



# हर झारखण्डी का अपना आवास अबुआ आवास



अबुआ आवास योजना  
अंतर्गत

बहुत तकलीफ में थे। मिट्टी का पूरा घर बारिश में टपकता था। मुझे फिर अबुआ आवास मिला। इसकी तीसरी किश्त मुझे मिल गयी है। जल्द मेरा घर भी बन जायेगा।  
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# CM inaugurates MGM Medical College Hospital's New OPD, healthcare gets a boost

PNS : JAMSHEDPUR

In a significant move aimed at bolstering healthcare infrastructure in the Kolhan region, Chief Minister Hemant Soren inaugurated the new Outpatient Department (OPD) building at MGM Medical College Hospital. This modern facility, constructed on Mangodimna Road, promises to be a boon for the people of Jamshepur and nearby areas, offering advanced medical services under one roof.



Mangal Kalindi, Ichagarh MLA Sabita Mahato, and several senior officials from the district administration.

The newly constructed OPD is part of a broader effort by the Jharkhand government to strengthen healthcare in rural and semi-urban areas. The Chief Minister expressed his optimism about the hospital's future, noting that while the OPD services have started, the hospital will gradually become fully functional, offering comprehensive healthcare services.

Built at a cost of ₹376 crores, the new MGM Medical College Hospital spans 30 acres and includes a seven-storey building with 751 beds, making it one of the largest medical facilities in the region. The hospital is equipped with modern amenities, including a 100-bed ICU ward, an additional 100-bed Cathlab (cardiac catheterization lab), and three separate blocks

designed for various special-ty treatments.

According to hospital authorities, the facility is built on the model of a super-specialty hospital, incorporating the latest in medical technology and infrastructure. The inauguration of the OPD services marks the beginning of a new era in healthcare for the people of Kolhan, who have long struggled with inadequate medical facilities. Once fully operational, the hospital is expected

to cater to patients with a wide range of medical needs, from routine check-ups to advanced surgeries and treatments.

One of the most anticipated outcomes of the new hospital is the increased access to quality healthcare for residents of Jamshepur and surrounding districts. Prior to the opening of this facility, patients often had to travel long distances to receive specialized medical care, either to Ranchi or neighboring



states. The new MGM hospital aims to change that by offering advanced medical services locally, reducing the burden on patients and their families.

"The opening of this facility is a major leap forward for healthcare in this region," said Health Minister Banna Gupta, adding that the hospital's services will gradually expand under the supervision of the Medical Council of India (MCI). The state government has planned addi-

tioned investments to ensure the availability of specialist doctors, support staff, and cutting-edge medical equipment in the near future.

Infrastructure and Facilities

The hospital's architectural design has been tailored to enhance patient comfort and medical efficiency. With 100 beds reserved for the Intensive Care Unit (ICU) and another 100 for cardiac care, the facility is well-equipped to handle critical and emergency cases. Furthermore, the hospital houses separate blocks for various specialties such as pediatrics, orthopedics, and gynecology, aiming to cover all aspects of healthcare needs.

Chief Minister Soren also conducted a thorough inspection of the hospital premises before addressing the gathered officials and dignitaries. He praised the well-planned layout and advanced facilities, expressing confidence that the hospital will provide world-class

care to the people of Jharkhand.

CM's Arrival and Security Measures

Chief Minister Hemant Soren arrived in Jamshepur via helicopter, landing at Baba Tilka Manjhi Ground in Baliguma before making his way to the hospital by road. The area around the hospital had been placed under tight security, with a large contingent of police personnel deployed to ensure a smooth and secure event. Roadblocks and crowd control measures were put in place at various points along the route to facilitate the Chief Minister's movement.

A Step Forward for Jamshepur's Medical Infrastructure

For the residents of Kolhan, this development is a major relief. "We have been waiting for a facility like this for years," said one local resident who attended the inauguration. "Now we can get treatment for a wide range of medical issues without having to travel far."

## East Zone Regional Abilympics 2024 concludes with 16 medals awarded to PwDs

PNS : JAMSHEDPUR

The East Zone Regional Abilympics 2024 wrapped up at the Tata Steel Technical Institute in Jamshepur, marking a momentous occasion for Persons with Disabilities (PwDs) across the region. Organized by the National Abilympic Association of India (NAAI), the event showcased the exceptional talents of 100 PwDs from the Eastern states of West Bengal, Jharkhand, Bihar, and Odisha. Over the course of the event, participants displayed their skills across 15 vocational categories, ranging from Information and Communication Technology (ICT) to crafts, food services, and hospitality.



force.

In the ICT category, Chinmay Mandal from West Bengal secured the Gold in Word Processing, while Jyotirmayee Pradhan from Odisha clinched the Silver. The Photography competition saw Paras Mani Mandal take home the Gold, while Mukesh Kumar from Bihar won Silver for Data Processing.

The Crafts category highlighted the artistry and creativity of participants, with Shubhra Sinha from Bihar, who is Hearing Impaired, win-

ning Silver in Painting. Vicky Sharma from Jharkhand and Rinki Kumari from Bihar earned Bronze medals in Painting and Embroidery, respectively.

In the Hospitality & Restaurant Services category, Nityanand from Odisha, who is also Hearing Impaired, won a Bronze medal, emerging from a pool of 25 talented participants.

The standout category was Tailoring & Dress Making, with seven PwDs being awarded Gold, Silver, and Bronze medals. Shamim Alam from Bihar won Gold in Tailoring, while fellow Bihar native Vinod Kumar took home the Silver. In Dress Making, local talent from Jamshepur, Gulafshan Bano, won Gold, Yasin Ansari from Bihar secured Silver, and Kunti Kumar from Jamshepur won Bronze.

Dr. Jitender Aggarwal, Secretary General of the National Abilympic Association of India (NAAI) and Founder & CEO of Sarthak Educational Trust, expressed his

pride in the achievements of the participants, stating, "This year's Abilympics has been a powerful testament to the talent and determination of PwDs across Eastern India. Their remarkable skills across diverse vocational categories reflect their capability and readiness for inclusion in the workforce." He emphasized the importance of events like the Abilympics in breaking down societal barriers and promoting an inclusive workforce.

The event was inaugurated by Banna Gupta, Health Minister. Partners such as Tata Power (TPCDDT), Tata Steel Foundation, IHCL, and the Department of Empowerment of Persons with Disabilities (DEPwD) under the Ministry of Social Justice & Empowerment played a critical role in making the event a success. Their support reaffirmed the importance of vocational skills in empowering PwDs and helping them achieve self-reliance.

## Vedanta ESL Steel Ltd celebrates Swachhata Hi Seva

PNS : BOKARO

Vedanta ESL Steel Limited has undertaken a series of cleanliness and plantation initiatives as part of the Swachhata Hi Seva Campaign, launched by the Government of India to commemorate the 10th anniversary of the Swachh Bharat Abhiyan. The company organized activities both inside and outside its Sijalgori plant in Bokaro, contributing to the nationwide effort.



The Swachhata Hi Seva campaign, which began on 17th September 2024, is based on the theme 'Swabhav Swachhata - Sanskar Swachhata.' The initiative promotes the importance of cleanliness and emphasizes community involvement in creating a sustainable and healthier environment. The campaign focuses on raising awareness about sanitation and responsible environmental practices such as waste management and tree plantation.

As part of the campaign, Vedanta ESL employees vol-

untarily participated in a Cleanliness and Plantation Drive at Alkusha Primary School. Around 50 employees, along with students, teachers, and community members, engaged in cleaning and greening the school environment. The drive aimed to foster environmental consciousness, improve hygiene, and instill civic responsibility among participants. During the event, a Swachhata oath was taken by all attendees, including the Chief Guest, Philmoon Bilung, District Development Magistrate of NABARD, and

notable community leaders. The event concluded with the planting of over 100 saplings under the "Ek Ped Maa Ke Naam" initiative. Kunal Daripa, Head of CSR at Vedanta ESL, highlighted the company's dedication to cleanliness, stating that previous initiatives to instill this practice among all employees are now bearing fruit. He emphasized that cleanliness has become an integral part of Vedanta ESL's culture, reflecting the company's ongoing commitment to creating a cleaner and greener environment.

## FIR against Chowkidar for forging official documents

PNS : DALTONGANJ

An FIR against Chowkidar Upendar Turiya has been instituted by the secretary to the divisional commissioner Palamu with the town police station.

Officer in charge of the town police station Deobrat Poddar said, "The secretary to the divisional commissioner Bijay Verma has lodged the FIR against Chowkidar Upendar Turiya with this police station on 1.10.24.

As the offence is dated 2010, 2014, 2016 etc police have invoked sections of the IPC only as BNS is not applicable.

This case is registered under sections 420, 419, 471, 467 and 468 of the IPC.

The IO (investigating officer) of the case is Gulshan Birwa sub inspector of police in the town thana here. The case is bizarre and tough. Chowkidar's criminal disposition is most evident.

Police officer Poddar said "The Chowkidar is of Garhwa district. He is alleged to have committed forgery/ fraud

there in Garhwa district." "As a matter of fact the criminal case lodged against the Chowkidar in the town thana Daltonganj ought to have been lodged in Garhwa town police station but since the secretary to the divisional commissioner Palamu lodged this criminal case, hence it's town thana that has duly registered the case with it and its investigation is on," said the police officer.

The Chowkidar has proved to be a Natwarlal - the great thug. His mind appears to be a thug machine. The FIR read "Upendar Turiya was appointed as Chowkidar on compassionate grounds by the DC Garhwa in 2010."

In 2014 his educational qualification papers were verified, when the fraud was detected. The forgery was detected in the SLC (school leaving certificate) submitted by the Chowkidar Upendar Turiya at the time of his claim for a job on compassionate ground, said Poddar.

The SLC that the Chowkidar had submitted for his appointment on compassionate ground was said to have been issued by the Lohiya Samta High School, Ketar in Garhwa. In the SLC he was shown 8th pass. According to the FIR this SLC was found fake and forged. The then Garhwa DC dismissed this Chowkidar in 2014 on charges of forged SLC.

The Chowkidar didn't stop here. He went two steps further in his fraudulence. This time he arranged 'an official letter of the state chief secretary addressed to the divisional commissioner Palamu wherein the letter asked the divisional commissioner to revoke his dismissal and reinstate him.' read the FIR.

This so-called letter of the then chief secretary was dated 2016. This letter got his dismissal revoked and he was reinstated by the then DC Garhwa.

However two years later in 2018, on verification it was found that there was no

such official letter to revocation of his dismissal and reinstatement from the state chief secretary. The so-called chief secretary letter was found all fake as no such letter having that content was ever issued by the then state chief secretary. The Chowkidar showed another temerity and devilry. He went on appeal to the divisional commissioner in 2019.

However he was again dismissed in 2019 after he was reinstated in 2016. He was dismissed this time on charges for presenting a fake and forged letter of the state chief secretary. It took 5 years to lodge the FIR in 2024. The Chowkidar has gone underground.

Police officer Poddar said "The Chowkidar is learnt to have moved the High Court. We will arrest him soon. Law will take care of him." "This Chowkidar is proving to be a new and stubborn version of forgery and fraudulence without any remorse" added Poddar.

Hundreds of youths join JMM

PNS : RANCHI

Hundreds of youth and women from AJSU and various parties from Silli Assembly joined the party under the leadership of Ravindra Lal Yadav, expressing faith in the party's Chief Dishom Guru Shibu Soren, being impressed by the party's policies and believing in the leadership of acting president cum Chief Minister Hemant Soren.

In the party's central office, hundreds of leaders and workers including Ravindra Lal Yadav, including Ravindra Lal Yadav, Khagendra Lal Yadav, Amit Mukhiyar, Harekrishna Yadav, Manohar Yadav, Luv Kumar Mandal, Akala Ahir, Rohit Ahir, Sameer Prasad, Vinod Das, Manish Gop, Sagar Yadav, Gorong Yadav, Bharat Oraon, Pati Oraon, Shatrughan Oraon, Rajkishore Singh Munda, Gadadhar Oraon, Rajkumar Ahir, joined the party.

## Bokaro MLA lays foundation for bridge linking key villages

PNS : BOKARO

Bokaro MLA and Chief Whip (Opposition) in the Jharkhand Assembly, Biranchi Narayan, today laid the foundation stone for a high-level bridge. The bridge, costing 3.02 crore, will be 52.48 meters long.

The bridge will replace the existing Chilka culvert, connecting Siyaragajara and Brahmandwarika. The new bridge, once completed, will facilitate smoother travel for residents of nearly a dozen villages, including Siyaragajara, Brahmandwarika, Bhuiya Dwarika, Gopalpur, Belut, Badhadih, and Alkusha.

The existing culvert has been a source of trouble for commuters, especially during the rainy season, with frequent accidents reported. The new bridge is expected to improve safety and connectivity in the region.

The event was attended by former Zila Parishad President Mihir Singh, BJP Mandal President Harish Singh, and several local leaders, including Sujit Chakraborty, Swadesh Khawas, Banita Devi, and others.



## EZACBICON24: Eastern Zone ACBI Conference 2024 concludes

PNS : JAMSHEDPUR

The Eastern Zone ACBI Conference 2024 (EZACBICON24), organized under the aegis of the Association of Clinical Biochemists of India (ACBI), concluded successfully at Manipal Tata Medical College (MTMC), Jamshepur. The two-day event, held on October 4th and 5th, featured a vibrant preconference workshop and a one-day scientific conference that brought together leading experts, researchers, and students in the field of clinical biochemistry.

Advancements in Diagnostic Biochemistry: Shaping the Future of Health Care

With the theme "Advancements in Diagnostic Biochemistry: Shaping the Future of Health Care," the conference aimed to advance knowledge and practice in clinical biochemistry. It was conducted by the Department of Biochemistry at MTMC in association with the Department of Biochemistry at MGM Medical College and Hospital, along with former Head of Biochemistry, Dr. Lakshman Lal. Participants and experts from across the Eastern region gathered to discuss emerging trends, challenges, and innovations in the field.



Engaging Preconference Workshop

The event kicked off with an engaging online preconference workshop focusing on Next Generation Sequencing (NGS) and electives in biochemistry. Participants gained valuable insights into the latest developments, with interactive sessions fostering rich discussions on practical solutions and enhancing the overall learning experience.

Inauguration and Esteemed Dignitaries The one-day scientific

conference was formally inaugurated in the presence of esteemed dignitaries. The Organizing President of MTMC delivered the welcome address, setting the tone for the day's proceedings. The Dean of Manipal Tata Medical College and Chief Guest Dr. Pradeep Kumar Patra, a prominent figure in clinical biochemistry, addressed the gathering. Dr. Rajiv Ranjan Sinha, Secretary of ACBI, spoke on behalf of the ACBI President, emphasizing the importance of continued education

and research in advancing the field. Keynote Addresses and Technical Sessions

The conference featured a series of keynote addresses and technical sessions covering a range of relevant topics. Distinguished speakers such as Dr. P.K. Patra, Dr. Jayashree Bhattacharya, Dr. Prakruti Dash, and Dr. Rajesh Jambhulkar underscored the need for continuous improvement in medical education, laboratory practices, and research in India. Their presentations highlighted the evolving role of biochemistry in teaching, diagnostics, and patient care.

Researchers and students were given the opportunity to present oral presentations, providing a platform for young scientists to showcase their work and engage with experts. Panel discussions and lively Q&A sessions enriched participants' understanding and encouraged collaborative exploration of new ideas.

Dr. Vanita Lal, ACBI Zonal Council Member, was among the notable attendees who contributed to the success of the conference. Her presence, along with other distinguished guests, added significant value to the event's objectives of fostering collaboration and knowledge sharing.

## CMPDI plants 1000 saplings under Special Campaign 4.0

PNS : RANCHI

CMPDI as part of Special Campaign 4.0 and under the "Ek Ped Maa Ke Naam" initiative organised a plantation drive in association with State Forest Department, Ranchi and planted 1000 nos. of Saplings at Nagar Van, Bariatu, Ranchi. The program was graced by Ajay Kumar, Director (TP&D), Satish Jha, Director (T/ES) and Achyut Ghatak, Director (TRD&T); S. R. Natesh, IFS, CCF Wildlife; Shrikant Verma, IFS, Member Secretary, State EAC, DFO, Ranchi; G. N. Yadav, ACF, Wildlife, Ranchi Forest Division and other Senior officials from CMPDI and State Forest Department, Ranchi were also present and participated in the program. Additionally, CMPDI has also sponsored installation of benches and dustbins within the Nagar Van premises. Project "Samridhi: Developing Healthcare Skills through General Nursing & Midwifery (GNM)". Project is aimed at promoting healthcare and education in extremist affected tribal blocks of Jharkhand. The project cost worth ₹266.67 Lakhs. The MoA was signed by R. K. Mahapatro, GM (HRD/CSR), CMPDI and Sri Sourav Roy, CEO, Tata Steel Foundation. Under this initiative, 30 girls from extremist affected areas will receive GNM training to equip them with healthcare skills for gainful employment.





**NATION 5**

**SPORT 7**

UK EVACUATES BRITISH NATIONALS FROM LEBANON AS CONFLICT ESCALATES

INDIA BAG U18 TEAM SILVER IN WOMEN'S SECTION AT ASIAN YOUTH ARCHERY

Published From  
DELHI LUCKNOW BHOPAL  
BHUBANESWAR RANCHI  
RAIPUR CHANDIGARH  
DEHRADUN HYDERABAD  
VIJAYWADA

RANCHI, SUNDAY OCTOBER 6, 2024; PAGES 12 ₹3



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## Exit Polls indicate upsets

### Congress to sweep Haryana

RAJESH KUMAR ■ NEW DELHI/HARYANA

The exit polls have predicted a thumping majority for Congress in Haryana, after a decade. The ruling Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) is projected to trail significantly. According to the exit polls the regional parties will have considerable losses. With this, the political landscape of Haryana is set for a dramatic shift. The voter turnout was 61.19 percent till 8 pm on Saturday. The results will be declared on October 8. The Dainik Bhaskar poll predicted the Congress getting 44-54 seats and the BJP 15-29 seats in the 90-member Haryana Assembly. The Republic-Matrise poll put the Congress tally even higher at 55-62 seats as against the BJP's 18-24. According to NDTV's Poll of Polls, 55-62 seats are predicted for the Congress while the ruling BJP may win 20-32 seats. The Red Mike-Datansh exit poll gave the Congress 50-55 seats in Haryana and the BJP at 20-25, while the Dhruv Research poll pegged the Congress at 50-64 seats, BJP 22-32 seats, and others 3-8 seats. Peoples' Pulse exit poll



Voters wait in a queue to cast their votes at a polling station in Rohtak, Haryana PTI

gave the Congress 49-60 seats and the BJP 20-32 seats in Haryana. Most exit polls pegged the Indian National Lok Dal (INLD) tally higher than that of the Jannayak Janta Party (JJP), while others were seen getting up to 10 seats. The ruling BJP is eyeing a

hat-trick while the Congress is hoping to make a comeback in the state after a decade. The other key contestants are Congress, JJP, INLD, Aam Aadmi Party (AAP), INLD, Bahujan Samaj Party (BSP), and Azad Samaj Party (ASP). Key candidates include Chief Minister Nayab Singh Saini, BJP leaders Anil Vij and OP Dhankar, Congress leaders Bhupinder Singh Hooda and Vinesh Phogat, INLD's Abhay Singh Chautala, and JJP's Dushyant Chautala. The BJP's campaign was spearheaded by Prime Minister Narendra Modi, who addressed four rallies, where he attacked the Congress on several issues and said they kept every matter important for the country entangled, including the Ram temple issue. Congress leader Rahul Gandhi also addressed many public meetings where he said a "Congress storm" is on its way in Haryana and his party would form the government, which will be one for the poor and farmers, and a "mohabbat ki dukan" will be opened in every corner of the state.

