**WORLD 6** 

UKRAINE CALLS ON WEST TO APPROVE LONG

SPORT 7 HARMANPREET DOUBLE DRIVES INDIA RANGE STRIKES ON RUSSIAN TERRITORY 2-1 WIN OVER PAKISTAN IN ACT HOCKEY

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



# CONGRESS IS URBAN NAXAL:

**RAJESH KUMAR** ■ KURUKSHETRA/ **NEW DELHI** 

n 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

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 Scheme, Pension guaranteeing a secure future for 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

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 exservicemen brothers will begin receiving its benefits. For Congress, appeasement is their only agenda. În Karnataka, under Congress rule, even Lord Ganpati is being disrespected." Modi also addressed the issue of

reservations, stating, "Remember, family's 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

agenda 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 touched. SC/ST/OBC reservations are here to stay forever."

Government, the Prime Minister highlighted the support given to stating,

Shifting focus to the efforts of the

Government has taken many steps to reduce the burden on farmers. Take urea, for example. While a 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-

once lacked

connections, today, Haryana is on

track to achieve 100 per cent tap

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 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 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 visit: SPG team takes stock of Janata Maidan

he Commssionerate police have declared the Janata Maidan in Bhubaneswar as a 'no flying zone' and a 'no drone zone' in view of Prime Minister Narendra Modi's scheduled visit to the State on

The restrictions are part of the Prime Minister's security arrangement during his visit

For visitors' easy

The Srimandir Manage-

ment Committee has decided

for gold-plating of the front

gate of the Ratna Bhandar of

the temple. A decision to this

effect was taken in the last

meeting of the committee, a

source privy to the conversa-

tions in the apex governing

Visitors to the Srimandir fail

to identify the Ratna Bhandar

as its front gate looks like any

he Odisha Government

has now renamed 'Mo School

recognition

NALINI SAHU

BHUBANESWAR

body said.

other gate.

Ratna Bhandar front



when he is scheduled to launch ambitious Subhadra Yojana and several other projects.

Modi is to visit her on his

birthday to launch the event, the SPG would be re-Subhadra Yojana, the State sponsible for providing proxi-Government's flagship scheme for the welfare of

of Special Protection Group been entrusted with maintain-(SPG) officers is already in Bhubaneswar to take charge of While a thick security cover would be thrown over and around the venue of the PM's

mate security from the PM's arrival at the airport till his women, as per the BJP's poll departure. promise. Meanwhile, a team The DGP and IGP have

> ing law and order and overseeing security arrangements. tor has been directed to make necessary arrangements for

### In Bhubaneswar

### 500gm gold ornaments looted from scientist's flat

it is gold-plated, its importance will be enhanced," said Madhab Mohapatra, a mem-

As per the Srimandir Hundi

Odisha is the caretaker of the gold and silver ornaments collected from the donation box. So, it has been decided that a letter will be written to Chief Minister Mohan Majhi, seeking his permission.

25 to 30 kilograms collected from the donation box has been deposited in a locker of the State Bank of India, he

sures have been undertaken in

the revised scheme which

would benefit students and

ensure active participation of

renamed as Panchasakha

Sikhya Setu Abhiyan with a

ber of the Srimandir Management Committee. "The gold weighing around

The gold collected from the donation box (Hundi) will be used for gold-plating of the hool' renamed 'Panchasakha Sikhya Setu

Act, the Chief Minister of "The front gate of the Ratna

Bhandar needs a new look. If

### gate to be gold-plated

### BHUBANESWAR had our return tickets on Oc-

At least 500 grams of gold ornaments were reportedly looted from a scientist's flat in an apartment in the Chandaka area in Bhubaneswar. The scientist was visiting his son in Europe when the miscreants broke into his house and committed the crime.

The robbers didn't touch the laptop, mobile phone and iPad of the scientist. Moreover, they left his ATM cards untouched and only looted the gold. "We were supposed to stay a

month more with our son. We

tober 12. But we were informed about the loot on September 12 and had to fly back home. Our neighbour informed us about the loot," said the senior scientist Narayan Parida. "Usually, our maid comes here for the cleaning. She spotted the broken lock and alerted our neighbour, who informed us," he added.

"The gold ornaments were given by my wife's parents during our marriage. Over the period, we had also bought a few grams and gold coins," he

### No govt official can leave hgrs on holidays till Sept 16

PNS BHUBANESWAR

The government officials cannot leave the headquarters for the period of three days till September 16, 2024. The directive has been issued by the Odisha Government in view of administrative emergencies.

Through a notification, the General Administration and Public Grievances Department has stated that no government official shall be allowed to leave the headquarters during the government holidays from September 14 to 16. If required, the officials shall report to the office on short notice, the notification read.

While September 14 was a government holiday on account of second Saturday, there is a weekly holiday on Sunday. Monday (September 16) is also a government holiday on the occasion of Eid-e-Milad. Speculations are that such directives have been issued in view of Prime Minister Narendra Modi's scheduled visit to Odisha on September 17.

# 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 Kishtwar on Friday. In another overnight operation launched in the kreeri 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 terrorists eliminated in the last three anti terrorist operations have gone up to seven.

Chinar Corps 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 Chinarcorps 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 area, in Baramulla district, Jammu and Kashmir, Saturday

army personnel was injured in an encounter with terrorists attempting to infiltrate across the Line of Control (LoC) in Rajouri district.

bag of urea costs Rs 3,000

internationally, we provide it to

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

our farmers for less than Rs 300."

According to a spokesman of the Nagrota-based White Knight Čorps of the Indian "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

In the ensuing firefight, four army personnel were injured. Later two soldiers who have identified as Naib been Subedar Vipan Kumar and Ârvind 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 remains of the soldiers were dispatched to their native places after a solemn wreath laying ceremony.

(General 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. City schools,

### In Sambalpur BJP leader accused of assaulting contractor for bribe

Says allegation false

NIMAI CHARAN SAHU

SAMBALPUR

**I**n a major embarrassment to the Sambalpur BJP, a construction work contractor alleged coerced bribery and physical assault by party district president Girish Patel and his aide Saroj Ghadai.

The victim filed a police complaint at the Town police station alleging 8% forced commission on three contract

Prasanta Kumar Dani (60), Girish Patel called him to his house on Tuesday The FIR read, "After the

As per the complainant

conversation, Girish Patel abused the complainant (Prasanta) in obscene languages, dragged him by holding his shirt collar, assaulted him by means of fist and kick blows and threatened to kill him in life. Tuku Mohanty who lives with Girish Patel helped the complainant and took him out of the room and



as per 8% the total PC was Rs

home. Then after, one Saroj Ghadai along with another person came to his home and demanded cheque. The complainant gave them a cheque are all fake allegations. I have of Rs 75,000 but they told that never physically assaulted

wise they won't accept the cheque and thrown the cheque.

anyone. The medical reports

When contacted, Girish Patel said, "The complainant and Saroj Ghadai both are familiar to me. They asked for my suggestion to resolve the commission issue. As the incipeople conspiring against me." dent took place at my home, my name is coming up. Police are investigating; they will find out the truth. Also, these

#### been assaulted or not. In the last three months, before and after elections, there have been multiple false allegations against me. I will clarify everything to the Press in the coming days, and there will be a defamation suit against the

SDPO (Sadar) Tophan Bag said, "The matter is under probe. We are interrogating people involved in the case. The medical report is yet to come. However, we did not find any external injury."

### colleges closed on Sep 17 PNS BHUBANESWAR

Prime Minister Narendra

Modi would launch the Subhadra Yojana in Bhubaneswar on September 17. Due to this, there would be huge rush in the capital city on that day. Keeping this in mind, all the

schools and colleges would remain closed on the day. Besides, the State Government has also decided that all the government offices would remain closed in the first half of

#### Abhiyan' as 'Panchasakha alumni and other stakeholders. This will be done to bring Sikhya Setu'. A formal notification in this a transformation in the eduregard has been issued by the cation sector. School and Mass Education Chief Minister Mohan Department. The department Majhi, who holds the portfolio of Finance, had made this

has shot off a letter to the SPD, OSEPA-cum-Member Secretary to take necessary steps in this regard. The Panchasakha Sikhya Setu modalities are likely to be released soon. Sources said some new mea-

proposed outlay of Rs 332 crore.

announcement in his maiden Budget speech. While presenting the Budget, Mo School was In Jagatsinghpur dist

# **BDO** roughed up by BJD members

FIR lodged JAGATSINGHPUR

Jagatsinghpur district's Kujang Block Development Officer (BDO) was allegedly assaulted by the Block Chairman and his supporters during a public meeting.

The matter came to the fore after BDO Deepak Prasad Swain lodged a written complaint in this connection.

