



WORLD 6

UKRAINE CALLS ON WEST TO APPROVE LONG RANGE STRIKES ON RUSSIAN TERRITORY

SPORT 7

HARMANPREET DOUBLE DRIVES INDIA 2-1 WIN OVER PAKISTAN IN ACT HOCKEY



Established 1864 Sunday Pioneer

www.dailypioneer.com

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

BHOPAL, SUNDAY SEPTEMBER 15, 2024; PAGES 12 ₹2



CONGRESS IS URBAN NAXAL: PM

RAJESH KUMAR ■ KURUKSHETRA/ NEW DELHI

In a scathing attack on Congress, Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Saturday said now it is not the same old party and has become new form of urban Naxal. Modi also dubbed the Congress as the biggest "dishonest and deceitful" party in the country. Slamming the grand old party, Modi said "Its politics today has reduced to spreading 'falsehoods and anarchy' in the country." Terming the party anti-Dalit and anti-farmer, Prime Minister Modi stated, "Congress family is the biggest anti-OBC, anti-ST and anti-SC; they always hated Babasaheb Ambedkar. Who knows Congress's anti-Dalit stance better than Haryana? Every time Congress forms a Government in Haryana, Dalits face hardships." He said the Congress feels no shame in defaming the country for defaming the BJP. "So you have to be wary of the Congress and their associates." Kicking off his party's campaign in Haryana by addressing a poll rally in Kurukshetra, he questioned the track record of Congress and said it talks big when it comes to farmers. "If the Congress has the guts, why don't they implement their farmer schemes in Karnataka and Telangana," Modi said. Modi said the Congress has come to power in Himachal Pradesh, Karnataka and Telangana by making false promises, and has now "destroyed" the States which used to be prosperous. People now repent voting for the Congress in these States, he said.

"The Congress made hue and cry over Minimum Support Price (MSP), I ask them how many crops they buy at MSP in Congress ruled States- Karnataka and Telangana? Those who trusted Congress are now regretting it. Their only agenda is to empty public coffers to win elections. Just witness the condition of Punjab. The people of Haryana must keep such parties far from power," Modi said. "Did any farmer receive money in their accounts during Congress rule?" Prime Minister asked. Polling for the 90 Assembly seats in Haryana will be held on October 5 and the votes will be counted on October 8. Addressing the rally, Modi said, "Two years ago, the Congress Government was formed in Himachal Pradesh. But what is the situation there today? No citizen of Himachal is happy today. Congress fed lies to every section there but none of the promises made were fulfilled." Under the Kissan Samman Nidhi, more than Rs 3.25 lakh crore has been deposited in farmers' accounts, he said while highlighting his Government achievements. "See what is happening in Karnataka. During a short period of Congress' rule in that State, about 1,200 farmers have committed suicide there," the Prime Minister said. The Prime Minister added, "When the nation exposed their lies, they stopped talking about the Old Pension Scheme altogether. In contrast, BJP has introduced the New Pension Scheme, guaranteeing a secure future for employees. Government



Prime Minister Narendra Modi with Haryana Chief Minister Nayab Saini and others during a public meeting ahead of the upcoming Haryana Assembly elections, in Kurukshetra, Saturday PTI

employees have widely appreciated this scheme." He also shared an emotional moment with the crowd, "Just a few days ago, we completed the third revision of the One Rank One Pension (OROP) scheme, and starting this October, my servicemen brothers will begin receiving its benefits. For Congress, appeasement is their only agenda. In Karnataka, under Congress rule, even Lord Ganpati is being disrespected." Modi also addressed the issue of

reservations, stating, "Remember, when Nehru was the Prime Minister, he opposed reservations, claiming that hiring through reservations would lower the quality of Government services. Indira Gandhi also blocked OBC reservations, and it wasn't until the Janata Party Government that the Mandal Commission was formed. But when Congress returned, they buried the report. Rajiv Gandhi too opposed OBC reservations and insulted the community. Even today, Congress continues its royal

family's agenda against reservations. But let me make one thing clear, as long as Modi is here, not a single penny of Dr Ambedkar's reservation policy will be touched. SC/ST/OBC reservations are here to stay forever." Shifting focus to the efforts of the Government, the Prime Minister highlighted the support given to farmers, stating, "Our Government has taken many steps to reduce the burden on farmers. Take urea, for example. While a

bag of urea costs Rs 3,000 internationally, we provide it to our farmers for less than Rs 300." Expressing confidence in his party's future, Modi added, "In Haryana, BJP is working with full dedication, transforming the State into a top performer in investment and revenue. Remember when Congress limited development funds to just one district? Haryana saw how those funds vanished into the wrong hands. But the BJP has connected the entire State to the stream of progress. Where half the

homes once lacked water connections, today, Haryana is on track to achieve 100 per cent tap water connectivity." He said the new NDA government at the Centre is yet to complete 100 days but it has already started work worth nearly Rs 15 lakh-crore. The BJP Government has approved three crore 'pucca houses' for poor, he said. Attacking the Hooda family and previous Congress Governments in Haryana, Modi said, "We have seen that period of the Congress Government when money for development used to be limited to one district only. Not only that, in whose pockets that money used to go? Everyone in Haryana knows that." He praised Haryana Chief Minister Nayab Singh Saini for his humility and said he has dedicated himself for the State's progress. Modi said people gave him a third term at the Centre in the Lok Sabha elections, and going by their enthusiasm, the BJP is set to score a hat-trick in Haryana too. "I have come once again to ask for your support to form a BJP Government on this sacred land. You have entrusted me with the opportunity to serve in Delhi for the third consecutive time, and the enthusiasm I see here today makes it clear, BJP's hat-trick is inevitable," he urged. The BJP is contesting the Haryana Assembly polls alone after parting ways with Dushyant Chautala-led Jannayak Janata Party (JJP) last year. Meanwhile, the Congress and Aam Aadmi Party (AAP) are also contesting the polls solo as the two members of the INDIA bloc could not finalise a seat-sharing deal.

PM in Doda: Terror on death bed Fresh assault in J and K

PNS ■ JAMMU

Counting the sins committed by three dynastic families namely Congress, National Conference, and the Peoples Democratic Party Prime Minister Narendra Modi said on Saturday, the upcoming Assembly elections in Jammu and Kashmir will be a fight between these "three dynasties" and the youth of the Union Territory. Modi also asserted that terrorism is taking its last breath in Jammu and Kashmir and will be completely wiped out by the security forces. Before the arrival of the Prime Minister, jawans of the security forces were engaged in an intense firefight in the Kreeeri area of Baramulla. Three terrorists were gunned down in the anti-terrorist operation. Since September 9, a total number of seven terrorists were eliminated in three separate operations while two bravehearts of the Indian army sacrificed their lives in the line of duty. On the occasion, Modi reiterated his Government's promise of restoring statehood to Jammu and Kashmir and cautioned people against bringing the NC, Congress, and the PDP back to power. The Prime Minister while addressing his maiden election rally ahead of the



Prime Minister Narendra Modi addresses a public meeting ahead of the upcoming Jammu and Kashmir Assembly elections, in Doda district, Saturday PTI

first round of polling on September 18 asserted these three political dynasties have destroyed the region and not allowed new leadership to grow. Launching a scathing attack on these three political dynasties Modi said they indulged in corruption and made you struggle for your basic needs. "These three families prepared the necessary ground for separatism and terrorism here. Who benefited from it? The enemies of the nation! They

were harbouring terrorism. They are responsible for ruining Jammu and Kashmir for decades," PM Modi said. The Prime Minister pledged that his Government would make a prosperous Jammu and Kashmir, stating that it was "Modi Ki Guarantee." Out of 24 Assembly seats that are going to witness polling on September 18, eight fall in the erstwhile Doda district and 16 Assembly seats are located in the south Kashmir districts of Anantnag, Pulwama, Shopian, and Kulgam.

The BJP campaign managers organised the mega poll rally, also the first by any Prime Minister in the last 42 years in the land-locked Doda district, to sway the voters in support of the BJP to come closer to the magic numbers needed to form the Government. The mega rally was attended by senior BJP leaders and all eight BJP candidates in the fray. Before beginning his over 40-minute long speech Modi also offered prayers in the name of local deities. "This time, the (Assembly) election will decide the future of Jammu and Kashmir, which has remained the target of foreign powers since Independence." The political parties you trusted never cared for your children. They only cared for and projected their children and did not let new leadership grow," Modi added. The Prime Minister said his Government focused on carving out a young leadership in Jammu and Kashmir soon after "we came to power at the Centre in 2014." "The youths of J and K used to face the brunt of terrorism. The parties that encouraged familism by misleading people enjoyed power and did not allow young leaders to take root. "I can see that our sisters and daughters have come here in big numbers to bless us. I am

thankful to you all. I will repay this love and blessings of yours by working twice and thrice as hard for you and the country. Together we will build a safe and prosperous Jammu and Kashmir and this is Modi's guarantee," PM Modi said. These people have never allowed new Leaders to emerge anywhere in J-K. You also know that panchayat elections were not held here after 2000," PM Modi said. He further said that "Pariwarwad' did not allow the youth to come forward and that is why, after coming to power in 2014, I have tried to bring forward the new leadership of the youth in Jammu and Kashmir." "In 2018, panchayat elections were held here. In 2019, BDC elections were held and in 2020, DDC elections were held for the first time. Why were these elections held? So that democracy reaches the grassroots level in Jammu and Kashmir," he said. The Prime Minister referred to the remark by then Congress' Home Minister Sushil Kumar Shinde in which he said that he was scared to visit Lal Chowk "There was a time when there used to be an undeclared curfew after evening. The situation was such that the Union Home Minister used to be scared to visit Lal Chowk," he said.

PNS ■ JAMMU

Ahead of the maiden visit of Prime Minister Narendra Modi to address an election rally in the land-locked Doda district on Saturday, two soldiers of the Indian army sacrificed their lives while two others received injuries during a counter-terrorism operation in the Chatroo area of Kishtwar on Friday. In another overnight operation launched in the Kreeeri area of North Kashmir's Baramulla district, three terrorists were gunned down by the joint team of security forces on Saturday. The security forces were able to neutralise a group of hiding terrorists after identifying their exact locations inside the building with the help of drone cameras. With this, the number of terrorists eliminated in the last three anti terrorist operations have gone up to seven. Chinarcops of the Indian army in a post on X confirmed, "Three terrorists have been neutralised by the security forces in the ongoing Operation. Weapons and warlike stores have been recovered. The Chinarcops has dealt some crippling blows to the terror network in North Kashmir over the past few days with significant recoveries and elimination of terrorists, inspiring confidence and assurance for upcoming events scheduled in the region." Before the day ended, another



Security personnel during an encounter with militants at Chak Tapper Kreeeri Pattan area, in Baramulla district, Jammu and Kashmir, Saturday PTI

army personnel was injured in an encounter with terrorists attempting to infiltrate across the Line of Control (LoC) in Rajouri district. According to a spokesman of the Nagrota-based White Knight Corps of the Indian army, "Based on the intelligence inputs, a joint operation with J and K Police was launched in Chatroo at Kishtwar. A contact was established and a scout leading the patrol exchanged heavy volume of fire with the terrorists at around 3.30 pm on Friday. In the ensuing firefight, four army personnel were injured. Later two soldiers who have been identified as Naib Subedar Vipan Kumar and Sepoy Arvind Singh succumbed to their fatal injuries during treatment at the military hospital. It is believed these Pakistani

terrorists belong to the Jaish-e-Mohammad (JeM) terrorist outfit and were responsible for the terror attack on the Indian army in the Desa forest area of Kishtwar on 16 July. An Indian army captain along with three other soldiers was 'killed in action' during a fierce firefight in the area. Meanwhile, the mortal remains of the soldiers were dispatched to their native places after a solemn wreath laying ceremony. "GOC (General Officer Commanding) White Knight Corps and all ranks salute the supreme sacrifice of the bravehearts; offer deepest condolences to the families," the Army said. Naib Subedar Vipan Kumar, hailed from village Patrara in Sunderbani area of Rajouri district and Sepoy Arvind Singh was a resident of Hamirpur, Himachal Pradesh.

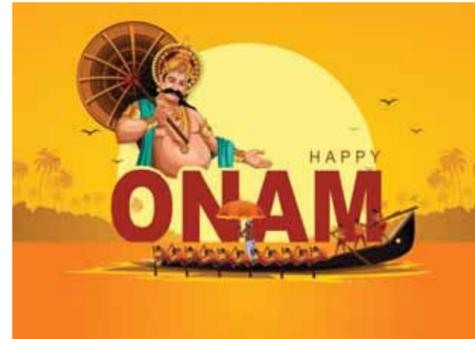
Let us bring home the joy of Onam

KUMAR CHELLAPPAN ■ KOCHI

Onam, the biggest festival for Malayalees all over the world is being celebrated this Sunday with merriment. This is despite the Kerala Government's decision to do away with Onam festivities in the backdrop of the landslides and floods in Wayanad district that claimed more than 400 lives in July 2024. The festival falls in the Malayalam month of Chingam (August-September) to mark the annual visit of King Mahabali to Kerala to greet his citizens. It is widely believed that Mahabali ruled the State for decades before he was sent to

the netherworld by the Gods who felt threatened by the goodwill and affection enjoyed by the former among his countrymen. The story is that Lord Mahavishnu disguised as a bhikshu approached Mahabali and requested him for three measures of land which was granted immediately. The bhikshu measured the entire kingdom with his first two steps and stood searching for a space to keep his foot to acquire the third measure. Since there was no more land, the King, known for his honesty, offered his own head for Mahavishnu to keep his feet. Thus, the Lord sent Mahabali

to the netherworld by pushing the latter down. The belief among Malayalees is that the region which is known by the name Kerala was carved out of Arabian Sea by Parashurama who threw his axe from Gokarnam in Karnataka towards the south. The land thus reclaimed was known as Kerala. What does not fit in this recounting is that Parashurama was the sixth avatar of Mahavishnu while Vamana, who approached Mahabali with request for land was the fifth out of the ten avatars! Rama Chandran, author and chronicler of Kerala's history, says there are glaring mismatches that prove there



never existed a king by name Mahabali at any point of time. Contrary to the claims that Mahabali was a popular ruler,

there is no memorial in his honour anywhere in the State. But there is a big temple dedicated to Vamana, the

reincarnation of Mahavishnu at Thrikkakkara, a suburb of Ernakulam where thousands gather every year to observe Vamana Jayanthi. Historians like S Sanku Iyer and Neelakanta Sasthrikal are silent about Mahabali or Onam in their works. Rama Chandran recounted verses from Bhagawata, one of the great Puranas of Sanatana Dharma that discusses a wide range of topics including cosmology, astronomy, geography and legend. The Bhagawata is silent about the Mahabali. "The Ashtama Skandam in Bhagawata and verses from Rig Veda (Vishnu Sooktham), the Skanda Puranam all reject the theory

of Mahabali. Though there are proofs of the existence of a Mahabali, the grandson of Prahlada, his kingdom was on the banks of Narmada and he had nothing to do with Kerala," said Rama Chandran. The story of Mahabali and Vamana suits the convenience of modern day politicians for obvious reasons, late Thuravoor Viswambharan had said in his speeches. What stands out now is that Onam has become Kerala's biggest shopping festival with each manufacturer of household articles setting target of thousands of crores during the season. Mahabali is portrayed as a comic character who evokes

laughter by his physique as well as troubles he faced with a myriad crowd during his annual trip to the State. Those who swear by scientific temper maintain a stoic silence over the veracity of Mahabali's story. The ambrosial Onam feasts by the likes of chef Suresh Pillai and the unbelievable discounts offered by shopping malls have bowled over even the toughest among cynics. The Onam which we see in TV is nothing but commercial events. "The new clothes that we wear for the festival and the feast we prepare are by products of the commercialisation of Onam," says Mankombu Gopalakrishnan, lead poet.

Bus terminal will be a source of pride for Indore: CM

PNS ■ INDORE

Chief Minister Mohan Yadav said that the facilities of the fully equipped, air-conditioned and largest Inter State Bus Terminal (ISBT) of Madhya Pradesh, which is coming up on the lines of the airport in Indore's Kumed, will be available to the public from December. This bus terminal will add to the pride of Indore and Madhya Pradesh in the country. The Chief Minister said this during the inspection of the bus terminal here on Saturday. He informed that the Interstate Bus Terminal (ISBT) is being constructed by the Indore Development Authority for Rs 101 crore in the 15-acre area in Kumed area of Indore. The terminal will be ready by coming December. Chief Minister

Dr. Yadav said that the government is working rapidly for the integrated development of the state. He said that the bus terminal will also be highly beneficial during Simhashtas as it will provide the best transportation facilities to the passengers. He appreciated and congratulated the work of public representatives, district administration, and officials of Indore Development Authority associated with the terminal. Chief Minister Dr. Yadav also inspected the metro rail station being built in front of the terminal. He also gave instructions to complete the metro work at a fast pace. Among those present on the occasion were Water Resources Minister Tulsiram Silawat, MP Shri Shankar Lalwani, MLA Shri Mahendra Hardia, Madhu Verma, Manoj Patel and Golu

Shukla, Divisional Commissioner Deepak Singh, Police Commissioner Rakesh Gupta, Collector Ashish Singh, Chairman of the Scheduled Caste Finance Development Corporation Sawan Sonkar, former Chairman of Indore Development Authority Jaipal Singh Chavda, Gaurav Ranadive, Chief Executive Officer of Indore Development Authority R.P. Ahirwar and other officers and public representatives. About 1440 buses will arrive at the newly constructed Interstate Bus Terminal (ISBT) of Indore in 24 hours. The bus terminal will be fully air-conditioned and equipped with all facilities. There will be 14 ticket counters for the convenience of passengers. There will also be a parking facility for about 1000 vehicles. From here buses

will go to places like Gujarat, Rajasthan, Bhopal, Jabalpur, Chhindwara, Sagar etc. A total of 43 bus platforms have been constructed, out of which 28 platforms are earmarked for outgoing buses and 15 for incoming buses. A daily traffic of 80 thousand passengers is expected in the terminal building, in which about 8 thousand people will be able to travel simultaneously even during peak hours. Separate gates have been made for the arrival and departure of passenger buses. Separate parking arrangements have been made in the ISBT complex for about 600 two-wheelers, 160 taxi cars, 150 auto-rickshaws, and about 50 private cars. Apart from this, there is also a parking arrangement for about 315 four-wheelers in the basement. Two Sulabh Shauchalayas have also

been constructed at the parking lot. The terminal building has seating arrangements for 500 passengers and a VIP lounge similar to the airport has also been constructed. The ticket counter, inquiry office, police post, medical room, and clock room have been arranged in the terminal block. The entire terminal building will have an airport-like air cooling system, which is not available in any ISBT in the state. For the convenience of passengers, 16 restaurants, 37 shops, 33 office buildings, and 2 ATMs have also been constructed. ISBT has also been directly connected to the metro station so that metro passengers will be able to reach the bus stand complex directly and bus passengers will be able to reach the metro station directly.



Chief Minister Mohan Yadav felicitated Hindi literateurs at a programme organised by Culture department at Ravindra Bhawan in Bhopal on Saturday. Pioneer photo

Rtd officer cheated of Rs 9.6 lakh in name of Haj pilgrimage

STAFF REPORTER ■ BHOPAL

Retired Chief Engineer of PHE department has been duped to the tune of Rs 9.60 lakh in the name of sending him on Haj pilgrimage; accused provided fake plane tickets and a fake Arab visa which was revealed at Delhi airport on June 24. The entire fraud was revealed during check-in at Delhi Airport after which the victim returned to Bhopal and lodged a complaint with Aishbagh police. After investigation, Aishbagh police have registered a case of fraud against the tour operator. ASI Pawan Raghuvanshi said that Shahid Hasan (62) lives in Naveen Nagar, Aishbagh, he was posted as Chief Engineer in the PHE department and retired a

Retired Chief Engineer of PHE department has been duped to the tune of Rs 9.60 lakh in the name of sending him on Haj pilgrimage

year ago. In his complaint Shahid told the police that he and his wife contacted Rafiq Khan, the operator of a travel agency named Al Haj Sahulat Umrah Tour Organization, through an advertisement to go on Haj 2024. When the trip was finalized, he transferred Rs 4.60 lakh in January and later gave a cheque of Rs 3 lakh and finally provided Rs 2 lakh in cash. On reaching Delhi airport at the time of checking-in at the airport the employees told him that the ticket and visa were fake. From there,

when Shahid spoke to the operator of the travel agency, Rafiq, on the phone, he started misleading them. After realizing that he had been cheated, Shahid reached Bhopal and lodged a complaint at the Aishbagh police station. After three months of investigation, the police have registered a case against the accused Rafiq Khan and started searching for him. Police said that the accused operates an office in Mulla Colony, Karond, and he is being searched by raiding his possible hideouts.

Speeding truck kills 11 cows on highway

STAFF REPORTER ■ BHOPAL

A speeding truck tragically ran over 16 cows in Chhatrapur district of Madhya Pradesh, resulting in death of 11. Two individuals have been arrested. The incident, which also injured five cows, occurred around 11 pm on Jhansi-Khajuraho Road near Kaidi village, according to authorities. Upon receiving information about the unidentified vehicle that had caused the accident, a police team was dispatched to the scene and promptly transported the injured bovines to a veterinary hospital. Officials said the case has been registered under relevant sections of the Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita (BNS), Motor Vehicle Act, and Prevention of Cruelty to Animals Act.