## Cliffhanger in Jammu and Kashmir

MOHIT KANDHARI ■ JAMMU

If exit polls are to be believed, a hung verdict is likely in Jammu and Kashmir Assembly polls. An overall voter turnout of 63.88 percent was reported in the polls, the first after post Abrogation of Articles 370 and 35-A. The results will be declared on October 8. The pre-poll alliance partners, the National Conference, and the Congress Party enjoy an edge over the rival Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP). However, the exit polls differed



on the question of the single largest political party in the fray. The India Today-CVoter exit poll predicted that the saffron party is likely to secure between 27 and 31 seats. The opposition's INDIA Bloc

(including the National Conference, Congress, and others) may bag around 11 to 15 seats in the region and Mehbooba Mufti's People's Democratic Party (PDP) is likely to get between 0-2 seats. In contrast, the Bhaskar Reporters poll predicted 20-25 seats for the BJP and predicted NC-Cong may get the lion's share of 35-40 seats while giving PDP 4-7 seats. According to their exit poll, 12-18 seats are likely to be bagged by the Independent candidates.



## INDIA Bloc hits a rough patch in UP

BISWAJEET BANERJEE ■ LUCKNOW

The recent camaraderie between the Samajwadi Party (SP) and Congress, fostered through the INDIA bloc, is now under strain as the two parties wrestle over seat-sharing arrangements for the upcoming by-elections in Uttar Pradesh. Despite their shared success in the Lok Sabha elections—where the SP-Congress coalition secured 43 out of 80 seats in the state—the upcoming contest for 10 Assembly seats has exposed tensions within the alliance over the Muslim vote bank. The 10 seats up for by-elections—Meerapur, Ghaziabad, Khair, Kundarki, Karhal, Phulpur, Sisamau, Milkipur, Katheri, and Majhwan—were previously held by the SP (five seats), BJP (three), RLD (one), and the NISHAD Party (one) in the 2022 state elections. While the common goal of

defeating the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) remains a binding factor for both SP and Congress, a growing struggle for dominance over the Muslim vote bank has created significant friction. Muslim voters, who form a critical part of the electorate in several of these constituencies, have become the focal point of the dispute, particularly in constituencies like Meerapur in Bijnor district, Phulpur in Allahabad, and Majhwan in eastern Uttar Pradesh. "This is an interesting turn of events, as both so-called allies are now competing for Muslim votes and eyeing constituencies where Muslims are in the majority," said Manoj Bhadra, a political analyst familiar with the region. According to Bhadra, the tussle over these key seats is threatening the fragile alliance, with each party vying for control over territories seen as potential game-changers in future elections.

## Two terrorists killed in Kupwara



Representational image

MOHIT KANDHARI ■ JAMMU

A day after India decided to send External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar to Pakistan to attend the Shanghai Cooperation Organisation (SCO) summit on October 15-16, alert troops of the Indian army Saturday foiled an infiltration bid along the line of control in which two Pakistani terrorists were killed in the North Kashmir district of Kupwara. A joint operation was launched by the Indian army along with the special operations group of the Jammu and Kashmir police in the forward areas of Gugaldhar, Kupwara based on intelligence inputs about a possible infiltration bid late Friday evening. The troops, after noticing the suspicious movement, challenged the heavily armed group of infiltrators which resulted in a heavy exchange of firing. Two terrorists were neutralised in the ongoing operations. Confirming the same, Srinagar-based China Corps posted on X, "The security forces have eliminated two terrorists in the ongoing Operation Gugaldhar. War-like stores have been recovered. The search of the area is underway and the operation is in progress". So far 16 terrorists have been eliminated in various anti-terrorist/anti-infiltration operations in Kashmir valley this year. The number of active terrorists has also come down to 80 in the region. At the same time, troops continue to remain in a state of high alert to foil infiltration bids from across the line of control as several launch pads remain active in the area.

## Teen raped, while out celebrating Navratri

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE ■ VADODARA

A teenage girl was allegedly raped by two unidentified persons, while another accomplice restrained her male friend, on a deserted stretch on the outskirts of Gujarat's Vadodara city, police said on Saturday. The alleged crime was committed on a Navratri night when revellers come out in large numbers to participate in garba events organised throughout the city. The survivor told the police that she had gone out to meet her childhood male friend at the city's Laxmipura area at around 11 pm, said Rohan Anand, Superintendent of Police - Vadodara (rural). "They were returning through the Bhayli locality on a Scooty when at around midnight, five persons on two-wheelers intercepted them on an isolated road," the police officer said. Two of them left after some argument, while three others remained. Of these three, two individuals raped the teenage girl, while the third person restrained her male friend, he said. "As soon as the culprits left, the teens informed the

### Another woman raped in Pune



### FIR registered 2 years after woman alleges rape

SAUMYA SHUKLA ■ NEW DELHI

A First Information Report (FIR) has been registered in Southwest Delhi's RK Puram area, two years after a 42-year-old woman was allegedly raped in a five star Hyatt Regency hotel. The woman has claimed that the accused threatened her of dire consequences with her nude pictures. A case under section 376 (rape) and 506 (criminal intimidation) of Indian Penal Code (IPC) was registered at RK Puram police station on October 3. The accused has been

identified as Amit Malik who is also in his 40s. According to the FIR, the victim met the accused, identified as Amit Malik, through Instagram and used to message her frequently on Facebook messenger and met him for the first time on April 21, 2022. "We started talking frequently after the first meeting. We planned for dinner at Hyatt Regency hotel on April 23, 2022 but upon reaching the hotel he insisted that we check-in in room to know each other more personally," the victim claimed.

police. Cops reached the spot, cordoned off the area and collected evidence. Teams have been formed to identify the culprits using technical surveillance and other means," Anand said. The Gujarat government has lifted restrictions on garba celebration timings for this year's Navratri festival. A lot of evidence has been recovered from the site. "It was very dark in this place at night. The victim and her friend could not recognise the faces of the accused, but they have described their style of speech and body build. This incident has nothing to do with Garba," a senior police officer said. An investigation has been initiated based on the complaint of the victim's father. The victim's friend is studying in class 11. Five teams of district police (LCB, SOG, and city police) have been deployed to apprehend the accused. In a similar crime, a 21-year-old woman was allegedly raped by three unidentified persons, who also tied her male friend using his clothes and belt and assaulted him, at an isolated place on the outskirts of Pune in Maharashtra on Thursday night, police had said.

## 11-year-old raped, killed, villagers clash with Cops

SAUGAR SENGUPTA ■ KOLKATA

Another horrific case of rape and murder was reported from the Mahishmari village in South 24 Parganas district. An 11-year-old school girl was abducted, raped and murdered late on Friday night, sources said. Following this, police and villagers fought pitched battles on Saturday, leaving several people injured. The girl was allegedly picked up from around the house of the local village Pradhan, brutalised and killed. The body of the victim was found at the banks of the Hooghly River on Saturday morning leading to mass outrage. The accused was arrested early on Saturday, police said. The villagers reacted after the village Pradhan refused to share the CCTV footage from



outside his house, locals said, adding the "angry villagers then got suspicious and hundreds of them attacked and set the Kripakhali police outpost afire. They alleged that the minor, who was missing since October 4 and that police did not act on their complaint immediately. Following this the police resorted to heavy lathi-charge and bursting tear gas shells to disperse the crowd, sources said adding several men were injured during the clash. The

Friday incident takes place amid an ongoing protests in the RG Kar Medical College rape and murder case that took place on August 9. "The police are taking sides of the miscreants," locals said, alleging that "a cousin of the victim had in fact been raped a few years ago and the police did nothing in that case leading to the girl to commit suicide then." District SP PC Dhali said, "we have arrested the culprit within six hours of the victim being abducted," adding that the villagers' allegations of lax handling of the case were unfounded. The Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) and Left leaders who reached Mahishmari on Saturday blocked the van carrying the body of the victim for postmortem. According to

CPI(M) leader Meenakshi Mukherjee, this was done "so that an RG Kar like incident, where the body was hurriedly sent for funeral after a fake postmortem to save some big fishes can be prevented." Meanwhile, BJP MLA Agnimitra Paul had heated exchanges with local Trinamool Congress MP Pratima Mondal even as the villagers raised "go-back" slogans against her. "The victim bore injury marks similar to that of Abhaya in RG Kar Medical College," the BJP MLA said. While Paul raised the issue of RG Kar and Sandeshkhali to say that "the law and order of Bengal has completely collapsed," Mondal resorted to counter-sloganeering and cited the instances of Hathras and Unnao.

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# Will provide Rs 3 Lakh to women if Centre gives back Rs 136000 crore: CM

**PNS : RANCHI**  
 Chief Minister Hemant Soren today said that the coal companies of the Central Government owe Jharkhand Rs 1 lakh 36 thousand crore. If the Central Government makes this money available to Jharkhand, then the state government will be in a position to send three lakh rupees to every woman's account. He said that the state government has also decided to build a new medical college hospital in Jamshedpur; its foundation stone will be laid soon.

The CM said that our government has been continuously trying to provide food, clothing and shelter to the people here since the beginning. The CM said that a large number of people of



**Chief Minister Hemant Soren pays tribute to martyr Baba Tilka Manjhi during a programme at Dimna, Chowk in Jamshedpur on Saturday. PNS**

Jharkhand go to other states for employment, so our government made a law that 75 per cent local youth will have to be employed in the industries set up here. The youth here also got the benefit of this law. Nowadays, our young men and women have got employment opportunities in the private sector.

The CM said that our government has done the work of giving respect to the

women of the state. Under the "Jharkhand Chief Minister Mainiya Samman Yojana", financial assistance is going to the accounts of women. The Chief Minister said that our government has transferred two installments under the Mainiya Samman Yojana. Now soon the third installment will go to Durga Puja, so that your festival can be celebrated happily.

Soren was addressing people at the inauguration of the newly constructed building of MGM Hospital Dimna, Mango and the launch of OPD program organized at Baba Tilka Manjhi Maidan, Mango, Jamshedpur today.

The CM said that today is a historic day for Kolhan, East Singhbhum region. Our government is dedicating a



**Chief Minister Hemant Soren addresses people in a programme in Jamshedpur on Saturday. PNS**

grand hospital of 500 beds with the aim of providing better health care to the general public of this area. He said that for years the hospital located in Tata city was in the service of the public, due to being years

old, its condition was deteriorating. In such a situation, as per the decision of the state government, a new medical college and hospital will be in the service of the people of Kolhan from today. The CM said that we all should be proud that Jharkhand did the work of protecting the people of the country from corona infection. Jharkhand remained number 1 in supplying medical oxygen in the whole country.

The CM said that in times of dire circumstances, our government kept working to save the lives of the people of the whole country by supplying oxygen. He said that people of all classes and communities including the poor, farmers, labourers are being provided benefits through different schemes by the state government. Loans of up to Rs 2 lakh of farmers were waived. The outstanding electricity bill of up to 200 units of poor electricity consumers was waived and electricity up to 200 units was made free. He

said that our government worked to implement the Sarvajan Pension Scheme in the state. This scheme was so effective that at present, pension is being provided to all eligible people under social security.

On this occasion, Ministers Banna Gupta, Ramdas Soren, MLAs Mangal Kalindi, Samir Kumar Mohanty, Sanjeev Sardar, Savita Mahato, Chairman, Minority Commission Hidayatullah Khan, Vice President, Gau-Sewa Commission Raju Giri, District 20-Point Vice President, Mohan Karmakar, besides Deputy Commissioner and Superintendent of Police of East Singhbhum District and many officers of the district administration were present.

## BJP PLEDGES RS 2100 EVERY MONTH TO WOMEN OF STATE Panchpran promises to give cheap cylinders, jobs and houses

**PNS : RANCHI**  
 The Bharatiya Janta Party on Saturday organised a Panchpran program in the State capital and made five announcements or promises regarding the assembly elections in the presence of BJP State President Babul Marandi.

During the programme, Marandi said "During Navratri, we all worship for nine days and BJP is also engaged in the worship of the country along with the worship of Maa Durga and Shakti. BJP is continuously working for the empowerment of mothers and sisters. BJP and PM Modi government gave 33 percent reservation to mothers and sisters. Due to this, seats were reserved for women in the Legislative Assembly and Lok Sabha."

"BJP started Sukanya Samridhi Yojana. Gas cylinders were provided to women for free. BJP ran Swasth Bharat Swachh Bharat Abhiyan. The poor were given PM Awas houses and 30 crore accounts were opened under PM Matri Garib Yojana, Lakshpati Didi Yojana and Jan Dhan Yojana. BJP started giving bicycles to students. BJP has helped the country and the State develop with many such schemes," said Marandi.

Marandi said that the example of these schemes was given only so that people do not feel that BJP is implementing these schemes after seeing the schemes that Hemant Soren is bringing.

While issuing the Panchpran, Marandi made five announcements and said that BJP will start Gogo Didi Yojana, under which finan-



**BJP State President Babul Marandi along with Union agriculture Minister Shivraj Singh Chauhan, Union Cabinet Minister Annpurna Devi, Assam Chief Minister Himanta Bishwa Sarma, Jharkhand State BJP incharge Lakshmikant Bajpayee, Opposition leader Amar Kumar Bauri and formal Union Minister Arjun Munda release five point agenda manifesto ahead of Jharkhand State Assembly election in Ranchi on Saturday. Pix by Vinay Murmu**

cial assistance of up to Rs 2100 will be transferred to the bank account of every woman of Jharkhand on the 11th of each month. BJP will also start Laxmi Johar in the State, under which LPG gas cylinder will be provided to

all the houses for Rs 500 as well as two free cylinders in a year.

Marandi also stated that BJP will start assured employment in the State under which it will create 5 lakh self-employment opportunities for the youth in Jharkhand in 5 years. Apart from this, fair and transparent recruitment will be done for 2.87 lakh vacant government posts. To ensure this, the recruitment process will be started in the first cabinet meeting itself and by November 2025 about 1.5 lakh recruitments will be complete. Apart from this, an annual calendar will be introduced in which all the existing examinations will be included in a single exam.

BJP will solve the challenges of the youth who are struggling to start their career. For this, will give every graduate and postgraduate youth will be given a Yuva Sathi Allowance of Rs 2,000 per month for two years. This will help them to bear their education and career expenses like books and coaching fees.

## Second phase of Maiyan Samman Yatra begins from Tamar

**PNS : RANCHI**  
 The second phase of Mainiya Samman Yatra today started from Todang Maidan in Tamar, Ranchi district of South Chotanagpur division. In the program organized on the occasion Minister Baby Devi said that Chief Minister Hemant Soren's thinking is to empower women economically. For this reason, he has brought the Jharkhand Chief Minister Mainiya Samman Yojana on the ground, due to which women are becoming economically empowered.



**JMM MLA Kalpana Soren addressing a gathering during the second phase of Maiyan Samman Yatra in Tamar on Saturday. PNS**

Addressing the women, she said that two installments of the amount of JMMSY have been credited to your account. Now preparations are being made to send the third installment. You should shop in the coming festivals. Shop for children. We wish that you are happy and well.

Agriculture Minister Deepika Pandey Singh said that if a woman stands up for herself, then big changes can happen in the society and Jharkhand Chief Minister Hemant Soren is standing with the women of Jharkhand. He is working towards making women empowered, self-reliant and strong. Within the last two months, efforts have been made to respect, empower and make aware half of the population of Jharkhand. She said that we are coming among you only with the power of Nari Shakti.

Tamar MLA Vikas Munda said that Minister Hemant Soren's idea is that women should be empowered. Taking a step towards women empowerment, he has brought Jharkhand Mukhyamantri Mainiya Samman Yojana and has worked to implement it on the ground. This scheme has been implemented to keep

the morale of half of the population of Jharkhand high. He said that it is very important to have willpower to implement any scheme and to bring it to the ground and your favourite Chief Minister Hemant Soren has that willpower.

MLA Kalpana Soren said that wherever you go in Jharkhand, you will definitely find brave martyrs. This is the land of brave martyrs, who sacrificed their lives without caring for their home, family. Due to which today we stand on the land of Jharkhand and proudly call ourselves Jharkhandi. We should move forward by taking inspiration from all those brave martyrs while saluting them. Jharkhand's energetic Chief Minister Hemant Soren has a similar thinking, who is working to empower Jharkhand and half of its population, the women here.

She said that as soon as the Jharkhand government was formed under the leadership of Chief Minister Hemant Soren, in the first cabinet, about 10 thousand cases against the tribals were removed. He is concerned

about the tribals. He wants to empower the voice of the tribal brothers and sisters and is constantly working in this direction.

She said that a lot was learned from the first phase of Mainiya Samman Yatra. We got a chance to go to every corner of Jharkhand. We got an opportunity to know different cultures, customs, a chance to connect with women. She said that for the first time after the formation of Jharkhand, if someone thought about half the population, then it is Chief Minister Hemant Soren, who has brought Jharkhand Mukhyamantri Mainiya Samman Yojana. The amount received from this scheme is not just money, but it is your respect. For the first time, work has been done to empower women economically and mentally through this scheme.

Ranchi Deputy Commissioner Manjunath Bhajantri, Deputy Development Commissioner, officials from various departments and thousands of women were present at the programme.

## FCI celebrates 'Swachhta Hi Sewa' campaign



Under the theme 'Swabhaav Swachhata-Sanskar Swachhata', many programs were organized in the direction of cleanliness from 17.09.2024 to 02.10.2024 in Swachhata Hi Seva Abhiyan 2024 at Food Corporation of India Regional Office, Ranchi. The program was started by taking Swachhata Shabda by all the officers / employees of this office. Apart from this, a medical health camp was also arranged for the cleaning staff to make them more aware about health related issues along with cleanliness and they were also made aware about various government schemes. Cleanliness campaign and walk-a-thon were conducted by the officers / employees in the area around the office, the office went to the nearby government school and administered the oath of cleanliness to the children and made them aware about cleanliness. Under the Swachhata Targeted Unit, the places filled with dirt in the park and food storage warehouse located near the office area were selected and cleaned. On 02.10.2024, under the leadership of Manoj Kumar, General Manager (Region), Food Corporation of India Regional Office Gandhi Jayanti was celebrated and on this occasion sanitation workers were felicitated by giving them gifts. Also, the Swachhata Hi Seva program was concluded by taking a pledge to maintain cleanliness throughout life.

## Shahdeo and Pandey new JPCC Chief Spokespersons

Lal Kishorenath Shahdeo and Sajay Pandey were nominated Chief Spokesperson by the Jharkhand Pradesh Congress Committee (JPCC) on Saturday. The State Congress Media Department was expanded by JPCC President Keshav Mahato Kamlesh, State Congress Media Chairman Satish Pal Munjani said that Sanjay Pandey and Lal Kishorenath Shahdeo have been nominated as the Chief Spokesperson of the State Congress while expanding the Media Committee to present the party's policies, principles, programmes to the public through the media. Munjani has expressed hope that the leaders will strengthen the organization by following the instructions of the leadership in the interest of the organization.