At the public meeting at the



block office, an altercation broke out between the BDO and the Block Chairman after the latter accused him of not passing the bills. Things took

a violent turn after the Block Chairman along with BJD workers manhandled the BDO and abused him in filthy lan-

The situation further escalated after BJP workers present at the block office came to the BDO's aid, leading to a clash between the BJD and BJP supporters. Both the parties have filed two separate cases against

"I do not know why they manhandled me. I have lodged a complaint with police. A probe is on. I request police to take necessary action as per law," said the BDO.

### 'Odisha's pride, Idgah Ground's importance almost forgotten'

While the call for a debate on Revenshaw name change with regard to the Revenshaw University has created a flutter across the State, it is unfortunate that the Idgah Ground where Utkal Sammilani held its historic meetings during 1903-04 that led to the creation of a separate province for Odishsa has been forgotten, said Thinkers Club president Barada Prassana Das.

"None has discussed or

thought over it. It is to be said here that, Kulabruddha Madhusudan started his fight for a separate State from this historic place and it took nearly 36 years to see Odisha as an independent State based on language. The Government has issued a ROR to the Utkal Sammilani but nothing spectacular took place at the site," lamented Das.

It was expected to construct at least a memorial structure at the spot. The Governments of the past have forgotten the site and paid no heed to it. Several patriotic organisations have issued request letters and memorandums to bring the place to the limelight. Still today, no work is carried at the site, he said further.

On August 15, Das has presented a memorandum to the Deputy CM stating the importance and the efforts needed to give due importance to the site. Das urged the intellectuals of the State to think deeply over the issue and suggest appropriately to

the State Government. The Cuttack Development

Authority constructed a pedestal with a plate in the year 2003 and completed its responsibility. Das requested the Ministers, intellectuals and other conscious citizens to visit the historic place of importance and rekindle the spirit of patriotism in their

"As an Odia, all of us should feel proud for this heritage site and make effort to bring due glory to it," he added.

#### Subhadra assistance

Amidst chaos and long queues, Deputy Chief Minister Pravati Parida on Saturday clarified that the women applicants who applied for the Subhadra Yojana on or before September 15 would get their first installment after the launch of the scheme by Prime Minister Narendra Modi on September 17.

Over 50 lakh women in Odisha have already applied for the scheme till now, the Deputy CM stated. All these women will get their first in-



stallment of Rs 5,000 on September 17, the birthday of PM Modi.

"The money will be directly debited to the account of the applicants," she added.

This apart, the Prime Minister during his visit to Odisha is also scheduled to lay foundation for several projects worth Rs 3,800 crore.

### In city = 4 injured in jail returnee's sword attack

Accused Chintu Mohanty held ■ BHUBANESWAR

■n yet another glaring example of the increase in hooliganism in the city, a habitual offender spread terror at a Ganesh Puja Mandap under the Badagada police station in Bhubaneswar by attacking people with a sword.

As many four people were injured when he chased and attacked anyone who came on his way. As per sources, he was drunk.

The notorious criminal, Chintu Mohanty, had recently been released from jail.

A video of Chintu's hooliganism captured on camera has gone viral on social media. Based on complaints by the injured persons, the



Badagada police registered a case and arrested Chintu, who had been absconding after the

As per reports, he has several cases against him in the Badagada and other police station areas in the capital city. Senior police officials said stringent action would be taken against him.

### Mystery shrouds student's death in city

Mystery shrouded the

death of a student at a private engineering college in Bhubaneswar. The deceased was identified as Abhisekh Rabi, who hailed from Ranchi

after falling down stairs.

The parents of Abhisekh

# First installment on Sept 17 Open innovation workshop held at IIT BBS

he Research and Entrepreneurship Park (REP) of the Indian Institute of Technology (IIT) Bhubaneswar organised a two-day open innovation workshop on September 13 and 14.

The objective of the workshop was to prepare corporate leaders to collaborate effectively and gain insights into emerging trends, technological breakthroughs, and disruptive strategies that could reshape the innovation land-

Organised in association with India Accelerator, the workshop aimed to equip corporates and entrepreneurs with open innovation methodologies, enabling them to harness the collective intelli-

 $T_{
m he\ country\ is\ going}$ 

through both a challenging

and exciting phase. Prime

Minister Narendra Modi has

set the vision of transforming

the country into 'Viksit Bharat'

by 2047. It is estimated that

Bharat will become the 3rd

largest economy of the world

by 2030," said Odisha Gover-

nor Raghubar Das while ad-

dressing the 20th Annual Con-

vocation of KIIT Deemed to

be University here on Satur-

celled not only academically

but also in sports, he noted,

highlighting that many stu-

dents from the institute have

participated in the Olympics.

"Dr. Achyuta Samanta has

done unparalleled work in es-

tablishing such an institute of

professional and higher edu-

cation. He has effectively used

education as a tool for empow-

erment, helping underprivi-

leged people integrate into the

**20th Annual Convocation of KIIT** 

gence of external stakeholders and startups to develop forward-thinking solutions and address industry challenges.

The event brought together corporate leaders, innovation managers, and R and D teams from leading companies such as NTPC, Tata Steel, Grid Controller of India, and Bajaj Electricals.

Addressing the participants,

Youths leading nation's transformation: Governor

IIT Bhubaneswar Director Prof Shreepad Karmalkar highlighted that the concept of capacity building in the modern context should include skill development, research capability and entrepreneurship.

Highlighting the initiatives taken by the institute towards achieving objective of developing entrepreneurship mindset, he said, "The IIT Bhubaneswar, through its Re-

search and Entrepreneurship Park has the mission to empower visionary entrepreneurs, industry leaders and researchers by providing resources and mentorship. To achieve this objective, we are sowing ideas of entrepreneurship among school and college students and teachers."

Among others, CEO, REP IITBhubaneswar Soobhankar Pati spoke.

### In Cuttack Woman killed by 2 sons over family feud



One accused held PNS CUTTACK

A woman was brutally killed allegedly by her two sons in the Mahanadi Vihar area in Cuttack city on Saturday over some family feud.

Sources said that the accused sons allegedly killed their mother by slitting her throat. The exact motive behind the woman being killed was yet to be ascertained.

On getting information, senior police officials reached the spot and started an investigation into the incident. Sources said that there was some dispute in the family which could have led to the brutal murder. The woman was staying with her two sons. Police have detained one of the accused while another is still absconding. Earlier, the deceased's daughter had committed suicide.

### In Mayurbhanj Large python beaten to death by villagers



4 arrested after video viral

A 15-foot-long python was beaten to death by villagers at Souri village under the Kuliana Forest Range of Mayurbhanj district on Friday.

The snake was crossing a road in the village when villagers spotted it and bludgeoned it to death with sticks and stones.

A video of the incident has gone viral, sparking outrage among nature lovers and animal conservationists. The video shows the youths climbing over the snake after killing it and dragging it on the road around the village.

The v video has landed the villagers in trouble as it is illegal to kill snakes and is a punishable offence as they are protected under the Wildlife Protection Act, 1972.

Illegal hunting, killing or possession of protected snakes is punishable offences and can lead to several years in prison. Unaware of the law, the villagers, mostly tribals, beat the snake to death. The Forest Department has taken the matter seriously and is on the hunt to nab the people involved in the killing of the python. Latest reports said four people were arrested by the forest officials.

■ BHUBANESWAR

in Iharkhand.

Abhikesh, a first-year computer science student, had taken admission in the engi-

neering college on September 10. Sources said Abhisekh had lodged a complaint regarding ragging at the local police station. Mystery has shrouded the incident as it is said that Abhisekh was critically injured

have been informed about the incident, said the college au-



Address, delivered virtually, Oleksandra Matviichuk, Nobel Peace Laureate (2022), Ukraine said the KIIT has become one of the most prominent institutions in India and globally in a short time. "Achyuta Samanta's example in building institutions and his efforts in reducing inequalities remind me of one simple truth - ordinary people have

can even imagine. Ordinary people can do extraordinary things", she stated.

On the occasion, the KIIT-DU conferred Honoris Causa D.Sc. and D.Litt. degrees upon four eminent persons from different walks of life. They are Dr D Nageshwar Reddy, Chairman, Asian Institute of Gastroenterology & AIG Hospitals; Dr Chandra Bhanu

Satpathy, eminent writer, spiritual thinker; Kishor Patil, Co Founder, MD & CEO, KPIT Technologies Ltd; and Ashirbad Behera, secretary, Odisha Athletics Association and Football Association of Odisha

As many as 7,283 students received degrees at the convocation. They included 5,455 Bachelors, 1,597 Masters and 186 PhD degrees.