MP govt to encourage study in mother tongue: CM

STAFF REPORTER ■ BHOPAL

Chief Minister Mohan Yadav said that the Madhya Pradesh government is committed to the maximum use and promotion of Hindi. Madhya Pradesh is a major Hindi-speaking state. Not only are doctors and engineers from Madhya Pradesh progressing after getting an education in Hindi but they can also be given the facility to study other courses in Hindi. Later on, students can build their careers by studying MBA and other courses. People who speak Hindi only enhance the pride of the language. Madhya Pradesh government is committed to educating the students in their mother tongue. Chief Minister Dr. Yadav was honoring Hindi Sevis in the Rashtriya Hindi Bhasha Samman Alankaran Samaroha

organized by the Culture Department at Rabindra Bhawan today on Hindi Day. Chief Minister Dr. Yadav said that today on the occasion of Hindi Day, a review related to the language is also necessary. He said the journey of Hindi started from the origin of Awadhi. Despite many difficulties, its journey has been smooth. The Chief Minister remembered many freedom fighters and great men who worked for the cause of both the freedom movement and the national language. Chief Minister Dr. Yadav said that it is our good fortune that many non-Hindi-speaking people have also been strong supporters of Hindi. In favorable times, new rays of hope emerge from adversity. Chief Minister Dr. Yadav said that when the British were ruling, Hindi scholars and great men

of the country kept everyone connected. It was a difficult task to reject English at that time but the patriots and Hindi lovers, along with their fight for freedom, also continued to make efforts to establish the identity of their language. They enhanced the pride of the national language. Chief Minister Dr. Yadav remembered Madhavrao Sapre and Bhartendu Harishchandra, famous writers Premchand ji and Hazari Prasad Dwivedi apart from Father of the Nation Mahatma Gandhi, Shyama Prasad Mukherjee and Subhash Chandra Bose, who while prominently took part in the freedom movement continued to be strong supporters of Hindi. Chief Minister Dr. Yadav said that former Prime Minister Bharat Ratna Late Atal Behari Vajpayee's address at the United

Nations in Hindi increased the pride of Hindi. He said that our Prime Minister Narendra Modi uses Hindi even in foreign countries whenever there is an opportunity. As Madhya Pradesh is a Hindi-speaking state, when our people speak Hindi in other states, people are impressed by the purity and pronunciation of their language. Chief Minister Dr. Yadav said that all these examples increase the pride of the Hindi language. Chief Minister Dr. Yadav said that today two sisters from Canada and Sri Lanka have been honored by the Madhya Pradesh government for promoting the use of Hindi. The duo has done important work in favor of Hindi. Chief Minister Dr. Yadav instructed the Culture Department to organize such Samman Samarohas every year.



Devotees immersing idols of ganesha in lower lake, near Khattapur temple on Saturday. Pioneer photo

Workshop organized on rational use of resources at AIIMS Bhopal

STAFF REPORTER ■ BHOPAL

The Housing Committee of AIIMS Bhopal organized a workshop titled "Sensitization towards Rational Use and Preventive Maintenance of Resources in Hospital Premises" on 14th September 2024. The event, held at the Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology's Seminar Room, aimed at promoting efficient resource management and preventive maintenance strategies in hospital settings. The program began with the dissemination of event details via email to all AIIMS Bhopal employees, followed by a display of highlights on the video-wall. Dignitaries were invited, and banners and standees were installed at prominent locations, such as the IPD Gate. The event was structured into three segments: Poster Presentations, Guest Lectures, and the Inaugural Session. A total of 25 posters, prepared by staff and



students from Civil, Electrical, Biomedical, and Environmental sections, along with nursing staff, were showcased at the IPD Gallery. Key guest lectures included "Medico-engineering Research - The Way Ahead" by Col. Chiranjeev Das, SE, AIIMS Bhopal; "Rational Use of Electrical Energy and Energy Audits" by Kailash Mahato, Executive Engineer, CPWD Bhopal; and "Infrastructural Evolution of AIIMS Bhopal" by Kochar, Ex-Asst. Engineer, AIIMS Bhopal. These sessions were chaired by Dr. Prabhakar Tiwari, CMHO Bhopal; Prof. Dr. Rajkumar Patil, Department of Community and Family Medicine, AIIMS Bhopal; and Prof. Dr. K. Pushpalatha, Head of Obstetrics and Gynecology and Chairperson of the Housing Committee. The workshop was inaugurated by Col. Dr. Ajit Kumar, Deputy Director (Admin), who emphasized the significance of resource awareness in hospitals. Guest speakers were felicitated,

and the proceedings were expertly coordinated by Dr. Ashish Dixit, Medical Officer, Department of AYUSH. The poster section was overseen by Engineer MD Ali Saifi, Engineer Shivam Vijayavargiya and ANS Suchitra. In her vote of thanks, Prof. Dr. K. Pushpalatha expressed her appreciation to Prof. Dr. Ajai Singh for his continued support, and also thanked Mohd. Kamal Ahmad, Special Director General, CPWD, Ministry of Housing & Urban Affairs, for his encouraging words. Special thanks were also extended to the administrative staff, faculty, engineers, and nursing team for their contributions to the event's success. The workshop saw 95 registered participants, who actively engaged in interactive sessions with the speakers, expressing their satisfaction with the insights shared. The event concluded with a high tea, fostering networking and discussion among attendees.

Bagh exponent Khatri meets Giriraj

STAFF REPORTER ■ BHOPAL

Exploring possibilities of combining culture with couture, noted Bagh print designer Moinuddin Khatri met Union Minister for Textiles, Giriraj Singh, in New Delhi on Saturday. Khatri, the only fashion designer and master craftsman of Bagh print and an NIFT graduate, met Singh at a special program organized in the national capital. The Minister congratulated Khatri for his academic achievements, and appreciated his commitment for innovations and improvement of the craft. Khatri, a traditional craftsman, picked up the nuances of textile printing under the tutelage of his father, Mubarak Khatri, at a young age. He is currently working on creating a synthesis between the traditional art and high fashion. He has worked with several well known names in the fashion industry and has a keen interest in updating the age-old art of fabric printing with the use of technology. He has also strived to find new markets for the craft. A winner of several national and international awards, Khatri is exhibiting his works at 'Chhaap' at the Dilli Haat.



The Minister congratulated Khatri for his academic achievements, and appreciated his commitment for innovations and improvement of the craft. Khatri, a traditional craftsman, picked up the nuances of textile printing under the tutelage of his father, Mubarak Khatri, at a young age. He is currently working on creating a synthesis between the traditional art and high fashion. He has worked with several well known names in the fashion industry and has a keen interest in updating the age-old art of fabric printing with the use of technology. He has also strived to find new markets for the craft. A winner of several national and international awards, Khatri is exhibiting his works at 'Chhaap' at the Dilli Haat.

UMA's Onam celebration today

STAFF REPORTER ■ BHOPAL

The United Malayalee Association (UMA) Bhopal is celebrating Onam festival on Sunday, at 6 PM at the SN Mission Hall, Subhash Nagar, Bhopal. Since its establishment in 1984, UMA has been dedicated to serving the community with compassion and commitment. Over the decades, UMA has consistently provided essential support, including medical aid, financial assistance, blood donation drives, and more. OD Joseph, President of UMA, said, "Onam festival is an opportunity for us to celebrate our rich cultural heritage and the spirit of togetherness. As we host this year's festivities, we are reminded of the resilience and unity of our community. We are honored to continue our engagement with our fellow Malayalees and look forward to sharing this special occasion with everyone." The Onam Celebrations 2024 will showcase a vibrant array of cultural performances, including traditional and contemporary dances by Kalanjali, Bhopal, captivating classical arts by Prathibhalaya Arts Academy, and dynamic performances by Natyashri.

Programme organised to mark 'Hindi Day' at Tagore Hindi centre

STAFF REPORTER ■ BHOPAL

A programme was held to commemorate 'Hindi Day' by the Tagore International Hindi Centre in the state capital on Saturday. The event coincided with the start of Hindi fortnight. The program was designed and presented by the Overseas Indian Literature and Culture Research Centre, and the Faculty of Humanities and Liberal Arts, Rabindranath Tagore University, Bhopal. An 'International Symposium' on the topic 'Hindi in the World: The World of Hindi,' was held to mark the occasion. On this occasion, the Tagore International Hindi Centre also presented the 'Hindi Acquisition Curriculum' designed for global Hindi education. A book titled 'Vishwa mein Hindi: Hindi ka Vishwa' from the Overseas Literature Series published under the 'Vishwa Rang' theme was also launched. The book, edited by Dr. Deepak Pandey and Dr. Nutan Pandey, focuses on 'The Literary Contributions

The Tagore International Hindi Centre also presented the 'Hindi Acquisition Curriculum' designed for global Hindi education

of Dharmapal Mahendra Jain, a Canadian Writer. The author, Jain, in his presidential address, noted the rapid strides made by Hindi on the global stage and elaborated on the programs devised for promotion of the language in Canada. Speaking on the occasion, Aditi Chaturvedi Vats, Pro VC of the university said that the foundation of the ISECT group is Hindi. She said that Hindi Fortnight has been inaugurated at all six universities of the ISECT University group. The fortnight will see many students present and participate in various programs and events designed for the promotion of Hindi. The Hindi fortnight concludes on September 30.



Kerala Food Festival was organised by hotel Palash Residency, on Onam festival of Kerala. Pioneer photo

Prestigious Information Security Certificate presented to Sr Manager

Bhopal: Gautam Majumdar, General Manager (CMG, PMG, CC & DTG) and NP Sanodia, Department Head (DTG) presented the prestigious Information Security Certificate to Gaurav Sharma, Senior Manager (DTG) and Molly Bibileen Khakha, Manager (DTG) at a simple ceremony held at BHEL, Bhopal. The prestigious Information Security Course for Certified Internal Information Security

Auditor (CIISA) based on ISO/IEC 27001:2022 Information Security Management System standard was conducted at BHEL Hyderabad from 24th to 26th April, 2024. Both the executives achieved the highest performance grade, 'O' (Excellent). This certification is given by the STQC (Standardization Testing & Quality Certification) Directorate, Ministry of Electronics & Information Technology, Government of

India to recognize BHEL's commitment to excellence in Information Security Management and to advance cyber security capabilities and make the organization a leader in the field. In the same series, SN Shrivastava, Sr DGM (DTG) and Pradeep Singh Bhaloria, Sr Manager (DTG) were also awarded ISO/IEC 27001:2022 certification for successfully completing the infection cum awareness program.

Cow worshipper CM fails to wean bovines away from highways

GIRISH SHARMA ■ BHOPAL

A self-confessed cow worshipper, Chief Minister Mohan Yadav is caught between his 'love' for the bovine and a recent observation of the Madhya Pradesh high court which has adopted a clear stance over the rise in road accidents caused by the rampant presence of cows on highways in the state. The incidents of cow deaths and bovine related accidents on highways in Orchha and Sagar on Saturday have yet again exposed the Madhya Pradesh BJP government's 'love' for the cows and its reluctance to act against the bovines.

Despite the presence of over 2,400 government or government aided cow shelters across Madhya Pradesh, it is surprising that cows are still found roaming on main roads and highways in

the state. The situation is no-different even in the State capital. In the last few decades, successive BJP governments have initiated several steps to overcome the problem, including the formation of a board for the protection of cows. Former chief minister Shivraj Singh Chouhan had even formed a separate cabinet for the protection of cows but the situation continues to remain unchanged.

Cow rearers are to be blamed for a part of the problem as they only provide shelter to milching cows and then abandon the bovines once they stop giving milk. They say that keeping cows beyond the milk giving age is not possible for them as the non-profitable bovines would chew into their meager profits.

In a knee-jerk reaction after the death of cows in an accident in Bhopal in August, the state gov-

ernment had announced a four-member committee for a period of 15 days to control cows and other cattle from straying on to the roads.

The panel was headed by the Additional Chief Secretary of Home department and only the committee can say what happened during those 15 days, as the problem continues to persist. The Madhya Pradesh high court in Jabalpur repeatedly asked authorities and departments of the state government for explanation over their inability to stop the highways from turning into grazing grounds for cattle. Notices have been issued to the state government, PWD Principal Secretary, MPRDC, and NHA1 but the high court action is yet to bring a change on the ground.

Earlier, during the regime of Congress, then chief minister

Kamal Nath had increased the grant given to cow shelter owners to Rs 20 per cow, but in the present BJP government, it has been reduced to Rs 3 per cow. Senior Congress leader Rameshwar Neekhra, while talking to 'The Pioneer' said the present grant is ridiculous. One cow's per day feed costs around Rs 100 per day, then what one cow would get in just Rs 3. He applauded the Chhattisgarh scheme-Godhan Nyay Yojana and described it as excellent. He urged the state government to come up with such a comprehensive plan to save cows from meeting with accidents.

Implemented by Bhupesh Baghel government in Chhattisgarh, the Godhan Nyay scheme was the first of its kind in the country, it helped poor cattle rearers augment their incomes by selling cow dung to the government.

The state government used cow dung, acquired from the farmers, to make organic vermicompost and subsequently promoted the use of organic farming by selling this manure to farmers in the state. The vermicompost was produced under MNREGA by women organised under Self Help Groups (SHGs).

Around three years ago, then Chief Minister Shivraj Singh Chouhan had said that the cow, as well as its dung and urine, can strengthen the farm economy and add to the country's financial capabilities but the government has stopped short of backing these pronouncements with credible action.

While there is no denying the fact that the government has developed cow sanctuaries and shelters but the situation on the ground requires participation from the society, he had said.



Chief Minister Mohan Yadav inspected the progress of Metro rail project in Bhopal at ISBT metro station in Bhopal on Saturday.



Maulana Azad National Institute of Technology (MANIT) students presenting dances during cultural even on second day of the three-day Tooryanad programme.

Kolkata is the next stop of Chief Minister to invite industrialists to MP

STAFF REPORTER ■ BHOPAL

Following the efforts being made by Chief Minister Mohan Yadav for investment in Madhya Pradesh, while on one hand a series of regional industry conclaves are going on in the state, road shows are being organised in big cities outside the state to attract industrialists to invest in Madhya Pradesh.

Yadav's next stop for investment is Kolkata, the capital of West Bengal, where he will meet industrialists from the country and abroad in the Global Investors Summit to be held on 20 September. The ongoing innovations aimed at strengthening Madhya Pradesh's economy will enhance industrial development and create more employment opportunities. To promote industrial development,

the year 2025 has been declared as the "Industry Year" by Chief Minister Dr. Yadav. Global Investors Summit is being organised in Bhopal on 7-8 February at the beginning of the year 2025. Along with this, efforts will be made as a mission for industrial development in the state throughout the year.

The interactive session in Kolkata will be held on 20 September 2024 at Hotel JW Marriott. Kolkata is one of the major industrial centres of the country with diverse sectors like steel, plastic, food processing, pharmaceuticals and textiles. Leading industrialists from various sectors located in West Bengal region are being invited to the proposed interactive session.

Chief Minister Yadav will present his views to the industrialists in the interactive ses-



sions, outlining the vision and innovations of the government to promote investment, innovation and economic development in Madhya Pradesh in a sustainable manner. Principal Secretary Industrial Policy and Investment Promotion will give a presentation on investment opportunities in Madhya Pradesh, which will provide valuable information to investors looking for business

opportunities in the state. Leading industrialists from various sectors will also share their insights on the industrial scenario and development prospects of the state. This event will provide a platform for investors to connect with key stakeholders, participate in one-to-one discussions and network with industry representatives. Chief Minister Dr. Yadav will also discuss important points in one-to-one meetings with industrialists and over lunch with CEOs.

The state government has started a single window system to facilitate industrialists, which will play a decisive role in promoting industrial development. This event is an excellent opportunity to explore the immense investment possibilities in Madhya Pradesh. As a result of the discussions in these interactive sessions, investors will be inspired to invest in the state, which will lead to economic development in the state as well as employment opportunities. The discussions held in interactive sessions with industrialists in Mumbai, Coimbatore and Bangalore have attracted industrialists to invest in Madhya Pradesh. As a result, many industrialists have also signed MoUs to set up industries in Madhya Pradesh. Chief Minister Dr. Yadav has been consistently working to ensure that appropriate arrangements are in place to provide industrialists with easy access to necessary facilities. Madhya Pradesh's strong industrial infrastructure, natural resources, adequate land bank, network of roads, connectivity with all major states etc. are attracting investors to set up industries in MP.

Create history by making more than 64K members in Sailana constituency: VD

STAFF REPORTER ■ BHOPAL

BJP state president and Khajuraho MP Vishnudutt Sharma, while addressing the workers' meeting and membership program in Sailana, Ratlam, Jhabua and Dhar on Saturday under the Sangathan Parv, said that the power of membership makes the path of victory easy in elections.

Prime Minister Narendra Modi is working to fulfill the resolution of a developed India. Prime Minister has called upon one crore youth of the country to join politics on 15 August. To make India developed by 2047, youth should join the Bharatiya Janata Party. With the power of the organization, hard work and efforts of booth level workers and under the guidance of the top leadership, we have won the Lahar assembly and Chhindwara Lok Sabha elections.

Now we have to win Sailana assembly. To win Sailana, workers should make more people members of the party than the target of 64 thousand set for this assembly. More than 29 lakh people have become party members in the state till Saturday morning. State President Sharma contacted homes and shops and pasted stickers of Sangathan Parv and got them enrolled in the party.

BJP State President and Khajuraho MP Vishnudutt Sharma said that the first phase of the Sangathan Parv will continue till September 25 and we have to set a record in Madhya Pradesh by crossing the target of more than 1.5 crore members. So far, more than 29 lakh people have taken membership of the party in the state, and we are moving fast towards the target. On September 15, Kisan

Membership Day will be celebrated in the entire state and a large number of farmers and people from rural areas will be made members. People's representatives of rural areas, District Panchayat President, Vice President Kisan Morcha, Cooperative workers will make members at every booth in the rural area.

The BJP State President said that we have to achieve the target of making more than 64 thousand members in Sailana Assembly. Along with the party officials, the workers will have to make people members rapidly in the membership campaign by keeping the basic mantra of Prime Minister Narendra Modi ji Mera Booth Sabse Mazboot at the forefront. Out of all the 256 booths of Sailana, the target of making more than 250 members at each booth will have to be exceeded.

In the 2028 assembly elections, we will achieve the same victory in Sailana as was achieved during the Chhindwara Lok Sabha elections and Lahar assembly elections.

BJP State President and MP Vishnudutt Sharma said that in the Bharatiya Janata Party, it is the workers who fight elections at every booth and bring victory. BJP is a worker-based organization and the party was not formed by any family, rather the party has always been moving forward and is growing with collective leadership.

Under the leadership of Prime Minister Narendra Modi, people are getting the benefit of poor welfare schemes. Modi ji's government did not discriminate against anyone in any scheme. Muslims are also getting as much benefit from the schemes as other sections.

Prime Minister Modi ji has created history by ending triple

talaq and Article 370 in Kashmir. India's respect is increasing in the world and people now look at India with hopeful eyes, this was not the case earlier.

BJP State President and Khajuraho MP Sharma said that in the state government of Chief Minister Mohan Yadav, every section is being uplifted through many schemes.

The Bharatiya Janata Party government not only respected the daughters by introducing schemes like Ladli Behna Yojana, Ladli Laxmi Yojana, but also took care that they could live their life with dignity. Today, more than one crore 29 lakh Ladli sisters are getting Rs 1250 every month directly in their accounts and more than 45 lakh daughters are getting the benefit of Ladli Laxmi Yojana. State President of Bharatiya Janata Party Vishnudutt Sharma addressed the Ratlam Prabuddhjan Membership Program. He said that the party's organization is being run in the form of a membership campaign. Bharatiya Janata Party is the largest democratic party in the world today and the membership campaign is a part of the same democratic process, in which people from different sections of the society join the party.

Sharma said that it is our good fortune that today a large number of businessmen, lawyers, chartered accountants, doctors, intellectuals etc. are joining the Bharatiya Janata Party through this program. For this, I congratulate all of you and thank the party workers. In the organization Parv program in Ratlam, state president Vishnudutt Sharma gave party membership to former home minister Himmat Kothari and senior leader Kanhaiyalal Maurya.

20-year-old nabbed for sexually assaulting minor girl

STAFF REPORTER ■ BHOPAL

Kolar police have arrested a 22-year-old youth who sexually assaulted a minor girl luring her of marriage and later refused to marry her, girl was seven pregnant when she lodged a complaint on Friday.

Police said that on Friday a 17 year-old-girl, along with her relatives, came to the police station at Kolar police station and lodged a complaint against Saad Khan.

In her complaint she stated that she was acquainted with the accused for the past one year and she was sexually assaulted several times by promising to marry her and after being sexually assaulted she became pregnant and later Saad refused to marry her.

Based on the complaint after preliminary investigation police have registered a case under section 376 (2) (N) IPC, section 5 and 6 of the POCSO Act.

A police team was dispatched in search of the accused and arrested Saad Khan of Gehunkheda

As the case was of sexual assault with a minor girl, the matter was immediately informed to the senior officers, who directed to arrest the accused as soon as possible and take further action in the case. A police team was dispatched in search of the accused and arrested the accused Saad Khan of Gehunkheda Bairagarh Chichli.