## UBI holds visithan to spread awareness about vigilance



Union Bank of India (UBI), Zonal Office Ranchi organized a visithan to Sports Authority, Ranchi, Jharkhand on Saturday to spread awareness about vigilance. On this occasion, Zonal Head, Bajinath Singh administered the oath of vigilance and integrity against corruption to the people present. Coaches, players and common people of Sports Authority, Ranchi, Jharkhand participated in this program. In his address, the Zonal Head said that we should raise our voice against any kind of corruption and contribute to making the country corruption free. He called upon the people to move ahead in their lives with honesty.

## Closing ceremony of Hindi Fortnight held by Indian Bank

Hindi Fortnight was celebrated from September 14 to September 27 in the Ranchi Zone Office of Indian Bank. Under which 5 competitions were organized. Prize distribution ceremony was organized on October 5 under the chairmanship of Zone Manager, Ram Swaroop Sarkar. On this occasion, Deputy Zone Manager Vjendra Singh Malik, Assistant General Manager Prabhakar Kumar and all the staff members were present.

## Training of Trainers Programme at SBPS Ranchi

Sarala Birla Public School, Ranchi, hosted a two-day Training of Trainers Certification Programme for nominated CBSE resource persons on October 4th and 5th, 2024 organized by CBSE, the workshop was designed and delivered by the IFCL, DoPT, Government of India. The eminent resource persons were Jitendra Bhatti, Deputy Director of the Jipratetic Training Institute of Secretariat Training and Management; Ashish Bose, Retired Senior Lecturer at the Chandigarh Institute of Hotel Management; and Mukesh Shelat, Principal of DPS Varanasi. The event also featured distinguished delegates from CBSE, including Ravi Prakash, Head/In Charge of COE Patna, along with Jyoti Prasad and Raghavender Kumar from CBSE Patna region. Over 77 participants, including Principals, Vice Principals and teachers from various schools of Ranchi and outskirts attended the workshop. Manoj Srivastava, Director-Training, CBSE sent a message in which he said that the main aim of this training is to empower the participants with the techniques and training skills required for an impactful learning which will help them in empowering others for 50 hours of CPD enunciated in NEP 2020. Principal Paramjit Kaur expressed her gratitude to CBSE for conducting the workshop. She said that this training helped the participants to hone their training skills to promote effective learning and a culture of excellence.



## CEO exhorts polling officials for speedy voting during Assembly polls



**PNS : RANCHI**

Chief Electoral Officer K. Ravi Kumar said that in the upcoming assembly elections, efforts have to be made to expedite the voting process so that voters do not have to stand in queues for a long time. For this, the voting process of voters has to be completed on the basis of chain system inside the voting compartment. He said that for this, all the officials are being trained as per the instructions of the Election Commission of India, which will help in speeding up the voting process.

He said that it has to be kept in mind that no voter should be deprived of his right to vote. For this, necessary preparations should be done before time so that voters do not have to wait for their turn by standing in queue unnecessarily. Kumar was addressing the five-day training cum certification program organized for the newly posted RO and ARO at the Election House, running from 5 to 9 October.

Kumar said that RO and ARO play an important role in a peaceful, clean and fair election process. The Election Commission of India has issued necessary guidelines on all points related to their duties. Officials should study these guidelines in detail and ensure compliance of these in their duty area. He elaborately shed light on topics related to elections such as preparations of polling stations, inspection of arrangements present at the centers, timely and proper distribution of voter slips, pre-election preparations to be done at the level of BLO. Along with this, in his address, he discussed in detail the unexpected common mistakes related to elections and the measures to resolve them. During the five-day training session, the national level chief trainers are to provide sequential

training on topics related to elections to the officials in various sessions. In which they will be given point-wise training on election related topics such as eligibility and disqualification of candidates, allocation of election symbol, instructions related to nomination, criminal antecedents, e-roll, vulnerability mapping, training of EVM and VVPAT, model code of conduct, expenditure management, sweep, arrangement of polling party, postal ballot, paid news, MCMC, counting of votes etc.

In the training programme, state level trainers Geeta Chaubey, SN Jameel, Sunil Kumar highlighted their respective topics through audio-visual medium as per the scheduled sessions. Meanwhile, Joint Chief Electoral Officer Subodh Kumar said that "Art 81" program is being organized on 18-19 October at Jaipal Singh Munda Stadium, Ranchi to make voters aware about voting. He said that in this program organized under the guidance of Chief Electoral Officer K. Ravi Kumar, work will be done to increase knowledge and alertness towards voting through painting of Jharkhand's artwork, culture, natural beauty. Today he was doing physical inspection of Jaipal Singh Munda Stadium, Ranchi, the place selected for organizing "Art 81" program. He said that in order to complete the entire preparation of this art festival lasting for two days on time, Ranchi District Administration and Chief Electoral Officer's office are preparing an action plan by establishing coordination. He told that in this festival, not only from Jharkhand but also from other states, famous artists of the field of painting are going to participate. Along with this, entertaining programs like street plays, rangoli, speeches etc.

## Ethics Committee formed at RINPAS

**PNS : RANCHI**

An Ethics Committee has been formed at RINPAS, through which ethical approval for all research work will be granted. This committee is approved by the National Ethics Committee Registry for Biomedical and Health Research (NECRBHR), Department of Health Research, Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, Government of India. As per regulations, a training workshop for the Ethics Committee was organized on Saturday. In the workshop, training was provided by Associate Professor, CIP, Dr Umesh, and Additional Professor, RINPAS, Dr. Masroor Jahan on the topics of Research Ethics, Good Clinical Practice, and Standard Operating Procedures. Director of RINPAS, Dr. Jayati Simlai welcomed all the members. Committee Chairman Dr. Ashok Kumar Prasad and Member Secretary Professor Amool Ranjan Singh shared their thoughts. Other members participated in the training workshop were Associate Professor, Dr Manisha Kiran and HOD, PSW, Dr Bhuvan Jyoti, Dental Surgeon, Dr Sinha, Principal (Retd), DAV Gandhinagar, members from DLSA and Law University. "

## Cong leader Ajay Nath Shahdev meets CM Hemant Soren

**Urges for Mega IT Park, Sports Complex and Super Specialty Hospital in Hatia Assembly**



**PNS: RANCHI**

General Secretary of Jharkhand Pradesh Congress Committee Ajay Nath Shahdev today met Chief Minister Hemant Soren at his residential office on Kanke Road.

Shahdev said that he had gone to meet the Chief Minister regarding various demands of Hatia assembly constituency. He submitted a demand letter for establishment of Mega IT Park in Hatia assembly constituency, construction of sports complex in Ratu and Nagdi blocks and construction of multi-specialty hospital in Nagdi on the lines of Ranchi Sadar Hospital.

Shahdev said that the construction of Mega IT Park will provide employment to more than 2 lakh youth of the state. Along with employment gen-

eration, the economic condition of the state will also be strengthened. With the construction of sports complex in Nagdi and Ratu blocks, children and youth of rural areas will get basic facilities for sports activities. This will not only keep them physically healthy but will also help in building a better future.

The construction of a multi-specialty hospital in Nagdi block will reduce the load on RIMS and Sadar Hospital and a large population of Ranchi district and surrounding areas will get better health facilities near them.

Shahdev said that the Chief Minister has shown his positive attitude on these demands. It is expected that soon the Hemant government will implement these development plans in Hatia assembly constituency.



# Congress is being run by gang of urban Naxals: PM Modi

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE ■ WASHIM (MAHARASHTRA)

Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Saturday alleged that the Congress is being run by a "gang of urban Naxals", and asked people to unite to defeat the "dangerous agenda" of that party. He also accused the Congress of looting the poor and not improving their condition for its selfish politics.

"They (Congress) think that if we all unite, then their agenda to divide the country will fail," Modi said, addressing a rally in Washim district of Maharashtra after launching various projects. "Congress only knows how to loot the poor and keep them poor for its selfish politics. It only knows how to divide people. We have to be alert and remain united. Congress is run by a gang of urban Naxals," he alleged. Everyone can see how closely Congress stands with those people who do not harbour good intentions for India, Modi said. "Drugs worth thousands of crores of rupees were seized in Delhi recently. A Congress leader is suspected to be the kingpin. Congress wants to contest elections from the money it gets by pushing the youth towards drugs," he said.

The Indian Youth Congress had said on October 3 that Tushar Goel, the suspected



kingpin, was expelled from the organisation on October 17, 2022, for anti-party activities, soon after BJP spokesperson and MP Sudhanshu Trivedi charged the opposition party with having links with the drug dealers. Modi alleged that Congress' thinking has been foreign from the very beginning. "Like the British rule, the Congress family also does not consider Dalits, backward and tribals as their equals. They feel that India should be ruled by only one family. That is why they have always maintained a derogatory attitude towards the Banjara community," he said. "Saints from the Banjara community inspired culture and spiritualism. Britishers harassed the community, but

when they left, successive Congress governments continued the trend and prevented the community from coming into the mainstream," the PM alleged. The PM also accused the Congress of leaving no stone unturned to make the lives of farmers miserable. "The governments run by the Congress used the money meant for farmers and irrigation schemes for corruption," he alleged. Modi asked people to beware of the Congress propaganda of false assurance of farm loan waiver. "People in Telangana are still waiting for the loan waiver. In Karnataka, the Congress government stopped the irrigation schemes started by the BJP regime," he said.

Stating that Maharashtra has the capacity to lead the country to economic progress, Modi said the state government was giving double benefit to farmers in terms of financial assistance, in addition to what the central government was providing.

When the Maha Vikas Aghadi (MVA) government was in power, it put a speed breaker in the work of the Poharadevi pilgrimage centre upgradation, which was started during the chief ministership of Devendra Fadnavis. But it has now been completed at a cost of Rs 700 crore, he said.

As long as MVA was in power in Maharashtra, it worked with only two agendas - to stop the projects related to farmers and to commit corruption in the money of these projects. The funds sent by the Centre were being diverted away from the beneficiaries by that government, he claimed.

The prime minister, who launched various initiatives of Rs 23,300 crore related to agriculture and animal husbandry sectors, expressed happiness over the completion of the Banjara Virasat Museum in Poharadevi.

This museum would introduce future generations to the ancient culture and vast heritage of the Banjara community, he said.

## Removing 50 per cent cap on reservation necessary to protect Constitution: Rahul Gandhi

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE ■ KOLHAPUR (MAHARASHTRA)

Congress leader Rahul Gandhi on Saturday said removing the existing 50 per cent cap on reservation is necessary to protect the Constitution, and asserted that the INDIA bloc will ensure the passage of laws to this effect in Parliament.

The Leader of the Opposition in Lok Sabha also attacked the BJP-led government, saying there was no use of bowing before Shivaji Maharaj after "scaring people, destroying the Constitution and institutions in the country". Holding a copy of the Constitution during an address in Kolhapur, Gandhi called it a symbol of Shivaji's ideas.

This is Rahul Gandhi's second visit to western Maharashtra in a month. He visited Sangli last month to unveil the statue of late Congress leader Patangrao Kadam. His party wrested the Kolhapur and Sangli Lok Sabha seats from Shiv Sena and BJP, respectively after losing them in 2014 and 2019. Speaking at the 'Samvidhan Samman Sammelan' here,



Gandhi said the Congress and the INDIA bloc, a coalition of over two dozen opposition parties, will also bring out laws to enable a caste-based census.

"We will ensure in Lok Sabha and Rajya Sabha that the 50 per cent cap on reservation is removed and no power can stop it. Removing this 50 per cent limit is necessary to protect the Constitution," he said.

Rahul said when his party talks of caste census, it wants to add two more aspects to it: to identify the population of each community and how much control they have over India's financial system. The caste-based census will help gather data on the population of various

The history of Dalits or OBCs was not being taught in schools, he said, alleging that efforts are now being made to erase that history.

The Congress leader said the public sector is being privatised, and stressed that it should be termed de-reservation. He accused the RSS and BJP of doing this for years. He called the Agniveer scheme - for short-term induction of personnel in the Army, Navy and Air Force - a ploy to snatch pension from 90 per cent of people. Earlier, speaking at an event, where Rahul unveiled a statue of Shivaji, Gandhi alleged that the warrior king's statue collapsed in the state's Sindhudurg district as the intentions and ideology of those in power were wrong. He said the intentions are visible and cannot be hidden.

"They built Shivaji Maharaj's statue and in a few days, it collapsed. Their intentions were not right. The statue gave them the message that if you built Shivaji Maharaj's statue then you have to follow his ideals. Which is why the statue collapsed because their ideology is wrong," he said.

## Setting up Justice K Hema Committee unconstitutional: Kerala HC Lawyer

KUMAR CHELAPPAN ■ KOCHI

The setting up of the Justice K Hema Committee by the Kerala Government to study the sexual harassment faced by women artists in Malayalam film industry was an unconstitutional act, according to a highly respected lawyer in Kerala High Court.

K Ramkumar, senior advocate, who has fought many landmark cases including the infamous P Rajan case that shook the nation during the 1975-77 internal emergency days questioned the propriety of setting up a committee at the cost of the public exchequer. He also disclosed that the Government of Kerala cannot make any legislation based on the committee's report as cinematography law was an exclusive domain of the Centre as per the 7th schedule of Indian Constitution. "There are sufficient provisions in our judicial system to undertake investigation into sexual harassment faced by women in all sections of the society including the film industry. The Kerala Government has spent Rs 1.55 crore on the three-member Hema Committee that probed the sexual harassment faced by female artists. It was sheer waste of time and money," the veteran lawyer told The Pioneer in an exclusive interview.

He pointed out that the Kerala Government had set up a committee under the chairmanship of Adoor Gopalakrishnan, movie



maker who had been honored with Dada Saheb Phalke Award for his lifelong contribution to the world of cinema. Though Gopalakrishnan had submitted his findings with recommendations to the Government, nothing has happened," said Ramkumar. He said the Indian Parliament itself had passed two legislations, the Vishaka Guidelines in 1997 following a Supreme Court directive against sexual harassment at workplaces and the Sexual Harassment of Women at Workplace (Prevention, Prohibition and Redressal) Act 2013. Both these guideline and statute have sufficient powers to take on the aggressors and predators who torment women, said Ramkumar. The Kerala Government would have to answer an important question which the court is certain to ask. "The constitution of the Justice Hema Committee itself was an act of transgression as a Centre is the lone authority to enact legislation against

sexual harassment of women at workplaces. The seventh schedule of the Constitution that has enumerated the powers of the Parliament and State Legislatures under Lists 1 and 2 have made it clear that the Centre is the sole authority to enact laws under cinematograph films while the State is left with the responsibility of collecting entertainment tax accrued through exhibition of films," said Ramkumar. The Hema Committee report submitted to the Government in 2020 was kept as a State Secret for four years and it was released by the State under orders from High Court in September. The report opened a floodgate of scandals and spicy reports titled Me Too and has put many leading stars on the defensive. Film actor Mukesh, who is also a CPI(M) MLA, Siddique, film actor with Congress connections, Maniyan Pillai Raju, Idavela Babu, Baburaj and Jayasooraya are running helter-skelter as a consequence of the findings of the Hema Committee.

## USD 55 million needed to implement WHO strategic preparedness, response plan

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE ■ NEW DELHI

A whopping USD 55 million will be needed to implement the World Health Organization (WHO) Global Strategic Preparedness, Readiness, and Response Plan (SRPP) over next one year to combat the rising threat of dengue and other Aedes-borne arboviruses, now affecting at least 130 countries.

This plan aims to reduce the burden of disease, suffering, and deaths associated with these viruses, including Zika and chikungunya, by fostering a coordinated global response. Currently, an estimated four billion people are at risk of arbovirus infections, a figure projected to rise to five billion by 2050. Dengue cases have surged across all six WHO regions, with the number of reported cases nearly doubling each year since 2021. As of the end of August this year, there have been over 12.3 million dengue cases—almost double the 6.5 million cases recorded for all of 2023, as per the WHO statement.

The plan outlines priority actions to control transmission and offers recommendations to affected countries across various sectors, including disease surveillance, laboratory activities, vector control, community engagement, clinical management, and research and development, through a whole-of-society and



regional approach. Dengue is endemic in tropical and subtropical regions, particularly in South-East Asia, the Western Pacific, and the Americas. The situation is also critical in Africa, where countries face multiple health challenges amid conflict and natural disasters, straining already fragile health systems. In December 2023, the WHO classified the current global dengue upsurge as a grade 3 emergency—the highest level of alert. Dr Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus, WHO Director-General, stated, "From maintaining clean environments to supporting vector control and seeking timely medical care, everyone has a role to play in the fight against dengue. This plan is a roadmap to turn the tide against this disease, protect vulnerable populations, and pave the way for a healthier future." Welcoming the WHO's GSRP plan, scientist Dr. Kavita Singh, the South Asia

Director at the Drugs for Neglected Diseases Initiative (DNDi), emphasised the profound impact of climate change on disease patterns, particularly for dengue and other vector-borne illnesses. She expressed concern that the incidence of these diseases is rising globally, with new countries increasingly becoming hosts to these pathogens, which were once confined to specific regions. This shift is straining health systems, which are often ill-equipped to handle the surge in cases. Dr. Singh underscored the urgent need for coordinated global efforts to address not only the immediate threats posed by these diseases but also the underlying factors that facilitate their spread, including the escalating effects of climate change. Key factors driving the rapid spread of dengue include unplanned urbanization, inadequate water, sanitation, and hygiene practices, climate change, and increased international travel, said

## Lt General Srivastava assumes charge of Srinagar based Chinar Corps



PIONEER NEWS SERVICE ■ JAMMU

Lieutenant General Prashant Srivastava Saturday assumed command of the strategic Srinagar-based Chinar Corps. Lt Gen Srivastava took charge from Lt Gen Rajiv Ghai, who assumed command as the director general of military operations at the Army headquarters, a defence spokesperson said. On assumption of command, Lt-Gen Srivastava paid obeisance at the Chinar War Memorial at Badami Bagh Cantonment, Srinagar, honoring the sacrifices of the Bravehearts for the Nation. A battle-hardened soldier, Lieutenant General Prashant Srivastava possesses extensive operational experience in Counter Insurgency and Counter terrorist Operations having served in both Jammu and Kashmir as well as the North East. He has commanded

the Counter Insurgency Force (Victor) in South Kashmir.

Meanwhile, Lt Gen Rajiv Ghai remained at the helm for the last 16 months. The period witnessed a strong security architecture facilitating peace and stability in the region. It saw the conduct of two incident-free Amarnath Yatras, the Parliamentary Elections in May 2024 and the Assembly Elections after a period of 10 years, in September to October 2024. The Corps achieved numerous successes in Counter Infiltration Operations on the Line of Control and Counter Terrorists Operations in the valley, thereby dealing a significant and crippling blow to the terror network. The new Chinar Corps commander said that integrated efforts of the civil society and the security forces are the way forward to dismantle the terror infrastructure and nefarious designs of the adversary.

## Verbal spat intensifies before UP by-elections

BISWAJEET BANERJEE ■ LUCKNOW

As the by-elections for 10 seats in Uttar Pradesh approach, Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath and former Chief Minister Akhilesh Yadav have intensified their verbal attacks, signaling an escalating political showdown. Phrases like "kutte ki puchh (dog's tail)," "mafia," and "naak ragadna (rubbing nose)" have surfaced in this exchange, marking a sharp rise in political rhetoric between the two leaders.