### mainstream of society," Das Odisha's unemployment rate higher than nat'l avg

ack of utilisation of both natural and human resources is considered as an important reason behind poverty. It is the duty and responsibility of the State to accelerate its initiatives to utilise both of these resources in order to

reach the pinnacle of development. In case of Odisha, the rate of utilisation of both natural and human resources is miniscule. According to a recent report tabled in the Assembly, the unemployment rate of Odisha was 3.9 per cent, which was higher than the national average of 3.2 per cent as per the Periodic Labour Force Survey 2022-23 conducted by the National Sample Survey Office. With regard to unemployment rate, Odisha was in the 21st position among all States and Union Territories of the country. It's a matter of great concern

that, while the people from rural



SITAKANTA TRIPATHY

areas are migrating to the urban areas in search of job opportunities, the unemployment rate in the rural areas has paradoxically decreased, whereas the problem has become very grave in urban areas. The same is reflected in case of Odisha where the unemployment rate in the urban areas is 6.2 %, whereas it is 3.6% in rural areas. A total number of 3,86,699 females and 7,17,530 males, registered their names in different employment exchanges in the State till May 31, 2024. However, this report is silent about seasonal unemployment, unemployment among the home makers, and unemployment rate in different age groups.

Ideally, the working age group is confined to 16-64 years. However, a person might spend more than 22 years for the completion of the academic studies. On the other hand, in post retirement period, the person may also come to the unemployment age slab.

Generally, the workers are divided into three broad categories; skilled, semi-skilled and unskilled. They also have many alternative ways to avail the jobs like Employment Exchange, advertisements, placement agencies or job contractors and personal contacts etc. It has been found that, only a small percentage of workers get jobs through Employment Exchange. In Odisha, only 8,401 people have got employment through the State's Skill Development and Employment Exchange over the last 10 years. The last fifteen years (2008-09 and 2023-24) has witnessed 412 job fairs by which 2, 05,980 people were given appointment letters

People who are self employed like mechanics, construction workers, plumbers, electricians and carpenters on the one side and the researchers, private tutors, architects and photographers on the other--all rely mostly on their personal contacts. According to them, their works and skills are their ad-

vertisements. In this age of mobile phones and social media, it has been much easier for them to come across a wider scope of job opportunities. But, the job recruitments for the factory workers take a different pattern. Earlier, many workers got their jobs through contractors or brokers. Now-a-days, the importance of the contractors has come down with the increasing role of trade unions, but it has continued its importance in the field of casual migrant workers. The placement agencies become more vibrant to provide jobs in various places including abroad. There are chances of torture and harassment while the workers are employed in far off and unknown places.

While projecting the unemployment status of the State, authorities should be very careful in defining the term 'unemployment'. First of all, unemployment needs to be categorised on the basis of age, skill, working day and education. In the labour markets of the urban areas, a considerable number of daily wagers return back to their homes without getting any work. On the other hand, areas like agriculture and handloom works, where age and education are secondary affairs, do not provide full time jobs.

The gravity of unemployment issues among the reserved categories and minorities need to be understood not only from numerical point of view but also from the grassroots socio-economic and political perspectives.

It is important to find out how many home makers are confined to domestic work with no opportunity to work beyond the confines of their homes for various the multiplicity of unemployment among women. While migrating to other areas in search of job, the casual labourers need to register their names in the District Labour Office or inform the Panchayat officials by which it will be easier for the officials to trace them in case of any crisis. The awareness campaign may be accelerated in this regard. The loans and subsidies provided for many Income Generation Programmes need to be scrutinised at regular intervals through social audit system of Panchayati Raj Institutions to achieve the specified targets. Finally, different action plans need to be undertaken for the arrangement of both seasonal/short term and long term employment.

reasons. Otherwise, it may show

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women applicants. The mat-

ter came to the fore after a complaint was filed in this

connection by the Titilagarh

BDO. Based on the complaint,

police registered a case and

made the arrest and produced

the accused in court, said

"We first conducted a probe

and found the complaint to

be true. Further investigation

is on and others involved in

such fraud will be taken to

task," she added.

SDPO Ankita Kumbhar.

Subhadra Yojana in Balangir

The Titilagarh police in

Balangir district on Saturday

arrested a Common Services

Centre (CSC) employee on the

charge of demanding money

from Subhadra Yojana benefi-

ciaries for the registration and

application process. The ac-

cused was identified as Akash

Sahu of Manigaon village un-

der the Titilagarh police sta-

tion. Akash was allegedly de-

manding Rs 100 each from

CSC staff held for

demanding bribe

# ınday pioneer

# 4th Vande Bharat for Odisha launching on Sept 15

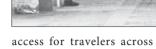
Brahmapur with Tatanagar

PNS ■ BRAHMAPUR

Odisha is poised to welcome its 4th Vande Bharat Express, marking a significant milestone in the State's railway connectivity.

Renowned for its speed, state-of-the-art amenities, and passenger comfort, the Vande Bharat Express has captured the attention of travellers nationwide, and Odisha will now benefit from the premium ser-

According to a Railways source, the Brahmapur-Tatanagar Vande Bharat Express, operated under the East Coast Railway, is set to revolutionize train travel in the region by significantly reducing travel time and enhancing passenger convenience. The route has been meticulously designed to pass through key cities and towns, ensuring widespread



The inaugural run of the Brahmapur-Tatanagar Vande Bharat Express (via Jakhapura, Kendujhargarh) will take place on September 15. Prime Minister Narendra Modi will flag off the train through video conferencing, making this a historic occasion for the State's railway network.

The special inaugural service, Train No. 02815 (Brahmapur-Tatanagar), will feature eight coaches, including two TSDTC

coaches, four TSMC coaches, one TSTC coach, and one TSNDTC coach. The train will be maintained at Tatanagar, with the RBPC system and electric traction ensuring smooth and swift operations. The crew will manage the train across three bases: Brahmapur to Khurda Road (BAM-KUR-KUR), Khurda Road to Kenduihargarh (KUR-KDJR-KUR), and Kendujhargarh to

The inaugural run of Train

Tatanagar (KDJR-TATA-

No. 02815 will depart from Brahmapur at 11 am before reaching its final destination, Tatanagar (TATA), at 11:45 pm.

The regular operation of Train No. 20891/20892 (Tatanagar-Brahmapur-Tatanagar) Vande Bharat Express will be announced soon. Currently, Odisha has three

these connect Puri with Howrah and Rourkela, while the third operates between Bhubaneswar and Visakhapatnam via Brahmapur.

Vande Bharat trains. Two of

### Vande Bharat inauguration by PM ECOR GM inspects B'pur stn facilities



**I**n anticipation of the inauguration of the 4th Vande Bharat Express, the General Manager (GM) of East Coast Railway (ECoR) Parmeshwar Funkwal conducted a thorough inspection of key facilities at Brahmapur railway station on Friday.

The visit was part of final preparations for the muchawaited event, which is scheduled to take place on September 15.

Funkwal was accompanied by Ganjam Collector Dibya

Jyoti Parida, who closely reviewed the station's arrangements to ensure smooth execution of the ceremony. The launch of the Vande Bharat Express is expected to bolster the State's infrastructure, marking a new chapter in modern railway services for the people of South Odisha.

Odisha Chief Minister Mohan Charan Majhi is expected to be present at Brahmapur station during the event, adding to the importance of the occasion, ECoR GM Parmeshwar Funkwal

# office-bearers poll held



The oath taking ceremony the newly elected office bearers of 40 years old Brahmapur Press Club was held here on Sunday evening here.

took oath include president Ashoak Brahma, secretary Prahallad Sahu, vice-president Abhaya Padhi, joint secretary Gopal Reddy and Sibanarayan Panda as treasurer.

Dignitaries present at the time oath taking ceremony included Steel, Mines, Commerce and Transport Minister Bibhuti Bhusan Jena as chief guest, Brahmapur MLA Anil Kumar, Chhatrapur MLA Krushna Chandra Nayak, Chikiti MLA Manoranjan Dyanasamantara, Surada MLA Neelamani Bisoyi, BeMC Mayor Sanghamitra Dalai, Deputy Mayaor E Vivek Reddy, Urban Bank president R Murali Mohan, BJD leader and social worker Bhimsen

# B'pur Press Club



Those office bearers who

Outgoing president

Biswanath Pattnaik administered oath to the newly elected Dalai and DIPRO RN Behera as guests of honor.

### BU JMC Dept signs MoU for Editing Lab



Petition seeks rehab for

snakebite victims' kin

BRAHMAPUR

In a significant step towards enhancing academic infra-Berhampur University(BU) has signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with Dygicom Visual Technology Pvt Limited (DVTPL) to set up a state-of-theart Editing Lab at the Postgraduate Department of Journalism and Mass Communication.