Meanwhile, the body of a 27-year-old youth who left house two days ago was found in a pond near Nai Mandi Bridge, police have not ruled out chances of foul play.

The deceased identified as Vicky Manjhi left home two days ago to pluck lotus flowers. Police have found the slippers and bag of the youth near the spot of the incident. Police suspect that the young man went into deep water while trying to pluck flowers and drowned. A case has been registered and investigation has been started in the matter.

According to Gautam Nagar Police, Vicky Manjhi (27) son of Padam Manjhi was a resident of Imami Gate. He used to sell flowers at Nai Mandi Gate. On Friday, he left home saying that he was going to pluck lotus flowers from the Blooman Colony pond under Mandi Bridge.

When he did not return till the next day, the family informed the local police station about the matter. Meanwhile, the family of the deceased was informed about the body being found in the pond. They reached the spot and identified the deceased.

Amrita Devi is an example of sacrifice: CM

Indore: Chief Minister Mohan Yadav today unveiled the statue of martyr Amrita Devi Vishnoi in Indore. The statue of martyr Amrita Devi has been built in the City Forest of Indore at a cost of Rs 30 lakh. In the unveiling programme, Chief Minister Dr. Yadav said that I salute the sacrifice of martyr Amrita Devi Vishnoi and others. He said that martyr Amrita Devi is an example of sacrifice and selflessness in the world.

Yadav said that martyr Amrita Devi and her daughters happily sacrificed themselves to save forests and trees. This sacrifice of theirs has a distinctivity in the world and gives a great learning to the world that how a movement was carried out for environmental protection even 300 years ago. The CM thanked the entire Vishnoi community for the sacrifice of martyr Amrita Devi for environmental protection. Speaking at the event, former

Minister Ajay Vishnoi said that Shaheed Amrita Devi was a brave woman from Khejadli village in Rajasthan. She sacrificed her life at the altar of Vishnoi religion. In the year 1730, Amrita Devi Vishnoi sacrificed her life along with her three daughters Aasu, Ratni and Bhagu to save green trees from being cut at a place called Khejadli in Marwar, Rajasthan. Along with them, more than 363 other Vishnois were martyred to save the trees. Shaheed Amrita Devi protested against the king, as he attempted to cut green trees which were prohibited in Vishnoi religion. The malevolent feudal party told her that if she wanted the trees to be spared, she should give them money as bribe. She refused to accept this demand and told them that she would consider it an act of ignorance and an insult to her religious belief. She said that she would give her life to save the green trees.

Coordinated efforts will be made to conserve and promote Maa Narmada: CM

STAFF REPORTER ■ BHOPAL

Chief Minister Mohan Yadav said that Maa Narmada has been existing since evolution on Earth. The residents of Madhya Pradesh are fortunate, to have the Narmada as its lifeline. He said that while Maa Narmada is a symbol of people's faith and devotion, its waters play a big role in the growth of our agriculture. Chief Minister Dr. Yadav said that we are making efforts to ensure that both banks of the Narmada remain clean and there is incessant flow of water. There should be no harm to

the environment. Efforts should be made to purify water from the sewers of nearby settlements and towns, for this, different departments of the government will work in a coordinated manner.

It is believed that a dense forest from where the Narmada originates helps in the flow of water and needs to be protected and to ensure that there is no threat to the source due to the increasing human settlement in Amarkantak, the authority will work to protect the source of Narmada. The Authority will consider an alternative arrangement

for the population away from the origin of Narmada. Mandla, Dindori, Narsinghpur, Narmadapuram, Dewas, Omkareshwar are the pilgrimage places the routes of which will be better managed. There should be adequate facilities for safe bathing at the ghat. To enable devotees to do Parikrama Maa Narmada easily, indicators will be placed on the Parikrama route. Ashrams will be built where there are uninhabited areas.

May the form and purity of Maa Narmada remain intact Chief Minister Dr. Yadav said that many decisions

have been taken to ensure that the sanctity of Maa Narmada and its uninterrupted water flow remains intact and that normal life can continue smoothly. I am confident that all the departments of the government will work in a coordinated manner to maintain the form and sanctity of Maa Narmada. He said that efforts will be made to ban meat and liquor around religious cities. He said that the action taken in view of the instructions will be reviewed again in November. In the coming time, it has been decided to hold a Cabinet meeting in Maheshwar on the 300th

birth centenary of Lokmata Devi Ahilyabai, a devotee of Maa Narmada. Chief Minister Yadav said that the entire area from the origin of the Narmada to Jabalpur has been the work place of Rani Durgavati. The 500th birth centenary of Rani Durgavati is going on. Remembering Maa Narmada, many programs will be organized on 5th October, on the birth anniversary of Rani Durgavati focusing on her life. We will succeed in our objective with the cooperation of seers, saints, devotees and local residents to retain the sanctity of Maa Narmada.

Sensation prevails at Amarnath Colony after rumour

STAFF REPORTER ■ BHOPAL

Rumors spread thick and fast after three graves were found in the Amarnath Colony area of Kolar, prompt action by administration and police helped in avoiding ruckus at the spot by large gathering. Sensation prevailed in the area after locals informed the police that children were buried in the graves. As soon as the news spread a huge crowd gathered at the spot in no time of the community of same belief.

Police team of Kolar police with senior officials rushed to the spot to handle the situation.

As soon as the news spread a huge crowd gathered at the spot in no time

The SHO of Kolar police station Sanjay Soni along with his staff reached the spot and started investigation during which it was verified by the team that the bodies of dogs were buried in all the three graves and it has been witnessed by locals due to which no complaint was made leaving no scope for taking action against anyone. Soni said that there was information about three

graves in the field behind Amarnath Colony. He reached the spot on Saturday afternoon after receiving the information. The reason for suspicion was the smaller size of all the three graves. Hence, people believed that children were buried in the graves. The team completed verification in which it was found that the people of the colony had buried their dead dogs in these graves. Eyewitnesses were also found who said that only dogs were buried in the graves. Hence, the crowd was sent away after providing satisfactory explanation.



Chief Minister Mohan Yadav inaugurated the Amrita Devi Vishnoi Park in Indore on Saturday.

Hindi, other Indian languages are friends: Shah

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE ■ NEW DELHI

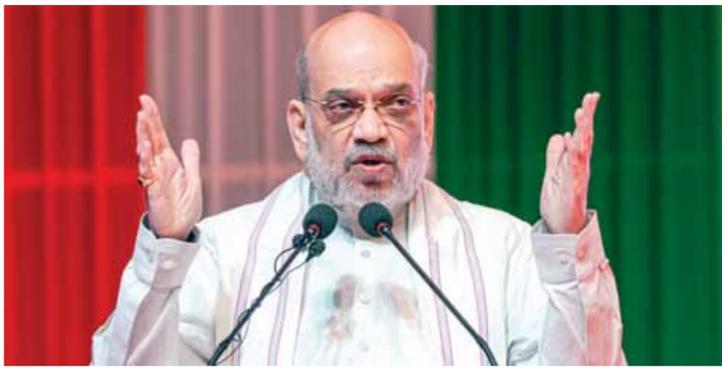
There can never be a competition between Hindi and other Indian languages because official language Hindi is their friend and they complement each other, Union Home Minister Amit Shah said on Saturday on the occasion of Hindi Diwas.

Prime Minister Narendra Modi greeted the people of the country on this occasion. "Best wishes to the people of the country on Hindi Diwas," Modi said in a social media post in Hindi.

Hindi Diwas is celebrated every year on September 14 to mark the adaptation of Hindi as the official language by the Constituent Assembly on September 14, 1949.

Addressing the fourth Akhil Bhartiya Rajbhasha Sammelan on the occasion of Hindi Diwas, Shah also said the promotion of the official language Hindi cannot happen until all other Indian languages are strengthened and the official language does not establish a dialogue with all of them.

The home minister said the Hindi Diwas is an occasion to take a pledge to make Hindi a



communication language, a common language, a technical language and now an international language.

"We are celebrating Diamond Jubilee to mark the completion of 75 years of Hindi as the official language. By accepting Hindi as the official language and connecting all the local languages of the country through Hindi, we are moving towards preserving and promoting our culture, languages, literature, art and grammar," he said.

Shah said Hindi is more of a geo-cultural language rather than a geo-political language.

He said all communications through files of his two ministries. Home and Cooperation are done through Hindi. "It took three years to reach this stage," he said. Earlier, extending greetings on the occasion of the Hindi Diwas, Shah also said it was the spirit of the Constituent Assembly that all citizens of the country should communicate with each other in an Indian language, be it Hindi, Tamil, Telugu, Malayalam or Gujarati. "By strengthening Hindi, all these languages will also become flexible and prosperous and with the practice of integration,

all languages will also take forward our culture, history, literature, grammar and the 'sanskrit', he said in a video message. The home minister said the Hindi Diwas this year is very important for everyone because on September 14, 1949, the Constituent Assembly of India accepted Hindi as the official language of the Union. "Hindi has seen many ups and downs in 75 years but at this juncture, I can definitely say that Hindi has no competition with any local language. Hindi is a friend (sakhi) of all Indian languages and they complement each other. Whether it is

Gujarati, Marathi, Telugu, Malayalam, Tamil or Bangla, every language strengthens Hindi and Hindi strengthens every language," he said. Shah said if the Hindi movement is looked at carefully whether it is Chakravarti Rajagopalachari, Mahatma Gandhi, Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel, Lala Lajpat Rai, Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose or Acharya J B Kriplani, all of them hailed from the non-Hindi speaking areas. He said the committee formed under the leadership of N Gopalaswamy Ayyangar and K M Munshi had presented a report to the Constituent Assembly to recognise Hindi as the official language and give strength to Hindi and all other languages.

"Both these leaders also hailed from non-Hindi speaking areas," he said. The home minister said under Prime Minister Narendra Modi's leadership, a lot of work has been done to strengthen Hindi and local languages in the last 10 years. Shah said Prime Minister Modi has given a new life to Hindi and all Indian languages by giving an important place to imparting primary education in mother tongue in the new education policy.

PM to visit three states to inaugurate various projects

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE ■ NEW DELHI

Prime Minister Narendra Modi will visit Jharkhand, Gujarat and Odisha from September 15 to 17 during which he will lay the foundation stone and inaugurate various projects worth more than Rs 12,460 crore.

On September 15, Prime Minister Modi will travel to Jharkhand and flag off the Tatanagar-Patna Vande Bharat train at Tatanagar Junction Railway Station around 10 am, the Prime Minister's Office (PMO) said in a statement.

Around 10:30 am, he will lay the foundation stone and dedicate to the nation various railway projects worth more than Rs 660 crore through video conference and also distribute sanction letters to 20,000 Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana-Gramin (PMAY-G) beneficiaries in Tatanagar.

He will also lay the foundation stone for the Madhupur Bypass line in Deoghar district and the Hazaribag Town Coaching Depot in Hazaribag district. After its completion, the Madhupur Bypass line will facilitate avoiding the detention



of trains on the Howrah-Delhi mainline and also help in reducing the travel time between Giridih and Jasidih. The Hazaribag Town Coaching Depot will help in facilitating the maintenance of coaching stocks at this station, the statement said.

Prime Minister Modi will also dedicate to the nation the Kurkura-Kanaroon doubling which is a part of the Bondamunda-Ranchi single-line section and part of the Rourkela-Gomoh route via Ranchi, Muri and Chandrapura stations.

The project will help in the increased mobility of goods and passenger traffic considerably. Apart from this, four

road under-bridges (RUBS) will also be dedicated to the nation.

The Prime Minister will flag off six Vande Bharat trains. These trains will improve the connectivity on the Tatanagar-Patna, Bhagalpur-Dumka-Howrah, Brahmapur-Tatanagar, Gaya-Howrah, Deoghar-Varanasi and Rourkela-Howrah routes.

On September 16, at around 9:45 am, Modi will interact with the beneficiaries of PM Surya Ghar Muft Bijli Yojana in Gandhinagar. Thereafter, he will inaugurate the 4th Global Renewable Energy Investor's Meet and Expo (RE-INVEST) at Mahatma Mandir, Gandhinagar.

Around 1:45 pm, the prime minister will inaugurate the Ahmedabad Metro Rail Project and take a metro ride from Section 1 to GIFT City station.

Around 3:30 pm, he will inaugurate and lay the foundation stone of multiple development projects worth more than Rs 8,000 crore in Ahmedabad. The prime minister will lay the foundation stone of several key projects.



PM welcomes a calf, 'Deepjyoti' at his house

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE ■ NEW DELHI

Prime Minister Narendra Modi's 7, Lok Kalyan Marg residence has a new resident - a calf named 'Deepjyoti'.

In a social media post, the Prime Minister informed that 'Gau Mata (cow)' has given birth to a calf at the PM's 7, Lok Kalyan Marg residence premises. He also shared a video of himself spending time with

the calf at his residence. "It is said in our scriptures - 'Gaavh Sarvasukh Pradaah'. A new member has auspiciously arrived at the Prime Minister's residence premises at Lok Kalyan Marg." "At the Prime Minister's residence, the beloved mother cow has given birth to a new calf, on whose forehead there is a mark of light. Hence, I have named it 'Deepjyoti'," Modi said in a social media post in Hindi.

"A new member at 7, Lok Kalyan Marg! Deepjyoti is truly adorable," he said in another post. The prime minister also shared photographs in which he is spending time with the calf at his residence. In the video montage put out on his X handle, the prime minister is seen carrying the calf at his residence, sitting with it at his temple in the house and taking it out to the garden.

Onion prices drop amid Government intervention

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE ■ NEW DELHI

The Ministry of Consumer Affairs on Saturday said the government's subsidised onion sale initiative, launched on September 5, has led to price drops in major cities within days.

In Delhi, retail onion price fell from Rs 60 to Rs 55 per kg, while Mumbai saw a decrease from Rs 61 to Rs 56 per kg. In Chennai, the retail price reduced from Rs 65 to Rs 58 per kg, the ministry said in a statement. The government initiated the sale of onions at a subsidised rate of Rs 35 per kg through mobile vans and outlets of NCCF and NAFED. The program, which began in Delhi and Mumbai, has since expanded to other major cities including Chennai, Kolkata, Patna, Ranchi, Bhubaneswar, and Guwahati. Responding to the growing demand, the government has decided to increase the quantity of subsidised onion and expand distribution channels to include e-commerce platforms, Kendriya Bhandar outlets, and Mother Dairy's SAFAL stores. The government has also initiated wholesale disposal of onion in major cities.

It has already commenced in Delhi, Mumbai, and Chennai, with plans to extend to Hyderabad, Bengaluru and Kolkata and eventually all state capitals. A dual transportation strategy involving both road and rail networks is being implemented to improve logistics efficiency and reduce post-harvest losses. The Department of Consumer Affairs is working closely with state governments to ensure targeted supply based on demand and price trends. With a buffer stock of 4.7 lakh tonne of onions and increased kharif sowing area compared to the previous year, "the government expects onion prices to remain under control in the coming months," the ministry said. The combination of enhanced retail and bulk sale strategies is anticipated to stabilize prices and ensure widespread availability of affordable onions, it added. The department has been monitoring price for 22 essential commodities (rice, wheat, atta, gram dal, tur (arhar) dal, urad dal, moong dal, masur dal, sugar, gur, groundnut oil, mustard oil, vanaspathi, sunflower oil, soya oil, palm oil, tea, milk, potato, onion, tomato and salt).

No floor price for basmati rice, onion exports

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE ■ NEW DELHI

In a significant step to boost export of basmati rice, a premier GI variety rice of India, the government has removed the floor price on export of basmati rice and onions, a move that will ensure good returns to farmers, ministry of commerce and industry said in a notification on Saturday.

Hailing it, Home Minister Amit Shah said the Narendra Modi government is increasing exports to ensure fair price to the farmers for their crops so that they can get maximum price for their crops. Shah also said keeping the interests of farmers paramount, the government has taken three important decisions, including removing the minimum export price (MEP) of onions and Basmati rice.

"The Modi government has decided to remove the minimum export price (MEP) on onions and reduce the export duty from 40 per cent to 20 per cent. This will increase onion exports, which will increase the income of the onion producing farmers," he wrote on social media in Hindi. The home minister said the government has also decided to abolish the MEP on Basmati



rice which will enable the farmers producing Basmati rice to earn more profits by exporting it.

"Also, the Modi government has decided to increase the import duty on crude palm, soya and sunflower oils from 12.5 per cent to 32.5 per cent and the duty on their refined oils from 13.75 per cent to 35.75 per cent. This will help India's soyabean farmers get better prices for their crop and increase their income," he said. According to the ministry communication, it has been decided to remove the current minimum export price (MEP) of \$950 MT for issuing registration-cum-allocation certificates (RCAC) for export of Basmati rice. The Agricultural and Processed Food Products Export Development Authority (APEDA) will closely monitor export contracts to prevent any non-realistic price

of basmati rice and ensure transparency in export practices, according to the Ministry of Commerce and Industry. The decision came in response to ongoing trade concerns and adequate domestic availability of rice.

A floor price of \$1,200 per metric tonne (MT) was introduced in August last year as a temporary measure in response to rising domestic rice prices in the wake of tight domestic supply situation of rice and to curb any possible misclassification of non-basmati rice as basmati rice during exports, in view of the export prohibition on non-basmati white rice. After discussions with the trade bodies and stakeholders, the government had then rationalised the floor price to \$950 per MT in October 2023, amid concerns that higher prices were hurting outward shipments.

Shahi calls for increased agricultural innovation



PIONEER NEWS SERVICE ■ NEW DELHI

In a call for greater collaboration and investment, Uttar Pradesh Agriculture Minister Surya Pratap Shahi highlighted the critical need to enhance agricultural innovation during a conference organized by the Federation of Seed Industry of India (FSII).

Held as part of FSII's 8th Annual General Meeting, the event gathered experts to discuss key agricultural issues, including self-reliance in oilseeds, cotton, and maize, as well as intellectual property rights (IPR) implementation. Shahi highlighted the importance of modern agricultural technologies in transforming farming practices, emphasising the unique role of Uttar Pradesh in India's agriculture sector.

"Technology is the cornerstone of agricultural prosperity. With UP contributing a third of the nation's wheat production, we aim to establish a seed park and a common resource center for advanced research, in line with PM Modi's vision for a Viksit Bharat," said Shahi. He also announced the creation of a state-of-the-art seed park in Lucknow, which will span 200 acres and focus on providing farmers with high-quality, climate-resilient seed varieties. "This initiative will not only boost productivity but also contribute to a prosperous future for our farmers," Shahi added, inviting the private sector to collaborate through public-private partnerships (PPP). Experts at the event stressed the necessity of aligning poli-

cies between the state and central governments to leverage new technologies. Ajay Vir Jhakar, Chairman of Bharat Krishak Samaj, noted, "Investments in agricultural R&D are crucial for sustainable progress, as is the development of climate-resilient crops." FSII Chairman Ajai Rana emphasised the role of policy and regulatory frameworks in fostering agricultural growth. "Strengthening IPR and encouraging public and private investments are essential to achieving India's agricultural goals," said Rana. As India strives for agricultural self-reliance and resilience during the transformative Amrit Kaal, collaborative efforts in research and innovation will be key drivers in shaping the future of the sector.

BJP terms Mamata meeting with doctors a photo opportunity

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE ■ NEW DELHI

The BJP on Saturday termed West Bengal Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee's surprise visit to the protest site of junior doctors as "photo-op" and alleged that she was there to sow the "seeds of suspicion" among the medical fraternity. The remarks came after Banerjee made a surprise visit

to the protest site and assured the junior doctors that she would look into their demands and take action if anyone was found guilty. Addressing the protesting doctors amid chants of 'we want justice' outside the Swasthya Bhawan in Salt Lake, Kolkata, Banerjee said she was spending sleepless nights as the medics were agitating on the road amid rains. "Mamata Banerjee went to



the site of junior doctors' protest on her way to Swasthya Bhawan, made a 5 minute speech, only to be accosted by slogans for justice," said BJP co-in-charge for West Bengal Amit Malviya on social media. She did not interact or for that matter even heard the protesting doctors, he claimed. "This was just a media photo-op to sow seeds of suspicion among the medical fraternity,"

Malviya added. The BJP leader accused Banerjee of being "sly and insincere" and said that she must be condemned for this in the strongest possible terms. "She clearly lacks intent to resolve the impasse and deliver justice to the rape and murder victim of RG Kar Medical College and Hospital. Her inflated ego is damaging West Bengal's public health-care sector," he added.