Yogi Adityanath, known for his aggressive campaigning style, has focused his attacks on the Samajwadi Party (SP) and its governance record. Meanwhile, Akhilesh Yadav, leveraging social media platforms like X (formerly Twitter), has taken calculated yet increasingly sharp jabs at Yogi's leadership. While Yogi



emphasises his Hindutva agenda and criticises the law-and-order situation under SP's rule, Akhilesh portrays the BJP Government as authoritarian, often accusing it of using police power to stifle dissent. Akhilesh Yadav, traditionally more cautious in his attacks, has shifted to a more confrontational approach following SP's success in the 2024 Lok Sabha elections. SP secured 37 out of 80 seats in Uttar Pradesh, a significant

gain, while the BJP's count dropped to 33 from 62. This victory has emboldened Akhilesh, fueling his direct confrontations with Yogi Adityanath. The political landscape in Uttar Pradesh saw a dramatic shift with these results. SP's resurgence, after years of electoral setbacks, has positioned Akhilesh as a formidable challenger for the upcoming 2027 Assembly elections. His aggressive stance reflects the party's

determination to build on this momentum. Analysts predict that the verbal sparring between Yogi and Akhilesh will intensify as the 2027 assembly elections approach. Akhilesh has been rallying support through his PDA formula, aiming to consolidate Backward Classes, Dalits, and minorities into a solid voter base. Meanwhile, the BJP continues to rely on its core issues of Hindutva and nationalism, positioning Yogi as the state's face of this narrative.

This is not the first time the two leaders have clashed. During the 2022 UP assembly elections, their exchanges were rife with one-liners. Yogi had labelled SP's ideology as a combination of "Chola Samajwadi" and "Tamanchowadi" (gun-culture politics), while Akhilesh responded with his trademark

ridiculing Yogi's governance. With the upcoming by-elections being a matter of prestige for Yogi Adityanath, the stakes are high. Following the BJP's loss of ground in the Lok Sabha elections, winning these by-elections is seen as crucial for Yogi's political standing. His aggressive rhetoric mirrors his campaign style during the national elections, where he positioned SP as the main Opposition to the BJP's governance model. On the other hand, Akhilesh Yadav's growing confidence is evident in his strategies to consolidate voter support, particularly as his party eyes a larger contest in 2027. Political analyst Manoj Bhadra notes that this kind of intense, personal verbal exchange is relatively new in UP's political landscape, signaling not just a fight for power but also control over the narrative that will appeal to voters.

## Ramachandran, Malayalam radio's icon breathes his last

KEMAR CHELAPPAN ■ KOCHI

M Ramachandran, renowned news anchorperson of All India Radio is no more. He passed away at his house in Thiruvananthapuram on Saturday. Ramachandran (91) was rated as the Melville de Mellow and Surajit Sen of Malayalam radio broadcasting for his diction, articulation, pronunciation and modulation while presenting news bulletins. De Mellow and Surjit Sen were pioneers of Radio broadcasting in the country. During the 1960s to 1990s Ramachandran was the Malayalees' window to the outside world. "Let it be regional, national or international news, Ramachandran had a distinct style of presentation and this made listeners drawn towards his news reading," said former



colleague, broadcaster and literary critic Dr M Rajeev Kumar. Dr Kumar said that his knowledge of Malayalam language and how to use words, sentences and phrases in its correct perspective made him quite different from other radio broadcasters. Ramachandran was the brain behind Kouthuka Varthakal, a bulletin featuring persons, places and events of cultural and historical importance. "His radio news reels based on the day's important events were a treat to the ears and

mind," reminisces Dr Rajeev Kumar.

When there was no round-the-clock TV news channels, Ramachandran and his team of broadcasters offered the listeners a birds eye view of the happenings in the world. "The election news bulletins presented by Ramachandran were held in high esteem by political leaders across the spectrum. His news bulletins were as popular as the Malayalam film songs broadcast by the stations of AIR," said M K Harikumar, Malayalam writer and a long-time fan of Ramachandran. There were many Malayalam films in which Ramachandran's news reading was mimicked by lead stars marking his stature as an iconic figure. Ramachandran is survived by his wife Vijayalakshmi and two children.



# UK evacuates British nationals from Lebanon as conflict escalates

PTI ■ LONDON

The UK government on Saturday confirmed its final charter plane to fly British nationals out of Lebanon as the conflict between Hezbollah and Israel intensifies and tensions in the region escalate. British Prime Minister Keir Starmer once again urged British nationals still in the country to come forward to be evacuated.

"To everybody listening who may be in that position: now is the time to leave, we have got the plans in place. So please come forward and we can make sure that they are evacuated," Starmer told reporters during a visit to Cheshire on Friday.

The Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Office (FCDO) said after a chartered flight leaves Beirut on Sunday, there are no more scheduled flights due to a decrease in demand. However, the situation will be kept under constant review as the UK urged all remaining British nationals who want to leave Lebanon to register with the government immediately.

"The situation in Lebanon remains volatile, so I am glad that we have helped the many people who have heeded our advice to leave the country immediately," said UK Foreign Secretary David Lammy. "With demand falling and the security situation deteriorating, there is no guarantee other options to leave quickly will become available. I urge anyone who wants to leave to register now," Lammy said.

The UK has been advising its nationals to leave Lebanon amid a deteriorating security situation: three chartered flights have left Beirut and more than 250 additional people have been able to leave the country in the last week. British nationals and their spouse or partner, and children under the age of 18 are eligible for Sunday's flight, with dependents who are not British nationals requiring a valid visa. Sunday's flight will depart from Beirut-Rafic Hariri International Airport, and British nationals who have registered their presence with the government will be sent details on how to request a seat.

The FCDO said government officials have been working around the clock in London, Beirut and the wider region to provide support to British nationals. An FCDO Rapid Deployment Team has also arrived in Lebanon to bolster the support offered by British Embassy officials.

The UK reiterated its call for a ceasefire between Lebanon and Israel to provide the space necessary to find a political solution that enables civilians on both sides to return to their homes in safety amid air strikes and ground incursions as the conflict escalates.



South Korean nationals and their family members arrive after being evacuated from Lebanon with a South Korea's military aircraft at the Seoul airport in Seongnam, South Korea, on Saturday.

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# Biden: Don't know if Israel is holding up peace deal to sway US elections

AP ■ WASHINGTON

President Joe Biden had terse words for Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu on Friday, and said he did not know whether the Israeli leader was holding up a Mideast peace deal in order to influence the outcome of the 2024 US presidential election.

"No administration has helped Israel more than I have, none. None, none. And I think Bibi should remember that," he said, referring to the Israeli leader by his nickname. "And whether he is trying to influence the election, I do not know but I am not counting on that." Biden, in a rare appearance in the White House press briefing room, was responding to comments made by one of his allies, Senator Chris Murphy, D-Conn., who told CNN this week that he was concerned Netanyahu had little interest in a peace deal in part because of US politics. "I do not think you have to be a hopeless cynic to read some of Israel's actions, some of Prime Minister Netanyahu's actions, as connected to the American election," Murphy said.

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Assembly that Israel would "continue degrading Hezbollah until all our objectives are met".

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decision yet on what type of response there would be toward Iran, though "I think if I were in their shoes, I would be thinking about other alternatives than striking oil fields." He pushed back against the idea that he was seeking a meeting with Netanyahu to discuss the response to Iran. He is not, he said.

"I am assuming when they make a decision on how they are going to respond, we will then have a discussion," he said. But Netanyahu has grown increasingly resistant to Biden's public charm offensives and private pleading, prompting the president's more assertive pushback. And Biden has in turn publicly held up delivery of heavy bombs to Israel and increasingly voiced concerns over an all-out war in the Middle East.

# European cities brace for pro-Palestinian rallies

AP ■ ROME

Hundreds of thousands of pro-Palestinian demonstrators were expected to take to the streets across Europe on Saturday calling for a cease-fire as the first anniversary of the Hamas attacks on Israel approached. Security forces in several countries warned of heightened levels of alert in major cities, amid concerns that the escalating conflict in the Middle East could inspire new terror attacks in Europe or that some of the protests could turn violent. Massive rallies are planned in several European cities, including London, Berlin, Paris and Rome through next week, with the largest gatherings expected from Saturday to Monday.

Events will peak on Monday, the date of the anniversary. By midday Saturday, thousands had gathered in central London's Russell Square amid a significant police presence. Some of the march's organizers had said they planned to target companies and institutions they claimed were "complicit in Israel's crimes," including Barclays Bank and the British Museum. Protests are also taking place in other parts of the world. In the Philippines on Saturday, dozens of left-wing activists protested near the US Embassy in Manila, where police prevented them from getting closer to the seaside compound. On October 7 last year, Hamas launched a surprise attack into Israel, killing 1,200 Israelis,

taking 250 people hostage and setting off a war with Israel that has shattered much of the Hamas-controlled Gaza Strip. More than 41,000 Palestinians have been killed since then in Gaza, according to the Gaza Health Ministry, which does not differentiate between fighters and civilians. It says more than half were women and children. Nearly 100 Israeli hostages remain in Gaza, with fewer than 70 believed to be alive. Israelis have experienced attacks — missiles from Iran and Hezbollah, explosive drones from Yemen, fatal shootings and stabbings — as the region braces for further escalation. In late September, Israel shifted some of its focus to

Hezbollah, which holds much of the power in parts of southern Lebanon and some other areas of the country, attacking the militants with exploding pagers, airstrikes and, eventually, incursions into Lebanon. Pro-Palestinian protests calling for an immediate cease-fire have repeatedly taken place across Europe and around the globe in the past year and have often turned violent, with confrontations between demonstrators and law enforcement officers. In Rome, a rally was planned for Saturday afternoon — with about 30,000 demonstrators expected — in spite of a ban by local police chiefs who refused to authorize protests in the Italian capital, citing public security con-

cerns. Italian authorities believed that the timing of the planned rally risked the October 7 attack being "glorified," local media reported. Interior Minister Matteo Piantedosi also stressed that, ahead of the key anniversary, Europe is on high alert for potential terror attacks. "This is not a normal situation ... We are already in a condition of maximum prevention," he said.

streets in even bigger numbers to stop this carnage and stop Britain being drawn into it," Jamal said. In Berlin, a march is scheduled under the Brandenburg Gate to Bebelplatz on Sunday. Local media reported that security forces have warned of potential overload due to the scale of protests. German authorities pointed to increasing antisemitic and violent incidents in recent days. France was also on alert for new protests on Saturday. Earlier this week, Interior minister Bruno Retailleau warned the country's regional prefects, expressing concern about possible tensions and saying that the terrorist threat was high.

# Army deployed in Islamabad, Lahore amid PTI protests

PTI ■ ISLAMABAD/LAHORE

Pakistan authorities on Saturday called in the Army in Islamabad and Lahore to prevent rallies by supporters of jailed former Prime Minister Imran Khan, amid rising tensions. The call for protest was given by the Pakistan Tehreek-i-Insaf (PTI) party founder who has been incarcerated at Rawalpindi's Adiala Jail for more than a year. The PTI is protesting for the release of Khan, to express solidarity with the judiciary, and against inflation. Pakistan Army troops were deployed in Islamabad to ensure security as PTI supporters moved forward with plans for a protest. The army would remain in the city from October 5-17 to maintain law and order for the upcoming Shanghai Cooperation Organisation (SCO) summit. Pakistan is hosting the SCO summit on October 15-16.

have been blocked and pillion riding has been banned, while mobile phone services remained suspended for the second consecutive day. The authorities also imposed Section 144, banning public gatherings, political assemblies, and demonstrations in the twin cities of Rawalpindi and Islamabad to outlaw any political assembly or protest. The Metro bus services linking the twin cities were also suspended. Police and paramilitary Rangers were also deployed to stop the protestors.

# Ukraine downs Russian warplane

AP ■ KYIV

Ukrainian forces said they shot down a Russian fighter plane on Saturday

while Russia claimed it made gains in Ukraine's east. The Russian bomber was shot down near the city of Kostiantynivka in the

Donetsk province, head of the Kostiantynivka Military Administration Serhiy Horbunov was quoted as saying by Ukraine's

public broadcaster, Suspilne. Photos showed charred remains of an aircraft after it landed on a house that caught fire.

# 6 Pak soldiers, ultras killed in gunfight

PTI ■ PESHAWAR

Six soldiers, including an off-duty Sacer, and as many terrorists were killed in a gunfight in Pakistan's restive Khyber Pakhtunkhwa province, the military said on Saturday. In a statement, the military's media wing Inter-Services Public Relations (ISPR) said the exchange of fire took place on the night between October 4-5 at Spinwam area in North Waziristan district, bordering Afghanistan, during which six soldiers, including a Lieutenant Colonel, and "six Khwarij" were killed. During the "intense fire exchange", 43-year-old Lieutenant Colonel Muhammad Ali Shoukat, who was leading the operation against the terrorists, was killed along with five other soldiers, the statement said. Meanwhile, the banned Tehreek-e-Taliban Pakistan (TTP) has claimed responsibility for the attack.

The TTP was set up as an umbrella group of several militant outfits in 2007. Pakistan has officially declared TTP as 'Fitna al-Khawarij' and the notification by the Interior Ministry emphasises the use of the term 'kharaji' (outlawed) along with the names of such terrorists. The Pakistani government has repeatedly accused the TTP of operating from sanctuaries in Afghanistan, a claim denied by the Afghan Taliban. There has been an uptick in the incidents of terrorism in Pakistan since the Taliban took over the government in Kabul in 2021, dashing hopes in Islamabad that a friendly government in Afghanistan would help to tackle militancy. Relations between the two countries have lately become strained, largely because of the TTP but also due to frequent border skirmishes.

**DISMANTLING AND OTHERS UTILITY SHIFTING**

**E-Tender Notice No.: APEL/19/24-25.**  
E-Tenders are invited by the undersigned for the following work: **Sl. No.1: Tender No.: APEL/19/24-25; Name of work:** At Allipurdar Division: Dismantling and others utility shifting at 15 nos. station under "Armit Bharat Station Scheme". **Advised Tender Value: ₹1,55,03,454.45; Earnest Money: ₹2,27,500.00.** E-tender will be closed at 15:00 hrs. on 25-10-2024 and will be opened on 26-10-2024 at 15:30 hrs. at DRM/Elect. (G)/Allipurdar Jn.'s office. The complete information with the tender document of above e-tender will be available in website [www.ireps.gov.in](http://www.ireps.gov.in). **DRM (S&T), Katihar**  
**NORTHEAST FRONTIER RAILWAY**  
"Serving Customers with a smile"

**Public Notice**

This is to inform the general public that Mr. Shakil Ahmad Tamanna is the CPA holder of Flat no. 302, From to Back Side, second floor without Roof (Right), Property Bearing no. R2-901B, area measuring 125 Sq. Yds, out of Khersa no. 450, situated at Gulshan Apartments, Gali no. 24, Tughlakabad Extn., Delhi 110019. He is in possession through Notarized CPA, ATS & Will dated 23.01.2007 executed by M/s. Kataria Builders Pvt. Ltd. in favour of Mr. Shakil Ahmad Tamanna in respect of said Flat. Mr. Shakil Ahmad Tamanna intends to transfer the ownership by way of Sale Deed of the aforementioned Flat to Mrs. Heena. Subsequently, Mrs. Heena is in the process of mortgaging the said property with SMFG India Home Finance Co. Ltd. (Formerly Fullerton India Home Finance Co. Ltd.). Any objections or concerns regarding this transaction should be raised within a period of 7 days from the date of this public notice. Any objection submitted after the completion of this 7-day period will not be considered binding with respect to the said property or the interests of our client. If anyone wishes to raise an objection, please do so within the stipulated 7-day period by contacting Law Veritas: North (Advocates & Legal Consultants) at Office No. 11, 1st Floor, Building No. A-44/A, Sector-16, Noida, Uttar Pradesh-201301. Landline(s): +910120-3101683; e-mail: [accounts@lvrn.in](mailto:accounts@lvrn.in)

**SIGNAL & TELECOM WORKS IN KATHIAR DIVISION**

**Tender Notice No.: N-2024-K-19, Date: 04-10-2024.** E-Tender are invited by the undersigned for the following work: **Tender No.: N-2024-K-19; Name of Work:** Signal and Telecom work for yard remodelling of Forbesganj station in connection with bridge connectivity towards Narpatganj end. **Tender Value: ₹1,21,48,153,89/-; Earnest Money: ₹2,10,800/-.** Date & time of closing of tender at 15:00 hrs. on 28-10-2024. For complete information with the tender document of above e-tender will be available up to 15:00 hrs. on 28-10-2024 in the website <http://www.ireps.gov.in>. **DRM (S&T), Katihar**  
**NORTHEAST FRONTIER RAILWAY**  
"Serving Customers With A Smile"

**ICICI Bank** Branch Office: ICICI Bank Limited, 3rd Floor Shal Tower, New Rohtak Road, Karol bagh, Delhi-110005

**PUBLIC NOTICE-TENDER CUM E-AUCTION FOR SALE OF SECURED ASSET**  
[See proviso to Rule 8(6)]  
[Notice for sale of immovable asset(s)]

E-Auction Sale Notice for the sale of immovable asset(s) under the Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 read with proviso to Rule 8 (6) of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002.