The MoU was signed on Thursday, marking the beginning of a major initiative aimed at providing cuttingedge technological resources to students. The project is ex-

A day after three sisters died

Chariapalli village in Boudh

district, a petition was filed in

the General Administration

and Public Grievance Depart-

A Puri-based rights activist

Jayanta Kumar Das has filed a

petition having Ticket No

DEPT2024739345 with the

GA & PG Fepartment seek-

ing compensation of Rs 4 lakh

to the next of kin of a snake-

Sources said three daughters

of Sailendra Kumar Mallick

were bitten by snake while they

were asleep and succumbed

despite being rushed to the

Boudh District Headquarters

Hospital (DHH) after initial

The trio along with their fa-

ther was sleeping in a room

when a venomous snake bit

local treatment failed.

ment of Odisha.

bite victim.

pected to commence soon, further equipping the BU's journalism department with modern tools for media education and training

This development has been made possible under the visionary leadership of BU Vice-Chancellor Professor Geetanjali Dash, whose guidance has played a pivotal role in the realization of the initiative. The university seeks the support and blessings of all stakeholders to make the project a grand success, Department of Journalism and Mass Communication Head Professor Bandita Panda said.

all of them. Instead of taking

#### **Homeless woman's rape**

## NHRC seeks ATR from D'nal DM, SP

The National Human

Rights Commission (NHRC) on Wednesday directed the DM and SP of Dhenkanal to submit an action taken report (ATR) on the alleged gangrape of a homeless woman for over seven months. Besides, the apex rights panel also transmitted the copy of the petition on Wednesday to the Chief Secretary and the Director General of Police of Odisha for information and action.

Acting on a petition filed by Radhakanta Tripathy, the NHRC passed the order on September 11 and sought for detailed reports from the authorities in NHRC Case number 1235/18/4/2024-WC.

Tripathy brought to the notice of the NHRC that in a heinous incident, a poor and homeless girl was repeatedly gang-raped by seven men in Dhenkanal Sadar Police Station limits. The matter came to light recently only after the victim was found to be sevenmonths pregnant.

As per reports, the victim and her mentally disabled father were staying in an abandoned Anganwadi Kendra without door due to their homelessness. Taking the advantage of their poverty, the accused persons raped her repeatedly for months, resulting in her becoming seven months pregnant.

Tripathy also pointed out the social sickness. Due to lack of social responsibility such a heart-wrenching incident continued for months together, he

The petitioner questioned the efficacy of governance especially at grassroots in Odisha. He sought for legal action against the errant officials in the entire hierarchy, psychosocial counselling to the victim with proper rehabilitation and compensation. He also sought for a direction to the State Government for a comprehensive survey of the real destitute, homeless and mentally ill persons in the entire State to avoid similar situation.

### 'Rename Ravenshaw as KC Bhanjdeo varsity'

#### Demand Mayurbhani intellectuals KAVI VISHNU SATPATHY

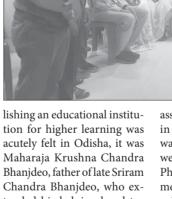
Today, when the question of them to a hospital, their family members first took them renaming of Revenshaw Unito a local quack for treatment. versity has created a flutter, of snakebite as family takes However, they were later some intellectuals have opined that the university be named them to quack under rushed to the DHH after their after late Maharaja Krushna health conditions deteriorated. The youngest Surabhi suc-Chandra Bhanjdeo of cumbed first while undergo-Mayurbhanj. In a meeting held here reing treatment and Subharekha

> cently, they have given an and Sudhirekha died one after unanimous view on the name another. Das said that the Tehsildar change issue concerning the and Revenue Inspector of the oldest higher education institution of the State. locality have not taken the nec-The meeting-cum-seminar, essary steps to initiate the pro-

> cess for providing compensathat was organised by Mayurbhanj Senior Citizens' tion to the bereaved families. He also requested the GA Forum took up the topic Department to intervene in "Mayurbhanj Maharaja's contribution towards establishthe matter and direct the Tehsildar to extend all necesment of Revenshaw College." sary support to the families of

> Educationist Pradipta Kishor Panda presided over the the deceased children for the timely disbursal of compensameeting where general secretary Dr Shyam Sundar Das tion and ensure that the compensation amount is transamong others was present.

> > The speakers said that more than one and a half centuries ago, when the need of estab-



tended his helping hand towards the setting up of Revenshaw College at the request of Revenshaw Sahib. Maharaja's magnanimous

and generous contribution of Rs 27,000 at that point of time played a decisive role in translating the dream of Revenshaw College into a reality. This apart, it was only the Maharaja's contribution and

assistance that went a long way in providing electrification, water supply and setting up of well-equipped laboratories of Physics and Chemistry departments, they said.

Notwithstanding all these significant contributions of the Mayurbhanj Maharaja, there was never a talk in Mayurbhanj on renaming of the great institution after this great man of the soil. But now that the idea of renaming of Revenshaw University has already been mooted, Mayurbhanj wishes it to be renamed after one of its wor-

In Ganjam village

thy sons, the participants in the deliberations opined.

Those who took part in the discussions include Dr Mohit Sarangi, forum president Yogendra Panda, Mayurbhanj Sahitya Parishad secretary Manoj Dalbehera, retired principal Harihar Das, Balangi Mahotsav chief Sarat Nayak, Kalyani Mahila Samiti secretary Kalpana Sarangi, educationist Pasupati Nayak, activist Ranjan Panda, litterateurs Basanti Mohapatra and Muralidhar Patra, scribe Sanjay Chowdhry and scribe Kavi Vishnu Satpathy.

Panda's movie to debut

at Busan Int'l Film Fest



Nidhi Saxena, first Indian female director to receive Asian Cinema Fund ■ BHUBANESWAR

Nidhi Saxena's "Sad Letters of an Imaginary Woman" is all set to premiere at the prestigious 29th edition of the Busan International Film Festival (BIFF) this October! The film, premiering under the "A Window on Asian Cinema" section, has created history already. Saxena became the first Indian female director to earn the distinguished honour of the Asian Cinema Fund in 2024 in the Post-Production category for her debut film.

The movie, produced by Nila Madhab Panda, Vimukthi Jayasundara and Ajender

Singh, delves into themes of memory and identity. It follows a middle-aged woman, haunted by the ghosts of her past as she reaches out to her younger self through letters and phone calls.

Director Saxena, speaking about her debut project, shared, "It is very empowering to receive the honour of the Asian Cinema Fund, especially since it marks a milestone for women in Indian cinema. I am glad that the critics are resonating with the same, and are giving me the opportunity to spread my wings! I am very excited for Sad Letters of an Imaginary Woman to debut at the Busan International Film Festival."

Producer Panda said, "I am elated for the film to get an international platform! It's a wonderful film that dives deep into complex themes and to see it presented on the big stage is a truly surreal feeling.

# Fast on 4th day in B'pur demanding S Odisha rly dev

#### By Milita Kriyanusthan Committee RAJEEV RATHAN BRAHMAPUR

Under the banner of the Milita Kriyanusthan Committee, protesters gathered at Brahmapur Railway Station demanding immediate railway development in south Odisha.

The demonstration, which is in its fourth day of a hunger strike, focuses on the neglected districts of Ganjam, Gajapati, Kandhamal, and Rayagada, where several key railway projects have remained incom-

ferred to the bank accounts of

the next of kin to avoid any

potential misuse or kickbacks.

Despite numerous promises, Brahmapur, one of Odisha's oldest railway stations, ranking third in the State in terms of passenger traffic and revenue, lacks essential infrastructure upgrades compared to newer stations. The protestors emphasized the urgent need for new railway lines, including the Brahmapur-Sambalpur route via Aska, Bhanjanagar, Phulbani, and Boudh, and the Gopalpur-Rayagada line through Mohana Ramnaguda. Expanding Brahmapur station facilities, such as constructing a new coaching depot and adding the

fifth and sixth platform, were

also among the key demands raised by social activist Rabindra Mishra.

Another long-standing demand brought up during the protest was the establishment of a dedicated railway division in Brahmapur, citing its strategic location to serve the southern region and ease the burden on the Khurda Road division. The protesters also demanded the station's modernization under the ABSS scheme to international standards, similar to Bhubaneswar

Mohana MLA Dasarathi Gomango, joining the protest in a show of solidarity, said, "The Central Government, along with the ruling BJP in Odisha, must act without delay. The long-overdue railway development projects in south Odisha can no longer be ignored. I strongly and unequivocally demand the immediate execution of the Gopalpur-Rayagada railway line via Mohana, which will unlock new opportunities for our region and bring the muchneeded growth our people de-Prominent local figures, in-

cluding senior advocate Saroj Ranjan Pattnaik, retired administrator Balakrishna Panda, and development activists Siba Prasad Mishra and Rabi Narayan Rath, were present.