Activists demand disability, transgender rights in medical curriculum

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE ■ NEW DELHI

Expressing concerns over the exclusion of key provisions from the Rights of Persons with Disabilities Act (RPDA), 2016, and the Transgender Persons (Protection of Rights) Act (TPA), 2019, in the National Medical Commission's revised Competency-Based Medical Education (CBME) Curriculum, activists in the sector have sought intervention of Union Minister for Social Justice and Empowerment Dr. Virendra Kumar in the matter. In a letter to the Minister, Central Advisory Board on Disability Chairperson Dr Satendra Singh and Association for Transgender Health in India CEO Air Commodore (Retd.) Dr. Sanjay Sharma, lamented that the new curriculum fails to address critical issues affecting



marginalized groups. They pointed out that it was outdated and in contradic-

tion with Supreme Court judgments and previous guidelines. Although the revised curriculum was re-released, the activists said they were disappointed as it has failed to reintegrate essential disability competencies and address transgender health issues adequately. Despite a senior NMC member acknowledging the oversight, the curriculum remains unchanged on these fronts. Also, they rued, key terms such as "dignity" and "transgender" are absent from the 466-page document, and while the curriculum now includes eight hours dedicated to sports, it has removed the previously mandated seven hours of disability competencies. "Outdated terms like "gender identity disorders" persist in psychiatry, and intersex variations are still described as "abnormalities," they said. The letter underscores that the RPDA mandates integrating disability rights into educa-

tional curricula for medical professionals, and the omission of these competencies undermines India's commitment to the UN's Sustainable Development Goals (SDG 10), which aim to reduce inequality. It also emphasises the importance of addressing transgender-specific health issues as required by the TPA, 2019, including the creation of a health manual for sex reassignment surgeries. The current curriculum's focus on a binary understanding of gender neglects the health needs of transgender individuals entirely, they added. Activists have now urged Dr Kumar to ensure the reintroduction of mandatory disability competencies before the new MBBS session starts on October 14 and to incorporate case studies on disability, transgender, and queer persons into the longitudinal ethics curriculum.

Former J and K CM Omar Abdullah reacts strongly to accusations of PM Modi

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE ■ JAMMU

Former Jammu and Kashmir Chief Minister and Vice President of the National Conference Omar Abdullah Saturday reacted strongly to the accusations made by Prime Minister Narendra Modi while addressing his maiden election rally in Doda ahead of the first round of polling on September 18. "Prime Minister Narendra Modi should focus on the 'deteriorating' security situation in Jammu and Kashmir instead of raising the bogey of dynastic politics", Omar hit back. In his over 40 minute long speech Modi said political dynasties in Jammu and

Kashmir have destroyed the region and not allowed new leadership to grow. On the other hand, Congress also accused the Centre of failing to end terror attacks in Jammu and Kashmir and claimed that terrorism has returned stronger in union territory where it had been eliminated many years ago. Paying back in the same coin, Omar Abdullah said the BJP has no qualms in forming alliances with these parties and questioned the Prime Minister's silence over the death of two army soldiers in an encounter in Kishtwar. "The PM made a speech in Doda... It has not been 24 hours since the attack (in Kishtwar) in which two brave army soldiers lost their lives while an encounter is going

on in north Kashmir "He talks about dynasties to mislead people. He should have talked about the present situation," Abdullah told reporters in south Kashmir's Kulgam district. The NC leader said when Article 370 was revoked on August 5, 2019, the people of the country were told that the violence in Kashmir was because of the special status and that once it was revoked, the impact of the gun would "vanish". "It has been five years, but encounters are still going on," he said. Asked about Modi's attack on the "dynastic politics" of the NC, the Congress, and the PDP, Abdullah said the BJP does not see anything wrong in forming alliances with



these parties to come to power. "When the BJP needed one of these families, that time we were not responsible for the destruction (of J-K). When

the BJP had an alliance with the PDP, that time they did not see anything wrong with the PDP. When (former prime minister) (Atal Bihari Vajpayee had to make a

minister and he picked me, there was nothing wrong with us. Now, during the elections, they say that we are wrong," Abdullah said. The NC leader said if the BJP does not have the required numbers to form the government after the polls in Jammu and Kashmir and the PDP decides to support them again, "Then they (BJP) won't see anything wrong in that". "It is a matter of time, such political rhetoric goes on, and then these things are forgotten after the elections are over," he added. Addressing a press conference at the party office in Srinagar, the party's spokesperson Supriya Shrinete said there have been 25 terror attacks in Jammu and Kashmir in the 98 days since Prime Minister

Narendra Modi was sworn in for his third term. "Huge claims were made that after August 2019, peace will be established in Jammu and Kashmir. I will not talk about the time since 2014 or 2019, but it has been 98 days since Modi was sworn in. In the last 98 days, there have been 25 terror strikes in J-K in which 21 security personnel were martyred, while 28 others were injured," she said. Shrinete said 15 citizens of the union territory have also lost their lives in these terror attacks, while 47 people were injured. "Who will answer for it? Jammu was peaceful, the insurgency had ended there, but now, we are again witnessing terror attacks in Jammu's Doda, Reasi, and

other areas," she added. The Congress spokesperson paid tributes to the two soldiers who lost their lives in an encounter with terrorists in the Kishtwar district of Jammu on Friday. She alleged the prime minister has not been offering his tributes to the fallen soldiers since 2019. "PM tweets on small issues, discovers new countries on the world map to travel to and wishes happy birthday to people, but since 2019, Modi has stopped sending tribute or sympathy messages. Our officers, and soldiers lost their lives, Jammu and Kashmir police personnel were killed, but Modi has not uttered a single word to offer tributes or sympathies after 2019," Shrinete alleged.

RAINS, WATERLOGGING MAKE LIVES MISERABLE



Vehicles pass through the waterlogged NH 24 after heavy rains, in Moradabad, Saturday



Indian Navy commissions Kalvari Submarine Escape Training Facility Vinetra in Visakhapatnam

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE ■ NEW DELHI

The Kalvari Submarine Escape Training Facility (Vinetra) was commissioned on Friday by Vice Admiral Rajesh Pendharkar, the Flag Officer Commanding-in-Chief, Eastern Naval Command, at INS Satavahana, Visakhapatnam, navy said here on Saturday. Giving details, officials said the facility aims to enhance the escape capabilities of crew from a distressed Kalvari-class submarine and has been indigenously designed and developed. Constructed by M/s L&T Defence as a turnkey project, the Kalvari Submarine Escape Training Facility is equipped with a five-meter

escape tower integrated with an adjacent diving basin. This state-of-the-art facility will be utilized for imparting both basic and refresher escape training to the crew of Kalvari-class submarines, ensuring that they are proficient in escape procedures in the event of a submarine distress situation. The facility "Vinetra" meaning "Trainer" represents a significant step forward in building confidence among submariners, ensuring that they are equipped with the skills and training necessary to escape in case of any underwater emergency. This training facility also reinforces the operational readiness, safety protocols and training infrastructure of the Indian Navy.

Maharashtra pivotal in spreading values of Buddha across India: Kiren Rijiju

T N RAGHUNATHA ■ MUMBAI

Union Minister for Minority Affairs and Parliamentary Affairs Kiren Rijiju said here on Saturday that Maharashtra, where there is substantial Buddhist population, stood as a pivotal region for spreading the values of Lord Buddha across the country. Addressing a day-long conclave Buddha's Middle Path - Guide for Global Leadership' at Nehru Science Centre - hosted jointly by the Union Ministry of Minority Affairs and International Buddhist Conclave, Rijiju said that strengthening Buddhism in Maharashtra could reflect positively across the country. Dwelling upon Prime Minister Narendra Modi's recent initiatives, including the extensive celebration of Buddha Purnima, Rijiju said that the Centre's initiatives underlined its commitment to promoting Buddhist values. "The Prime Minister's speeches at the United Nations and European Union consistently underscore the values of Buddha - benevolence and compassion join hands, a country can become a global leader and the absence of such values will only create global issues but not peace", the minister said that there significant Buddhist population in Maharashtra and urged for a concerted effort to influence more individuals to embrace the values of Buddha. Dr. Babasaheb Ambedkar, whose meticulous drafting of the Indian Constitution remains a testament to his dedication to the country's



framework and people. He also outlined several government welfare schemes aimed at supporting the Buddhist community. Secretary General of the International Buddhist Confederation, Shartse Khensur Jangchup Choede expressed profound respect for the teachings of Buddha. Emphasizing the transformative power of Ahimsa (non-violence), the Secretary General spoke about delving deeply into this principle that leads to the cultivation of Daya (compassion) and Karuna (mercy and empathy). He also underscored the belief that only the teachings of Buddha offer a viable solution to the pressing problems faced by the world today. Chairman of the National Commission for Minorities, Iqbal Singh Lalpura spoke on how India has been the birthplace of many faiths and religions and how it always stood to preach love and compassion while the rest of the world were focussed on acquisition of power. Dr. Milind Kamble, Founder Chairman, Dalit Indian Chamber of Commerce and Industry stressed on the need for adherence to the teachings of Buddha, emphasizing the principle of being one's own light. He said that late Dr. Ambedkar, despite facing numerous challenges, never endorsed violence throughout his life.

CBI-FBI bust advanced cybercrime syndicate, arrest one from Mumbai

T N RAGHUNATHA ■ MUMBAI

In a major breakthrough, the Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) -working in tandem with the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) USA -- has busted a sophisticated virtual asset and bullion-supported cybercrime network and arrested a key accused from Mumbai. After conducting raids in Mumbai and Kolkata on Thursday and Friday as part of the ongoing Operation CHAKRA-III, the CBI has arrested key accused Vishnu Rathi from the country's commercial capital. Having registered a case on September 9 2024 against Rathi and other accused under sections 120-B and 420 of the Indian Penal Code (IPC), as well as Section 66D read with 75 of the Information Technology Act, 2000, the International Operations Division of the CBI launched investigation into the cyber crime network that was targeting victims in foreign countries since 2022. According to the CBI, Rathi



and other accused had -- between June and August 2022 -- conspired to target a U.S. citizen by gaining unauthorized remote access to the victim's computer and bank account. Under the pretext of offering tech support services, they falsely informed the US based victim that her bank account had been compromised. Claiming that the funds were at risk, they allegedly manipulated the victim into transferring USD 453,953 to crypto currency wallets controlled by them. After it registered the case, the CBI conducted extensive searches at multiple locations associated/ linked to the accused, which yielded substantial incriminating evidence. "Searches conducted by CBI at seven locations across Mumbai

and Kolkata on September 12(Thursday) and September 13, 2024 (Friday) have revealed that this transnational cyber-enabled financial crimes network was channeling proceeds of crime through virtual assets and bullion," the CBI said. During search at the residential premises of accused Vishnu Rathi, 57 gold bars of 100 gm each, cash amount of Rs.16 lakh, mobile phone, laptop used to manage crypto currencies, details of lockers and other incriminating documents were recovered. The CBI is continuing its investigations to identify victims of crime and proceeds of crime. It is coordinating with FBI and law enforcement agencies in multiple countries through INTERPOL for follow up on leads. Operation CHAKRA-III has been initiated by CBI to combat and dismantle organized cyber enabled financial crime networks through a globally coordinated law enforcement response leveraging INTERPOL channels.

Undiagnosed fever in Kutch, Gujarat; Centre sets up surveillance mechanism

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE ■ NEW DELHI

Alarmed at the undiagnosed fever claiming 15 lives in Gujarat's Kutch, the Centre has set up a surveillance mechanism to immediately respond to such outbreaks and alerts have been issued at the points of entry such as airports, land ports and seaports to monitor the disease. An effective surveillance mechanism through the National Centre for Disease Control (NCDC), Integrated Disease Surveillance Programme (IDSP), IHIP network and also through the One Health Mission to immediately respond to any such outbreaks has been established. According to the Gujarat Government as many as 48 new cases of fever had been detected in the affected villages of Lakhpur and Abdasa talukas. The deaths, which occurred between September 3 and 10, included four children. To meet any emergency, the



ICMR's network of laboratories will take care of diagnostics and there is enough capability to step up the supply of diagnostic kits if required, said sources in the Union Health Ministry. Under the PM-Ayushman Bharat Health Infrastructure Mission (PM-ABHIM), the government has strengthened tertiary care across the country through AIIMS institutes, apart from bolstering emergency services through critical care blocks. Also, sufficient medical oxygen is available for any

such exigency, the sources added. The Gujarat government has deployed specialist doctors and 50 medical teams in and around seven villages of two talukas in Kutch district after the outbreak of the undiagnosed fever. Samples of the infected patients have been sent to the Gujarat Biotechnology Research Centre (GBRC) in Gandhinagar and at the National Institute of Virology in Pune to identify the exact cause of the fever and the subsequent deaths.

Congress names three as AICC senior observers for Haryana Assembly elections

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE ■ NEW DELHI

The Congress on Saturday named Ashok Gehlot, Ajay Maken and Partap Singh Bajwa as the AICC senior observers for the October five Assembly elections in Haryana. The party has announced the names of 89 candidates for the Haryana polls and left one seat, Bhiwani, for the CPI(M). A statement by the Congress

said party president Mallikarjun Kharge has appointed Gehlot, Maken and Bajwa as senior observers for the Haryana polls. While Maken is the party's treasurer, Gehlot is a former chief minister of Rajasthan and Bajwa is the Leader of the Opposition in the Punjab assembly. The 90-member Haryana assembly is scheduled to go to polls on October 5 and the counting of votes will be undertaken on October 8.

S Jaishankar takes a jibe at LoP Rahul Gandhi over his khata-khat in Geneva

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE ■ NEW DELHI

External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar, in an apparent jibe at Leader of Opposition Rahul Gandhi, has said life was not "khata-khat" (easy job), and it needed hard work and diligence. Rahul Gandhi had repeatedly used the "Khata-khat" phrase during the Lok Sabha elections while promising swift transfer of money into the accounts of women if Congress was voted to power. Jaishankar made the remark while he was speaking on the

infrastructural development undertaken by the Narendra Modi-led government at an event in Geneva. Addressing the Indian community, Jaishankar said, "Until you build infrastructure and human resources, have those policies in place, it is hard work. Life is not 'khata-khat', life is hard work and diligence." "Anybody who's held a job and laboured at it, knows it. So that's my message to you, that we have to work hard at it," he further said. Gandhi's 'khata khat' punch line had become a social

media trend and was used even by Prime Minister Narendra Modi to attack the Congress over alleged lack of development during the UPA regime. Jaishankar said a country cannot be a major power without developing its manufacturing capabilities. "And there are...people who say that we are incapable of it, we should not even attempt it. Can you actually be a major power in the world without manufacturing? Because a major power needs technology. Nobody can develop technology without

developing manufacturing," he said. Recently, Rahul Gandhi, during an interaction with students at the University of Texas, said China's dominance in global manufacturing had shielded it from an unemployment crisis, which plagues India and most Western countries. "The West has an employment problem, as does India. But many countries, like China and Vietnam, don't face such a challenge because they are production hubs," Rahul Gandhi said.

Ukraine renews calls on West to approve long-range strikes on Russia territory

Ukraine made a new call Saturday on the West to allow it to strike deeper into Russia after a meeting with US and British leaders a day earlier produced no visible shift in their policy on the use of long-range weapons. "Russian terror begins at weapons depots, airfields, and military bases inside the Russian Federation," Ukrainian presidential adviser Andriy Yermak said Saturday. "Permission to strike deep into Russia will speed up the solution."

greenlight the use of Western-provided long-range weapons to strike targets deep inside Russian territory. So far, the US has allowed Kyiv to use American-provided weapons only in a limited area inside Russia's border with Ukraine. Discussions on allowing long-range strikes were believed to be on the table when US President Joe Biden and British Prime Minister Keir Starmer met in Washington DC Friday but, no decision was announced immediately after the meeting. Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelenskyy has been pressing the US and other allies to allow his forces to use Western weapons to target air bases and launch sites further afield as Russia has stepped up assaults on

Ukraine's electricity grid and utilities before winter. He did not directly comment on the meeting Saturday morning, but said that more than 70 Russian drones had been launched into Ukraine overnight. The Ukrainian air force later said that 76 Russian drones had been sighted, of which 72 were shot down. "We need to boost our air defence and long-range capabilities to protect our people," Zelenskyy wrote on social media. "We are working on this with all of Ukraine's partners." Other overnight attacks saw one person killed by Russian artillery fire as energy infrastructure was targeted in Ukraine's Sumy region. A 54-year-old driver was killed and seven more people were hos-

pitalised. Ukraine's Ministry of Energy said. A KAB aerial bomb also fell on a garage complex in the eastern city of Kharkiv, said regional Gov. Ihor Terekhov. No injuries were reported. Meanwhile, officials in Moscow have continued to make public statements warning that long-range strikes would provoke further escalation between Russia and the West. The remarks are in line with the narrative the Kremlin has promoted since early in the war, accusing NATO countries of de-facto participation in the conflict and threatening a response. Russian Deputy Foreign Minister Sergei Ryabkov told state news agency TASS Saturday that the US and British governments were

pushing the conflict, which began when Russia invaded Ukraine in February 2022, toward "poorly controlled escalation". Similar comments of Russian President Vladimir Putin on Thursday, where he said that allowing long-range strikes "would mean that NATO countries, the United States and European countries, are at war with Russia," were brushed off by Biden Friday. Asked what he thought about Putin's threat, Biden answered, "I don't think much about Vladimir Putin." Elsewhere, Russia's Defence Ministry said that 19 Ukrainian drones had been shot down over the country's Kursk and Belgorod regions. No casualties were reported.

Pak govt to table judicial reforms in Parl soon

PTI ■ ISLAMABAD

The Pakistan government is preparing to roll out a comprehensive judicial reforms package in Parliament amid speculation about legislation to extend the retirement age of superior court judges, according to a media report on Saturday. With at least 22 amendments on the docket, these changes are set to overhaul the justice system and revamp the process of appointing the chief justice of the Supreme Court. The Express Tribune newspaper reported, quoting sources. The Pakistan Muslim League-Nawaz (PML-N)-led government has plans to introduce these reforms as early as Sunday, according to the report. The proposal's centrepiece is introducing a new appointment process for the chief justice. Under the proposed changes, the parliamentary committee and judicial commission could be merged. Instead of automatically appointing the senior-most judge, a panel of five senior judges would be sent to the prime minister, who would have the final say. The government believes the current practice of appointing the senior-most judge encourages lobbying within the judiciary, allowing the Chief Justice to manipulate the seniority list to favour his preferred successors.

tion, with no agreement reached as yet. Despite some disagreements, all coalition parties are reportedly in agreement on the core judicial reforms. In a recent statement, right-wing Islamic leader Maulana Fazlur Rehman of the Jamiat Ulema-e-Islam-Fazl (JUI-F) indicated that if a reform package on judicial matters is presented, it will be carefully considered. Sources indicate that the government is keeping its cards close to its chest. Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif has discussed the package with a tight circle, including senior Pakistan Peoples Party leadership, but the rest of the coalition has yet to receive a full briefing. It appears that the government is preparing to throw this package into the National Assembly with little prior information, ensuring the element of surprise. If passed, the reforms could mark a seismic shift in the country's judiciary, shaking up long-established procedures and leaving a lasting impact on how the judicial and executive branches interact. The government took an unusual step on Friday as it summoned sessions of both the National Assembly and Senate on a holiday - Saturday. The hurriedly-called session has given further rise to speculations that the ruling alliance might introduce judicial reforms or constitutional amendments. While Defence Minister Khawaja Asif reportedly asserted that the government is all set to table a 'constitutional amendment' in the assembly on Saturday as it has achieved the 'magic number', Minister for Law and Justice Azam Nazir Tarar reportedly denied that the government is likely to go for any constitu-

tional changes. Despite the contradictory statements, the notion is that the government is likely to make some constitutional changes, such as increasing the retirement age of judges. Such a move can lead to an extension in the tenure of incumbent Chief Justice Qazi Faez Isa, who is set to retire on October 25, upon reaching the age of superannuation - 65 years. Though Chief Justice Isa has expressed that he was not interested in a person-specific extension, experts closely monitoring political and judicial developments say that this varied statement has kept the door open for an extension. Currently, the retirement age of Supreme Court judges is 65, while the same for high court judges is 62. Reports and statements by different lawmakers in Parliament suggest that the government intends to increase the retirement age of Supreme Court judges to 68 and high court judges to 65. The debate about constitutional amendment was triggered soon after the Supreme Court's landmark decision on July 12 in favour of jailed former prime minister Imran Khan's Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) about the allocation of reserved seats in national and other assemblies. The decision deprived the ruling alliance of a two-thirds majority. The ruling coalition would need to meet the required number of 224 out of 336 members of the National Assembly and 64 out of 96 in the Senate to get the two-thirds majority to pass the constitutional amendment. Currently, the ruling party lacks a two-thirds majority in both houses, which is required for passing a constitutional amendment.

Successful satellite launch by Tehran

AP ■ TEHRAN

Iran launched a satellite into space Saturday with a rocket built by the country's paramilitary Revolutionary Guard, state-run media reported, the latest for a programme the West fears helps Tehran advance its ballistic missile programme.

Iran described the launch as a success, which would be the second such launch to put a satellite into orbit with the rocket. There was no immediate confirmation of the launch's success, nor did Iranian authorities immediately provide footage or other details. The launch comes amid heightened tensions gripping the wider West Asia war in the Gaza Strip, during which Iran launched an unprecedented direct missile-and-drone attack on Israel. Meanwhile, Iran continues to enrich uranium to nearly weapons-grade levels, raising concerns among nonproliferation experts about Tehran's program.

Iran identified the satellite-carrying rocket as the Qaem-100, which the Guard used in January for another successful launch. Qaem means "upright" in Iran's Farsi language. The solid-fuel rocket put the Chamran-1 satellite, weighing 60 kilograms, into a 550-kilometer orbit, state media reported. The US State Department and the American military did not immediately respond to requests for comment over the Iranian launch. The United States had previously said Iran's satellite launches defy a UN Security Council resolution and called on Tehran to undertake no activity involving ballistic missiles capable of delivering nuclear weapons. UN sanctions related to Iran's ballistic missile programme expired last October.



