WORLD 6 BRAZIL JUDGE SETS FRESH TERMS FOR X TO RESUME SERVICES

SPORT 7 RAIN WASHES OUT SECOND DAY OF KANPUR TEST

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Terrorists burn Kashmir's dream



Security personnel stand guard after an encounter broke out between terrorists and security forces during cordon and search operation at Adigam village, in Kulgam

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE

head of the third and final round of polling **A**on October 1, ā joint team of security forces gunned down two unidentified terrorists on Saturday while security personnel, including an officer, sustained injuries in an encounter in South Kashmir's Kulgam district.

Based on specific intelligence about the presence of terrorists, a joint search operation was launched by security forces at village Kog (Mandli) (J/D of P/S Billawar) at Kathua. Contact has been established and a few rounds have been fired from both

sides. Area is cordoned off. ADG Police, Jammu range Anand Jain said in statement.

The gunbattle broke out in Arigam village in the Devsar area of the district after security forces launched a ascertained. Incriminating cordon-and-search operation there early in the morning. Srinagar-based Chinar Corps in a post on X said, "Based on specific intelligence input, a joint operation was launched by the Indian Army and Jammu and Kashmir police at

"During the search, terrorists fired indiscriminately and a firefight ensued. Two terrorists have been eliminated by the security forces in the ongoing Operation".

Arigam, Kulgam.

Confirming the recovery of two dead bodies from the encounter site, Kashmir Zone Police posted on X, "Two bodies recovered from the encounter site. Identification & affiliation are being

materials, arms & ammunition recovered. Search in progress". The security forces also recovered two x AK Rifles, ammunition and other warlike stores from the terrorists. The security forces also suffered injuries during the firefight. According to official sources, three Army personnel and two police officers, Assistant including an Superintendent of Police (ASP), were injured in a gunbattle with terrorists in

Additional Superintendent of Police (Traffic) suffered minor injuries due to a stray bullet near the encounter site, officials said.

Earlier on September 14, three terrorists were gunned down by the joint team of security forces in the Kreeri area of North Kashmir's Baramulla district. The security forces were able to neutralise a group of hiding terrorists after identifying their locations inside the building with the help of drone cameras. In this month, so far nine terrorists have been eliminated during antiterrorist operations across different parts of Jammu and



India slams Pakistan at UN

PTI ■ UNITED NATIONS

n a strong retort, India has slammed Pakistan in the UN General Assembly, saying its "fingerprints" are on terrorist incidents across the world and the country should realise that crossborder terrorism against India will "inevitably invite consequences".

India exercised its Right of Reply in the UN General Assembly on Friday in response to Pakistan Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif raising the issue of Jammu and Kashmir in his address at the General Debate of the 79th session of the UN General Assembly.

"This Assembly regrettably witnessed a travesty this morning. A country run by the military, with a global reputation for terrorism, narcotics trade transnational crime has had the audacity to attack the world's largest democracy," First Secretary in India's Permanent Mission to the Bhavika Mangalanandan delivering India's Right of

Continued on page 2

Israel decimates Hezbollah

ebanon's Hezbollah group Lhas confirmed that its leader and one of its founders, Hassan Nasrallah, was killed in an Israeli airstrike.

A statement on Saturday said Nasrallah "has joined his fellow martyrs." The statement says Hezbollah vows to "continue the holy war against the enemy and in support of Palestine." Nasrallah led the militant group for more than three decades.

Earlier, Israel had said that it

killed Hezbollah leader Hassan Nasrallah, dealing its most significant blow to the Lebanese militant group after months of fighting. Nasrallah is by far the mos powerful target to be killed by Israel in weeks of intensified fighting with Hezbollah. Ali Karki, the Commander of Hezbollah's Southern Front, and Hezbollah additional commanders, were also killed in the attack, the Israeli military said. The military said it carried out a precise airstrike on Friday while Hezbollah leadership met at their headquarters in Dahiyeh, south of Beirut.

Israel's Chief of Staff, Lt Gen Herzi Halevi, said Saturday that the elimination of Nasrallah was "not the end of our toolbox," indicating that more strikes were planned. He said that the strike targeting Hezbollah leadership was the result of a



long period of preparation. Lebanese Health Ministry said six people were killed and 91 injured in the strikes Friday, which leveled six apartment buildings.