#### Petition seeks NHRC's intervention to end practice of so-

cial boycott PNS BRAHMAPUR

High Court lawyer and activist Rabindra Kumar Mishra has filed a petition with the National Human Rights Commission (NHRC) to intervene in the social boycott of a family in Ganjam district.

The body of the deceased member of the family kept lying unattended for 9 hours as villagers didnot cooperate with the family over their caste

bias to cremate the body, at Nayan Sahi of A Barida village under Kabisuryanagar block. After the local administration and police interfered, the villagers relented and helped in the cremation work.

According to information, Padmanav Sahu's family was living in the village for less than 8 years. Because of some reason his family was socially excluded. The Kulasamaj of the village community people warned that anyone who cooperated with him would be fined. Padmanav died of heart attack. In terms of humanity, the body should be taken to the crematorium and the vil-

lagers should be involved in

the final rites. But no one visited Padmanav's house for fear of fines and action from the 'Kulasamai.'

Body not cremated for 9 hours over caste bias

The deceased's son, Satyaban immediately approached the Kavisurya Nagar Tehsildar. After police and administration officials arrived and explained to the people, the body was taken for cremation at 9 pm.

"Despite constitutional abolition of caste system, social ostracisation continues to be prevalent in the country. As a result, the so called 'outcasts' have been barred from attending social functions. Social boycott and ostracisation lead to inequality wherein different individuals are treated differently, on the basis of their caste, which violates Article 14, 15, 19, and 21 of the Indian Constitution. This tantamounts to social discrimination, especially in the context of Article 15 (Prohibition of discrimination on grounds of religion, race, caste, sex or place of birth)," said Mishra. He sought legal action

against people who peroetuate the prevalence of social boycott which is very acute in Ganjam district and bringing a law like the State of Maharashtra and direct the authorities to provide compensation to the victims as per

# Hindi, other Indian languages are friends: Shah PM to visit three states to inaugurate various projects

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE

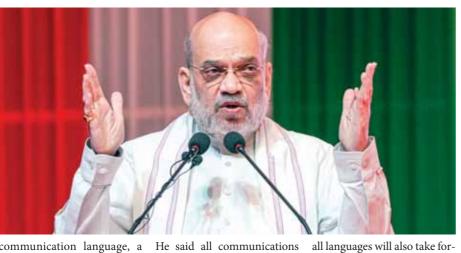
There can never be a com-**I** petition between Hindi and other Indian languages because official language Hindi is their friend and they complement each other, Union Home Minister Amit Shah said on Saturday on the occasion of Hindi Diwas.

Prime Minister Narendra Modi greeted the people of the country on this e 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

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,

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

"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.

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 state-

Prime Minister Modi will also

dedicate to the nation the

Kurkura-Kanaroan doubling

which is a part of the Bondamunda-Ranchi single-

line section and part of the

Rourkela-Gomoh route via

Ranchi, Muri and Chandrapura

The project will help in the

increased mobility of goods

and passenger traffic considerably. Apart from this, four

ment said.

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE ■

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 road under-bridges (RUBs) will also be dedicated to the

The Prime Minister will flag off six Vande Bharat trains. These trains will improve the connectivity on the Tatanagar-Patna, Bhagalpur-Dumka-Howrah, Brahmapur-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 'Deepivoti'.

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 birth to a new calf, on whose

"A new member at 7, Lok "It is said in our scriptures - Gavh Sarvasukh Pradaah." A new member has auspiciously arrived at the Prima Minister."

A new member at 7, Lok Kalyan Marg! Deepjyoti is truly adorable," he said in another post. The prime minarrived at the Prime Minister's ister also shared photographs residence premises at Lok in which he is spending time Kalyan Marg." "At the Prime with the calf at his residence. beloved mother cow has given on his X handle, the prime minister is seen carrying the forehead there is a mark of calf at his residence, sitting light. Hence, I have named it with it at his temple in the 'Deepjyoti," Modi said in a house and taking it out to the

### Onion prices drop amid Government intervention

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE **NEW DELHI** 

ward our culture, history, lit-

erature, grammar and the 'san-

skar," he said in a video mes-

sage.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

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

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 dise-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, (arhar) dal, urad dal, moong dal, masur dal, sugar, gur, groundnut oil, mustard oil, vanaspati, 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

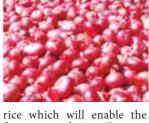
In a significant step to boost export of basmati rice, a premier GI variety rice of India, the government has removed the floor price on export of basmati rice and onions, a move that will ensure good returns to farmers, ministry of commerce and industry said in a notification on Saturday.

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 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



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

Processed Food Products Development Authority (APEDA) will closely monitor export contracts to prevent any non-realistic pric-



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 miselesification of the price and the supply situation of t misclassification of non-basmati rice as basmati rice during exports, in view of the export prohibition on non-bas-

mati white rice.

After discussions with the rationalised the floor price to \$950 per MT in October 2023, amid concerns that higher prices were hurting outward

### Shahi calls for increased agricultural innovation

social media post in Hindi.



PIONEER NEWS SERVICE

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

"Technology is the cornerstone of agricultural prosper-

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 highquality, climate-resilient seed

"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 policies 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 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 agri-cultural 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 sec-

### 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-incharge 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,"

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 healthcare sector," he added.

### Activists demand disability, transgender rights in medical curriculum

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE **NEW DELHI** 

 $E_{\text{the exclusion of key provi-}}^{\text{xpressing concerns over}}$ sions from the Rights of Persons with Disabilities Act (RPDA), 2016, and the Transgender Persons (Protection of Rights) Act Persons (TPA), 2019, in the National Medical Commission's revised Competency-Based Medical Education Curriculum, activists in the sector have sought intervention of Union Minister for Justice Social 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



They pointed out that it was ments and previous guide outdated and in contradic-

Although the revised curriculum was re-released, the activists said they were disheartened as it has failed to reintegrate essential disability competencies and address transgender health issues ade-

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 competen-

cies. "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-

sion of these competencies undermines India's commitment to the UN's Sustainable Development Goals (SDG 10), which aim to reduce inequal-It also emphasises the importance of addressing transgen-

tional curricula for medical

professionals, and the omis-

der-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 individ-uals entirely, they added. Activists have now urged Dr Kumar to ensure the reintro-

duction 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

Former Jammu and Kashmir Chief Minister and Vice President of the National Conference Omar Abdullah Saturday reacted strongly to the accusations by Prime Minister Narendra Modi 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 Jammu and situation in 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 on in north Kashmir region and not allowed new "He talks about dyn

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

"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,"

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 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 Shrinate said there have been 25 terror attacks in Jammu and Kashmir in the 98 days since Prime Minister

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.

Shrinate 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 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.

alleged the 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,"

Shrinate alleged.

### RAINS, WATERLOGGING MAKE LIVES MISERABLE



### 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 Commanding-in-Officer Chief, Eastern Command, at INS Satavahana, Visakhapatnam, navy said here on Saturday. Giving details, officials said the 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 procedures in the event of a submarine distress situation. The facility "Vinetra" facility meaning 'Trainer" represents a significant step forward building confidence submariners, ensuring that they are equipped with the skills and training necessary to escape in case of any underwater emergency. This training facility 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, particularly Karuna (compassion) and Seva (service), reflecting their global relevance," the Union Minister said.

Quoting Prime Minister as saying only when 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 Buddhist significant

population in Maharashtra and urged for a concerted effort to influence more individuals to embrace the values of Buddha.

Rijiju also paid tribute to late Dr. Babasaheb Ambedkar, whose meticulous drafting of the Indian Constitution remains a testament to his dedication to the country's



outlined several government welfare schemes aimed at supporting the Buddhist community.

Secretary General of the Buddhist International Confederation, Shartse Khensur Jangchup Choede expressed profound respect for the teachings of Buddha. Emphasizing

transformative power of Ahimsa (non-violence), the Secretary General spoke about delving deeply into this principle that leads to the cultivation (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

### CBI-FBI bust advanced cybercrime syndicate, arrest one from 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 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 allegedly 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 yielded accused. which substantial incriminating evidence.

"Searches conducted by CBI at seven locations across Mumbai

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 dismantle combat and organized cyber enabled financial crime networks through a globally coordinated law enforcement response leveraging INTERPOL leveraging channels.

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

**NEW DELHI** 

Alarmed 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 Surveillance Disease 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 Lakhpat and Abdasa talukas. The deaths, which occurred between September 3 and 10, included four children.