This notice is hereby given to the public in general and in particular to the Borrower(s) and Guarantor(s) that the below described immovable property mortgaged/charged to the Secured Creditor, the physical possession of which has been taken by the Authorised Officer of ICICI Bank Limited will be sold on 'As is where is', 'As is what is' and 'Whatever there is' as per the brief particulars given hereunder:

Sr. No.	Name of Borrower(s)/Co-Borrower/ Guarantors/ Loan Account No.	Details of the Secured asset(s) with known encumbrances, if any	Amount Outstanding	Reserve Price Earnest Money Deposit	Date and Time of Property Inspection	Date & Time of E-Auction
(A)	(B)	(C)	(D)	(E)	(F)	(G)
1.	Jubar. (Borrower), Anisa (Co-Borrower) LBGUR00005769003.	Apartment No. 12, 3rd Floor (Apartment No. 312, Block-FI) Block F-II Sohrand Apartment, Charwood Village Surajkund Road, Village Lakarpur Faridabad-121001, Admeasuring Area:827 Sq. Ft.	Rs. 47,29,154/- as on September 30, 2024	Rs. 40,00,000/- Rs. 4,00,000/-	October 16, 2024 From 12:00 Noon to 02:00 PM	October 29, 2024 from 11:00 AM to 12:00 Noon

The online auction will be conducted on the website (URL Link- <https://disposalhub.com>) of our auction agency M/s Nexen Solutions Private Limited. The Mortgagees/Notices are given a last chance to pay the total dues with further interest by October 28, 2024 before 05:00 PM else the secured asset(s) will be sold as per schedule. The prospective bidder(s) must submit the Earnest Money Deposit (EMD) Demand Draft (DD) (Refer Column E) at ICICI Bank Limited, 3rd Floor Shal Tower, New Rohtak Road, Karol Bagh, Delhi-110005 on or before October 28, 2024 before 05:00 PM. Thereafter, they have to submit their offer through the website mentioned above on or before October 28, 2024 before 05:00 PM along with the scanned image of the Bank acknowledged DD towards proof of payment of EMD. In case the prospective bidder(s) is/are unable to submit his/ her offer through the website, then the signed copy of tender documents may be submitted at ICICI Bank Limited, 3rd Floor Shal Tower, New Rohtak Road, Karol Bagh, Delhi-110005 on or before October 28, 2024 before 05:00 PM. Earnest Money Deposit DD/PO should be from a Nationalised/Scheduled Bank in favour of ICICI Bank Limited payable at Delhi. For any further clarifications in terms of inspection, Terms and Conditions of the E-Auction or submission of tenders, contact ICICI Bank Employees Phone No. 8657476294/8584874909. Please note that the Marketing agencies i. M/s Nexen Solutions Private Limited 2. Augeo Asset Management Pvt Ltd 3. Hecta PropTech Pvt. Ltd. have also been engaged for facilitating the sale of this property. The Authorised Officer reserves the right to reject any or all the bids without furnishing any further reasons. For detailed Terms and Conditions of the sale, please visit [www.icicibank.com/n4p4s](http://www.icicibank.com/n4p4s)  
Date: October 05, 2024  
Place: Delhi, Faridabad  
Authorized Officer  
ICICI Bank Limited

**SBI STATE BANK OF INDIA**  
Home Loan Centre, 59 Community Centre, Naraina Industrial Area Phase - 1, Near Payal PVR, New Delhi-110028

**POSSESSION NOTICE [For Immovable Property under Rule 8(1)]**

Notice is hereby given under the Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets & Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 and in exercise of powers conferred under Section 13(12) read with Rule 9 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002. The Bank issued demand notices on the date mentioned against account and amount stated hereinafter calling upon them to repay the amount within sixty days from the date of receipt of said notices. The borrower 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 property described herein below in exercise of powers conferred on him/her under section 13(4) of the said Act read with Rule 9 of the said Rules on the dates mentioned against account and amount below. The borrower and guarantor in particular and the public in general are hereby cautioned not to deal with the property. Any dealing with property will be subject to the charge of State Bank of India for the amount and interest thereon. Details of Property where Possession has been taken is as follow:-

**The borrower/Guarantor 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.**

Name of the Borrower/Guarantor	Description of the Mortgaged Property	Amt. O/s (as per Notice U/s.13(2))	Date of [13] notice	Date of Possession
<b>BORROWERS:</b> MR. PRADEEP KUMAR JINDAL AND MRS. SAMTA JINDAL	Equitable Mortgage of Built up Property Bearing No.1-A Land area measuring 500 Sq.Yds. with Roof Rights Upto Sky in Block H1 Situated in the Revenue Estate of Village Malikpur Chhaoni Known as Model Town Near Kingsway Camp at Mall Road Delhi with the Free Hold Rights of the Land Underneath in the name of Sh. Pradeep Kumar Jindal S/o Sh. Dinesh Chand Jindal. Boundry: North: Plot No.H-3/1 South: Plot No.H-1/1-B East: Plot No. H-1/2 West: Service Lane	Rs.48,94,615/- (Rupees Forty Eight Lakh Ninety Four Thousand Six Hundred Fifteen Only) as on 02.07.2024 plus future interest and other incidental charges incurred thereafter, less recovery (if any).	10.07.2024	01.10.2024

DATE: 01.10.2024  
PLACE: NEW DELHI  
Sd/- Authorized Officer, (State Bank Of India)  
Home Loan Centre, Naraina Industrial Area, Phase-1, New Delhi

**OFC AND PIJF CABLING ALONG WITH ASSOCIATED WORK**

**E-Tender Notice No. 06 of 2024-25.** E-Tenders are invited by the undersigned for the following works: **E-Tender No. N-2024-25-06-Dy, CSTE-NW.** Name of work: OFC and PIJF cabling along with associated work at Maligaon Head Quarter area in connection with provision of Server Based IP EPABX system. **Tender Value: ₹30,90,292,48/-; Earnest Money: ₹61,800/-.** Date & time of closing of tender: 15:00 hrs. of 25-10-2024 and opening at 15:30 hrs. of 25-10-2024. The complete information with the tender document of above e-tender will be available in website [www.ireps.gov.in](http://www.ireps.gov.in). **Sr. Signal & Telecom Engineer/Network, Maligaon**  
**NORTHEAST FRONTIER RAILWAY**  
"Serving Customers With A Smile"

**PUBLIC NOTICE**

Mr. Manohar Singh Gusain, S/o Bhopal Singh, R/o H. No. 100-D, Pocket-A, Mayur Vihar Ph-2, Delhi, has been missing since 29.05.2015. A civil suit for his death declaration has been filed by his sons, Ravindra Singh, Sushil Gusain, and Sunil Gusain. The NDOH is on 28.10.2024 in the court of Sh. Fahad Uddin, Ld. Sr. Civil Judge, Karkardooma Court, Delhi.

**Avanish Mishra (Advocate)**  
Ch. no. 79, Patiala House Courts, New Delhi



# INDIA LOOK TO IRON OUT COMBINATION FLAWS, REGAIN FIGHT IN CRUCIAL T20 WC GAME AGAINST PAKISTAN

PTI ■ DUBAI

India will have to regroup quickly and iron out the imbalances in team combination when they face arch-rivals Pakistan in a crucial second group A match of the Women's T20 World Cup here on Sunday.

An early 58-run defeat to New Zealand on Friday has not just dented India's chances of entering the semifinals of the ICC showpiece, but it certainly has pushed them to a tight corner.

India's run-rate currently stands at a poor 2.99 and it makes big victories mandatory for them in the remaining three matches against Pakistan, Sri Lanka and Australia.

The Harmanpreet Kaur-led side was wretched in all three departments of the game against the Kiwis in its World Cup opener, and India now need a reversal within 24 hours.

It's tough but that is the path they have to tread against Pakistan, high on confidence after beating a strong Sri Lanka in the first match on Thursday. As a first step, India will have to sort out their combinations



ahead of the Pakistan game. They went a batter light against New Zealand to accommodate an extra pacer in Arundhati Reddy and it meant a wholesale rejigging of the line-up.

It forced the promotion of Harmanpreet to No. 3,

Jemimah Rodrigues to No. 4 and Richa Ghosh to No.5, not the usual slots for these batters. For instance, Harmanpreet, who is a solid presence at No. 4, has never made a fifty in her previous 19 gigs at No.3 and to make her play precisely at that position in a World Cup was

quixotic. The inclusion of three pacers was not wrong move on the hindsight as there was no dew and the Kiwis pacers made full use of a hard deck. But India made a hash of their three-pronged pace attack move, giving just one over to

Pooja Vastrakar, the third-best bowler in T20s this year with 20 wickets from 16 matches. Also, the decision to go with the pace trio cost India the presence of left-arm spinner Radha Yadav, their second most successful T20I bowler with 22 wickets from 13 matches.

So, head coach Amol Muzumdar will need to take a long look at the combination as another defeat will seriously hamper India's chances of progressing to the last-four stage from Group A. But stats apart, India, particularly batters, looked mentally frozen against the Kiwis, evidenced by the highest individual score in their innings — a 15 by Harmanpreet. In that context, India might just think of adding Dayalan Hemalatha to bolster the batting. Though India have a head-to-head edge over Pakistan in T20Is, winning 12 out of 15 matches so far, they have the ammunition to stun any opposition. Their bowling is especially formidable with the likes of experienced Nida Dhar,

captain Fatima Sana and Sadia Iqbal leading the pack. However, Pakistan will keep a close eye on the fitness lead pacer Diana Baig after she suffered a calf strain in the match against Sri Lanka, limping out after bowling just one ball.

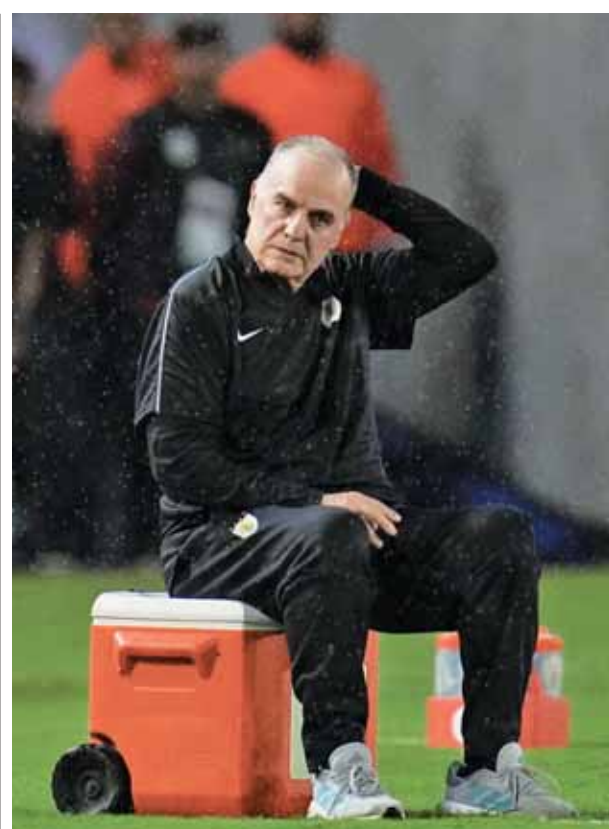
### TEAMS (FROM):

**India:** Harmanpreet Kaur (c), Smriti Mandhana, Shafali Verma, Deepti Sharma, Jemimah Rodrigues, Richa Ghosh, Yastika Bhatia (subject to fitness), Pooja Vastrakar, Arundhati Reddy, Renuka Singh Thakur, Dayalan Hemalatha, Asha Sobhana, Radha Yadav, Shreyanka Patil (subject to fitness), Sajana Sajeevan

**Travelling reserves:** Uma Chetry (wk), Tanuja Kanwer, Saima Thakor.

**Pakistan:** Fatima Sana (c), Aliya Riaz, Diana Baig, Gull Feroza, Iram Javed, Muneeba Ali, Nashra Sundhu, Nida Dar, Omaira Sohail, Sadaf Shamas, Sadia Iqbal (subject to fitness), Sidra Amin, Syeda Aroob Shah, Tasmia Rubab, Tuba Hassan

**Travelling reserve:** Najiha Alvi (wk).



## Luis Suarez criticises Uruguay coach Bielsa for mistreating team at Copa America

AP ■ MONTEVIDEO (URUGUAY)

Just-retired striker Luis Suárez has criticized Uruguay coach Marcelo Bielsa for the way he treated players during the Copa America, saying the "friction" hurts. Uruguay finished third at the Copa in July in the United States but Suárez said all was not well behind the scenes.

"There were situations at the Copa America that hurt me, but I didn't say them for the sake of coexistence," Suárez told the DSports TV channel. "Many players held a meeting to ask the coach to at least say good morning to us, but he didn't even say hello."

The relationship between Bielsa and the players was so bad that some are considering leaving the national squad, Suárez said. He retired his 17-year international career a month ago as Uruguay's all-time leading scorer.

"You can see that players go with the team and are not enjoying themselves," he said. "In their (club) teams they are having fun and smiling, but not with the national team. It hurts to see what is going on."

Bielsa, who has coached Argentina and Chile, was hired by Uruguay in May 2023 to the end of the 2026 World Cup. He has Uruguay third in South American qualifying for the World Cup, and is preparing for qualifiers against Peru next Friday and Ecuador four days later.

Suárez asked Uruguay supporters "not to take it out on the players if something goes wrong."

"We are arriving to a tough situation and very painful situations. The friction is going to keep happening and the players are going to reach their limit before exploding."

Despite the team's success, Suárez said the atmosphere cultivated by Bielsa was not good, even at their training facility.

"At the Celeste Complex, employees are not allowed to come in and greet us and eat with us," he said. "They have to be careful even at the door they have to enter."



## Sinner and Alcaraz breeze through Shanghai Masters openers

AP ■ SHANGHAI

Carlos Alcaraz and top-ranked Jannik Sinner showed no signs of fatigue from their China Open final earlier this week to advance with comfortable straight-set victories in their opening matches of the Shanghai Masters on Saturday.

The second-ranked Alcaraz, who beat the Italian in Beijing on Wednesday for his fourth title of the year, recorded his 10th consecutive win with a 6-2, 6-2 result against 19-year-old Shang Juncheng of China. The 21-year-old Spaniard won the first nine points of the match and four of seven break points as he rushed into a third-round meeting with another Chinese player, Wu Yibing.

"I'm not used to playing against players younger than me," Alcaraz said.

"He has been playing good tennis lately, lifting his first ATP (title in Chengdu), so I'm pretty sure he's going to climb the rankings. I'm just happy to be able to win these kinds of matches."

Sinner, who is dealing with an ongoing doping case, had a comfortable 6-1, 6-4 outing against Taro Daniel of Japan for his 250th career win.

The Italian, who won the U.S. Open last month for his second major of the year, fired 12 aces and 38 winners.

"I felt quite comfortable today," said the 23-year-old Sinner, who next plays Tomas Martin Etcheverry of Argentina.

"I feel in good shape also physically, which is very important for me. Of course I will try to improve for tomorrow's performance, but today I was serving really, really well, especially in important moments, and was moving well."

No. 65-ranked Jakub Mensik of the Czech Republic broke sixth-ranked Andrey Rublev seven times on his way to an upset 6-7 (7), 6-4, 6-3 victory. Yosuke Watanuki also had a surprise win, beating No. 35-ranked Brendan Nakashima 7-6 (4), 6-3. The Japanese qualifier plays either seventh-ranked Taylor Fritz of the U.S. Or French qualifier Terence Atmane next. Also, 24th-ranked Alexei Popyrin of Australia beat Miomir Kecmanovic of Serbia 6-3, 6-2. Later Saturday, third-ranked Alexander Zverev began his campaign against Italian qualifier Mattia Bellucci, while fourth-ranked Novak Djokovic faced Alex Michelsen of the United States.

## Divanshi's second gold leads India's clean sweep at ISSF Junior Worlds

PTI ■ LIMA (PERU)

Indian pistol shooter Divanshi secured her second individual gold in the women's 25m standard pistol event, leading a remarkable clean sweep in the event at the ISSF Junior World Championship here.

India's young shooters added five more medals to their kitty, including two gold on Friday taking the tally to 21 medals to remain at the top of the standings — 13 gold, two silver and six bronze. Norway remained a distant second with 10 medals — four gold, three silver and three bronze — while China occupied third place (3-1-0). Divanshi dominated the event with a score of 564 out of 600, finishing ahead of teammate Parisha Gupta, who shot 559 for silver. Manvi Jain completed the Indian sweep with a bronze-winning score of 557,



marking India's first-ever clean sweep in this competition. Shikha Chaudhary narrowly missed a podium finish, placing fourth with a score of 554, just one point ahead of Estonia's Marja Kirss. In the corresponding junior men's event,

Suraj Sharma claimed gold with a score of 571, edging out Poland's Ivan Rakitski, who shot 568 for silver. Mukesh Nelavalli, who already has four gold medals in the championship, shot 568 but settled for bronze after a countback. Other notable performances included Harsimar Singh Rattha (565), Raajvardan Singh Patil (562), and Pradyumn Singh (562), who finished seventh, eighth, and ninth respectively in the junior men's event. In the junior women's 50m rifle prone event, Melvina Joel Gladson was the best Indian finisher, placing 14th with a score of 617.5. Prachi Gaikwad (616.7), Khushi (615.1), Aadhya Agrawal (614.2), and Anoushka Thokur (611.9) finished 19th, 26th, 27th, and 35th, respectively. In the team competition, Melvina, Prachi, and Anoushka's combined score of 1846.1 secured a sixth-place finish for India in the prone event.

## Bangladesh cricket team doesn't visit Gwalior mosque, holds Friday prayer at hotel

PTI ■ GWALIOR (MP)

Ahead of its T20 clash with India in Gwalior, the Bangladesh cricket squad did not visit the city's Moti Masjid on Friday and instead, offered prayers at their hotel, a police official said on Saturday.

"We had made elaborate security arrangements around Moti Masjid but the Bangladesh team did not turn up. No organisation had given any call to disrupt their visit," Gwalior Zone Inspector General Arvind Saxena told PTI over the phone.

The mosque in the city's Phoolbagh area is about 3 km from the hotel where the



visitors have been put up. Security has been stepped up in the city amid a call for a 'Gwalior bandh' on match day by right-wing outfits in protest against alleged atrocities on Hindus in Bangladesh since the fall of the Sheikh Hasina government there in August.

"The decision to skip the mosque visit might have been taken at the team's management level," he said. The official confirmed that the 'Shahar Qazi' (city's top Muslim cleric) reached the hotel and led the Bangladeshi cricketers in offering 'Namaz-e-Juma' (Friday prayer) between 1 pm and 2.30 pm. The official said they had made

elaborate security arrangements outside the mosque where several mediapersons were also waiting. The distance between the hotel and the Madhavrao Scindia Cricket Stadium, where the Bangladesh team has been practising since October 3, is

about 23 km and the players are moving freely as per their schedule amid security cover. "Providing security to the visiting team over just 3 km was never an issue from our side," the official said. Already, over 2,500 police personnel have been deployed for Sunday's India-Bangladesh T20I in Gwalior, he said. On Sunday, cops will be on the streets from 2 pm. They will be on duty till spectators reach home after the game is over, police said. After prohibitory orders were invoked two days ago, police are also keeping an eye on social media for inflammatory material, officials said.



## India bag U18 team silver in women's section at Asian Youth Archery

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

Promising archer Vaishnavi Pawar showed impressive presence of mind to help India clinch team silver in the recurve U-18 women's category at the 2024 Asian Youth Archery Championship in Chinese Taipei.

Vaishnavi took the first shot for the three-member Indian team, also comprising Pranjal Tholiya and Jannat, in every round and handled the pressure well as they piped fancied South Korea in the semifinal in a shoot-off. In the gold medal round, India found themselves in a similar situation, fighting back from a 2-4 deficit to force a shoot-off against Chinese Taipei, who ultimately prevailed.

"I am incredibly proud to represent India alongside my teammates. Beating South Korea in the semifinals was a significant milestone for us," Vaishnavi said.

"Winning silver at the Asian Youth Archery Championship is a testament to our hard work and dedication, and it inspires me to aim even higher in the future."

The Maharashtra archer finished fourth in the trials to make it to the Asian Youth Archery Championships, also she had also reached the quarterfinals in the individual category.

## Indian hockey captain Harmanpreet credits HIL for personal growth

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

National men's hockey team captain and ace drag-flicker Harmanpreet Singh, who has scored 205 goals in 234 international appearances, on Saturday credited the Hockey India League (HIL) for playing a pivotal role in his career development.

From being named the Upcoming Player of the Tournament in the 2017 HIL to becoming one of the world's top drag-flickers, it has been a tremendous journey for Harmanpreet who highlighted how the league has helped him grow after rubbing shoulders with some of the best international players.

"Hockey India League was a huge part of my development. The league provided me with a stage to enhance my skills by exposing me to different playing styles under different coaches," Harmanpreet said in a Hockey India (HI) release. "Playing in a League, sharing a dressing room with players



from various countries opens up your mind and provides you with multiple perspectives and ways of thinking. "All this was integral in the resurgence of Indian hockey and it certainly impacted our performance at the Tokyo Olympics where we won the bronze medal." Harmanpreet said there could be nothing better for Indian hockey than the HIL and all the country's players would be excited to take part in the League. "It will be a great opportunity for the youngsters as well to rub shoulders with the best players from across the globe,

observe the subtle differences in the way they think, the way they play and try to inculcate the good habits that they notice," he said. HIL is slated for a return after seven years in a new avatar that will see a women's tournament for the first time running concurrently with the men's event. The league will be played in two venues — Rourkela for men and Ranchi for women — from December 28 to February 1. The sport's world governing body, FIH has given sanction of 10 years for HIL. The tournament will feature eight men's and six women's

franchises. The player auction for the HIL 2024-25 will be held from October 13-15 in New Delhi. Each franchise will build a 24-player squad, consisting of at least 16 Indian players (with a mandatory inclusion of four junior players) and eight international stars. "The Hockey India League will be much bigger this time; there will also be a women's League that will run at the same time in both venues. "I am confident this experience will turn out to be invaluable for the Indian women's hockey team in their journey to be one of the best teams in the world," he said. Players will be auctioned in three categories with base prices of Rs 2 lakh, 5 lakh and 10 lakh each. "The auction is coming up soon and I would like to wish all the best to all the players taking part. As for myself, I cannot wait to see which team I will represent and begin the hockey revolution again," he signed off.