The Îsraeli military said it was mobilising additional reserve soldiers as tensions escalate with Lebanon, activating three battalions of reserve soldiers to serve across the country. The call comes after it sent two brigades to northern Israel earlier in the week to train for a possible ground invasion.
On Saturday morning, the

Israeli military carried out several strikes in southern Beirut and eastern Lebanon's Bekaa Valley. Hezbollah launched dozens of projectiles across northern

and central Israel and the Israel-occupied West Bank. In Beirut's southern suburbs, smoke rose and the streets were empty after the area was pummeled overnight by heavy Israeli airstrikes. Shelters set up in the city centre for displaced people were overflowing. Many families slept in public squares and beaches or in their cars. On the roads leading to the mountains above the capital, hundreds of people could be seen making an exodus on foot, holding infants and whatever belongings they could carry. At least 720 people have been killed in Lebanon over the past week from Israeli airstrikes, according to the Health Ministry.

Gang shootouts on the rise in Delhi

STAFF REPORTER NEW DELHI

Doising a serious threat to law and r order situation, the national capital witnessed three separate firing incidents linked to escalating extortion bids by notorious gangs in the last 24 hours with the shooters attacking a luxury car showroom, a hotel, and a sweet shop. Fortunately, no injuries were reported in any of the incidents. While some unidentified shooters targeted a hotel at south Delhi's Mahilpalpur area early Saturday, some assailants opened fire at a sweets shop in Sultanpur Mor in Nangloi later.

According to a police officer, around 9.30 am on Saturday, two men with their faces covered came on a bike and opened three to four rounds of fire at 'Roshan Halwai'. No one was injured in the incident but there were some shattered glasses in the shop, the officer said.

Police suspect the shooting was related to protection money of some gangsters. After the firing at the sweets shop, a note with "Deepak Boxer Bhai, Ankesh Lakra Bhai and Vishal Bhai" -- the names of gangsters -- written on it, police said. CCTV footage has been collected and a probe was underway, they said.

Earlier around 2.30 am, two men came on a motorcycle and fired around five to six bullets at the main entrance gate of Impress Hotel in south Delhi. No one was injured in the incident but some glasses were damaged, police said. Hotel staff and some guests were present in their rooms when the incident took place. Police has initiated a probe into the case.

The hotel's receptionist, Khalida said that she was not present during the firing as her shift started in the morning. She added, "They did not target anyone but they opened fire at the gate. Five to six rounds were fired they and fled," Khalida said.

This attack is also believed to be part of an extortion attempt to take over the hotel. Last year, the hotel owner had been threatened by a man claiming to be connected to Canada-based gangster Goldie Brar. Brar, along with Lawrence Bishnoi - currently in custody in Gujarat-has been linked to previous high-profile extortion cases, including a shooting outside actor Salman Khan's Mumbai residence.

Continued on page 2

Stalin to succeed Stalin

fresh political chapter?

KUMAR CHELLAPPAN

In a late night development on Saturday, Tamil Nadu Governor R N Ravi has promoted Udhayanidhi Stalin, son of chief minister M K minister and was allocated additional portfolios of planning and development. In addition to the promotion of Udhayanidhi as deputy choef minister, the Governor has inducted Senthil Balaji, who was released on bail by the supreme court after an incarceration of 471 days in jail in connection with prevention of money laundering case. It may be noted that Stalin is nit in the best of health if political

grapevine is to be believed Three more ministers have been inducted along with Balaji in the councilof ministers and they would be sworn in on Sunday afternoon at Raj Bhavan Chennai, said a release by the Governor's office . It also said that three ministers were dropped from the council of ministers as per the recommendation of the

chief minister Stain. The promotion of Udhavanidi Stalin as deputy chief minister expected for quite sometime. There were reports that the elevation would happen prior to the foreign



astrological directives. With Udhayanidhi Stalin getting elevated as deputy chief minister, the DMK and the Government

has come under the full control of the Stalin family. Udhayanidhi, a first-time MLA was inducted in the council of ministers with the portfolio of Youth and Sports

Though there were resentment in the DMK senior leaders over the haste with which Stalin Junior was made a minister overlooking many seniors in the party, the Stalin clan has managed to hush up the issues.

"Now, Stalin will get enough time and space to revamp the DMK as well as the Government as there were many serious allegations about functioning of the government. Moreover, small parties like VCK led by Thol Thirumavalavan have started as king for a share in the power, said Gauthaman Ramakrishnan, political critic and chief editor of Sree TV, a popular Tamil news channel. With the AIADMK, the main opposition, in total disarray and the BJP plagued with

major infightings, Stalin hopes

to make a smooth return tto

power in the 2026 assembly polls which is less than two years away. The party is also getting ready to go for a clean sweep of the local body elections which are round the corner.