Britain's Prime Minister Keir Starmer (right) and Foreign Secretary David Lammy, second right, during a meeting with US President Joe Biden (centre left) in the Blue Room at the White House in Washington. AP/PTI

Imran booked for inciting govt officials to mutiny: Report

PTI ■ ISLAMABAD

Pakistan's top investigating agency has registered a case against jailed former prime minister Imran Khan for allegedly inciting government officials to mutiny through his social media posts, according to a media report. A Federal Investigation Agency (FIA) team comprising investigation and technical officers visited the Adiala Jail to question Khan, the founder of the Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf party, in connection with a controversial post on his official X account. A case has been registered against Khan by the FIA for inciting government officials to mutiny, the Dawn newspaper said citing sources. The FIA personnel returned empty-handed after Khan, 71, insisted that he would not join the interrogation without the

presence of his lawyers. Minister for Information and Broadcasting Attaullah Tarar in a statement earlier said the FIA would probe into the handling of the PTI founder's social media accounts, which were being used allegedly to "create chaos and anarchy" in the country, and "undermining the national security". Tarar said it would be ascertained who was the handler of his social media accounts, and whether such posts were being made at his behest or it was done on directives of someone else. He said a botched attempt had been made to conspire against the sitting chief justice and heads of other institutions. Through these posts, he tried to mobilise the people against two major state institutions. His acts were highly condemnable, Tarar said. Khan, who has been incarcerated at the Adiala Jail since

last year, has often criticised the powerful establishment through his longish posts on X. On Friday, Khan posted a long note on his X account, which said, "This is not the first time in the history of this country that one individual (referring to Army Chief Gen Asim Munir) has put the entire country at stake to protect his hold on power. (General) Yahya Khan also betrayed the Awami League and Sheikh Mujibur Rahman to stay in power." He recalled the events from 1971 when 90,000 soldiers were taken as prisoners during Bangladesh's Liberation War and how former president Zulfikar Ali Bhutto himself admitted to the loss of 50,000 innocent lives. "Even today, the same story is being repeated. Once again, one person has taken over control and is destroying the system to prolong and strengthen his hold on power," he said, adding that a small powerful elite dominates all the resources, power, and control of the country. The Supreme Court is the only institution somewhat safe from their influence, and now it is also being attacked, he said.

Pak NA speaker declares Parliament Lodges as sub-jail for arrested lawmakers of Imran's party

PTI ■ ISLAMABAD

The speaker of Pakistan's national assembly has declared the Parliament Lodges here as sub-jail for jailed former prime minister Imran Khan's party's lawmakers who were arrested under the Anti-Terrorism Act and newly imposed Peaceful Assembly and Public Order Act 2024. On the other hand, Dawn News reported that the Islamabad High Court set aside the physical remand of the 10 arrested PTI lawmakers and sent them to jail on

judicial remand. "I am directed to refer to the production order issued on September 11 by the national assembly speaker with respect to the 10 PTI lawmakers arrested recently to enable them to attend the sitting of 9th Session of National Assembly... The speaker has been pleased to declare the Parliament Lodges in Islamabad as sub-jail for their custody after each assembly sitting," a National Assembly Secretariat official said in a letter to the secretary of the Interior Ministry on Friday. The Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf

(PTI) lawmakers who were arrested on different charges following the party's public gathering at Sangiani were Sher Afzal Khan, Malik Mohammad Amir Dogar, Mohammad Ahmed Chattha, Makhdoon Zain Hussain Qureshi, Waqas Akram, Zubair Khan Wazir, Awais Haider Jakhar, Syed Shah Ahad Ali Shah, Nasim Ali Shah, and Yousaf Khan. Police officials said the MNAs were detained at the suites allocated to them at the Parliament Lodges. These MNAs were arrested in connection with cases regis-

tered at Sangiani and Noon police stations under several charges, the officials said. There are no special arrangements and deployment in and outside the sub-jails as police were already present there, the officials said, adding that services of the available police officers were being utilised. They said that under the written directives of the speaker issued to the interior secretary, the suites were declared sub-jail, and so far any necessary notification in this regard was yet to be issued from the capital administration or police.

Sunita Williams, Butch Wilmore plan to vote in US election from space

PTI ■ WASHINGTON

Stranded on the International Space Station through February, NASA astronauts Sunita Williams and Butch Wilmore plan to vote in the November 5 US presidential election from space. "It's a very important duty that we have as citizens and (I am) looking forward to being able to vote from space, which is pretty cool," Williams, who is of Indian origin, said on a call with reporters on Friday afternoon. Williams, 58, and Wilmore, 61, participated in a

press conference on Friday from the International Space Station (ISS), which has been their home since June. Their Boeing Starliner spacecraft ran into several problems midflight and could not bring them home from a planned 8-day voyage. "I sent down my request for a ballot today," Wilmore said. "It's a very important role that we play as citizens including those elections, and NASA makes it very easy for us to do that," he said. They, however, did not indicate which presidential candidate —

either former President Donald Trump or Vice President Kamala Harris — would get their vote. American astronauts have been voting from space since 1997 when the Texas legislature passed a bill allowing NASA employees to vote from space, New York Post reported. That year, NASA astronaut David Wolf became the first American to vote from space on the Mir Space Station. In 2020, NASA astronaut Kate Rubins also performed her civic duty from space on the ISS. Election officials in Harris County, Texas — where NASA's

Johnson Space Station is located — told NBC News that they work with NASA to send astronauts a PDF with clickable boxes to make their choices. The PDF is password-protected to ensure a secret ballot. Friday's press conference came exactly one week after the Starliner returned to Earth — without its crew — to make room on the space station for SpaceX's Crew Dragon, which is now due to bring the two astronauts home in February. Williams and Wilmore are living on the ISS with seven other astronauts.

Public Notice

General Public is hereby informed that we, Vikas Kherra, Darshan Lal Kherra and Surinder Pal are filing application in L&DO for substitution of the property no. A-12, Old Quarters, Ramesh Nagar, New Delhi - 110015 in the name of Vikas Kherra, Darshan Lal Kherra and Surinder Pal on the ground of death of lessee, Late Sri Mela Ram s/o Late Shri Ganda Ram. If there are any objection/claims from the general public on this application, the same shall be communicated to L&DO with supporting documents through registered post or by visiting L&DO at Nirman Bhawan, New Delhi or through an email at ldo@nic.in, within 30 days of publication of this notice. Vikas Kherra R/o A-2 Old Quarters Ramesh Nagar, New Delhi - 15, 2, Darshan Kherra, 3, Surinder Pal R/o A-12 Old Quarters Ramesh Nagar, New Delhi - 15

Notice

Tata Consultancy Services Registered office: 9th Floor, Nirmal Building, Nariman Point, Mumbai Maharashtra India 400021 Notice is hereby given that the Certificate for the undermentioned securities of the company have been lost and the holder of the said securities has applied to the company to issue duplicate certificates. Any person who has a claim in respect of the said securities should lodge such claim with the company as its registered office within 15 days from this date, else the company will proceed to issue duplicate certificate without further intimation.

Nishant Krishna, Equity with FV 1, 325 Shares, 1958031612-1958031936, Delhi 04-09-2024, Nishant Krishna.

NOTICE

Notice is hereby given on behalf of Amandeep Sandhu, Amrit Raj and Swati Nautiyal owned Property total area measuring 1615.34 sq. mtrs. i.e. 161.9 sq. yds. (Residential Plot area measuring 210 sq. yds. i.e. 175.58 sq. mtrs. comprised in Kharsa no. 385/4, Plot no. 3, area measuring 155 sq. mtrs. Khata no. 129, Kharsa no. 385/3min, Plot area measuring 197.35 sq. yds. i.e. 165 sq. mtrs. comprised in Kharsa no. 385/3min, Plot area measuring 197.35 sq. yds. i.e. 165 sq. mtrs. comprised in Kharsa no. 385/3min, Residential Plot area measuring 215 sq. yds. i.e. 179.76 sq. mtrs. comprised in Kharsa no. 385/4, Residential Plot no. 6, area measuring 155 sq. mtrs. comprised in Kharsa no. 385/3min, Plot no. 2, area measuring 155 sq. mtrs. comprised in Kharsa no. 385/3min, i.e. 161.9 sq. yds. (Residential Plot area measuring 155 sq. mtrs. Khata no. 129, Kharsa no. 385/3min and Plot no. 4, area measuring 155 sq. mtrs. comprised in Kharsa no. 385/3, situated at Village Kalla, Tehsil and District Ghazalabad, Utter Pradesh at the address of aforesaid property vide 1) Sale Deed dated 10.08.2023, Document no. 8368 2) Sale Deed dated 10.08.2023, Document no. 8302, 3) Sale Deed dated 10.08.2023, Document no. 8298 4) Sale Deed dated 10.08.2023, Document no. 8298 5) Sale Deed dated 10.08.2023, Document no. 7999 6) Sale Deed dated 10.08.2023, Document no. 8294 7) Sale Deed dated 10.08.2023, Document no. 8295 and inland to mortgage against the financial assistance from PROTIUM FINANCE LIMITED (girisht.kohli@gmail.com) within ten days from the date of publication hereof, failing which the negotiations shall be finalised by buyer with the sellers and necessary documents shall be executed, without any reference to any such claims and the claims if any, shall be deemed to have been given up or waived.

Name: Vijay Anand Address: K-111, Kirti Nagar, New Delhi-110015 Phone: 9999994626

GIRISH KOHLI (ADVOCATE) E-156, FF, East of Kailash, ND-65

उत्तराखण्ड आयुर्वेद विश्वविद्यालय

रेलवे रोड, हर्षवाला, देहरादून (उत्तराखण्ड) - 248001 ई-मेल: uttarakhandaayurved@gmail.com वेबसाइट: www.uau.ac.in

पब्लिक नोटिस

General public is hereby informed that we, Suneel Khosla and Rajeev Khosla both sons of Late Shri Swaran Khosla are filing application in L&DO for substitution/ mutation of the property no. 6/14, Kirti Nagar, Industrial Area, New Delhi-110015 in the name of Suneel Khosla and Rajeev Khosla on the grounds of basis of Will. If there are any objections claims from the general public on this application, the same shall be communicated to L&DO with supporting documents through registered post or by visiting L&DO at Nirman Bhawan, New Delhi or through an email at ldo@nic.in, within 30 days of publication of this notice.

पब्लिक नोटिस

General public is hereby informed that we, Suneel Khosla and Rajeev Khosla both sons of Late Shri Swaran Khosla are filing application in L&DO for substitution/ mutation of the property no. 6/14, Kirti Nagar, Industrial Area, New Delhi-110015 in the name of Suneel Khosla and Rajeev Khosla on the grounds of basis of Will. If there are any objections claims from the general public on this application, the same shall be communicated to L&DO with supporting documents through registered post or by visiting L&DO at Nirman Bhawan, New Delhi or through an email at ldo@nic.in, within 30 days of publication of this notice.

Name: Suneel Khosla and Rajeev Khosla Address: ZP-2, Maurya Enclave, Pitampura, Delhi-110034, Phone: 9873280000

पब्लिक नोटिस

Notice is given on behalf of my client Smt. Parameet Kaur, D/o. Late Sh. Gurcharan Singh, R/o. Flat No. 2143, Jai Vihar, Sector 67, Mohali, Punjab - 160062. We are notifying the loss of the original Title document along with other documents related to Property No. 71, Manak Vihar, IP Extension, Shakarpur, Delhi-110092. The said property belongs to her late father, Sh. Gurcharan Singh, who was the absolute owner and passed away intestate on 17.12.2009. After his demise, her mother and her only brother, Sh. Prigpal Singh, also passed away, leaving their shares of the property to the following legal heirs: (i) Smt. Kulbir Kaur (wife of late Sh. Prigpal Singh), (ii) Smt. Rajinder Kaur, (iii) Smt. Parameet Kaur (iv) Smt. Surinder Kaur. The original title documents were last known to be in the custody of Smt. Kulbir Kaur (W/o. Late Sh. Prigpal Singh). These documents have since been lost from the property address 71, Manak Vihar, IP Extension, Shakarpur, Delhi-110092. Anyone who has found or has information regarding the said documents is kindly requested to return or contact the undersigned.

RAVI BANJAN (Advocate) Delhi High Court Old A-55/9, Tikla Nagar, Main Najafgarh Road, New Delhi-110018.

THE PIONEER CLASSIFIEDS

CHANGE OF NAME

I, Srinath, son of Shri Baijnath, Resident Panigo Kanhaiya Bux, Ka Purwa, Panigaon, Post, Kunda, District, Pratapgarh, Uttar Pradesh-230204, (J-23, Udhm Singh Park, Wazirpur Industrial Area-Delhi-52), have permanently changed my name to Shripal. Srinath and Shripal are the same person. PD(753)A

I, Iaveen Kumar S/O Wazir Paswan R/O F-90, Second Floor, F-Block, Naraina Vihar, New Delhi-110028 have changed my minor son name from Aakarshan to Pratham Aakarshan. PD(754)A

I, Shambhu Chaupal S/o Shri Vindheshwar Chaupal, R/o 33, Galma, Gulma, Darbhanga, Bihar-847427, Present Address Barola, Sector-49, Noida, Distt-Gautam Buddha Nagar, U.P-201301 do hereby declare that my son's correct name is Vivek Kumar Chaupal that my son's incorrect name is Vaidhanath Kumar in (his Aadhar Card) that the name Vivek Kumar Chaupal and Vaidhanath Kumar both are the same person. PD(754)C

Harmanpreet double drives India 2-1 win over Pakistan in ACT hockey

PTI ■ HULUNBUIR (CHINA)
 Skipper Harmanpreet Singh made the difference as he converted two penalty corners to hand unbeaten India a close 2-1 win over arch-rivals Pakistan in their final league match of the Hero Asian Champions Trophy hockey tournament here on Saturday. It was India's fifth consecutive win in the six-team round-robin competition. Pakistan took the lead through Ahmad Nadeem (8th minute) before Harmanpreet (13th, 19th) converted two penalty corners to lead India to win. It was Pakistan's first loss in this tournament. Both India and Pakistan have already qualified for the semifinals. The victory also enabled India to maintain their supremacy over Pakistan since 2016. In their previous meeting at the Hangzhou Asian Games last year, India thrashed Pakistan 10-2. A few months before that, the Indians beat

Pakistan 4-0 during the Chennai edition of the ACT. At the Asia Cup in Jakarta (2022), a relatively young Indian side held Pakistan to a 1-1 draw while at the 2021 ACT in Dhaka, India defeated Pakistan 4-3 to clinch the bronze medal. As like any Indo-Pak hockey match, the first quarter saw end-to-end action with both the teams giving their all to gain the bragging rights. The Indians started brightly dominating the early share of exchanges but Pakistan grew in confidence as the match progressed. India were at the receiving end for the first time in the tournament when Pakistan drew the first blood. It was a selfless Hannan Shahid whose brilliant work from the midfield split the Indian defence and Nadeem found himself at the right place to direct the ball into the Indian goal. A stunned India kept up their composure and patiently built their attacks and secured their first penalty corner in the 13th



minute and skipper Harmanpreet scored with a powerful drag-flick to the left of a hapless Pakistan goalkeeper Munneeb. The Indians continued to press in the second quarter and gained their second penalty corner in the 19th minute and once again Pakistan defence had no answer as Harmanpreet was bang on target as India went up 2-1. While India were the better side in terms of possession in the second quarter, Pakistan also had their chances, penetrating the rival circle on quite a few occasions. Just 45 seconds from half-time Pakistan had an opportunity to draw level through a penalty corner but they wasted the chance as Sufyan Khan's flick, which hit the top of the bar, was rejected for a raised ball. The Indians sustained possession after the change of ends and secured their third penalty corner in the 37th minute, but Pakistan defended bravely. Thereafter, a sustained spell of attacks helped Pakistanis to bag four penalty corners in quick succession but lacked the firepower to breach the Indian defence. In the last quarter, both the sides stitched relentless attacks and India secured three more penalty corners but failed to convert. The match also witnessed a heated encounter between Harmanpreet and Pakistan's Ashraf Waheed Rana after the latter shouldered Jugraj Singh inside the Indian circle. Jugraj was felled by the impact and was seen grimacing in pain. Harmanpreet and Jarmanpreet Singh were quick to counter the offender. The on-field umpires and Pakistan captain Butt and other players of both teams rushed in to control the situation but Rana was shown yellow card, which resulted in a 10-minute suspension after the umpire went for a referral for a serious misconduct. Meanwhile, in the first match of the day, Malaysia and Korea played out a 3-3 draw.

Indian set-up operates by itself and goal will be to protect that: Morne Morkel



PTI ■ CHENNAI
 What isn't broken shouldn't be mended" is the mantra of new India bowling coach Morne Morkel, who loves how the Indian cricket set-up runs on autopilot, and says his new assignment will involve helping that system "get better in small ways". Morkel, who has worked with current head coach Gautam Gambhir in Lucknow Super Giants (LSG), has been in India enough times and seen it from close quarter to understand how it works and where he would fit into the ecosystem. "Coming here, this is a set-up that operates by itself and so to protect that and make it better in small ways is going to be the goal," Morkel told BCCI.TV, making it clear that his focus is on minor tweaks rather than overhauling what works. He also feels that super seniors like Rohit Sharma, Virat Kohli, Ravindra Jadeja, Ravichandran Ashwin and Jasprit Bumrah will always lead the charge and his job will be to be the sounding board as part of the support staff. "We are quite lucky to have quality senior players and they will lead the charge. Our responsibility is to support them and give them best sort of advice that we can give," said Morkel, who turns 40 soon and has played alongside

legendary Dale Steyn. Morkel, who has 544 international wickets across three formats with 309 of them coming in Tests, was "blown away" by how Indian cricketers went about things and "how professional they were". "That's a good sign and hope we can build on that," Morkel said. He joined the pre series camp in Bangladesh and currently, he wants to build a trust with players and see how he can help them. "For me, this is important to connect well with the guys, played a lot against some of the players, seen and connected with some of the guys during IPL and to be in the camp and form friendships and relationships with players is very important," said the former Proteas speedster. "...Trying to understand the guys and their strengths and weaknesses and help them set goals for the upcoming series." He hoped that he can channelise the enormous level of talent that Indian cricketers possess. "It's one thing having talent and skill and how can you make those guys feel welcome in an intimidating environment. India playing in blue shirt is a lot of expectations, so for me, having the experience, going through that, passing that sort of knowledge and helping

them settle in will be the goal," Morkel said. "As soon as players have that comfort and feel they belong here, that's when the performance comes. I am looking forward to that and obviously up-skill them and get them up to the standard. "I understand that there will be expectations of winning and luckily I have experienced that in my playing days and I can share that knowledge," he added. Morkel said that after his discussions with the BCCI about the bowling coach's job were finalized, it took some time for the confirmation to sink in. "So when I ended the call, I sat for about five minutes in the room. I spoke to my dad first and didn't even go to my wife. Normally, they say you tell the wife first, so quite a special moment for me," he said in jest. "I enjoyed it 5-7 minutes with myself and then shared with the family about the opportunity and about eventually what might happen, so happy that we eventually got things over the line and this happened, looking forward to great journey and time with India." Morkel is also a fan of Indian cuisine. "I love Puri, breakfast I love my dosas, malai chicken but as a coach you need to show players that you eat healthy, players would follow," he said.

Corruptors are looking at entry through leagues managed by home boards: Outgoing ICC ACU chief

PTI ■ DUBAI
 Elite cricket is mostly "safe and clean" but outgoing ICC Anti Corruption Unit (ACU) chief Alex Marshall feels that potential corruptors are eyeing entry through local T20 leagues which are outside global body's ambit managed by respective boards of member nations. The former British cop didn't specify which particular local leagues or which member nation he was referring to. "I am confident that the cricket you watch is safe and clean," Marshall told ESPN Cricinfo. "But I am also absolutely sure that corruptors are constantly looking for a route into the game, particularly in badly-run lower-level franchise leagues. The threat to the game is corruptors won't go away while there is always money to be made and they will look for weakness in the system to get in." Marshall said that he is happy to find that more and more players are reporting corrupt approaches with the ICC ACU, ensuring them to keep the game clean. "I am proud of the significant increase in trust from players who now report approaches to us frequently whereas there was a time when they lacked confidence in confidentiality and the action that will be taken," Marshall said. "They have now seen corruptors being disrupted, named, banned when they get involved in cricket. And the education we now do with players shows them who the corruptors are, what their methods are, so everyone is much better equipped and protected to keep corruption away from the game."



During his seven years in ICC, some of the significant milestones of ICC ACU under Marshall would be to ensure punishment for former Bangladesh skipper Shakib Al Hasan, who didn't report a corrupt approach by Indian bookie Deepak Aggarwal and former Zimbabwe skipper late Heath Streak. One thing that gave Marshall satisfaction was weeding out corruption from Sri Lankan cricket with the help of local authorities with multiple cases of former international and domestic players being involved in alleged shady dealings. "Sri Lanka turned out to be a good news story because there were serious issues which were addressed locally and with ICC," he said. "Now with the legislation and stronger measures Sri Lanka is in a much better place to keep the corruptors away."