To meet any emergency, the

S Jaishankar takes a jibe at LoP Rahul

Gandhi over his khata-khat in Geneva



ICMR's network 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

undiagnosed fever. Samples of the infected patients have been sent to the Biotechnology Gujarat 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

The Congress on Saturday I 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 A statement by the Congress undertaken on October 8.

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

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

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 while he was speaking on the 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 dominance in global manufacturing had shielded dominance it from an unemployment crisis, which plagues India and most Western countries. West "The 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 Pak govt to table judicial long-range strikes on Russian territory

kraine made a new call Saturday on the West to allow it to strike deeper into Russia after a meeting between 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 Federation," Ukrainian presidential adviser Andriy Yermak said Saturday. "Permission to strike deep into Russia will speed up after the meeting.

the solution." The renewed appeal came as Kyiv said Russia launched more drone and artillery attacks into Ukraine overnight. Ukrainian officials have repeatedly called on allies to

Successful

by Tehran

I ran launched a satellite into space Saturday with a rock-

et built by the country's para-military Revolutionary Guard,

state-run media reported, the

latest for a programme the West fears helps Tehran advance its ballistic missile

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 immedi-

ate independent confirmation

of the launch's success, nor did

Iranian authorities immedi-

ately provide footage or other

details. The launch comes amid

heightened tensions gripping the wider West Asia over the

ongoing Israel-Hamas war in

the Gaza Strip, during which Tehran launched an unprece-

dented direct missile-anddrone attack on Israel

Meanwhile, Iran continues to enrich uranium to nearly weapons-grade levels, raising concerns among nonprolifera

tion experts about Tehran's

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

60 kilograms, into a 550-kilo-

metre orbit, state media report-

ed. The US State Department

and the American military did

not immediately respond to

requests for comment over the

The United States had previ

ously said Iran's satellite launch-

es defy a UN Security Council

resolution and called on Tehran

to undertake no activity involv-

ing ballistic missiles capable of

delivering nuclear weapons

UN sanctions related to Iran's

ballistic missile programme

expired last October.

Iranian launch.

satellite

launch

AP TEHRAN

programme.

greenlight the use of Westernprovided 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 longrange 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

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.

Energy said.

a response.

with the narrative the Kremlin

has promoted since early in

the war, accusing NATO coun-

tries of de-facto participation

in the conflict and threatening

Russian Deputy Foreign

Minister Sergei Ryabkov told

state news agency TASS Saturday that the US and

British governments were

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 airforce 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 part-

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 began when Russia invaded A KAB aerial bomb also fell on Ukraine in February 2022, toward "poorly controlled

a garage complex in the east-ern city of Kharkiv, said regional Gov. Ihor Terekhov. Similar comments of Russian President Vladimir Putin on No injuries were reported. Meanwhile, officials in Thursday, where he said that Moscow have continued to make public statements warnallowing long-range strikes "would mean that NATO ing that long-range strikes would provoke further escalacountries, the United States and European countries, are at war with Russia." were brushed off by Biden Friday. tion between Russia and the West. The remarks are in line

escalation"

Asked what he thought about Putin's threat, Biden answered, 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.

# reforms in Parl soon

The Pakistan government is preparing to roll out a comprehensive judicial reforms package in Parliament amid speculation about legis-lation 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

The proposal's centrepiece is introducing a new appointment process for the chief justice. Under the proposed changes, the parliamentary 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 gov-ernment 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 succes-

By giving this decision-making power to the prime minister, the government hopes to curb internal politicking within the judiciary.

The reform package also includes a proposal to allow transfers of judges from one high court to another, a move that would increase flexibility within the judicial system. However, one key issue raising the retirement age of judges remains a bone of contention, with no agreement reached as of 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-

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

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 cial developments say that this varied statement has kept the door open for an exten-

Currently, the retirement age of Supreme Court judges is 65, while the same for high court judges is 62. Reports and statements by different law-makers in Parliament suggest that the government intends that the government intends to increase the retirement age of Supreme Court judges to 68 and high court judges to

The debate about constitu-tional 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 twothirds 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 twothirds 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



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

### **Imran booked for inciting govt** officials to mutiny: Report

PTI ISLAMABAD

**D**akistan's top investigating agency has registered a case against jailed former prime minister Imran Khan for

A Federal Investigation Agency (FIA) team comprising investigation and technical officers visited the Adiala Jail to guestion 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 allegedly inciting government accounts, which were being officials to mutiny through his used allegedly to "create chaos social media posts, according to and anarchy" in the country, and 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) stake to protect his hold on power. (Ĝeneral) 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.

PUBLIC NOTICE

Notice is hereby given on behalf of Amandeep Sandhu, Amrit Raj and Swati Nautiyal owned Property total area measuring 1615.44 sq. mtrs. i.e. 1931.9 sq. yds., (residential Plot area measuring 210 sq. yds. i.e. 175.85 sq. mtrs., comprised in Khasra no. 385/4, Plot no.3, area measuring 155 sq. mtrs., comprised in Khasra no. 385/4, Plot no.3, area measuring 155 sq. mtrs., comprised in Khasra no. 385/3min, Plot no.5, area measuring 155 sq. mtrs., comprised in Khasra no. 385/3min, Plot area measuring 197.35 sq. yds. i.e. 165 sq. mtrs., comprised in Khasra no.385/3min, Plot area measuring 197.35 sq. yds. i.e. 165 sq. mtrs., comprised in Khasra no.385/3min, Residential Plot no.6, area measuring 215 sq. yds. i.e. 178-76 sq. mtrs., comprised in Khasra no.385/3min, Plot no.6, area measuring 155 sq. mtrs., comprised in Khasra no. 385/3min, Plot no.6, area measuring 155 sq. mtrs., comprised in Khasra no. 385/3min and Plot no.4, area measuring 155 sq. mtrs., comprised in Khasra no. 385/3, situated at Village Kaila, Tehsil and District-Ghaziabad, Uttar Pradesh who is owner of aforesaid property vide 1).Sale Deed dated 10.08.2023. Document no.8368 2).Sale Deed dated 10.08.2023. Document no.8204 4).Sale Deed dated 10.08.2023. Document no.8204 6).Sale Deed dated 10.08.2023. Document no.8204 6).Sale Deed dated 10.08.2023. Document no.8204 6).Sale Deed dated 10.08.2023. Document no.8205 not inlend to mortgage against the financial assistance from PROTIUM FINANCE LIMITED that 1). Original Sale Deed dated 11.08.2014 document no.5307 3). Document no.2446 and 4). Original Sale Deed dated 11.08.2023. Document no.8205 not property in the property in the address mentioned below, about his objections, within 7 days from today, failing which it shalls be presumed that the said property is free from all type of Encumbrances, lien etc. Lucem Legal LLP Plot No.136, (Basement) Uday Park, New Delhi-110049, Contact # 011-40046316 PUBLIC NOTICE उत्तराखण्ड आयर्वेद विश्वविद्यालय केन्द्रीयकृत काउंसिलिंग सूचन

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

The speaker of Pakistan's national assembly has declared the Parliament Lodges here as sub-jail for to the 10 PTI lawmakers jailed former prime minister Imran Khan's party's lawmakers who were arrested under 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 The Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf

iudicial remand. I am directed to refer to the production order issued on

September 11 by the national assembly speaker with respect arrested recently to enable them to attend the sitting of 9th Session of National 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.

arrested on different charges following the party's public gathering at Sangjani were Sher Afzal Khan, Malik Mohammad Aamir 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

(PTI) lawmakers who were

allocated to them at the Parliament Lodges. These MNAs were arrested in

connection with cases regis-

police stations under several charges, the officials said. There are no special arrange ments and deployment in and outside the sub-jails as police were already present there, the officials said, adding that services of the available police They said that under the written directives of the speaker issued to the interior secretary, the suites were declared

tered at Sangjani and Noon

sub-jail, and so far any necessary notification in this regard was yet to be issued from the capital administration or

### Sunita Williams, Butch Wilmore plan to vote in US election from space either former President Donald

**PTI** WASHINGTON

 $S^{\text{tranded on the International}}_{Space\ Station\ through}$ 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

PUBLIC NOTICE

NOTICE is hereby given to all the concerned that (1) SHRI SUNEEL KHOSLA & (2) SHRI

RAJEEV KHOSLA BOTH SONS OF LATE SHRI

RESIDENTS OF ZP-2, Maurya Enclave, Pitampura, Delhi-110034, intend to sell the

portion of property built on Industrial Plot

SWARAN KUMAR KHOSLA, BOTH

press conference on Friday from the International Space Station (ISS), which has been their home since June. Their Boeing Starliner space-

craft ran into several problems midflight and could not bring them home from a planned 8day 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 -

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

Trump or Vice President

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-protect ed 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.