## Shubhankar, Om Prakash falter at Alfred Dunhill

PTI ■ ST. ANDREWS (SCOTLAND)

The first two rounds offered a big disappointment for the Indians, as Shubhankar Sharma and Om Prakash Chouhan were placed tied 139 and 154 respectively in the Alfred Dunhill Links Championship. Sharma shot even par rounds at Carnoustie and Kingsbarns but that saw him way down in tied 139th, while Chouhan was even further down with 71-75 and was at tied 154th. Sharma still has his round to go, while Chouhan will play his third round at Carnoustie. Meanwhile, Nicolas Colsaerts relied on local knowledge as he shot a stunning 65 to share the lead with Cameron John after the second round. The Belgian kicked off his campaign with a 65 at the Old Course at St Andrews and recorded the same score at the notoriously tricky Carnoustie to reach 14 under par and put himself in position to seal a fourth DP World Tour title and his first since 2019.



Scottish pair Grant Forrest and Martin Gilbert lead the team event on 24 under par after two rounds. Colsaerts, the 2012 Ryder Cup star, who has mixed golf and commentary work this season, was being coming to this event for 20 years, and felt his experience of Carnoustie paid dividends as he shot eight birdies and a single bogey, including gains at the difficult ninth and 17th. Australia's John followed up his opening 62 at Kingsbarns with a 68 on the Old Course, grabbing a share of the lead with his brilliant birdie at the 17th.

John, who sits 1007th on the Official World Golf Ranking, sandwiched a disappointing double bogey at the fifth between birdies on the fourth and sixth before closing the front nine with a 25-foot birdie from off the ninth green. A ten-foot birdie at the tenth took him to within a shot of the lead before a close-range gain on the 12th saw him join overnight leader Darren Fichardt at the top. A series of pars followed before he holed from 22 feet at the 17th to get to 14 under and share the lead with Colsaerts. Home favourite David Law and first-round leader Fichardt were in a tie for third a shot further back, one ahead of the four-strong group on 12 under. England's Tommy Fleetwood and Tyrrell Hatton emerged as the leading pair from Kingsbarns, getting to 11 under par after rounds of 65 and 68 respectively, to sit alongside Tom Vaillant of France and Welshman James Ashfield, who is making his professional debut this week.





# GET READY TO SLAY

# THE COLLECTION THAT REDEFINES STYLE!

The Orry x Flying Machine capsule collaboration offers a bold collection that celebrates youth, creativity and self-expression in every piece, says SAKSHI PRIYA

In an exciting development within the fashion industry, *Flying Machine* has teamed up with the sensational social media star *Orry* to launch a limited-edition capsule collection that promises to turn heads and make waves among the youth. *Orry*, a digital influencer renowned for his vibrant style and engaging content, has garnered a massive following on platforms like Instagram. His unique blend of charisma and fashion savvy resonates with Gen-Z consumers, making him an ideal partner for a brand like *Flying Machine*, which is celebrated for its edgy denim and youthful vibe.

*Flying Machine*, the pioneering homegrown denim brand in India, has evolved significantly since its inception in 1980. Known for its trendy and spontaneous designs, the brand has made a concerted effort to revamp its image and align itself with the tastes of the modern consumer. With a renewed focus on Gen-Z, this collaboration with *Orry* is a strategic move to tap into the vibrant energy of young fashion enthusiasts.

The *Orry x Flying Machine* capsule collection embodies a perfect blend of funky colours and oversized silhouettes, catering to individuals who dare to stand out. Featuring a range of unisex items such as T-shirts, shirts, vests, caps, bucket hats, jorts, parachute pants and classic jeans, the collection captures the essence of contemporary street style. *Orry's* distinct aesthetic shines through each piece, encouraging wearers to express their individuality through bold fashion choices.

A standout feature of this collaboration is *Orry's* hands-on involvement in the design process. His creative input ensures that the collection reflects his signature style, with playful slogans like "L&R H&R" and "Can I live" adding a fun twist. This level of engagement not only enhances the authenticity of the collection but also resonates with consumers looking for genuine connections with brands. The vibrant designs and oversized fits are more than just fashion statements; they are an invitation for young people to embrace

their identities and showcase their unique personalities. *Shailesh Chaturvedi*, Managing Director and CEO of Arvind Fashions, expressed his excitement about the collaboration, highlighting the shared appreciation for Korean and Japanese fashion aesthetics. This partnership reflects a broader trend within the fashion industry, where global influences meet local sensibilities, creating a dynamic fusion that appeals to the youth. With oversized pieces and an androgynous flair, the collection exemplifies a modern approach to dressing that celebrates diversity and self-expression.



Photo: Pankaj Kumar

The *Orry x Flying Machine* capsule collection will be available at select *Flying Machine* stores throughout India, as well as on popular online platforms like *Myntra* and *NNOW*. This accessibility ensures that young fashion lovers can easily engage with the collection and incorporate these statement pieces into their wardrobes. The *Orry x Flying Machine* collaboration signifies a bold new direction in youth fashion. By merging *Orry's* vibrant style with *Flying Machine's* denim legacy, this capsule collection captures the essence of modern youth culture, inviting individuals to express their identities through fashion. With its funky colours, oversized designs and engaging slogans, the collection is not just about clothing, it represents a movement towards embracing individuality and creativity in everyday style. As excitement builds around this launch, both *Orry* and *Flying Machine* are poised to make a significant impact on the fashion landscape, paving the way for a new era that celebrates the dynamic spirit of today's youth.

## NEW OFFERINGS



### CELEBRATE NAVRATRI WITH A SPECIAL THALI

This Navratri, elevates your festive dining experience at *Seasonal Tastes in The Westin Gurgaon*, with a specially curated Navratri Bhog Thali. Enjoy a harmonious blend of authentic flavours, including *Sabudana Vada*, *Khata Mitha Kaddu* and *Sabudana Kheer*. Perfect for both festive observers and food enthusiasts, this thali offers a delightful journey through the essence of Navratri. Experience a soul-satisfying meal that celebrates the spirit of the season.

**DETAILS**  
Dates: October 3 - 12, 2024  
Location: The Westin Gurgaon  
Price: INR 1,499 plus taxes  
Availability: A-la-carte menu for lunch and dinner

### CELEBRATE SAKETOBBER

Join this October for a month-long sake celebration at *Guppy!* Indulge in specially curated sake cocktails, tasting flights and enjoy a Buy 1, Get 1 free offer on sake. Delight in options like the Sake Highball and Sake Bombs and join for Sake Sing-along karaoke nights and live music every Wednesday, Thursday and Sunday.

**DETAILS**  
Location: 28, Main Market, Lodhi Colony, New Delhi  
Timings:  
Lunch: 12 PM - 4 PM  
Dinner: 6 PM - 12 AM  
Price for Two: INR 3700 approx. (including cocktails)  
Reservations: 011 24690005 / 6, +91 965018500



### CULINARY FUSION EXPERIENCE

*Indian Accent* celebrates 15 years with an exclusive culinary collaboration with *Nadodi*. Chefs *Shantanu Mehrotra* and *Yashin Siriwardhana* will create a 9-course menu blending inventive Indian flavours with South Indian and Sri Lankan influences. Expect an unforgettable dining experience showcasing the best of both culinary worlds.

**DETAILS**  
Date & Time: 9th October 2024, 7 pm onwards.  
Location: Indian Accent, New Delhi.  
Price: INR 7,900++ per person; Additional INR 5,500++ for wine pairing.  
Reservations: +91 1166175151; 9871117968.

**Disclaimer:** *The Pioneer* does not endorse or promote the consumption of alcoholic beverages.

## TAAZA KHABAR

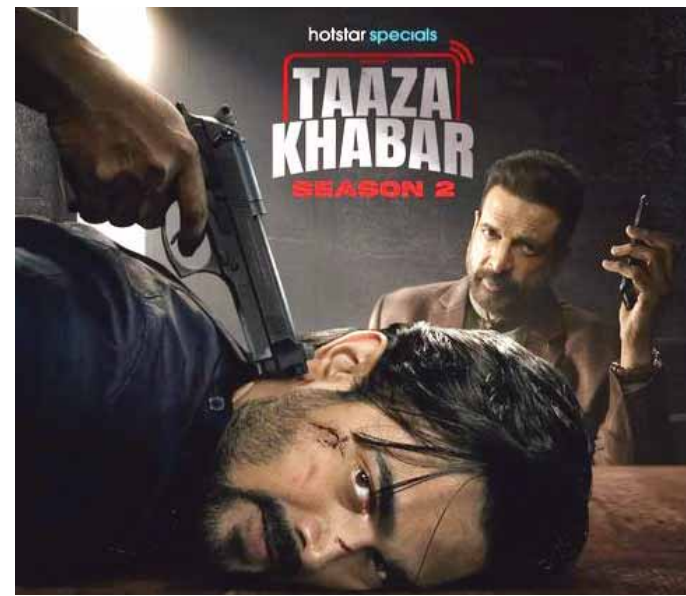
# A CONTINUED TALE OF GREED AND REDEMPTION

With a strong cast and engaging storyline, the new season of 'Taaza Khabar' is a must-watch, says ABHI SINGHAL

Maintaining high standards in the second season is a challenge but *'Taaza Khabar'* continues to shine with its new season. This web series emphasises how greed can destroy lives, especially in today's fast-paced world. Directed by *Himank Gaur*, the new season retains the stellar cast from Season 1, including *Bhuvan Bam* as *Vasant Gawde*, *Shriya Pilgaonkar* as *Madhu*, *Deven Bhojani* as *Mehboob*, and *Prathamesh Parab* as *Raja Chaturvedi*. A notable addition this season is *Javed Jaffrey*, who plays the character of *Yusuf Akhtar*.

Released on *Disney Plus Hotstar*, the series offers a beautifully crafted storyline, continuing to revolve around *Vasant Gawde (Bhuvan Bam)* and his boon, *'Taaza Khabar'*. The first three episodes are gripping, portraying *Vasant's* efforts to free himself from the crushing debt on his shoulders. Although the series is primarily a comedy and thriller, it connects on a deeper, emotional level by exploring themes of right and wrong. The mix of genres adds depth, keeping the audience invested throughout.

In the world of filmmaking, both a strong script and excellent acting can make or break a series, and *'Taaza Khabar'* excels in both the departments. The characters truly outdo themselves this season. *Bhuvan Bam* shines as *Vasant*, improving even further from the



first season with his impeccable comedic timing and reactions. *Javed Jaffrey*, known for his comedic roles, plays the antagonist this time. His portrayal of a villain driven by malevolence, political power, and money brings intensity to the show. *Shilpa Shukla's* character *Aapa* perfectly complements *Jaffrey's* dark, twisted role. The addition of *Jaffrey's*

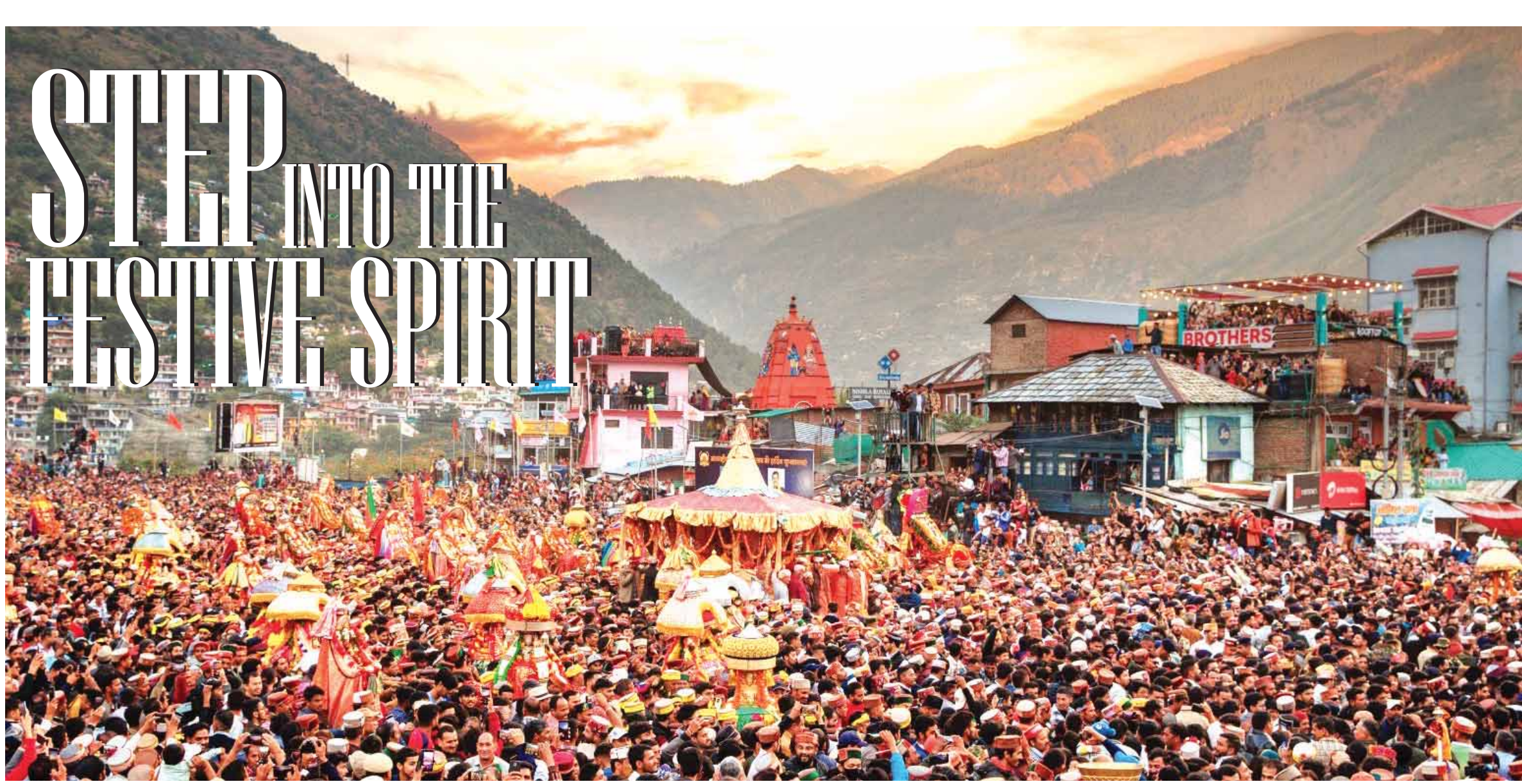
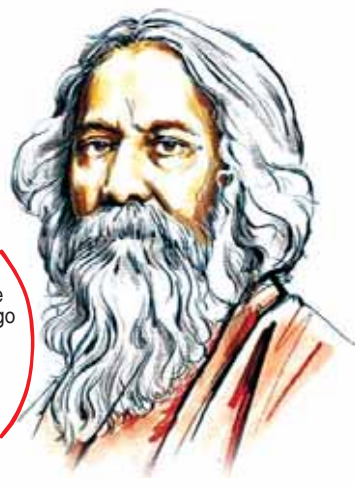
character brings much-needed energy to the new six-episode arc. *Shriya Pilgaonkar (Madhu)*, *Vasant's* love interest, has fewer scenes this season, but her presence is felt at key moments. *Prathamesh Parab's* portrayal of *Raja, Vasant's* loyal friend, is heartwarming and crucial to the emotional core of the show. The witty dialogues, penned by *Abbas Dalal* and *Hussain Dalal*, add

layers to the characters and elevate the humour in the series. The use of foul language, reflective of the protagonist's world, adds authenticity to the setting. However, the flashbacks intended to give depth to the characters feel dull and add very little to the overall plot. These moments do not significantly enhance our understanding of *Vasant's* mental processes or the reasons behind his choices. Despite this, the overarching narrative is a reality check for the modern world, showing the rise and fall of *Vasant*, whose boon quickly turns into a curse, alienating him from his loved ones, including *Madhu* and his parents. The music in *'Taaza Khabar'* perfectly complements the scenes, with songs like *'Kaun Hai'* by *Faridkot*, *'Rajarshi Sanyal'* by *Faridkot*, *'Hoke Majboor'* by *Mohan Kannan*, *Akshay*, and *IP Singh*, adding emotional depth. The *Baba* theme and *Kathak* theme further enhance the storytelling, giving the audience a rich auditory experience. Overall, *'Taaza Khabar'* is a must-watch. Its engaging scenes and witty dialogues keep viewers on the edge of their seats, eager to see what happens next. While the show hints at a potential third season, an official confirmation would only add to the growing excitement among its fanbase.

'Rating: 4/5'



"Now, I ask, has the time  
come at last when I may go  
in and see thy face and  
offer thee my silent  
salutation?"  
— Rabindranath Tagore



## STEP INTO THE FESTIVE SPIRIT

*Kullu Dussehra* is a vibrant festival in Himachal Pradesh that brings the Kullu valley to life with colourful processions, traditional music, and cultural performances. Celebrated in honour of Lord Raghunath Ji, this annual event attracts visitors from all over, creating a sense of community and joy, writes **SAKSHI PRIYA**



**K**ullu Dussehra, celebrated in the picturesque valley of Kullu in Himachal Pradesh, is a vibrant week-long festival that goes beyond just religious observance. It brings together centuries-old traditions, the unity of hundreds of local deities and the incredible artistic expression of the region. *Kullu Dussehra* has a distinctive flavour, embracing the valley's culture, history and devotion. This year, the International *Kullu Dussehra* Festival is set to take place from 13th to 19th October 2024, offering visitors a chance to immerse themselves in the vibrant festivities while also appreciating the breathtaking scenic beauty and natural wonders of this enchanting region.

The origins of *Kullu Dussehra* date back to the 17th century when *Raja Jagat Singh*, a ruler of Kullu, brought the idol of Lord Raghunath Ji to the valley. From then on, Lord Raghunath Ji became the central deity of the festival and *Kullu Dussehra* has been celebrated in His honour ever since. What sets this festival apart is its spirit of inclusion, with over 300 local deities from surrounding villages joining the celebrations. These deities, carried on beautifully decorated palanquins, are accompanied by their devotees, musicians and dancers, creating a lively and spiritual atmosphere as they converge at Dhalpur Maidan in Kullu. The festival begins on 13th October with the grand Rath Yatra, a procession where Lord Raghunath Ji is placed in a chariot and pulled through the streets by devotees. This procession marks the beginning of a week filled with devotion, music and dance. The streets come alive with the sounds of traditional instruments, the colourful sight of waving flags and the energy of people who have come from far and wide to participate in this sacred event. The Rath Yatra is not just a religious act; it's a celebration of the unity and shared faith that binds the people of Kullu together.

*Kullu Dussehra* is not only a spiritual gathering but also a cultural festival that showcases the rich artistic heritage of the region. Every evening, the open-air auditorium at Lal Chand Prarthi Kalakendra becomes a stage for performances by local, national and international artists. From traditional Himachali folk dances like the Nati to contemporary performances, the festival offers a diverse range of cultural experiences. This year, approximately 15 international cultural troupes will participate, bringing their unique traditions and performances to Kullu. These performances reflect the universal language of art, reminding everyone of the shared human connection through culture.