Sable finishes ninth in his maiden Diamond League final

PTI ■ BRUSSELS
 National record holder 3000m steeplechaser Avinash Sable finished ninth in the season-ending Diamond League final with a below-par time here on Friday. Birthday boy Sable, who turned 30 on Friday, clocked 8 minute and 17.09 seconds to finish ninth in the 10-man field in his debut DL final. Amos Serem of Kenya emerged as the Diamond League champion with a time of 8:06.90, while reigning Olympic and world champion Soufiane El Bakkali (8:08.60) of Morocco was second in the season-ending finale. Mohamed Amin Jhinaoui of Tunisia was third with 8:09.68. World champion and Paris Olympics silver medalist javelin thrower Neeraj Chopra will be in action on Saturday. Sable had finished 11th in the Paris Olympic Games with a time of 8:14.18. He had finished 14th in the overall Diamond League standings with three points from two meetings. But four



athletes ranked higher than him — Lamecha Girma (injured) of Ethiopia, Geordie Beamish of New Zealand, Ryuji Mura of Japan and Hillary Bor of the USA — pulled out, allowing him to sneak inside the top 10 cut-off. Five meetings out of the 14 in the DL series across the world this season had men's 3000m steeplechase event. Reigning Asian Games



Indian men outwit Hungary B; women go past Switzerland

PTI ■ BUDAPEST (HUNGARY)
 Indian men dropped their first point, but carried enough steam to beat Hungary 'B' 3.5-0.5 to maintain a clean slate in the ongoing 45th Chess Olympiad here. In the open section, the hero for the Indian men was Arjun Erigaisi who played a brilliant attacking game against Peter Prohazka and ended with a checkmate after a queen sacrifice. However, Vidit Gujrathi had to settle for a quick draw against Papp Gabor and it was the first time an Indian men's player failed to notch a win in this event. But D. Gukesh outclassed Adam Kozak, while R. Praggnanandhaa made most of his chances in the endgame as Tamas Banusz was gradually outplayed. Earlier, a shock defeat for D. Harika on the top board did not deter the other Indian girls as R Vaishali, Divya Deshmukh and Vantika Agarwal scored crushing victories to ensure a 3-1 victory for the team that kept them in joint lead on six match points. Harika lost to recent-migrant Alexandra Kosteniuk who gave up her Russian citizenship and joined the Swiss team. A former world women's champion Kosteniuk was in her elements and scored the full point after Harika misplayed the middle game that appeared even from the bird's-eye-view. Vaishali gave no chances to other migrant Ghazal Hakimifard who left her Iranian citizenship.

A new era in Asian soccer begins Monday when the AFC Champions League Elite debuts

AP ■ WASHINGTON
 The first edition of the AFC Champions League Elite begins Monday with stars such as Cristiano Ronaldo, Neymar and Riyad Mahrez looking to lead their Saudi Arabian clubs to success in Asia. Al-Nassr, Al-Hilal and Al-Ahli are among the favorites to win next May's final and reinforce the ambitions of the Saudi Pro League (SPL) of becoming one of the best in the world. In the summer transfer windows of 2023 and 2024, SPL clubs spent over \$1 billion on transfers to bring top-level players from the big European leagues. Al-Hilal midfielder Ruben Neves joined Al-Hilal in 2023 from Wolverhampton Wanderers of the English Premier League for a fee of around \$60 million and has no

doubt that the SPL has enough quality. "I have said this a few times - if you compare my data from English football to Saudi football, I run even more, but with the difference that I run in 40 degrees (Celsius, 104 Fahrenheit)," Neves said after helping Portugal to a 2-1 Nations League win over Scotland on Tuesday when Ronaldo scored the winning goal. "I am in good shape physically. Both Cristiano and I proved today that Saudi football has quality." Al-Hilal is the most successful team in Asia with four continental titles and starts its campaign against Al-Rayyan of Qatar. Ronaldo won five UEFA Champions League but has yet to win a major trophy with Al-Nassr and he will face Iraq's Al-Shorta while Mahrez and Al-



Ahli hosts Persepolis of Iran in Jeddah. As well as the big stars, also reinforcing the chances of the giants from Jeddah and Riyadh, is that from the quarterfinal stage on, all games will take place in Saudi Arabia. There are bigger changes however. The Elite version replaced

eight progressing to the second round. In the east zone, China, South Korea and Japan all have the maximum allocation of three teams though Australia has only the Central Coast Mariners. Clubs from the A-League have struggled in the Champions League in recent years but if the Mariners can succeed, there may be more places for Australian teams in the future. "We know if we perform and we carry out our game plan and play our way, we know we can compete," Central Coast head coach Mark Jackson said. "We've shown that. Whether we can compete consistently on that front, again with the size of squads these teams have, how they can travel because I'm sure these teams travel in a different way to how we travel." The Elite tournament has become more lucrative with the

winner receiving \$10 million in prize money, an increase from \$4 million last season.

OFFICE OF THE MUNICIPAL CORPORATION, BHOPAL (M.P.)
 Near Smart City office, tatpar petrol pump Engineering head office. BMC Bhopal

Notice Inviting e-Tenders

Ref Number: 486 Date : 13.09.2024

Tender for online submissions are invited on website www.mptenders.gov.in under "Live Tender" and Department Name "Bhopal Municipal Corporation" for following work. Detailed NIT, Tender Schedule and other information can be seen on the website www.mptenders.gov.in.

S. No	Tender Id no.	Name of Work	Probable Amount of Contract (Rs. in lakh)	Earnest Money Deposit (EMD) (In Rs)	Cost of Bid Document (In Rs.)	Period of Completion (in Months)
1	2024_UAD_369589_1	PROPOSED INTERIOR WORK OF AUDITORIUM AND OTHER MISCELLANEOUS WORK IN BHOPAL MUNICIPAL CORPORATION, HEADQUARTERS BUILDING LINK ROAD 02, BHOPAL.	5,29,85,087/-	2,64,925/-	20,000/-	6 (SIX) Months including rainy season

1. Interested bidders can view the NIT on website <https://www.mptenders.gov.in/>
 2. The Bid Document can be purchased only online from
 3. Amendments to NIT, if any, would be published on website <https://www.mptenders.gov.in/> only not in newspaper.

Superintendent Engineer (Project)
 Municipal Corporation Bhopal

T.N.461/024/025



MUSKURAIYE JANAAB, AAP LUCKNOW MEIN HAIN!

A CELEBRATION OF RICH TRADITIONS AND FLAVOURS



The *Lakhnawi Dastarkhwan* at Crowne Plaza Mayur Vihar offered an immersive journey into Lucknow's rich culinary and cultural heritage, recreating iconic locations and combining traditional dishes with cultural elements for an authentic experience, writes **SAKSHI PRIYA**

The *Lakhnawi Dastarkhwan* Food Festival at Crowne Plaza Mayur Vihar was nothing short of a culinary journey, expertly designed to transport visitors straight to the heart of Lucknow. What made this event truly exceptional was how it went beyond merely serving food, embracing the cultural depth of Lucknow, bringing together flavours, ambiance and tradition in an immersive way.

AN AUTHENTIC LAKHNAWI EXPERIENCE

Upon entering the festival, guests found themselves amidst a scene straight out of Lucknow. The ambiance meticulously recreated iconic locations like *Hazratganj Chowk*, the *Qaisar Bagh* Palace and *Aminabad's* bustling food streets. Visitors could not help but feel like they had stepped back in time, transported to the regal and storied city, complete with a charming vintage single-screen theater that paid homage to Lucknow's cinematic legacy.

A FEAST OF FLAVOURS

At the heart of the festival lay a menu that was a tribute to Lucknow's culinary richness. Diners were treated to signature

dishes like *Galouti Kebabs*, which melted in the mouth with the perfect blend of spices. Accompanied by Awadhi classics such as *Murgh Awadhi Qorma*, *Gosht Nalli Qorma* and *Aloo Bukhara Kofta*, each bite celebrated the deep flavours and heritage of the Nawabs.

But it wasn't just the dishes that stole the show, traditional breads like *Sheermal*, *Warqi Parantha* and *Ulta Tawa Parantha* provided the perfect pairings. Especially intriguing were the varieties of rotis: the *Biscotti Roti*, with its biscuit-like texture; *Bakarkhani Roti*, thick and rich and the sweet *Khandari Roti*, each adding a unique twist to the meal.

Street food lovers weren't left out either, as the festival brought Lucknow's bustling bazaars to life with delicious snacks like *Tokri Chaat*, *Aloo Tikki* and *Pani Ke Batash*, offering a taste of the city's vibrant food markets right in the heart of Delhi. And to wrap up the feast, guests indulged in traditional sweets like *Shahi Tukda*, *Badnam Kulfi*, *Malai Gilauri* and *hot Jalebis*, offering a delightful sweet ending to an unforgettable culinary journey.

The *Lakhnawi Dastarkhwan* festival was a rich exploration of Lucknow's culinary and cultural heritage. Guests enjoyed melt-in-your-mouth *Galauti Kebabs* and relished main courses like *Arvi Ki Nemaali*, *Ameer Handi Lazeez*, *Chingri Shabnam* and the iconic *Shahi Biryani*. The drinks menu added a playful twist, with *Chulbuli Begum* offering a tangy, bold flair, *Lalla Ki Lemonade* serving as a refreshing burst of tradition and *Pyaar Ka Panchnama* presenting a sweet, rosy charm. *Nawab Ka Ghoonghat* brought a minty, spicy surprise reminiscent of Nawabi secrets, while *Aangan Ki Chai* provided the comforting warmth of a Lucknowi home. Together, the food and drinks created a truly immersive experience, making guests feel as though they had stepped right into the heart of Lucknow.



The festival's theme, "Mezban Kadardan Khansam," was a nod to Lucknow's Nawabi culture, Mezban represented the gracious hosts, Kadardan symbolised those who appreciate the art of food and Khansam honoured the master chefs of Lucknow. Executive Chef Roushan Sharma, who curated the menu, fondly shared his childhood memories of Lucknow and the intricate process of perfecting dishes like the *Galauti Kebab*.



A TASTE OF LUCKNOW'S CULTURE

But the *Lakhnawi Dastarkhwan* festival went beyond just serving exquisite food, it truly immersed guests in the vibrant culture of Lucknow. As they entered, they were warmly greeted by a traditional *Paan counter*, where the sweet meetha paan quickly became a favourite, setting a delightful tone for the evening. Nearby, a *Pandit Ji* added a touch of



authenticity with complimentary hand readings and astrological insights, offering a unique and engaging experience for those curious about their fortunes. A Bollywood cinema corner, featuring posters from films shot in Lucknow, brought a touch of nostalgia, evoking the spirit of the city's cinematic history.

The festival also featured colourful stalls bursting with *jhumkas* and *bangles*, perfectly recreating the bustling shopping streets of Lucknow. These vibrant displays contributed to a rich, immersive atmosphere that made guests feel as though they had been transported directly to the heart of the city. Adding to the charm, a vintage letterbox that echoed Lucknow's postal history provided a nostalgic touch, making the event not only entertaining but also deeply memorable. Each thoughtfully curated detail helped create an experience that celebrated the essence of Lucknow's culture, making it a truly unforgettable evening.

In wrapping up, the *Lakhnawi Dastarkhwan* Food Festival at Crowne Plaza Mayur Vihar was a delightful dive into Lucknow's heart and soul. The festival was more than just a feast - it was a warm, immersive experience that captured the spirit of Lucknow perfectly. If you missed it, don't worry, keep an eye out for the next one. It's definitely worth the experience!

NEW OFFERINGS

OPHELIA LAUNCHES BOLD TURKISH MENU

Ophelia, located in The Ashok Hotel, Delhi, introduces an exciting Turkish-inspired menu that merges traditional flavors with modern flair. As a member of the esteemed Campbell India family, Ophelia is celebrated for its elegance and culinary expertise. The new menu, crafted in collaboration with renowned Turkish chef Mehmet Emin Yalçin, features highlights like Turkish Potato and Mezze Platter, Lamb Nazik Kebab, and Turkish Garlic Roast Chicken. Complementing the dishes are signature cocktails by Head Mixologist Avesh Negi. Ophelia's vibrant Turkish decor and immersive experiences make it a must-visit for food enthusiasts.

Location: Ophelia, Hotel Ashok, 50-B, Diplomatic Enclave, Chanakyapuri, New Delhi, Delhi 110021
Timings: 12:30 PM to 1 AM

GUPPY'S 11TH BIRTHDAY: SPECIAL MENU & FESTIVE FUN!

Join Guppy, part of the Olive Group, as it marks its 11th anniversary with a vibrant celebration of Japanese culinary artistry. Enjoy a special birthday menu curated by Head Chef Saurabh Sharan, featuring fresh, inventive dishes. Toast with unique dessert cocktails crafted by



Nishant K Gaurav. Celebrate with fun activities, including live music, a tarot card session, DIY sushi kits, and a Japanese pottery workshop. The little Japanese haven is offering a flat 25% off and a bottle of wine if the number '11' is in the birthdate or birth month of the guest! Discover why Guppy remains a beloved culinary gem!

Dates: August 19 - September 30, 2024
Address: 28, Main Market, Lodhi Colony, New Delhi
TIMINGS:
Lunch: 12 PM - 4 PM
Dinner: 6 PM - 12 AM
Price for Two: INR 3000 (without alcohol), INR 5000 (with alcohol)
Reservation: 011 24690005 / 6, +91 9650185005

EXHIBITION: BEYOND THE SURFACE

Beyond the Surface: A Journey Through Form and Abstraction invites viewers to explore the intersection of form and abstraction in contemporary art. This exhibition features the works of Vinod Daroz, Somu Desai, Himanshu Joshi, Tapas Biswas, Gaurishankar Soni, and Bhuwal Prasad, each pushing the boundaries of their media. From ceramic interpretations of sacred union to

metallic reflections on societal facades, and mixed-media reimaginings of urban consciousness, the show challenges initial impressions and encourages a deeper engagement with the layers of artistic expression. Experience a thought-provoking journey through the complexity of surface and substance.

Date: September 13, 2024 - September 30, 2024
Time: 6 PM onwards
Venue: A29/5, DLF Phase 1, Gurugram, Haryana 122002



Bumrah to Promote Healthy Snacking



PHOTO: PANKAJ KUMAR

TEAM VIVA

Indian cricket star *Jasprit Bumrah* joins hands with American Pistachio Growers for the 2024-25 season. The partnership aims to highlight the nutritional benefits of pistachios, aligning Bumrah's focus on fitness. *Jasprit Bumrah*, the celebrated Indian fast bowler, has been announced as the new brand ambassador for American Pistachios Growers (APG) for the 2024-25 season. This collaboration highlights a focus on healthy snacking, aligning *Bumrah's* athletic achievements with the nutritional benefits of

California-grown pistachios. *Bumrah*, known for his precision and fitness on the cricket field, will now represent a snack rich in protein and healthy fats. Speaking about the partnership, *Bumrah* shared, "I'm pleased to work with American Pistachio Growers. As an athlete, good nutrition is key to maintaining performance, and pistachios offer an ideal balance of protein and healthy fats. They've become my go-to snack to stay at my best." The association between *Bumrah* and American pistachios underscores a shared commitment to

promoting a healthy lifestyle. *Sumit Saran* from APG remarked, "India is an important market for American pistachios, and with *Jasprit Bumrah* as our ambassador, we aim to raise awareness about their nutritional benefits among health-conscious consumers." This collaboration is expected to boost the popularity of pistachios as a nutritious snack option for both fitness enthusiasts and cricket fans. *Dr. Siddhant Bhargava*, a nutrition expert, also emphasised the value of pistachios, stating, "American pistachios are rich in

antioxidants, protein and essential fats, making them a great choice for muscle recovery and overall health. They can support optimal performance, which is especially important for athletes like *Bumrah*." With American pistachios now readily available through major e-commerce platforms and retailers across India, this partnership arrives at an opportune time. Whether you're enjoying a match or simply looking for a healthy snack, pistachios offer a nutritious option that aligns with *Bumrah's* approach to fitness and well-being.

"Despite hanging up my racing wheels over a decade ago, I still get a buzz when we enter an Olympic and Paralympic year"
— Tanni Grey-Thompson



PARIS PARALYMPICS

PARA ATHLETES BASK IN GLORY AND GOLD

The accomplishments of para athletes at Paris Paralympics are not just sporting success but a story of grit and determination, a story of indomitable spirit that soars high despite hardships and challenges, writes **RISHABH MALIK**

The Paris 2024 Paralympics will go down as one of the most celebrated sporting moments in India's history. The Indian contingent's extraordinary performances were not just a display of athletic prowess but also a powerful reminder of human resilience, willpower, and the ability to triumph against all odds. From setting new records to inspiring millions, the Indian athletes left a remarkable imprint on the global stage. India's Paralympians wasted no time in making their presence felt at Paris 2024. In 12 days of competition India registered 29 medals includes 7 gold, 9 silver, and 13 bronze. India's medal count marked significant landmark and breakthroughs in Indian history of Paralympics.

India's first medal in the Paralympics came in the 1972 Games, with Murlikant Petkar winning a gold medal in swimming. Up to the recent 2024 Games, India have won 60 medals across all Paralympic Games, with the most successful Paralympic campaign being the Paris 2024 Games with 29 medals. Shooting has traditionally been one of India's strong suits in both the Olympic and Paralympic arenas. In Paris, India's para-shooters continued their stellar run from previous Games. Avani Lekhara, a name that had already become synonymous with Indian Paralympic shooting, won gold in the women's 10m air rifle standing SH1 category. Avani's calm demeanor and laser-focused concentration were on full display as she once again climbed to the top of the podium. This win made her a two-time Paralympic champion and reinforced her place among the world's elite shooters.

India's shooting success didn't end there. Manish Narwal, competing in the men's 10m air SH1 pistol event, clinched silver, narrowly missing out on gold. His performance was another testament to India's dominance in precision sports, along with Rubina Francis in the same women's 10m air pistol category clinched bronze in shooting.

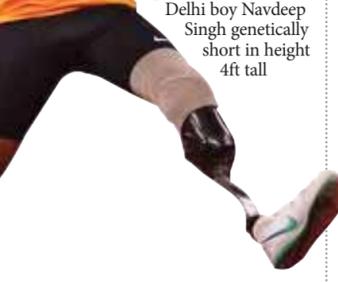
India witnessed some historic milestone in the paralympics event, For the first time India won 17 medals in athletics, with Dharambir winning gold and Pranav Soorma taking silver in the men's club throw F51 event. Dharambir also established a new Asian record of 34.92 metres. Later, Praveen Kumar set an Asian record by winning the high jump T64 championship, giving India its sixth gold medal at the Paralympics.

Mariyappan Thangavelu became the first Indian to win medals at three successive Paralympic Games when he won a bronze in the T42 high jump event. He took home silver in Tokyo 2020 and gold in Rio 2016. With a personal best time, Preethi Pal won bronze in the women's 100-meter T35 competition. It was the first-ever medal for India in a Paralympic track event. Being the only athlete from India to win two medals at the Games, her bronze in the 200m made her the most successful competitor. India finished the



Paris 2024 track season with four medals overall. Among them was Deepthi Jeevanji, who won a bronze in the women's 400m T20 class to become the first intellectually disabled Indian athlete to earn a Paralympic medal. In archery, records were also broken. In the ranking round, armless archer Sheetal Devi in short time broke the world record before coming in second. However, she later joined up with Rakesh Kumar to win the compound mixed team qualifying event with a world record score. Together with Rakesh, Sheetal, at just 17 years old, won bronze in the mixed team event to become the youngest medalist from India ever. Eventually, Harvinder Singh became the first-ever Paralympic archery champion for India.

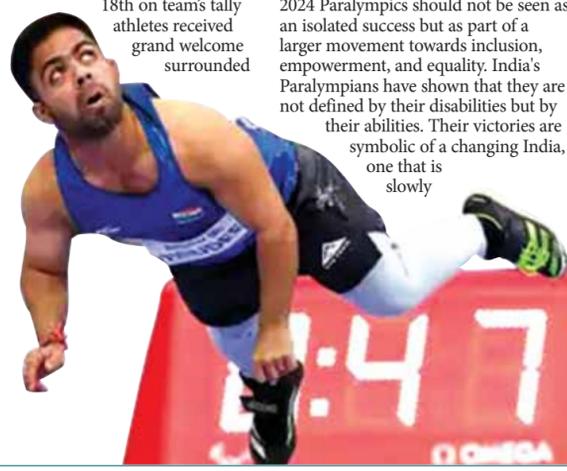
Another athlete who made headlines was Sumit Antil, the javelin thrower who had previously set a world record in Tokyo 2020. In Paris, Sumit not only defended his title but also shattered his own record, throwing an unbelievable 70 meters in the F64 category. His performance earned him his second consecutive Paralympic gold, establishing him as a global force in the sport.