#### 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, Udham Singh Park, Wazirpur Industrial Area-Delhi-52,) have permanently changed my name to Shripal. Srinath and Shripal are the same person.

I, Praveen 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(752)A

I, Shambhu Chaupal S/o Shri Vindeshwar Chaupal, R/o 33, Galma, Gulma, Darbhanga, Bihar-847427, Present Address Barola, Sector-49, Noida, Distt-Gautam Buddh 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

# Public Notice General Public is hereby informed that we, Vikas Khera, Darshan Lal Khera 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 Khera, Darshan Lal Khera and Surinder Pal, on the ground of death of lessee, Late Shri 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 Ido@nic.in, within 30 days of publication of this notice. 1. Vikas Khera R/o A-2 Old Quarters Ramesh Nagar, New Delhi -15. 2. Darshan Khera. 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 apolled to the company to issue duplicate as applied to the company to issue duplicate ertificate. Any person who has a claim in espect of the said securities should lodge suc espect of the said securities should lodge such laim 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.

> उत्तराखण्ड आयुर्वेद विश्वविद्यालय रेलवे रोड, हर्रावाला, देहरादून (उत्तराखण्ड)–248001 यू.ए.यू.सी. यू.जी.-2024

(हेल्पलाईन 8791611636) क्षणिक सत्र 2024–25 के लिए राज्य में स्थित विश्वविद्यालय परिसरों / सम्बद आयुष महाविद्यालयों में BAMS/BHMS/ BUMS पाठ्यक्रमों की उपलब्ध सीट पर नीट-2024 की मेरिट के आधार पर अर्ह अभ्यर्थियों से दिनांक 16.09.2024 काउंसिलिंग संबंधी विस्तृत जानकारी के लिए विश्वविद्यालय की वेब–साइन कुलसचिव

www.uau.ac.in का अवलोकन करें। **PUBLIC NOTICE** 

Notice is given on behalf of my client Smt Paramjeet Kaur, Dio. late Sh. Gurcharan Singh, R/o-Flat No. 2143, Jal Vayu Vihar, Sector 67, Mohor Punjab- 160062. We are notifying the loss of the original Title document along with other documents related to Property No. 71, Manak Vihar, IF Extension, Shakarpur, Delhi-110092. The saic property belongs to her late father, Sh. Gurcharar Singh, who was the absolute owner and passes away intestate on 17.12.2009. After his demise, he mother and her only horther. Sh. Prithal Singh, also

away intestate on 17.12.2009. After his demise, he mother and her only brother, Sh. Pritpal Singh, also passed away, leaving their shares of the property to the following legal heirs: (6) Smt. Kulbir Kaur (viii Smt. Paramjeet Kaur (iv) Sent. Surinder Kaur, (iii Smt. Paramjeet Kaur (iv) Sent. Surinder Kaur Throriginal title documents were last known to be in the Justody of Smt. Kulbir Kaur (W/o. Late Sh. Pritpa Singh). These documents have since been lost fron the property address 71, Manak Vihar, IP Extension Shakarpur, Delhi-110092. Anyone who has found o has information regarding the said documents is as information regarding the said documents indly requested to return or contact the

RAVI RANJAN (Advocate) Delhi High Court Off Add-5B/

PUBLIC NOTICE Seneral public is hereby informed that w Suneel Khosla and Rajeev Khosla both sons of Late Shri Swaran Kumar 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 by visiting L&DO at Nirman Bhawan, New Delhi or through an email at Ido@nic.in, within 30 days of publication of

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

#### bearing no. 6/14, measuring 800 Sq. Yds, situated at Kirti Nagar, Industrial Area, Nev Delhi-110015, claiming it to be free from al

kind of encumbrance. Any person/Institutio Department having any right, title, interest, claim or demand of any nature whatsoeve n respect of the aforesaid property may form on Whatsapp (9899655790)/ email (girish.kohli@gmail.com) within ten days 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 claim if any, shall be deemed to have been given up or waived. Address: K-111, Kirti Nagai New Delhi-110015

Phone: 999999462 GIRISH KOHLI (ADVOCATE)

#### Trump calls Loomer a 'free spirit' after her remarks against Harris **PTI** WASHINGTON was responding to a question ory about the 9/11 attacks. "23 years later, and there's still a

Donald Trump has defended his ties with Laura Loomer, who has drawn fire from some of his Republican allies for embracing conspiracy theories and making racist comments, including against Kamala Harris. 'Laura has been a supporter of mine. Just like a lot of people are supporters, and she's been a supporter of mine. She speaks very positively of the campaign," Trump, the former president, said on Friday at a news conference in Southern California. He

from a reporter about his allies expressing concern about his close relationship with Loomer in recent days. "I don't control Laura. Laura –

she's a free spirit. Well, I don't know. I mean, look, I can't tell Laura what to do," Trump said. "She is a strong person, she's got strong opinions, and I don't know what she said, but that's not up to me," he added. Several of Loomer's posts on

social media this week came

under fire, including one where

she nodded to a conspiracy the-

lot of unanswered questions," Loomer posted on Friday, along side a video of Trump in 2001 questioning whether airplanes could cause explosions like the ones that happened at the Twin Towers on 9/11," Loomer wrote. Loomer, often seen as a rightwing conspiracy theorist, in another post on Sunday, said the 'White House will smell like curry & White House speeches will be facilitated via a call centre" if Harris wins the November 5 presidential election.

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

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 roundrobin competition.

Pakistan took the lead through Ahmad Nadeem 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



Harmanpreet scored with a powerful drag-flick to the left of a hapless Pakistan goalkeeper Munneb. 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

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.

Indians sustained possession after the change of ends and secured their third penalty corner in the 37th minute, but Pakistan defended

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 vellow 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 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

He also feels that super seniors like Rohit Sharma, Virat 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.

has 544 Morkel, who 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

"That's a good sign and hope we can build on that," Morkel He joined the pre series camp

in Bangladesh and currently, he wants to build a trust with 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 players verv 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

"It's one thing having talent and skill and how can you make those guys feel welcome 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.

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 "I enjoyed it 5-7 minutes with

myself and then shared with the family about the about and opportunity what eventually 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.

managed by home boards: Outgoing ICC ACU chief is always money to be made and they will look for weakness in the system to Elite cricket is mostly "safe and Cclean" 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

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

Corruptors are looking at entry through leagues

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 badly-run lower-level franchise much leagues. The threat to the game is corruptors won't go away while there game." much better equipped and protected to keep corruption away from the



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

referring to.

ESPN Cricinfo.

National record holder steeplechaser Avinash Sable finished ninth Diamond League final with a below-par time here on Friday.

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

"I am confident that the cricket you

watch is safe and clean," Marshall told

But I am also absolutely sure that

corruptors are constantly looking for a

route into the game, particularly in

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 medallist 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 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-

Five meetings out of the 14 in the DL series across the world this season had men's 3000m steeplechase event. Reigning

8:29.96 on August 25.

SABLE

Each Diamond League season Athletics Championships.

champion Sable had finished sixth with a national record time of 8:09.91 -- bettering his own earlier mark -- in the Paris leg of the Diamond League on July 7. He was 14th at the Silesia leg with a time of

finale champion is awarded a 'Diamond Trophy', USD 30,000 prize money and a wild card for the World



### Indian men outwit Hungary B; women go past Switzerland

**PTI** ■ BUDAPEST (HUNGARY)

India 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 Erigaise who played a brilliant attacking game against Peter Prohazska 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 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 gave up 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 Hakimifard who left her Iranian citizenship.

#### eight progressing to the second round. In the east zone, China, winner receiving \$10 million in prize money, an increase from \$4 million last season.

**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 Al-Hilal midfielder Ruben Neves joined Al-Hilal in 2023 Wolverhampton Wanderers of the English Premier League for a fee of

around \$60 million and has no

doubt that the SPL has enough

'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

"I am in good shape physically. Both Cristiano and I proved today that Saudi football has

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 Leagues but has yet to win a major trophy with Al-Nassr and he will face Iraq's Al-Shorta while Mahrez and Al-



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

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 how-

ever. The Elite version replaced

the AFC Champions League as the continent's top tourna-

The number of teams participating has reduced from 40 to 24. Instead of 10 groups of four, there are two groups of 12, divided into east and west geographic zones, with teams playing eight games with the top

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

GOVERNMENT OF ODISHA, "e"-PROCUREMENT NOTICE OFFICE OF THE SUPERINTENDINGENGINEER, PURI (R&B) DIVISION, PURI

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Superintending Engineer

OIPR-34064/11/0012/2425

# **MUSKURAIY** JANAAB, AAP 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

he 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, it embraced the cultural depth of Lucknow, bringing together flavours, ambiance and tradition in an immersive way.

