championship with six races left. That race gap to Norris in Singapore was worrisome, and raised more pressure on Red Bull to reverse its slide, or at least find something that can keep Norris at bay. The race weekend at the Circuit of the Americas has a

lot of points on offer that Norris can snatch if Red Bull continues to struggle. Saturday features the first sprint race since Austria in June.

Verstappen has won all three previous sprint races this season and has won the main race in Austin the last three years. But he hasn't won this season since the Spanish Grand Prix on June 23 and has earned just three podium finishes in that span. Verstappen at times has described his once dominant car as "undrivable" and a "monster."

McLaren has already overtaken Red Bull to seize the Verstappen still has a 52-point lead in the team constructors' lead as he chases his fourth championship, and another

win on a track where Verstappen has been dominant would be a dagger. Red Bull is bringing a package

of upgrades it hopes will get its once dominant car back to the

Verstappen stopped short of calling it a make-or-break race weekend in the title chase, but teammate Sergio Perez called it "crucial" for Red Bull. The first results were positive for Red Bull: Verstappen

qualified for pole position for the Saturday sprint race, putting 0.250 seconds between himself and Norris in fourth. "I'm happy with today. The whole day the car was working quite well. Happy to be first, it's been a while," Verstappen said. "We'll do the best we can tomorrow in the sprint, but we know the most points are available on Sunday. That's where we really want to do well."

Norris sounded confident this week that McLaren will keep the pressure on Red Bull. "I know people ask every



that's going to change something. It can go my way. It can go Max's way," Norris said. "But I'm happy with what we're doing as a team and how we're working together. ... It's not easy. I need more than just me first and more than just me first and Max second."

Mercedes driver George Russell predicted Norris to win

the title based on current form, despite the points gap. "I think Lando can absolutely

win this championship and I would probably say he's (the) favorite to do so with their form right now comparing with Red Bull," Russell said. McLaren chief executive Zak Brown tapped the brakes on that just a bit. "A lot of racing left to go,"

Brown said. "We're going to need Lando to win a lot of races and Max to have an unusually bad day." Red Bull inspectionRed Bull allowed race stewards to

inspect Verstappen's cockpit in front of television cameras to give them a look at a device it is believed could be used to adjust the height of the car. Rival teams have worried it

could be used to change car height between qualifying and a race, which is strictly prohibited.

Red Bull has insisted the device is inaccessible once the car is assembled, and that the team never cheated. Still, the FIA said it will tighten parc ferme requirements, and applied a seal to the device in the Red Bull cars that will show if there

is any tampering. Small talkVerstappen said he will continue to give short answers in official race news conferences after he was punished by the sport's governing body FIA for swearing in Singapore.

"I prefer of course to talk less, so it's fine anyway for me."
Verstappen told reporters gathered Thursday on the porch of the Red Bull team hospitality tent.

Russell, who is a director of the Grand Prix Drivers' Association, said the drivers will likely issue a statement on the matter next week ahead of the Mexico City Grand Prix.



सत्र 2024-26 में सीधे प्रवेश हेतु सम्पर्क करें 9415149628 9125443834