Delhi boy Navdeep Singh genetically short in height 4ft tall

“
DELHI BOY NAVDEEP SINGH GENETICALLY SHORT IN HEIGHT 4FT TALL (DWARFISM) NAVDEEP WHO HAILS FROM HARYANA EMPLOYED AS INSPECTOR IN THE INCOME TAX DEPARTMENT. THE 23 YEAR OLD WON A HISTORIC GOLD IN DAY BEFORE THE CLOSING CEREMONY OF PARIS PARALYMPICS. FROM BEING BULLIED TO NATIONAL CHAMPION AT F41 JAVELIN THROW EVENT WHICH WAS A ASTONISHING TURN OF EVENT BEFORE THE PODIUM AFTER HE WAS CONFIRMED TO SILVER MEDAL HIS IRANIAN COMPETITOR GOT DISQUALIFIED BEFORE HIS THROW WHICH AUTOMATICALLY UPGRADED HIM TO GOLD MEDAL.
”

(Dwarfism) Navdeep who hails from Haryana employed as Inspector in the Income Tax Department. The 23 year old won a historic gold in day before the closing ceremony of Paris Paralympics. From being bullied to national champion at F41 Javelin throw event which was a astonishing turn of event before the podium after he was awarded to silver medal his Iranian competitor got disqualified before his throw which automatically upgraded him to gold medal. There are ups and downs, there are also descents, Suyash Jadhav, (Asian para games gold medallist) in the men's 50m butterfly (S7) fell short in the competition finished fifth in Heat 1 with time 33.47 although he didn't qualify for final but his fight against the strong contenders from the U.S. and Ukraine gave a solid remark of ginger to younger athletes. IAS officer Suhas Yathiraj came in paris to achieve the previous best in Tokyo Paralympics 2020 but restricted to silver medal in SL4 badminton. After returning from Paris on Tuesday with India's best ever medal tally ever (29) and ranked 18th on team's tally athletes received grand welcome surrounded



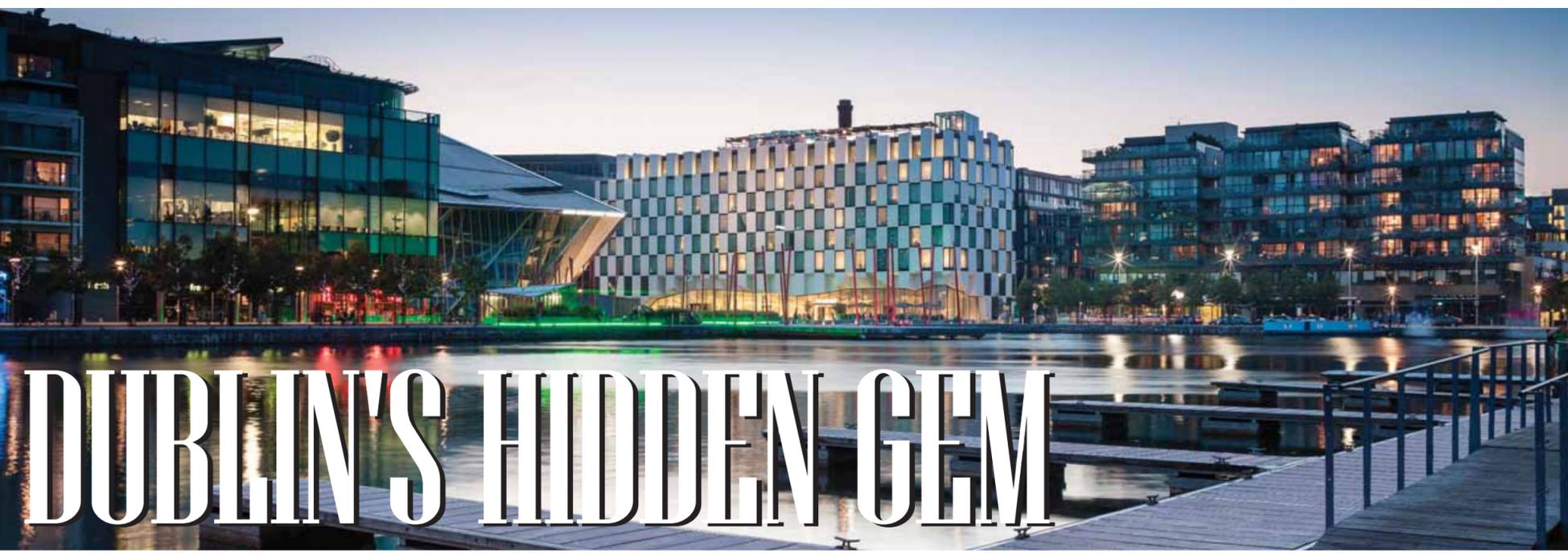
by huge numbers of supporters greeted with showering of flowers on them. The Indian contingent met Prime Minister Narendra Modi at his residence on Thursday in New Delhi, where PM Modi interacted with all para-athletes of Indian contingent and congratulating the medal winners of Paris Paralympics 2024

Athletes shared their journeys and challenges to overcome the stereotypes of the society. Paralympic Gold Medallist Avani Lekhara gifted her signed jersey to PM Modi. Rewards were announced by Union Sports Minister Mansukh Mandaviya of 75 lakh to gold-medallists, 50 lakh to silver winners and 30 lakh to bronze-medallists in the games and pledges full support from Government for the LA 2028 campaign.

While the Paris 2024 Paralympics was a roaring success for India, it also showed the challenges that continue to plague the country's para-sporting ecosystem. Access to training, medical support, and sponsorships remains uneven, with athletes in rural areas particularly disadvantaged. A Movement, not just Medals Paris 2024 Paralympics should not be seen as an isolated success but as part of a larger movement towards inclusion, empowerment, and equality. India's Paralympians have shown that they are not defined by their disabilities but by their abilities. Their victories are symbolic of a changing India, one that is slowly

but surely starting to embrace diversity in all its forms. As India commemorates this new chapter in athletic prowess, the effect of these players will continue to resonate, pushing the Government to provide greater support, recognition, and growth for para-sports. India's achievement at the Paralympics is more than simply a moment of glory; it is the start of a future in which the country's differently-abled athletes will continue to smash barriers, demonstrating that with spirit and drive, nothing is impossible. Famous Columnist Akhileshwar Sahay stated in his article Khel Vaani India's Paralympic Rise: A Beacon for a More Inclusive Future

NEXT STOP: MISSION TOP FIVE AND MISSION INCLUSIVE REVOLUTION
It's time to jumpstart two missions to be accomplished in four years: Mission Top Five Rank at Los Angeles and Mission Inclusive Revolution to make India disabled-friendly. For the first mission, India must broaden its participation base across the 550 events—both in terms of events participated in and the number of sportspersons per event. No country has a larger pool of disabled individuals than India, with "55 to 90 million," according to a recent World Bank estimate. This demographic presents a potential goldmine of "Khojo-Paralympians" and a driving force for "Khelo Paralympics". The lowest-hanging fruit? Track and field events, where the investment per sportsperson is low and the potential return high. All Bharat needs to join the elite Top 5 club is 100 medals at the Los Angeles 2028 Paralympics. It's eminently doable, and the time starts now. Considering that in the last three years (2021-2024), between Tokyo and Paris, Indian Paralympians have amassed 48 medals, 100 medals in 2028 is not a far-fetched dream.



DUBLIN'S HIDDEN GEM

Discover a hidden gem in the Irish capital overlooking the water in the revitalised Silicone Docks. Here, a unique facet of Dublin unfolds, where the historic charm of the city seamlessly intertwines with modern vibrancy

BY AKANKSHA DEAN

Even for locals, this area feels distinctly refreshing, offering a different perspective of Dublin while ensuring that all of its iconic landmarks remain conveniently accessible. Embrace the fusion of old and Dublin's Docklands, affectionately dubbed the 'Silicon Docks,' serve as the European headquarters for tech giants like Facebook, Google, and Airbnb. At the heart of this dynamic district stands Anantara The Marker Hotel, a striking geometric marvel that has become its unofficial emblem. The name 'The Marker' pays homage to the Grand Canal's rich trading history. The canal, stretching 82 miles, was once adorned with cast iron markers indicating the distance to the journey's end. The hotel stands proudly at the site of the last of these markers. Situated on the south bank of the river Liffey, the hotel commands stunning views of Grand Canal Dock and the vibrant Grand Canal Square, featuring the striking Bord Gais Energy Theatre, designed by Daniel Libeskind. At night, the plaza comes alive, illuminated in captivating hues of red and green. This dynamic locale is at the heart of Dublin's thriving tech industry, with one area even dubbed 'Googletown'. Conveniently, the hotel is just a 20-minute drive from Dublin Airport and a mere 15-minute stroll to the city centre, making it an ideal base for exploring the capital's rich offerings.

MODERN ELEGANCE AWAITS

All the design elements at Anantara The Marker tell a story, much like the vibrant neighbourhood surrounding it. The Docklands continues to evolve as a thriving part of the city. As I step into The Marker, I'm immediately struck by its vibrant atmosphere that resonates throughout. The luminous lobby leads into colour-infused bedrooms, each exuding modern elegance. I notice young Dubliners gathering in the atrium for drinks, fostering a lively social scene that pulses with energy. On sunlit days, the rooftop bar becomes a buzzing hub, offering breath-taking views—a perfect retreat amid the city's bustle. Originally opened in 2013 and recently rebranded under Anantara in 2023 after an extensive renovation, this hotel stands as a beacon of modernity. Its striking chequerboard façade, inspired by the Cliffs of Moher, welcomes me into a mesmerizing 67-meter-long atrium with a cantilevered ceiling reminiscent of the Giant's Causeway, where public spaces, including a bar, lounge, and restaurant, invite relaxation and enjoyment. Embodying the Anantara philosophy, the hotel seamlessly integrates the brand's three core pillars—Indigenous, Expertise, and Authentic Luxury—throughout its offerings. Each of the 187 rooms and suites offers breath-taking views of the city, Grand Canal, Dublin Bay, or the mountains, enhanced by floor-to-ceiling windows. The accommodations are thoughtfully designed with ergonomic furnishings,



technology, and luxurious bathrooms for an indulgent experience. The Junior Corner Suite proved to be the perfect refuge for my stay. With ample space to work, unwind, or simply relax, I enjoyed the gentle sunlight streaming onto my Eames-style chair at the desk. A freshly brewed espresso awaited me, a delightful touch to start my day. I was pleasantly surprised to find a bar of Co Wexford's Bean and Goose chocolate by my bedside, boxy on the breakfast menu, and an 'Irish Wine Geese' section on the wine list. The fusion of striking architecture and local storytelling in this 187-bed haven feels refreshingly new. I balanced work and rejuvenation effortlessly. Prioritizing wellness, the award-winning spa provides an array of rejuvenating body treatments and massages, complemented by a 75-foot indoor infinity pool, a steam room, a eucalyptus-infused sauna, and a whirlpool tub. This was the perfect way to begin my mornings before venturing out. One of my favourite retreats was the chic rooftop bar and terrace, which



boasts breath-taking panoramic views. Each evening, I found myself captivated by the skyline, capturing the stunning sunsets that bathed the city in warm orange hues. At the heart of Marker's culinary journey is the vibrant new Forbes Street by Gareth Mullins. As a fan of Gareth's weekly cooking segment, I eagerly anticipated the experience. I began with exquisite Flaggy Shore oysters on crushed ice paired with a delightful Bloody Mary. Next, the marbled rib-eye, flawlessly seared, accompanied by zingy Chimichurri, house-cut chips, and a rocket salad, was a delight. For dessert, creatively

presented North County Dublin rhubarb, with smoked vanilla and crispy potatoes, encapsulated the essence of simple yet exceptional dining.

STORIES OF DUBLIN

Unlike the traditional luxury of the Merrion, Westbury, and Shelbourne, The Marker embraces bold architecture while ensuring substance accompanies its style. Anantara's mantra, 'Life is a journey,' resonates through its various activities like docklands walks and sea swimming. What truly distinguishes are its unforgettable bespoke experiences, meticulously designed to immerse visitors in the local culture and lifestyle. For food enthusiasts, the signature Spice Spoons journey with Executive Chef Gareth Mullins is a delightful highlight. Guests spend the day with Mullins exploring the charming fishing village of Howth, just 30 minutes from Dublin, and embark on a chartered fishing boat around Dublin Bay, where they might spot dolphins and seals. Afterward, a visit to Kish Fish, one of Ireland's

premier salmon smokehouses, precedes an enriching lesson in baking traditional Irish soda bread back at the hotel. Other curated experiences include Wild Swimming in a popular local spot under the guidance of an open-sea coach, an insightful deep dive into equine culture at the Irish National Stud and Gardens with a renowned horse trainer, and Afternoon Tea: Poetry and Places, which celebrates Ireland's literary heritage. For me, the highlight was the Docklands Storytelling Tour led by Derek Brennan, the hotel's Irish storyteller and guest experience manager. His captivating narratives weave together the rich history of the Docklands, bringing the area's past to life through his engaging tales, a connection forged since the hotel's inception in 2013.

SIP, STROLL, EXPLORE

A trip to Dublin is incomplete without exploring its rich offerings. A must-visit is EPIC The Irish Emigration Museum, conveniently located within walking distance of the hotel. This interactive museum delves into the history of the Irish

diaspora and emigration. Just around the corner lies The Ferryman Townhouse, a lively pub where locals warmly welcome visitors, eager to share a table and demonstrate the art of enjoying a pint in under ten seconds. For those with a sense of adventure, Grafton Street, The Temple Bar, and Trinity College Dublin are a leisurely 30-minute stroll away. Be sure to reserve an evening for the renowned Guinness Storehouse, where a guided tour reveals the brewing process, and guests can even create a 'stoutie,' a selfie on the frothy beer head. This fusion of modernity and community encapsulates the essence of Dublin's evolving urban landscape, making it a must-visit destination for locals and travellers alike.

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

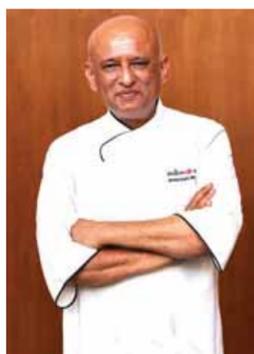
CELEBRATING 15 YEARS OF INDIAN ACCENT

A Journey Through Taste and Tradition

Indian Accent's 15th anniversary marked a memorable evening, celebrating its rich legacy with a blend of nostalgic classics and inventive culinary creations, says SAKSHI PRIYA

As Indian Accent New Delhi celebrated its 15th anniversary, the occasion paid tribute to its remarkable culinary journey. With softly dimmed lighting and elegant candlelit tables, the ambiance set a warm and inviting tone for the evening. The sophisticated atmosphere, combined with a touch of nostalgia, created a perfect backdrop for a dining experience that was both refined and memorable. Walking into Indian Accent felt like stepping into a space where the charm of tradition and the excitement of modernity seamlessly merged, crafting an unforgettable experience. The evening featured a nostalgic look back at Indian Accent's inaugural tasting menu from 2009, allowing guests to revisit beloved classics that had been instrumental in shaping the restaurant's journey. Dishes like the Whole Wheat and Semolina Puchkas, Paneer Tikka Chaat and Khakra Mille Feuille served as a heartwarming reminder of the restaurant's evolution and enduring appeal. The journey began with Chef Shantanu Mehrotra at the helm, who crafted a menu that would soon become a

sensation. Reflecting on those early days, Chef Mehrotra recalls the excitement and challenges of the original menu. While some dishes met with mixed reviews, others quickly captured the hearts of diners. Today, Indian Accent is celebrated for its pivotal role in bringing modern Indian cuisine to the global stage. The celebration commenced with a sensory feast, beginning with the Blue Cheese Naan. This dish was a revelation, a delightful twist on a classic favourite. The crisp texture combined with the bold, creamy blue cheese offered a unique start to the evening. Paired with the Mushroom Shawarma, subtly spiced with garam masala, it was a comforting yet adventurous introduction that set the tone for the meal to come. The evening begins with a nod to the past through a selection of appetisers that have become icons of Indian Accent's innovative approach. The Whole Wheat and Semolina Puchkas provided a playful yet refined take on street food. The trio of waters - mint and coriander, tamarind and jaggery and buttermilk - offered a delightful balance of flavours, beautifully encapsulating Indian Accent's



approach to blending traditional elements with modern sophistication. Chef Shantanu Mehrotra's talent was unmistakable throughout the tasting menu. His creations, such as the Paneer Tikka Chaat and Khakra Mille Feuille, were perfect examples of his ability to blend textures and flavours in imaginative and delightful ways. The Beetroot and Peanut Tikki with Caper Wasabi Chutney was particularly memorable, showcasing his knack for transforming humble ingredients into something truly remarkable. The main courses continued to impress with their inventive twists on both classic and global flavours.



The Bharwan Mirch with Goat Cheese Mousse and Chilli Aam Papad Chutney was a revelation, blending bold flavours with finesse. The Paneer Lasagna with Smoked Aubergine and Goji Berry Makhni offered a creative and comforting take on a beloved classic. The Turkish Sultanas and CousCous Ki Tahiri with Anar Avocado Raita was a brilliant example of how global influences can be seamlessly integrated into modern Indian cuisine. The grand finale of the evening was nothing short of a dessert lover's dream come true. The Indian Accent Kulfi Sorbet was like a refreshing burst of icy goodness, cleansing the palate with a playful,

creamy touch. But hold on tight, things got even sweeter with the Kinnaur Apple Shakarpara Crumble. Imagine the crunch of perfectly baked apple crumble mingling with the smooth, homemade vanilla bean ice cream—every bite was a joyous celebration of texture and flavour. And just when you thought it couldn't get any better, the Coconut and Jaggery Brulee with Ruby Grapefruit Pops Amarula Ki Chuski arrived, turning dessert into an art form. The rich brulee, with its luscious coconut and jaggery notes, paired with zesty grapefruit pops and a hint of Amarula, was an explosion of taste that left us craving more. Complementing this sweet finale was the Daulat Ki Chaat, which emerged as a standout. Its saffron-infused elegance, adorned with almonds and a hint of sugar, was both a visual delight and a burst of refined flavours. This dish exemplified the restaurant's commitment to creative excellence and its ability to elevate even the most familiar flavours into something extraordinary. Each dessert was a playful, indulgent end to a meal that was nothing short of spectacular!

Reflecting on this milestone, it became clear that the 15th anniversary was not just a celebration of Indian Accent's rich history but also a vibrant showcase of its future. The event honoured the restaurant's legacy while highlighting its ongoing dedication to culinary excellence and innovation. Chef Shantanu Mehrotra's passion and creativity were evident in every dish, underscoring the restaurant's status as one of New Delhi's most cherished culinary destinations. Indian Accent's 15th anniversary celebration was a memorable reflection on its past, with a touch of nostalgia, while also offering a glimpse into its future. The evening was all about elegance, creativity and exceptional flavours. Chef Shantanu Mehrotra's innovative approach and remarkable talent shone through in every dish, proving that Indian Accent is more than just a restaurant - it's a symbol of innovation and sophistication in the culinary world. This anniversary wasn't just a milestone, it was a celebration of a remarkable journey filled with flavour, creativity and lasting excellence.