The DMK's Delhi face is controlled by Stalin's step sister Kanimozhi with his grand nephew Udhayanidhi Maran acting as cheerleader. The revolt raised by senior leaders like T R Balau and Durai Murugan has been blown out as son Udhayanidhi Stalin has emerged as the DMK's new Raising Sun, the party's emblem.

Cockroach in meal shocks Air India passenger

STAFF REPORTER ■

In a shocking mid air discovery, an Air India passenger has complained of finding a cockroach in an omelette served onboard the flight from the national Capital to New York, has been taken up with the catering service provider for further investigation. incident occurred on flight AI 101 on September 17, 2024, and was reported by the passenger on social media platform X. The incident has raised concerns about food safety standard prompting Air India to review its catering protocols.

This is the second incident of a potentially dangerous foreign object being discovered by passengers in meals served on Air Îndia flights over the past four months.

the statement, spokesperson said the airline is concerned about the experience of the customer in the said instance and has taken it up with the catering service provider to investigate further.

"Air India works with reputed caterers who supply to leading airlines globally and have stringent SOPs (standard procedures) and operating multiple checks to ensure quality of meals served to our guests. We are concerned about the experience of the customer in the



said instance and have taken it up with our catering service provider to investigate it further," the spokesperson said in a statement.

'We will take necessary actions to prevent any recurrence of such instances in future," the spokesperson said.

In a post on X, the passenger said a cockroach was found in the omelette served on the flight from Delhi to New York. "My 2 vear old finished more than half of it with me when we found this. Suffered from food poisoning as a result," she said. The passenger also shared a short video and pictures of the food items served during the flight. She tagged Air India, aviation regulator DGCA and Civil Aviation Minister K Rammohan Naidu in the post. In June, a passenger flying to San Francisco from Bengaluru on an

Air India flight had found a blade-like metal piece in one of the meals served to him.

Railway tracks to be made cattle and reel free

DEEPAK KUMAR JHA **NEW DELHI**

In order to tackle the rising incidents of cattle straying on to the railway tracks and twowheelers crossing over, the Indian Railways has designed a new metal fencing termed as the W-Beam.

It has been developed in such a way that it would also be difficult for humans to sneak and hence curb the menace of 'reel making' which is growing each passing day. These will be framed abreast the tracks that pass through the populated areas, railway officials

"The gaps from the ground level and between the two beams have been designed in such a way in the new W-Beam metal fence



that cattle or two-wheelers be effective in preventing cannot cross it and move over to the tracks," railway officials said. The decision has been taken since the concrete railway boundaries have been found not

incidents, particularly the cattle run over.

As of now the plans are to complete fencing of the New Delhi-Howrah and New Delhi-

Mumbai route to facilitate passenger train operations at a maximum speed of 160 kmph. The railways is mulling to increase the average speed of the passenger trains between 90

kmph to 110 kmph across its networks and the speed can be enhanced only after ensuring there are no animals and twowheelers intrusion on the tracks. The new model W-Beam type metal fencing has been developed and being installed on Mumbai-Ahmedabad route where the train speed is being augmented to 160 kmph. All zonal Railways have also been advised to adopt the new fencing model. Further, to make train journey safer the latest version of

Automatic Train Protection system, Kavach 4.0 is being finalised to work across railway network.

While the officials claim, ever since specific safety measures

have been taken, there has been a

drop in accidents per day on the

2.6 accidents per day was recorded during 2012-14, which has come down to 0.5 (1 accident in 2 days) during 2022-24. The Centre is already working to secure the national highway

railway network. An average of

network and work on bamboo crash barrier has been going on since last year which been named 'Bahu Balli'. The bamboo crash barrier underwent "rigorous testing" at various Government-run institutions like the National Automotive Test Tracks (NATRAX) in Pithampur, Indore and was rated as Class 1 during the Fire Rating Test conducted at the Central Building Research Institute (CBRI) in Roorkee and it has also been accredited by the Indian Road Congress.

New rates introduced at ISBTs achieved desired results: Raj Niwas

 $T^{
m he\ new\ rates}$ and stand fee and norms introduced at State Bus Terminals (ISBT) on September 15 following Delhi Lieutenant Governor, Vinai Kumar Saxena's intervention, has achieved desired results right since its notification, Rai Niwas said on Saturday.