On 14th October, the Cultural Parade takes place, showcasing a vibrant display of traditional attire, music and dance from across India and the world. This parade highlights the rich diversity of cultures, where each troupe brings its own distinct flavour to the celebrations.

**"Kullu Dussehra beautifully showcases our cultural richness and serves as a reminder of the bonds that unite us as a community." - Sushil Kumar Singla, Principal Resident Commissioner of Himachal Pradesh Sadan, New Delhi**



Sunder Singh Thakur CPS and Sushil Kumar Singla, Principal Resident Commissioner Government of Himachal Pradesh, New Delhi

The sight of dancers in traditional costumes, performing to the rhythmic beats of their native instruments, creates a colourful experience that celebrates unity in diversity. The Cultural Parade embodies *Kullu Dussehra's* inclusive spirit, welcoming different cultures to come together in celebration. A highlight of *Kullu Dussehra* is the performance of Lalhri, a traditional dance native to the Kullu Valley. Passed down through generations, Lalhri is not just a dance but a form of storytelling, where each graceful movement and musical note carries the history of the region. Watching the dancers perform in their traditional attire is like stepping back in time, where the cultural legacy of Kullu comes alive through the art of movement and music. This performance encapsulates the very essence of the festival, where tradition and heritage are celebrated and preserved.

The spiritual climax of *Kullu Dussehra* takes place on 19th October with the symbolic Lanka Dahan, marking the return of nearly 300 deities, or devidevatas, to their homes. This significant day begins as the Raja approaches Lord Raghunath Ji, causing all music and dance to pause. After the Raja circumambulates the chariot, the procession moves towards Lanka by the river Beas. Here, bushes and grass are set ablaze, symbolising the burning of Lanka. The flames create a captivating spectacle, while the Lanka Dahan ceremony reinforces values of justice, morality, and goodness, highlighting the festival's importance in uniting the community.

The penultimate day features the

Muhalla ceremony, an event filled with joy, music and festivity. Villagers from across Kullu gather at Dhalpur Maidan, setting aside their daily lives to participate in this lively celebration. The deities, surrounded by flags and accompanied by traditional music, pay their respects to Lord Raghunath Ji. The Muhalla is a vibrant reflection of the community spirit that defines *Kullu Dussehra*, where unity and togetherness are celebrated in a colourful display of devotion.

Historically, *Kullu Dussehra* has also been a major commercial event. It once served as a trading hub where villagers would sell their crops, handicrafts and other goods. Traders from regions like Lahaul and Ladakh would bring products such as pashmina shawls, carpets and local herbs, creating a bustling marketplace. Today, this tradition continues with the Artisan Showcase, where award-winning artisans display their crafts, from textiles to woodwork. Visitors can purchase these handmade items, taking home a piece of Kullu's rich artistic heritage and supporting the local economy.

For those who enjoy food, *Kullu Dussehra* is a culinary journey that showcases the flavours of Himachal Pradesh. The food courts at the festival serve traditional dishes such as siddu (a type of steamed bread) and madra (a rich chickpea curry), offering a taste of the region's culinary traditions. Alongside these local delicacies,

international cuisine is also available, ensuring that visitors can enjoy a wide variety of food during the festival. The culinary experience is an integral part of *Kullu Dussehra*, reflecting the valley's agricultural richness and its connection to the land.

This year's *Kullu Dussehra* will also feature the Ambassador's Meet on 18th October, presided over by *Shri Sukhvinder Singh*, the Hon'ble Chief Minister of Himachal Pradesh. The event will bring together resident ambassadors from various countries, promoting cultural exchange and enriching trade ties. The Ambassador's Meet reflects *Kullu Dussehra's* growing global recognition, where tradition meets modernity on an international stage. This blend of cultural celebration and diplomatic engagement adds a new dimension to the festival, highlighting its significance beyond the local community.

Beyond its vibrant cultural performances and religious rituals, *Kullu Dussehra* offers a diverse range of entertainment options for visitors of all ages. Families can enjoy amusement rides like toy trains and swings, while sports enthusiasts can engage in competitions such as

volleyball, kabaddi and tug-of-war. The open-air performances continue late into the night, ensuring that the festivities are alive with music, dance and laughter. As the festival progresses, visitors will also have the opportunity to explore the natural beauty of the Kullu Valley, which offers breathtaking views of snow-capped peaks, lush green valleys, and flowing rivers. Many visitors choose to explore nearby attractions such as the Great Himalayan National Park, Bijli Mahadev Temple, and the historic Hadimba Devi Temple in Manali, combining the spiritual experience of *Kullu Dussehra* with the serene beauty of Himachal Pradesh's natural landscape.

As Kullu prepares to host this grand celebration, it's essential to reflect on the significance of festivals like *Kullu Dussehra* in preserving and promoting cultural heritage. The festival not only showcases the artistic traditions of Himachal Pradesh but also serves as a reminder of the unity and community spirit that festivals inspire. It brings together people from different walks of life, whether they are locals, tourists or international dignitaries, all coming together to celebrate the rich cultural legacy of the region.

*Kullu Dussehra* is a festival that everyone should experience at least once in their lifetime. It's not just a celebration; it's a living tradition that continues to evolve while staying deeply rooted in the values of the community. The festival's grandeur, coupled with the warm hospitality of the people of Kullu, makes it a truly unique experience. As the date approaches, excitement is building, and the town of Kullu is gearing up to welcome visitors from all over the world. It's a time of joy, devotion and celebration, an event that leaves a lasting impression on all who attend.

The International *Kullu Dussehra Festival 2024* is set to be a spectacular event that will showcase the best of Himachal's culture, art and traditions. *Kullu Dussehra 2024* promises to be a celebration unlike any other. From the grand Rath Yatra to the vibrant cultural performances, from the symbolic Lanka Dahan to the bustling artisan markets, the festival offers a diverse range of experiences for all who attend. Whether visitors are drawn by the spiritual devotion, the artistic performances or the natural beauty of the valley, *Kullu Dussehra* is a festival that speaks to the heart, offering a unique glimpse into the soul of Himachal Pradesh. As the festival approaches, everyone is encouraged to mark their calendars and experience this remarkable celebration from 13th to 19th October 2024. It's a perfect opportunity to enjoy the magic of Kullu Valley, where tradition, culture and community come together in a festival of life, love and joy!



THE ORIGINS OF KULLU DUSSEHRA DATE BACK TO THE 17TH CENTURY WHEN RAJA JAGAT SINGH, A RULER OF KULLU, BROUGHT THE IDOL OF LORD RAGHUNATH JI TO THE VALLEY. FROM THEN ON, LORD RAGHUNATH JI BECAME THE CENTRAL DEITY OF THE FESTIVAL AND KULLU DUSSEHRA HAS BEEN CELEBRATED IN HIS HONOUR EVER SINCE



# A TASTE OF THE NEW

## EXCITING RESTAURANTS SHAPING NCR'S FOOD SCENE

Explore NCR's newest hotspots, serving up bold flavours and vibrant atmospheres for those looking to experience the best in dining and nightlife



**PAWAN SONI**  
Food critic and founder of the Big F Awards

The food scene in the NCR is heating up, with a host of new eateries making their mark, each worth a visit. This month, I sampled a few, and here are my impressions.

### LITCHI BISTRO

Nestled in the culinary hub of Malviya Nagar, *Litchi Bistro* offers a creative world cuisine menu alongside freshly brewed coffee from their in-house roastery. The spacious open patio outshines the indoor seating, creating a vibrant atmosphere. Two dishes I highly recommend are the *Spicy Tuna Taco*, served on a crisp Nori sheet with a kick from sriracha mayo and *the Korean Bacon*, a miso-marinated pork belly. The latter is so exceptional that I would return just for this dish.

### AVARTANA AT ITC MAURYA

This is easily the most intriguing restaurant I've explored this year. *Avartana* offers set-course menus ranging from 7 to 13 courses, priced from Rs. 2,950 upwards per person. The cuisine is a contemporary interpretation of South Indian ingredients, far from the traditional dishes we usually associate with the region. I'll be doing a detailed review soon, as it's hard to choose favourites when each dish is stellar. It's no surprise that *Avartana* ranks 44th among Asia's 50 best.

### 689, GURGAON

*Six Eighty Nine* at Two Horizon brings Quorum Club's finesse into the public domain. This Asian restaurant draws inspiration from Japanese cuisine, with a clever twist of Japanese ingredients across its offerings. A standout dish is the *Flame-Kissed Avocado* from the Robotayaki section. The buttery avocado, glazed with soy-mirin, perfectly balances saltiness and sharpness, with a



zing from shichimi lime. Ideal for those who enjoy Asian flavours and refined cocktails without the distraction of loud music.

### TEPPANYAKI AT EEST, WESTIN GURGAON

Gurgaon finally has a live *Teppanyaki* counter. What was once

Eest's Omakase section has been revamped to accommodate a *Teppanyaki* grill. The sauces are fresh, the ingredients top-notch and Chef Jatin engages with diners to craft dishes tailored to their preferences. The food here is as delicious as it is healthy, ensuring my return visit soon.

### ROOM XO, AIPL JOY CENTRAL, GURGAON

The new party hub, *Room XO*, features one of the largest bars in the city, offering high-energy music, creative cocktails, massive screens and a performance bar. The food, curated by celebrity chef *Sabyasachi Gorai*, complements the lively atmosphere. With the same founders as *Studio XO*, this spot is set to be the next big thing in Gurgaon's nightlife.

### THANKS AND BEYOND, NEHRU PLACE, DELHI

Veteran nightlife impresario *Priyank Sukhija's* latest venture at *Epicuria Mall* offers three distinct zones. 'Thanks' is a casual dining space, 'And' is the outdoor area, and

'Beyond' is a high-energy bar. For a great time, I recommend the Tequila-based *Picante*, *the Sheesha*, and *the Tuna on Toast*.

### PIRATES OF GRILL GRANDE, CYBERHUB, GURGAON

Buffets just went gourmet, thanks to the famous *Banga Brothers*, who have redefined the concept with their Grande edition of *Pirates of Grill*. The quality, variety, and pricing are a revelation - priced at around Rs. 1,000 per head; the spread rivals the best à la carte restaurants. Standout items include *the Benne Dosa* with *Podi Masala*, possibly the best in the NCR and *Dim Sum* that would hold its own in any reputable dim sum restaurant. Don't miss the *Grilled Pineapple*, an old favourite or *the Indianised Meatballs* with shredded egg, cauliflower and cheese, a delightful fusion.

Now that you're in the loop on the hottest dining and nightlife spots in the NCR, where are you heading tonight or later this week? Let me know at [pawan.soni@indianfoodfreak.com](mailto:pawan.soni@indianfoodfreak.com).

## FROM KOLKATA TO DELHI: THE TASTE OF TWO CITIES

While Durga Puja is celebrated across the country, it is at a different level in Kolkata. The rhythm of the dhak, the vibrant atmosphere and the exquisite food transport you to another world, writes DIVYA BHATIA



A visit to Kolkata revealed the grandeur of the festivities, showcasing stunning pandals and creating cherished moments. As a foodie, I was captivated by the culinary extravaganza, especially the traditional *Bhuribhoj* and *Bengali Thali*. The unforgettable flavours of *Basanti Polao*, *Aloo Bhaja*, *Begun Bhaja*, *Potol Bhaja*, *Luchi* and *Chholar Dal*, paired with *Mishti Doi* and *Rasgulla*, left a lasting impression. The magic of these dishes lies in the love behind their preparation. Bengalis savour their meals in small courses, enhancing the authentic flavours of their cuisine. While I've felt a festive spirit in Delhi, it cannot match Kolkata's enchanting transformation during Durga Puja. However, Delhi offers its own take on Bengali cuisine, and this year, I explored delightful recipes from young chefs, ensuring that whether you're in Kolkata or elsewhere, you can enjoy traditional Puja dishes.

### CHEF GAUTAM KUMAR'S RECIPE FOR GOBINDOBHOG GURER PAYESH

Chef *Gautam Kumar*, Executive Chef at Foodlink F&B Holdings (India), brings over 20 years of experience in regional Indian cuisine. He emphasises fresh, locally sourced ingredients and has held prestigious positions at top hotels like *Shangri-La* and *Grand Hyatt Delhi*. His innovative approach has garnered numerous accolades, and one of his favourite dishes is *Gobindobhog Gurer Payesh*.

### GOBINDOBHOG GURER PAYESH

*Kheer*, or 'payesh' in Bengali, is a sweet rice and milk dish beloved in Bengali culture. Offered to the goddess *Durga* as 'bhog,' it is shared among devotees after the puja. Made with date palm jaggery, 'nolen gud kheer' is a healthier alternative to sugar, especially popular during *Durga Puja*. Sharing *Payesh* symbolises unity and harmony among family members. *Durga Puja*. Sharing *Payesh* symbolises unity and fosters harmony among family members.



### INGREDIENTS

- 1 litre full-fat milk
- 50 grams Gobindo bhog rice
- 150 grams nolen gur (date palm jaggery)
- ¼ teaspoon salt
- ¼ teaspoon green cardamom powder
- 20 grams cashew nuts
- 10 grams raisins (soaked and drained)
- 10 grams ghee

### METHOD

- **Soak the Rice:** Soak the rice in water for 30 minutes, ensuring not to over-wash it to retain as much starch as possible. After soaking, drain the rice and spread it out to dry.
- **Coat the Rice:** Coat the soaked rice with ¼ teaspoon of ghee and set aside.
- **Prepare the Raisins:** Soak the raisins in water until swollen.
- **Fry Cashews:** Heat ghee in a pan and fry the cashews until golden. Set aside.
- **Boil the Milk:** Boil the milk in a heavy-bottomed pan, simmer for 15 minutes, and add cardamom powder.
- **Cook the Rice:** Add the ghee-coated rice to the milk and cook on low heat until fully cooked. The rice should be soft and mushy when mashed between your fingers, as it will firm up while cooling. Stir gently to prevent burning and release starch, which thickens the payesh.
- **Thicken the Payesh:** Ensure the rice is fully cooked; the payesh should be slightly thicker than desired, as the gur will thin it out.
- **Add Gur:** Turn off the heat and mix in the gur, salt, soaked raisins, and fried cashews, keeping the heat off to prevent curdling. Gently fold everything together, cover the pan, and let the residual heat melt the gur completely. Serve the payesh hot or cold in a bowl, garnished with fried cashews and soaked raisins.

## RECIPE FOR NARKEL NI CHINGRI

Chef *Gagandeep Singh Bedi*, Director of Culinary at *Roseate Hotels & Resorts*, specialises in reviving regional Indian cuisines and creating signature dishes at *Kheer*. He focuses on organic produce and minimising food waste.

### NARKEL NI CHINGRI RECIPE

One of his standout creations is *Narkel ni Chingri*, a delightful prawn dish cooked in coconut milk. This recipe exemplifies Chef *Gagandeep's* commitment to authentic flavours and sustainable practices. Here's how to make it:

### INGREDIENTS

- 500g prawns, cleaned and deveined
- 200ml fresh coconut milk
- 75g fresh grated coconut
- 1 large onion, finely chopped
- 1 tsp ginger paste
- 1 tsp garlic paste
- 2-3 green chillies, slit
- ½ tsp turmeric powder
- ½ tsp red chilli powder
- 40ml mustard oil
- Salt to taste
- Fresh coriander for garnish

### INSTRUCTIONS

- Marinate the prawns with turmeric and salt for 15 minutes.
- Roast the grated coconut on medium flame until golden brown.
- Heat mustard oil in a pan until smoking, then reduce heat.
- Sauté onions until golden brown, then add ginger and garlic paste.
- Add green chillies, turmeric and red chilli powder, stirring well.
- Add marinated prawns and cook until pink (5-7 minutes).
- Pour in coconut milk and simmer for 5-10 minutes.
- Add roasted grated coconut and cook for an additional 2-3 minutes.
- Adjust seasoning and garnish with fresh coriander and Serve hot with steamed rice for a delicious meal!



## Navratri: The essence of Satvik food

BY TEAM VIVA

The festival of Navratri is filled with a spirit of devotion and celebration. During these nine auspicious days, millions across India follow a special dietary regimen, abstaining from regular food and opting for Satvik meals. While these dishes are rooted in tradition, chefs at hotels like *Le Meridien, New Delhi* have taken the opportunity to elevate this sacred cuisine with contemporary flavours, ensuring that even the most discerning food lovers can enjoy fasting meals with a gourmet touch. Navratri food is characterised by simplicity, with ingredients that align with spiritual purity. Common dishes consumed during this period have been improvised by Chef *Setuu Gupta*. Here are the dishes:

- **'Kuttu ki Puri' (Buckwheat Flour Puri)** - A deep-fried, gluten-free flatbread made from buckwheat flour, which is one of the staples during Navratri.
- **'Sabudana tikki'** - A light and flavorful dish made with soaked tapioca pearls, peanuts, and mild spices like cumin, offering a fulfilling yet easy-to-digest meal.
- **'Paneer Tikka'** - Cottage cheese cubes marinated in yoghurt and mild spices, then grilled to perfection. Paneer dishes are popular as they provide a protein-rich option for those fasting.
- **'Samak Rice Pulao'** - This is made from barnyard millet, often called "vrat rice," and is cooked with mild spices and

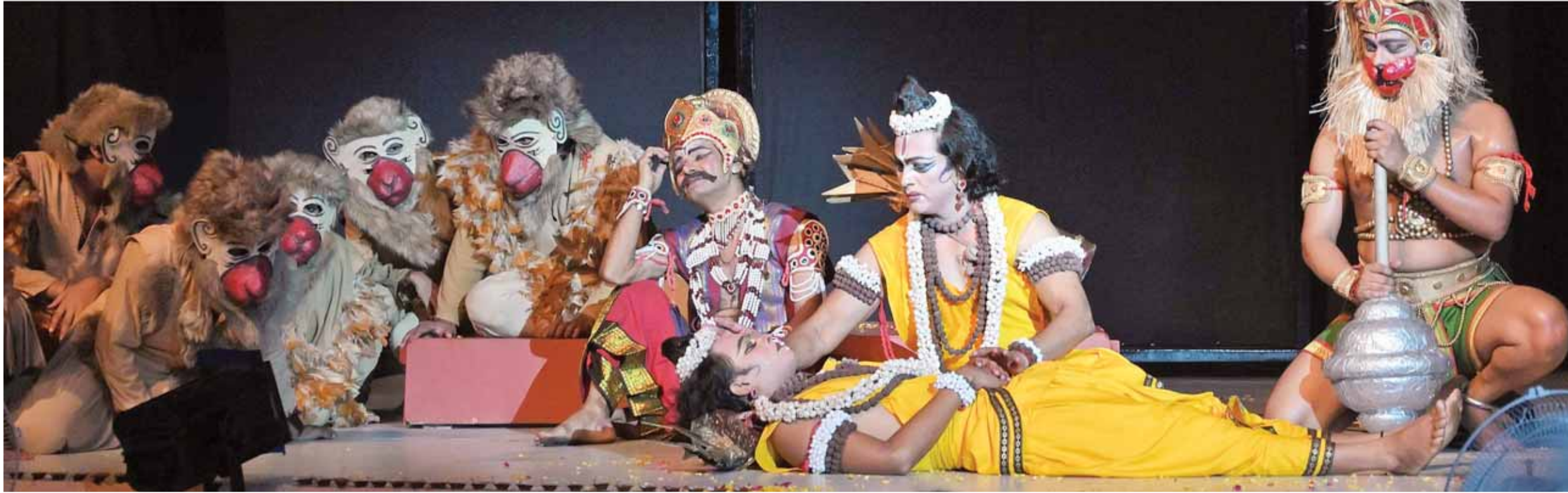


vegetables to offer a flavorful alternative to regular rice.