Upon entering the festival, guests found themselves amidst a scene straight out of 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 singlescreen theater that paid homage to Lucknow's

homage to Lucknow's cinematic legacy.



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

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.

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 Batashe*, offering a taste of the city's vibrant food markets right in the heart of Delhi. And to wron up the foot

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 ending to an unforgettable culinary journey. he *Lakhnawi* The

Dastarkhwan festival was a exploration



Lucknow's culinary and cultural heritage. Guests enjoyed melt-in-your-mouth Galauti Kebabs and relished main courses like Arvi Ki Nemarli, 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 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

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 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 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

### OFFERINGS

### OPHELIA LAUNCHES BOLD TURKISH MENU

Ophelia, located in The Ashok Hotel, 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. Ophelias vibrant Turkish decor and immersive experiences make it a must-visit for food enthu-

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 eloved 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

#### **EXHIBITION: BEYOND THE SURFACE**

 $B^{
m eyond}$  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 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 American Bumrah and pistachios underscores commitment to shared

Saran from APG ed, "India is an Sumit remarked, market important American pistachios, and with Bumrah as *Jasprit* 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

in

pistachios are rich

promoting a healthy lifestyle.

antioxidants, protein and essential fats, making them a great choice for muscle recovery and overall health. They can be performance, which performance, which important for the performance in the performance of the performance in the pe They can support optimal 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 approach to fitness and well-being.

September 15, 2024

# the pioneer

"Despite hanging up my racing wheels over a decade ago, I still get a buzz when we enter an Olympic and





# 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

he 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

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



become the youngest medallist from

became the first-ever Paralympic

India ever. Eventually, Harvinder Singh

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 Delhi boy Navdeep Singh genetically short in height

**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.



SL4 badminton. After returning from Paris on Tuesday with India's best ever medal tally ever(29) andr ranked

athletes in rural areas particularly disadvantaged. A Movement, not just Medals Paris 2024 Paralympics should not be seen as 18th on team's tally an isolated success but as part of a athletes received grand welcome larger movement towards inclusion, surrounded 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

by huge numbers of supporters greeted

with showering of flowers on them.

The Indian contingent met Prime

residence on Thursday in New Delhi,

para-athletes of Indian contingent and

challenges to overcome the stereotypes of the society. Paralympic Gold

congratulating the medal winners of

Athletes shared their journeys and

Medallist Avani Lekhara gifted her

Rewards were announced by Union

Sports Minister Mansukh Mandaviya of

medallists in the games and pledges full

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.

sponsorships remains uneven, with

Access to training, medical support, and

support from Government for the LA

75 lakh to gold-medallists, 50 lakh to

silver winners and 30 lakh to bronz-

where PM Modi interected with all

Minister Narendra Modi at his

Paris Paralympics 2024

signed jersey to PM Modi.

2028 campaign.

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 Akhileswar Sahay stated in his article Khel Vaani India's Paralympic Rise: A Beacon for a More Inclusive Future

#### NEXT STOP: MISSION TOP FIVE AND MIS-

SION 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.



September 15, 2024



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** 

ven for locals, this area 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

Docklands, Dublin's 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 continuiting bugs of red and green 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'. Airport and a mere 15-minute 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 its vibrant atmosphere that resonates throughout. The luminous lobby leads into colourinfused 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 Luxurythroughout its offerings. Each of the 187 rooms and suites offers breath-taking views of the city, Dublin Bay, 20-minute drive from Dublin mountains, enhanced by floor-towindows. stroll to the city centre, making it accommodations are thoughtfully designed with ergonomic



and 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, boxty on the breakfast menu, and an 'Írish Wine Geese' section on the wine 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 awardwinning spa provides an array of rejuvenating body treatments and massages, complemented by a 75foot indoor infinity pool, a steam and a whirlpool tub. This was the perfect way to begin my mornings before venturing out. One of my ergonomic favourite retreats was the chic chips, and a rocket salad, was a dolphins and seals. Afterward, a the hotel. This interactive museum cutting-edge rooftop bar and terrace, which delight. For dessert, creatively visit to Kish Fish, one of Ireland's delives into the history of the Irish



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 Mary. Next, the marbled rib-eye, flawlessly seared, accompanied by zingy Chimichurri, house-cut



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

#### **STORIES OF DUBLIN**

Unlike the traditional luxury of the Westbury, 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 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 from Dublin, and embark on a chartered fishing boat around Dublin Bay, where they might spot

premier salmon smokehouses, precedes an enriching lesson in baking traditional Irish soda bread back at the hotel. Other curated include experiences 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 A must-visit is EPIC The Irish Emigration Museum, conveniently located within walking distance of the hotel. This interactive museum

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

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

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, unforgettable crafting an 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. the Dishes like the Whole Wheat and Semolina Puchkas, Paneer Tikka Chaat and Khakra Mille Feuille served as a heartwarming reminder of enduring appeal. The journey began with Chef Shantanu

Mehrotra at the helm, who crafted

a menu that would soon become a

s Indian Accent New Delhi celebrated its 15th days, Chef Mehrotra recalls the anniversary, the occasion 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

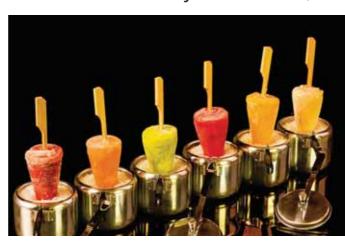
begins with a nod to the past through a selection of appetisers that have become icons of Accent's innovative approach. The Whole Wheat and Semolina Puchkas provided a playful yet refined take on street food. The trio of the restaurant's evolution and waters - mint and coriander, tamarind and jaggery and buttermilk - offered a delightful

balance of flavours, beautifully



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 encapsulating Indian Accent's on both classic and global flavours.





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 creamevery 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

grapefruit pops and a hint of Amarula, was an explosion of taste that left us craving Complementing this sweet finale was the Daulat Ki Chaat, which

emerged as a standout. Its saffron-infused elegance, exceptional flavours. *Chef* adorned with almonds and a hint *Shantanu Mehrotra's* innovative 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 all about elegance, creativity and exceptional flavours. Chef 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.

September 15, 2024



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

#### estled 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 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

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 passion and labour of love, The arun Thakral, the founder

&managing Huster
Heritage Transport Museum
Director at CI &managing trustee of 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 French Government scholarship to pursue MBA International program in 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. in December 2013.

onal Tourism Award for being the most innovative and unique tourism project in the country, the 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

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

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 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?

Museum in December 2013, and it

remains India's sole transport

Since its opening Museum won In 1994, I purchased my first many prestigious awards - The vintage car from Ramgarh in a state of disrepair. The process of restoring this vehicle over nearly 2016 and 2018 Travellers Choice 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 I came across an advertisement from Indian



proudly stands at the museum on a 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

year of negotiations. Ultimately, I

succeeded in acquiring and restoring the saloon, which now

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 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

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 What are your future plans for

locating original or compatible

parts can be extremely challenging,

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 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 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.

display the full range of meticulous and delicate. For transportation, encompassing cars, vintage vehicles and machinery, 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

> The museum houses impressive collection, thoughtfully curated to spark fascination. The assortment ranges from classic vintage cars to engines, traditional

> context. It effectively connects the

bicycles, and even airplanes. Visitors can explore artifacts that depict the evolution of transportsome 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 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 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.

development 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 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 past with the present, providing a tangible link to India's rich history and its ongoing evolution.

### 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

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 monsoon season to life with her performance, 'Boondan Phuĥaar.' 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



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 reflections on Varanasi's spirit and its deep-rooted connection to the classical

underscored 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.



























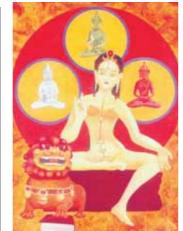




#### ARIES March 21-April 19

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

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



#### 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 iovful 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 strenathening your bonds, you will improve your relationships and increase your overall sense of joy and

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 This phase is ripe for introspection, urging you to contemplate how your personal principles align with longstanding 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



#### 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

ucky number 10 | Lucky colour White

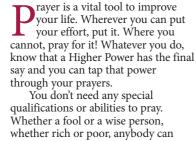
Madhu Kotiya is a tarot card reader, spiritual healer, and Founder, MShezaim Institute of Tarot and Divination. Contact details: madhu@indiatarot.com, www.indiatarot.com, M: 9873283331

# Do you pray?

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



Sri Sri Ravi Shankar Spiritual Guru



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 Balram'. 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

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).