THE BEST COMEDY COMES FROM A SPECIFIC VIEW POINT, AND THERE IS NO DOUBT THAT THE INDIAN CULTURE HAS ITS OWN TAKE ON THE WORLD
— BRIAN QUINN



FROM WHEELS TO WINGS

The story of transport through time is showcased meticulously at the *Heritage Transport Museum* and is a nostalgic journey for the grownups and curious potent for the young, writes **GYANESHWAR DAYAL**

Nestled in the heart of Gurugram, the Heritage Transport Museum offers a vivid glimpse into India's rich transport history. It is not merely a museum but a living narrative of how India's transportation systems have evolved over the years. From early bullock carts to vintage cars, each display in the museum is a portal to a time when travel wasn't just about the destination but the experience itself. India's transport history offers a vivid reflection of the country's broader cultural and social transformations. The evolution of transportation—from traditional bullock carts and hand-pulled rickshaws to modern vehicles and advanced public transit—parallels significant societal, technological, and economic changes. Various modes of transport illustrate the evolution of cultural practices and daily life. For example, traditional transport methods like palanquins and bullock carts reveal historical social structures and regional customs, while the advent of motorized vehicles signifies a shift toward modernization and globalization. The Heritage Transport Museum is a treasure trove of historical gems, each piece providing a unique window into India's transport legacy. The Museum in Gurugram offers a fascinating glimpse into the evolution of transportation in India. As India's first comprehensive transport museum, it showcases a wide array of unique items that reflect the country's rich history in this sector. Among the standout exhibits is an extensive collection of vintage cars, including iconic models like the Ford Model T and the Rolls-Royce Phantom. Each vehicle tells a story, with plaques detailing their origins, ownership histories, and their journeys through India's roads. The museum also houses an impressive collection of two-wheelers, featuring everything from early Royal Enfield bikes to classic Vespa scooters. These vehicles capture the changing dynamics of transportation in India, from rural commutes to urban lifestyles. A particularly unique feature is the railway exhibit, which includes vintage carriages,

We hope to instil a respect for our heritage: Tarun Thakral

Tarun Thakral, the founder & managing trustee of Heritage Transport Museum is also the Executive Director at CJ International Hotels Ltd, New Delhi that owns and manages Le Meridien New Delhi. Tarun started his career in the Hospitality business in 1986. In 1990, he won the French Government scholarship to pursue MBA program in International Hospitality Management from 'Institut de Hotelier Management International', Paris. To pursue his hobby and passion in vintage and classic cars, in 1996 Tarun founded Heritage Transportation Trust (HTT) - a registered not-for-profit trust to promote the preservation of modes of transportation that have been used in India. As its Founder and Managing Trustee, HTT has developed India's first comprehensive Transport Museum, Heritage Transport Museum, which opened to visitors in December 2013. Since its opening Museum won many prestigious awards - The National Tourism Award for being the most innovative and unique tourism project in the country, the 2016 and 2018 Travellers Choice Award by TripAdvisor, International PATWA award for innovation at ITB, Germany, the BITB Tourism Excellence Award, SATTE Tourism award for innovation, and more. He talked to Gyaneshwar Dayal about his

passion and labour of love, The Heritage Transport Museum: **What inspired you to create the Heritage Transport Museum? Was there a specific moment or experience that ignited your passion for preserving India's transport history?** India did not have a comprehensive transport museum until the Heritage Transport Museum opened its doors to visitors. Given the presence of remarkable transport museums worldwide, I often wondered why India didn't have one of its own. As my personal collection of transport memorabilia expanded, managing it became increasingly difficult. We launched the Heritage Transport Museum in December 2013, and it remains India's sole transport museum to this day. **How did you go about collecting such an impressive and diverse array of transport artefacts? Were there any particularly challenging or memorable acquisitions?** In 1994, I purchased my first vintage car from Ramgarh Shekhawati, Rajasthan, which was in a state of disrepair. The process of restoring this vehicle over nearly a year brought me immense joy and ignited a passion for collecting and preserving vehicles from being scrapped. My collection soon grew to include cars, two-wheelers, bicycles, carriages, and carts. In 2002, I came across an advertisement from Indian



Railways about scrapping several 1930s railway saloons. I quickly contacted the Railway Board, expressing my interest in purchasing and preserving one of these saloons. Since the Railways had never before sold such items to private individuals, it took over a year of negotiations. Ultimately, I succeeded in acquiring and restoring the saloon, which now proudly stands at the museum on a recreated vintage railway platform. **What criteria do you use to select the items displayed in the museum?** The Heritage Transport Museum features a diverse array of transportation modes used for both private and public transport throughout history. Our aim is to display the full range of transportation, encompassing cars,

buses, two-wheelers, traditional transport methods, non-motorized vehicles, railways, trams, aviation, and maritime. We choose items based on their historical importance, popularity, and how they complement our existing collection. We also carefully evaluate how each object will engage and benefit our visitors. **What are the biggest challenges you've faced in preserving and restoring some of the older or more delicate items in the museum's collection?** Many items, especially those that are decades or even centuries old, face natural deterioration over time. Components can become fragile or worn, making the restoration process both meticulous and delicate. For vintage vehicles and machinery,

locating original or compatible parts can be extremely challenging, often necessitating custom fabrication or innovative solutions to replace missing or damaged components. Restoring complex items, such as early aviation or railway equipment, requires specialized knowledge and skills, and finding experts with the necessary experience can be difficult. **What are your future plans for the Heritage Transport Museum? Are there any upcoming exhibitions or expansions that visitors can look forward to?** We have several exciting initiatives in store for the Heritage Transport Museum to enrich its offerings and continue captivating our visitors. One of our key plans is to introduce an experience centre that will provide a unique, multisensory experience. We're also expanding our exhibitions to feature rare artefacts that showcase various aspects of transportation history. To keep up with the latest technological advancements, we aim to incorporate more interactive and immersive technologies, such as virtual reality, augmented reality, and advanced simulation tools, to make the exploration of transport history even more engaging. **What drives your passion for curating and expanding the museum's collection? How do you stay motivated in continuing this labour of love?**

A deep passion for history, culture, and education, coupled with a strong commitment to preserving and sharing important stories and artefacts for future generations. The continual excitement and inspiration of discovering new ways to present these treasures and enhance the museum's narrative. The joys of seeing visitors engage with, learn from, and appreciate the museum's offerings. The profound personal fulfilment derived from working in a field I genuinely love and enjoy. And, of course, the pride in contributing to the museum's enduring legacy. **What kind of experience do you hope visitors take away from the museum? Is there a particular message or feeling you want them to leave with?** One of the greatest compliments we've received is being recognized as a world-class museum in India. Many visitors leave with a profound sense of nostalgia, feeling moved, inspired, and reflective. They depart with a deeper understanding of the evolution of transport, and the museum continues to ignite curiosity and further interest in its visitors. We hope to instil a respect for our heritage, encouraging visitors to think about ways to preserve it for future generations. For younger visitors, we aspire to inspire them to develop hobbies that bring them fulfilment and satisfaction.

signaling systems, and detailed replicas of early Indian trains. Visitors can explore the interior of these carriages and get a sense of the grandeur of rail travel during the colonial period. For aviation enthusiasts, the museum features models and artifacts from India's early civil aviation history, including scaled replicas of early Indian aircraft. Another intriguing exhibit is a full-size 1950s Piper J3C Cub aircraft, providing a rare close-up view of mid-20th-century aviation. One of the more immersive experiences is the display of

maritime memorabilia, with detailed models of ships and boats that were integral to India's naval history and trade routes. The museum's art and design installations also deserve mention, with sections devoted to the design evolution of vehicles, showcasing how aesthetics and functionality have shaped modern transport. Besides, the Museum has also a 3D virtual reality ride on a rickshaw over the China wall which is a big hit with the children and elders alike. The development of transportation also mirrors India's economic progress. The transition

from horse-drawn carriages to trains and automobiles highlights the country's industrial growth and enhanced connectivity, which has facilitated trade and mobility. Additionally, transportation innovations have been crucial in driving social change. The introduction of public transportation systems such as buses and metro rails has influenced urbanization, accessibility, and social integration, affecting how people live and work. The Heritage Transport Museum plays a crucial role in enriching our understanding of India's

history by preserving and showcasing these transportation milestones. Through its diverse collection of transport artifacts, the museum offers visitors insights into how transportation has both shaped and been shaped by the broader socio-cultural context. It effectively connects the past with the present, providing a tangible link to India's rich history and its ongoing evolution. The museum houses an impressive collection, thoughtfully curated to spark fascination. The assortment ranges from classic vintage cars to steam engines, traditional

bicycles, and even airplanes. Visitors can explore artifacts that depict the evolution of transport—some centuries old, others representative of the industrial age. There is also a segment dedicated to maritime history, complete with beautifully preserved models of ships, giving the experience an almost encyclopaedic richness. What truly sets the Heritage Transport Museum apart is the meticulous passion with which it has been curated. The layout of the museum is designed not just to showcase relics but to narrate stories. Interactive displays,

lifelike dioramas, and thematic galleries transport visitors into the very eras these machines were part of. Each exhibit is placed within a larger cultural and social context, enabling visitors to appreciate its significance beyond the mechanics. It's not just a collection of vehicles; it's a carefully woven tapestry of India's transport evolution, enhanced by attention to detail. For anyone with an interest in history, innovation, or transport, the Heritage Transport Museum is a must-visit, where every exhibit is a labour of love, offering a journey through time.

THE MONSOON'S WHISPER IN EVERY NOTE

Vidushi Sunanda Sharma's *Boondan Phuhaar* concert celebrated the monsoon with enchanting Indian classical music, says **SAKSHI PRIYA**

There is something undeniably timeless and evocative about Indian classical music, especially when performed by an artist as deeply rooted in tradition as Vidushi Sunanda Sharma. On a beautiful evening at the Stein Auditorium in New Delhi, Sharma brought the monsoon season to life with her performance, 'Boondan Phuhaar.' The concert was not merely a display of musical mastery but a heartfelt celebration of nature, tradition and the human spirit. Sharma, a vocalist of the Banaras Gharana, captivated her audience with her soulful

voice that seemed to capture the very essence of the rainy season. Each note felt like a raindrop, each melody a breeze dancing through the trees. She was accompanied by a gifted ensemble, including Pt. Vinay Mishra on the harmonium, Pt. Mithilesh Kumar Jha on the tabla and U. Ghulam Ali on the sarangi, who together created an atmosphere that was almost spiritual. Their performance reminded everyone present of the unique power of live music to evoke deep emotions and transport listeners to another world. What stood out most was not just the technical excellence on display but the depth of



Photo: Pankaj Kumar

feeling in every note. There was a genuine joy and emotional connection to the monsoon season that resonated throughout the performance, making the audience feel the beauty and poignancy of the rains. In a world that often feels dominated by digital and impersonal entertainment, this concert was a poignant reminder of the impact of live music and its ability to make people feel truly alive. The evening was also a celebration of India's rich cultural heritage. Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha's reflections on Varanasi's spirit and its deep-rooted connection to the classical

arts underscored the importance of preserving these traditions. Sunanda Sharma's commitment to her craft and her work with the Girija Darshan Trust, named after her revered Gurus, Smt. Girija Devi ji and Pt. Sudarshan Sharma, is commendable. Through her efforts to nurture young talent and provide a platform for established artists, she ensures that this exquisite form of music remains vibrant and relevant, not just a relic of the past. More than just a concert, 'Boondan Phuhaar' felt like a journey into the heart of the monsoon - a gentle escape from the rush of daily life.

The performance offered a rare chance to slow down, to be present and to savour the profound beauty of music that is so intricately connected to nature. Sunanda Sharma's devotion to her heritage and artistry was evident in every note, making the evening a memorable and moving experience. In an age where life often moves at a relentless pace, this event was a timely reminder of the importance of taking a moment to appreciate the simple, yet profound joys - a rain-soaked evening, a beautiful melody and a shared experience that brings people closer to the essence of life itself.

I'M A CULINARY GANGSTA WITH A VERY SPIRITUAL SIDE, SO WHEN I WAS INTRODUCED TO THE 'SPIRITUAL GANGSTER' LINE, I HAD TO HAVE IT — GUY FIERI

YOUR WEEK AHEAD

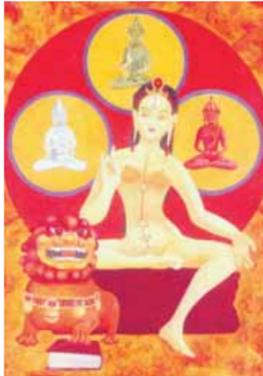
MADHU KOTIYA



ARIES March 21-April 19

This moment marks a significant phase of transformation and opportunity, signaling a time when momentum swings in your favor, particularly in endeavors where you've been actively investing your efforts. You may encounter opportunities for financial advancement or serendipitous gains, underscoring your knack for realizing ambitions and cultivating prosperity. It's essential to approach this period with boldness, as the conditions are ripe for pursuing significant goals. Yet, remember the inherent fluctuations of life's cycles; what ascends will eventually find its balance. Capitalize on this favorable phase by consolidating your strategies, and setting a foundation for enduring achievement. Anticipate and adapt to any rapid changes, relying on your adeptness to manage them. This week, your influence over your circumstances is amplified, making it an excellent time to embrace opportunities that resonate with your objectives.

Lucky number 15 | **Lucky colour** Blue
Lucky day Monday



LEO July 23-Aug 22

This period suggests a phase of introspection and reconsidering your usual approach. It often marks a moment where forward motion might feel paused, yet this is actually an opportunity for deeper reflection and discovering fresh perspectives. For someone known for their dynamic and confident demeanor, this week is a call to adopt a more relaxed and open-minded stance. It's an invitation to release tightly held plans and explore different viewpoints. This shift can feel uncomfortable or counterintuitive but embracing this time of stillness can lead to significant personal growth and a better understanding of your aspirations. Approach this phase with curiosity and openness, rather than frustration. By welcoming new ideas and embracing flexibility, you'll uncover insights that will assist in advancing with renewed clarity and purpose after this reflective pause.

Lucky number 9 | **Lucky colour** Yellow
Lucky day Wednesday



SAGITTARIUS Nov 22-Dec 21

This period highlights a phase where your internal fortitude and compassion are crucial in shaping your experiences. It's essential to harness this inner vigor with elegance and understanding, focusing on the equilibrium between assertiveness and tenderness. The current time encourages you to confront challenges with tranquility and persistence, utilizing your inherent charm and resilience to manage obstacles effectively. This week, your capacity to exhibit care and affection, for both yourself and others, will play a pivotal role in surmounting difficulties and achieving your aspirations. The influences at play suggest that your genuine intentions and empathetic approach will navigate you through any adversities. Embrace this opportunity to showcase your internal robustness and to motivate those around you with your sympathetic and brave spirit.

Lucky number 20 | **Lucky colour** White
Lucky day Wednesday



TAURUS April 20-May 20

This week marks a crucial phase of introspection and overcoming self-imposed barriers. It's a period where you might feel hindered by negative thought loops and detrimental habits. Often, these obstacles manifest as feelings of entrapment or limitation, which can stem from emotional, mental, or practical issues in your life. You might be battling with self-doubt, persistent worry, or feeling stuck in a repetitive cycle that seems insurmountable. Now is the time to scrutinize areas in your life where fear or insecurity may be dictating your choices. Recognizing and confronting these discomforts is vital, as they can skew your decisions and hinder your true potential. This phase encourages you to face these challenges directly, perhaps by seeking support or adopting healthier routines to free yourself from these binds.

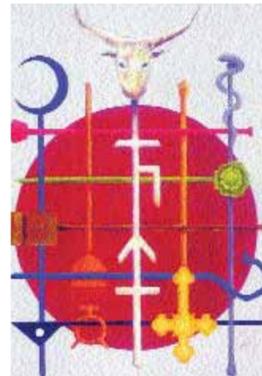
Lucky number 6 | **Lucky colour** Fuchsia
Lucky day Wednesday



VIRGO Aug 23-Sep 22

This week marks a pivotal moment for harnessing your inner strength and determination to drive forward towards your aspirations. It's a time to effectively manage your focus and direct your energies toward your goals. You are called upon to resolve any conflicting interests or divergent paths by adopting a disciplined and strategic approach. This period challenges you to utilize your extensive knowledge and analytical prowess to navigate through potential obstacles. By aligning your actions with your clear intentions, you are set to make substantial progress. Embrace the momentum that surrounds you, as it aids in propelling you towards achieving your ambitions. This is an excellent opportunity to assert your resolve and make decisive advancements in both your personal and professional journeys.

Lucky number 11 | **Lucky colour** Teal
Lucky day Tuesday



CAPRICORN Dec 22-Jan 19

This period may feel like a time of emotional turmoil, marked by an emphasis on what feels lacking rather than what has been accomplished. During this phase, there's a tendency to dwell on past setbacks or areas where expectations weren't met, leading to feelings of emptiness or dissatisfaction. This reflective mood can make it difficult to see the gains you've made or the opportunities still available. It's crucial to confront these feelings, yet it's important to pivot your attention towards the constructive aspects of your situation. Encourage yourself to focus on the support and success that still exist in your life. By seeking a more balanced outlook and appreciating the present assets, you can begin to overcome feelings of shortfall and direct your energies toward actions that foster growth and renewal.

Lucky number 22 | **Lucky colour** Rust
Lucky day Monday



GEMINI May 21-June 20

This period may be marked by challenges and rivalries that bring differing viewpoints into sharp focus. You could find yourself in the midst of debates or disputes in various areas of life, from professional environments to personal relationships. These situations, filled with tension and disagreement, also offer a chance for growth and enhanced understanding. Embrace these challenges constructively and handle conflicts with a mindset geared towards resolution. Although such disagreements can induce stress, they also provide opportunities for gaining valuable insights and developing innovative solutions if handled with patience and tact. Instead of succumbing to frustration, strive to find common ground and work collaboratively to resolve any underlying issues. Your capacity to effectively communicate and navigate through diverse perspectives will be essential.

Lucky number 10 | **Lucky colour** Plum
Lucky day Sunday



LIBRA Sep 23-Oct 22

This week, you are poised to tap into a profound source of personal power, enabling you to realize your ambitions effectively. This period highlights your capacity to utilize your intrinsic resources and connect with your unique energies to shape significant outcomes. You possess the necessary abilities and insight to transform your dreams into tangible results. Your enhanced persuasive skills and strategic mindset will play pivotal roles in guiding scenarios to your advantage, fostering the achievement of your objectives. It is crucial, however, to exercise this influence with integrity, steering clear of any unethical tactics. Emphasize genuine intentions and align your actions accordingly. Harness the dynamism of this time by directing your energies with intention and clarity, allowing you to not only fulfill your goals but also achieve a deep sense of personal satisfaction and growth.

Lucky number 13 | **Lucky colour** Mustard
Lucky day Monday



AQUARIUS Jan 20-Feb 18

This week heralds a period of fresh beginnings and a vibrant pursuit of personal ambitions. You find yourself at the early stages of accomplishment, with promising opportunities for advancement in your financial and professional life. There's a wave of enthusiasm and a readiness to absorb new knowledge, making it a prime time to set forth new intentions and establish a foundation for future achievements. A prevailing sense of discipline enhances your ability to take decisive, practical steps toward your goals, securing a robust framework for lasting success. You may discover blessings in the guise of new resources or chances that bolster your ambitions, encouraging you to delve into your capabilities and undertake new responsibilities confidently. Furthermore, maintaining your ethical standards is crucial, ensuring your actions consistently reflect your deepest values.

Lucky number 7 | **Lucky colour** Orange
Lucky day Saturday



CANCER June 21-July 22

Your hard work and efforts are about to be recognized and celebrated, drawing you into gatherings with friends, family, or colleagues. It's an ideal time for social events and joyful reunions, whether you're celebrating a personal milestone, a professional accomplishment, or simply the pleasure of shared experiences. This period encourages you to indulge in these moments of triumph, to embrace the positive atmosphere, and to fully enjoy the sense of accomplishment and togetherness. It's also a time to express gratitude and acknowledge the support of your loved ones. By embracing your achievements and strengthening your bonds, you will improve your relationships and increase your overall sense of joy and satisfaction.

Lucky number 2 | **Lucky colour** Green
Lucky day Thursday



SCORPIO Oct 23-Nov 21

This period marks a significant emphasis on heritage and established beliefs, steering you towards a deeper exploration of time-honored traditions and spiritual frameworks. You might find yourself more inclined to connect with authoritative figures or institutions that can offer guidance and support. This phase is ripe for introspection, urging you to contemplate how your personal principles align with long-standing practices. Engaging with mentors or participating in community rituals could provide the clarity and direction you seek. Your keen desire to delve deep into these subjects will be beneficial, as it allows you to absorb and respect the wisdom shared by seasoned paths. By dedicating yourself to this journey of understanding and respect, you set the stage for substantial personal growth and equilibrium.

Lucky number 1 | **Lucky colour** Brown
Lucky day Friday



PISCES Feb 19-March 20

This period may feel like you're sailing through misty waters, where emotions swirl unpredictably, and clarity seems just out of reach. You might find yourself wrestling with doubts and fears that are difficult to pinpoint as if navigating a landscape obscured by fog. These feelings can lead to a sense of restlessness, urging you to question what's real and what's merely a reflection of your inner uncertainties. During this time, it's crucial to engage deeply with your inner self, peeling back the layers of your emotions to confront what lies beneath. Trusting your inner voice becomes essential, as it will help you discern truth from illusion. By embracing introspection and patience, you can turn this challenging phase into a profound journey of personal discovery, leading to a newfound sense of balance and insight.

Lucky number 10 | **Lucky colour** White
Lucky day Friday

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

Do you pray?

Divine dawns within you when you pray. A deep prayer can work miracles. Be sincere when you pray, pray for the happiness of all!

GURUSPEAK



Sri Sri Ravi Shankar
Spiritual Guru

Prayer is a vital tool to improve your life. Wherever you can put your effort, put it. Where you cannot, pray for it! Whatever you do, know that a Higher Power has the final say and you can tap that power through your prayers.

You don't need any special qualifications or abilities to pray. Whether a fool or a wise person, whether rich or poor, anybody can pray. Prayer doesn't mean just sitting and chanting some words. It's about being in that serene, calm, and meditative state. That is why, in the Vedic tradition, dhyana (meditation) is done before prayer as well as afterward. When the mind is focused, the prayer becomes far more powerful.

Prayer is the cry of a soul. To whom you pray is not important. Whereas religion puts words to the prayer, and adds symbols and rituals to it, the prayer itself transcends them. It happens on the subtle level of feelings; and feelings transcend words and religion. The act of praying itself has



the power to bring transformation. When you pray there should be total involvement. If the mind is preoccupied elsewhere then that is no prayer at all. When there is pain, there is more involvement. That's why people

turn to prayer when they are in pain. Prayer happens when you feel grateful or when you feel utterly helpless. In either case, your prayers will be answered. When you feel helpless, prayer happens by itself. That's why in

Hindi we say 'Nirbal toh Balam'. If you are weak, God is your strength. Prayer is that moment when you come in touch with your limitations and your boundaries.

In today's fast-paced world, people often pray out of fear and greed. Usually, when you love something, you want to possess it and you pray for it. True prayer, however, is just the opposite of wanting to possess. It's about honouring and offering everything to the Divine. Honouring brings devotion and leads to surrender. Devotion brings a healing touch to life.

Devotion and faith are at the core of a sincere prayer. A true prayer can't happen without devotion and faith. Having faith is to realize that God's protection is there for you. Devotion is inner flowering. Devotion starts from where you are. Unless you are lit in devotion to the Divine, your life will remain restless. In devotion, longing will arise in you. And when there is longing, true prayer happens by itself.

Be sincere in your prayers. Do not try to outsmart the Divine. The mind has the tendency to forget the Divine. What type of time do you give the Divine? Usually, you give the leftover time; when you have nothing else to do, no guests to attend to, no parties to attend to, you go to the Divine.

This is not quality time. Give prime time to the Divine. You will be rewarded. If your prayers are not answered, it is because you have never given quality time.

Four types of people go to God. One, is those who seek the truth (knowledge and freedom). Two, the wise ones (gyanis). Three, the ones who seek material comforts (wealth). Four, the ones who are in misery. The wise one does not pray for something. His life itself is a prayer.

If at all you have to pray for something, pray for the happiness of all the people in the world. 'Loka Samastha Sukhinou Bhavantu' (May Everybody Be Happy).