- **'Anjeer ka Halwa'** - A dessert made from figs, slow-cooked in milk and flavoured with cardamom, is a popular sweet indulgence for the fasting period.
- **'Makhana Curry'** - A creamy salty pudding made from foxnuts (makhana) and curd flavoured with spices and nuts for a rich taste.
- **'Kacche Kale Sabudana Tikki'** is a crispy snack made from raw banana, sabudana (tapioca pearls), green chillies, and spices. Shallow-fried and enjoyed during fasting periods like Navratri, it offers a flavourful and energising treat.
- **'Arbi Singara Kadhi'** - is a flavourful curry made with colocasia (arbi) and water chestnuts (singhara), simmered in a spiced yoghurt-based gravy. It's thickened with singhara flour and seasoned with mustard seeds, curry leaves and chillies for a tangy, savoury dish. Navratri food has always been about maintaining purity and simplicity, but at *Le Meridien, New Delhi*, Chef *Setuu Gupta* and his team have shown that fasting meals can be both humble and sophisticated. By elevating traditional dishes with innovative techniques, they ensure that guests not only honour their spiritual commitment but also indulge in a culinary journey that excites the senses. This fusion of faith and flavour is a testament to the evolving nature of India's food culture, where tradition and modernity walk hand in hand.

Photo: Pankaj Kumar





## CELEBRATING NAVRATRI

# A SPECTACULAR DANCE-DRAMA EXPERIENCE

With the festive spirit of Navratri, *Shriram Bharatiya Kala Kendra* presents a captivating dance-drama that brings the timeless tale of the Ramayana to life, highlighting the struggle between good and evil and the victory of righteousness, says **SAKSHI PRIYA**

October marks the arrival of a magical time in India, where the festive spirit fills the air and people from all walks of life come together to celebrate the rich cultural heritage passed down for generations. Among the many stories and traditions that take centre stage during this season, none are as cherished or as timeless as the story of the Ramayana. Retold through art, music, dance and drama, the Ramayana during Navratri is more than just a mythological tale; it's a reminder of the eternal struggle between good and evil, love and loss, and the ultimate victory of righteousness. One of the most iconic ways to experience this story is through the grand production of "Shri Ram" by the *Shriram Bharatiya Kala Kendra*. For 68 years, this dance-drama has been a hallmark of Delhi's festive calendar, drawing audiences into the epic saga of the Ramayana. The production spans 24 days during the Navratri festival; it's not just a performance but an experience, a journey through time and a deep dive into India's cultural and spiritual heritage.

### A GRAND STAGE AND CAPTIVATING ATMOSPHERE

From the moment visitors arrive at the venue, they are welcomed by an impressive stage representing ancient Ayodhya. The meticulous attention to detail in the stage design is evident, featuring intricate patterns and vibrant colours that transport the audience to the heart of the Ramayana. The lighting shifts throughout the performance, enhancing the emotional depth of each scene. As the performance commences, the atmosphere buzzes with excitement and anticipation. Artists in elaborate costumes fill the stage, celebrating the arrival of their lord Ram. The traditional music accompanying their movements resonates with the audience, enveloping everyone in the festive spirit. The dance-drama format allows for a seamless blend of storytelling and art; classical Indian dance forms like Kathak, Bharatnatyam and Odissi take centre stage, where each gesture and expression conveys deep emotion. The opening scene beautifully showcases themes of community, love, and unity, drawing everyone into the celebration.

### A DIVINE BEGINNING

The story begins with the birth of Lord Ram and his brothers, as the people of Ayodhya rejoice in the arrival of their beloved prince. The joy on stage is visible, reflecting the warmth and happiness of the occasion. The scenes that follow take the audience on a journey through Ram's life, from his education in scriptures and warfare to his marriage with Sita, highlighting the trials he faces along the way.

What makes this story captivating is not just Ram's destiny as a divine figure but his humanity. From a young age, Ram exemplifies virtues of humility, patience and wisdom, shaping his actions throughout his life. This sense of divine purpose, combined with Ram's ability to empathise with ordinary people, makes his character relatable and inspiring to devotees during Navratri. As "Shri Ram" beautifully portrays, Ram's early years symbolise the joys of life and the weight of



"'SHRI RAM' IS MORE THAN JUST A RETELLING OF THE RAMAYANA; IT IS AN EDUCATIONAL TOOL, A COMMON CONNECTION BETWEEN GENERATIONS, AND A TRIBUTE TO INDIAN TALENT IN DANCE, POETRY AND DESIGN"



Photo: Pankaj Kumar



responsibility he must bear as the future ruler. The early relationships that shape him, including his bond with his brothers Lakshman, Bharata and Shatrughna, each play an essential role in the unfolding drama.

### THE JOURNEY OF LORD RAM AND HIS BROTHERS

As the story progresses, spectators witness the formative years of Ram alongside his brothers, training under Vishwamitra. This segment showcases the dedication and brotherly camaraderie that define their relationships, expressed through intricate choreography that highlights their commitment to duty. The physical movements and emotional expressions of the dancers capture the essence of loyalty, honour, and sacrifice, core values that resonate throughout the Ramayana. The portrayal of Ram's marriage to Sita is another highlight of the performance. The ceremony is beautifully staged and thoughtfully executed, illustrating the depth of love and devotion between the two characters. Sita is depicted with grace and strength, captivating the audience as she expresses her hopes and dreams. The artistry of this scene reflects the timeless nature of love, with each gesture drawing the audience deeper into their narrative. This portrayal captures the essence of their divine union while reminding the audience that true love involves enduring hardship and remaining steadfast in faith.

### THE RISE OF CONFLICT

The story takes a dramatic turn with the introduction of Ravana. The portrayal of Ravana brings an air of tension and complexity, masterfully performed by a talented artist whose commanding presence leaves a lasting impression. The audience feels the weight of impending conflict as the stage transforms into a realm where good clashes with evil. One of the most gripping moments comes when Ravana sends a golden deer to tempt Sita, leading to the separation of Ram and Sita. The tension during this scene is visible, as Sita's innocence and longing are powerfully conveyed. This pivotal moment marks the beginning of trials that will test Ram's love and resolve.

The fierce confrontation between Lakshman and Surpanakha highlights themes of loyalty and honour. The

choreography in this segment is intense, illustrating the raw emotions involved in defending family honour. Lakshman's decisive action in cutting off Surpanakha's nose showcases the protective instincts that run deep within the characters of the Ramayana.

### THE BATTLE OF GOOD AND EVIL

As the narrative escalates, the stage transforms into a dramatic battlefield. The choreography during these scenes is breathtaking, with performers moving in perfect synchrony to depict the chaos of war. Ram's battle against Ravana becomes the climactic moment of the performance, showcasing the bravery and determination of the forces of good. The audience is enthralled as Ram ultimately conquers Ravana, a victory resonating with the core message of the Ramayana: righteousness prevails in the face of evil. The final scenes, where Ram returns to Ayodhya to be crowned king, are a celebration of joy and mastery. The atmosphere fills with colour and light, reflecting the happiness of the citizens of Ayodhya as they welcome their lord home. This ending serves as a poignant reminder of the importance of justice, duty, and the values that bind communities together.

### THE SIGNIFICANCE OF "SHRI RAM"

Under the artistic direction of Padmashri *Shobha Deepak Singh*, the show has evolved over the years while retaining its essence. *Singh*, Chairperson of SBKK, beautifully articulated this sentiment when she stated, "Shri Ram" is more than just a retelling of the Ramayana; it is an educational tool, a common connection between generations, and a tribute to Indian talent in dance, poetry, and design." Her words resonate throughout the venue, emphasising the importance of preserving and celebrating Indian culture. The entire production is a tribute to the dedication of the artists and the meticulous planning that went into its execution. Every detail, from the stunning costumes to the intricate choreography, was carefully curated to create a seamless experience for the audience. This performance not only entertains but also educates, providing insights into the values



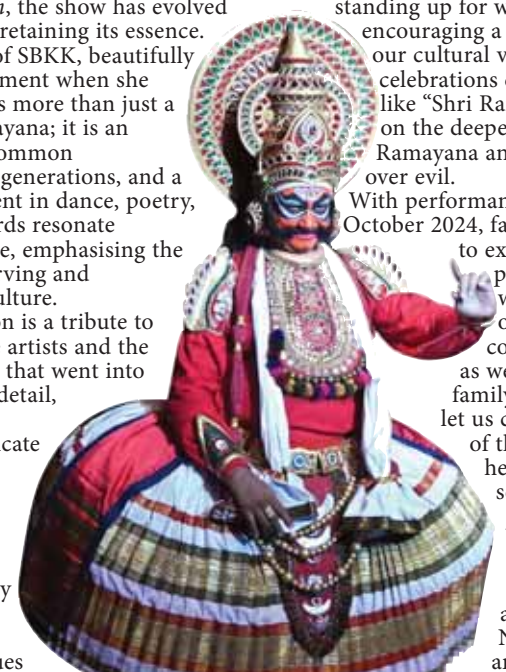
of loyalty, courage, and righteousness at the heart of the Ramayana.

### A CELEBRATION OF CULTURE AND COMMUNITY

The performance of "Shri Ram" is not just an artistic display; it is a celebration of culture and community. The universal messages of love, sacrifice, and the struggle against adversity resonate deeply, reminding everyone of the cherished values in our lives. The lighting is masterfully used to reflect shifts in tone, from the warmth and joy of Ram and Sita's union to the ominous darkness of Ravana's plans. As the scenes transition, the stage transforms fluidly, drawing the audience deeper into the narrative. The costumes are a visual feast - rich, vibrant and steeped in historical authenticity. Each character, from Ram and Sita in their royal attire to Hanuman and his monkey warriors, is dressed to reflect their roles and the cultural and mythological significance of their actions. The grandness of the set and costumes adds a layer of magic to the story, allowing the audience to fully immerse themselves in the spectacle.

Embracing the Spirit of Navratri The festival of Navratri is a time for reflection, devotion and celebration, beautifully captured in the performance of "Shri Ram." This production highlights the strength of unity and the importance of standing up for what is right while encouraging a shared understanding of our cultural values. As the Navratri celebrations continue, performances like "Shri Ram" inspire us to reflect on the deeper meanings of the Ramayana and the victory of good over evil.

With performances scheduled until 26 October 2024, families have the chance to experience this iconic production together, witnessing the brilliance of Indian art and culture come to life on stage. So, as we gather with friends and family to celebrate Navratri, let us carry forward the lessons of the Ramayana in our hearts. May this festive season fill our lives with joy, love, and an unwavering commitment to righteousness. Wishing all readers a blessed Navratri filled with love and light!







**YOUR WEEK AHEAD**

MADHU KOTIYA



**ARIES** March 21-April 19

This week begins with an international touch, whether it's receiving uplifting news from afar or having a family member travel overseas. Expect a flurry of activity, suggesting potential overseas travel for work. Stay prepared for swift movements and transitions. In legal domains, anticipate favourable outcomes that might require decisive action on your part. Health-wise, if you've been under the weather, you'll find yourself mending and returning to your usual activities. As the week concludes, joy emerges from family matters, particularly involving your children who may excel academically or bring surprising news of a potential marriage, leading to joyful wedding preparations. For those already wed, expect deepening bonds and enhanced stability in your relationship.

Lucky number 9 | Lucky colour Teal  
Lucky day Friday



**LEO** July 23-Aug 22

If you're feeling the need to escape the everyday turmoil and start anew, consider reflecting on your past experiences and future aspirations. Gaining mental clarity is essential for a smoother transition, helping you shift from chaos to calm and positivity. Making conscious decisions is crucial because once actions are taken, they can't be reversed. The principle of reaping what you sow always holds true, emphasizing the importance of your choices. This week, some may find themselves connecting deeply with a special someone, experiencing a profound synergy reminiscent of two luminaries that, although bright on their own, radiate even more brilliantly together. This connection can bring significant joy and fulfillment, enhancing the journey ahead.

Lucky number 12 | Lucky colour Red  
Lucky day Tuesday



**SAGITTARIUS** Nov 22-Dec 21

This week promises a series of significant shifts, especially in your professional life. You may find yourself navigating through a rapid succession of events that could reshape your career landscape favorably. However, if you've been riding a high wave recently, stay vigilant as challenges loom on the horizon. Be cautious of deceptive individuals who might be scheming behind your back, potentially leading to a loss of what you've diligently worked for, which could be quite distressing. As the week closes, your bold and dynamic nature will come to the forefront. You'll find yourself invigorated, and ready to tackle any challenge without hesitation. Your ability to make quick, effective decisions will enhance, driven by a proactive and energetic approach to life.

Lucky number 14 | Lucky colour Fuchsia  
Lucky day Wednesday



**TAURUS** April 20-May 20

This week calls for patience and minimal social interactions. Embracing practices like yoga and meditation could greatly enhance your sense of peace. Reflecting on the recent challenges in both your professional and personal life, it's crucial not to let these setbacks cloud the current period. An optimistic outlook reveals promising opportunities for financial growth. Engaging in new business ventures could prove lucrative. Your natural intuition might become a useful tool in navigating straightforward scenarios, leveraging your fair and analytical disposition to transition from negativity to positivity smoothly. This approach will not only clear your mind but also deepen your understanding of financial and emotional matters, guiding you towards a more enlightened state.

Lucky number 13 | Lucky colour Saffron  
Lucky day Monday



**VIRGO** Aug 23-Sep 22

The week begins with notable challenges. Recent endeavors have piled on numerous obligations, making you feel overwhelmed and stuck in your current circumstances. This sense of confinement may make you hesitant to make bold moves. Additionally, there may be individuals who seem opposed to your success, adding to the strain. However, amidst these trials, remember that you possess an inherent strength capable of overcoming these hurdles. Drawing on this positive energy will be crucial as you navigate through the week. By week's end, a calming presence will replace the earlier turmoil, allowing you to distance yourself from worldly concerns. Supported by your loved ones, you'll find yourself relaxing into a state of profound contentment and joy, reinvigorated by the peace that envelops you.

Lucky number 5 | Lucky colour Maroon  
Lucky day Wednesday



**CAPRICORN** Dec 22-Jan 19

This week, you have every reason to celebrate your achievements. A stable financial foundation brings you both security and comfort. For many, these rewards stem from diligent effort and personal commitment. Your aspirations for prosperity are now coming to fruition. Take a moment to reflect on your riches, both tangible and spiritual. The recognition of your hard work may manifest as advancements or salary increases, boosting your self-assurance. You stand as a dependable beacon for those around you, drawing everyone's focus. Your balanced perspective allows you to view situations uniquely. As the week closes, you'll find yourself deeply engaged in reflective practices, seeking to understand the depth of your own insight.

Lucky number 8 | Lucky colour Black  
Lucky day Friday



**GEMINI** May 21-June 20

This week, your innate kindness, generosity, honesty, and tranquility shine through. Some individuals may embark on a budding relationship brimming with promise that could blossom into profound joy and love. This period marks a significant phase where your deepest aspirations might begin to materialize, guided by a strong internal intuition. Professionally, your tenacity, swift responses, and unwavering commitment to your objectives help you navigate challenges effortlessly. Your hard work is likely to gain recognition and commendation from your peers, affirming your efforts. This is a time to relish the rewards of previous challenges that have now been surmounted. As the week wraps up, expect to find yourself in festive spirits, celebrating recent successes with a significant gathering or a festive event.

Lucky number 2 | Lucky colour Mint  
Lucky day Thursday



**LIBRA** Sep 23-Oct 22

This week, be wary as envy surrounds your accomplishments, and others may attempt to tarnish your reputation. There's a possibility of encountering obstacles that could disrupt your plans dramatically. Additionally, there's a risk that your own talents could be misdirected to work against you. Remember, the primary challenge comes from within. You might face disputes and resistance at work, where your proposals could be rigorously questioned by doubters. It's crucial to maintain your composure and seek amicable resolutions when possible, while steadfastly pursuing your goals. As the week closes, you might find yourself drawn to familiar places. A trip back to places filled with memories and reuniting with loved ones could rejuvenate your spirits and restore a positive outlook.

Lucky number 7 | Lucky colour Lavender  
Lucky day Saturday



**AQUARIUS** Jan 20-Feb 18

This week, a significant emotional journey begins, characterized by an evolving intensity of feelings, culminating in a period of significant personal insight and potential fulfillment of deep-seated desires. As the days progress, you may find yourself grappling with a challenging home situation, feeling weighed down by nostalgia or a sense of loss. However, as the week draws to a close, there is a noticeable shift towards a more uplifting scenario where you may discover newfound peace and happiness. In resolving life's challenges, a change of scenery could be on the horizon, whether through a strategic move or a professional relocation. Significant figures in your professional life are likely to influence these transitions, marking a pivotal moment in your journey.

Lucky number 11 | Lucky colour Gold  
Lucky day Tuesday



**CANCER** June 21-July 22

This week marks a phase of deep satisfaction as a long-held dream comes to fruition. You find yourself in a joyful union or embarking on a career path that fills you with pride. Riding a wave of bliss, you feel the support of a higher power enriching your journey. Recognition for your perseverance and tenacity inspires others, while guidance from a mentor proves to be incredibly beneficial. Your commitment to a balanced and harmonious approach to life strengthens. As the week closes, your interactions are characterized by fairness and responsibility. You secure a role that promises emotional and financial rewards, brightening your prospects for the future. Your outlook is optimistic as you navigate forward, ready to embrace new opportunities with open arms.

Lucky number 4 | Lucky colour White  
Lucky day Sunday



**SCORPIO** Oct 23-Nov 21

At the start of the week, some individuals might find themselves overwhelmed by their emotions. Minor issues, whether related to personal health or family matters, could cause tension. This period encourages introspection and expressing oneself through writing. As the week progresses, a shift occurs, bringing a surge of enthusiasm and energy. This phase is characterized by a strong sense of leadership and commitment to responsibilities, possibly coinciding with new responsibilities or projects. The latter part of the week signals a significant period of change, marking the arrival of new professional opportunities. These changes are poised to positively influence one's future, setting the stage for lasting improvements in personal and professional life.

Lucky number 3 | Lucky colour Turquoise  
Lucky day Monday



**PISCES** Feb 19-March 20

Throughout this week, individuals prone to deep empathy are especially attuned to the needs of others. They naturally excel in nurturing roles, offering their support and guidance generously. Their compassion extends widely, ensuring that those who seek their help find solace and assistance. Known for their capability to address and manage the challenges faced by others, they blend resilience with a profound capacity to care. Not only are they mentally and physically robust, but they also possess an indomitable spirit characterized by bravery and endurance. Their unique approach to action is guided by a clear, unaffected rationale. This week, many will find themselves impressed by these intrinsic traits, strengthening bonds and forming meaningful connections with those dear to them.

Lucky number 10 | Lucky colour Olive  
Lucky day Thursday

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# Is boredom a blessing or a curse?

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

GURUSPEAK



Sri Sri Ravi Shankar  
Spiritual Guru

Take a few moments to sit down, be open to boredom, and you'll effortlessly move into a deep meditative state

**I**N an ocean, the waves keep coming non-stop, it doesn't get boring! Birds sing the same song, every morning, all their life, they don't get bored! It 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 you stabilise. People who are in love don't get bored. The heart knows no boredom. The head knows boredom.

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

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

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

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

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

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 analysing 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.