Emphasizing that efficiency and equality are two most important factors to achieve optimum utilization of facilities, Saxena had suggested equal parking rates for government as well as private buses and also reducing parking time equally to achieve higher turnaround. He had also asked for only buses with FAStag stickers to be allowed to enter ISBT, so as to ensure complete tracking without human interface, officials said. Giving details of the progress, they said at ISBT -

the average turnaround time that stood at 208 minutes (3.5 hrs) during the month of

September 14, before the notification was issued, dramatically came down to 24 minutes the next day. Subsequently, it decreased to 22 minutes only on September 19. Since then, the average turnaround time for buses at the ISBT is 23 minutes, till the data compiled on

September 26. As a result of this, number of buses to and from the Terminal that stood at an average of 852 per day during the month of August, 2024 and 836 on 14.09.2024, have risen substantially. While the number of buses on 15.09.2024 stood at 877, it rose up to 912 on 17.09.2024. The average since 15.09.2024, when the new notification was issued, stands at 870 per

As regards ISBT - Kashmere Gate, while the average turnaround time that stood at 45 minutes during the month of August, 2024 and 39 minutes on 14.09.2024, before the notification was issued, came



down to 29 minutes on 15.09.2024 and subsequently decreased to 19 minutes on 21.09.2024, averaging at 19 minutes since then.

As a result of this, number of buses to and from the Terminal that stood at an average of 1,373 per day during the month of August, 2024 and 1,327 on 14.09.2024,

have risen substantially. While the number of buses on 15.09.2024 stood at 1,367, it rose up to 1593 on 26.09.2024. The average number of buses at this ISBT since 15.09.2024, when the new notification was issued, while the average turnaround time that stood at 216 minutes (3.6 hrs) during the month of August, 2024 and 191 minutes on September 14, before the notification was issued, dramatically came down to 24 minutes on 15.09.2024 and subsequently decreased to 17 minutes only on 17.09.2024, averaging at 18 minutes since then. As a result of this, numaverage of 268 per day during the month of August, 2024 and 236 on 14.09.2024, have risen substantially.

While the number of buses on 15.09.2024 stood at 260, it rose up to 266 on 17.09.2024. The average since 15.09.2024, when the new notification was issued, stands at 241 per day, marking a dip from the August average, but an increase since 14.09.2024. New uniform stand fee charges for interstate operation of State Government, AITP and other private buses (with valid permit) kicked in from the intervening midnight of September 14-15. Applicable to all such buses lying from ISBTs at Kashmere Gate, Anand Vihar and Sarai Kale Khan, these revised stand fee charges are being collected only through FASTag based system and no bus is allowed to enter and operate from the terminal's premises without a FASTag. Logistics for implementation

of the FASTag based system have been upgraded and the porta cabins plus barriers have been refurbished. Rooms from which operators operate and storerooms have been air-conditioned and provisions have been made to provide FASTags to vehicles that do not have them. Following Saxena's visit and

inspection of Maharana Pratap ISBT on August 31 and a subsequent high level meeting chaired by the LG and attended by Delhi Transport Minister, Kailash Gahlot, it was decided that the Transport Department will notify new rates and norms for 'to and fro' inter-state buses utilizing the iconic bus terminals. The LG had also visited ISBTs at Sarai Kale Khan and Anand Vihar on

September nine. The underutilization till now is because of rate differences between government and private buses, poor management of parking bays, bus staff using terminals as resting places and systemic issues

to extended turnaround time, which in turn leads up to traffic gridlock outside the ISBT. As per the new scheme of things, private as well as government interstate buses are paying the same amount of fee for parking and using the bus bays at ISBT.

Till the new notification on September 15, private buses were charged more, which led to a situation where they unauthorizedly parked and picked passengers on roads outside the ISBT complexes, resulting in huge traffic snarls apart from causing passenger and revenue loss to state run

With the new notification, reduced turnaround time, faster circulation and improved handling of buses is being achieved. The LG has sought a report from the Traffic Police to ascertain the impact of reduced turnaround timings on the traffic situation and pedestrian movement outside the ISBT com-

Bharadwaj to launch single window facility for faster clearances of investors' applications

STAFF REPORTER ■ NEW

The Delhi government will next week launch a single window facility for faster clearances of investors' applications, boosting ease of doing business in the city. The beta version of the single window system (SWS) will be launched by Industry Minister Saurabh Bharadwaj on Monday.

"The platform aims to streamline pre-operation approvals, reduce compliance, promote sector-specific reforms, shorten project timelines and enhance ease of starting and doing business in Delhi," Bharadwaj said. The portal will help realize objective of speedy processing of clearances and providing investorfriendly environment to business, he added.

So far, 59 services across 12



stakeholder departments have ments -- drug control, trade been onboarded on the plat-Specifically, 37 services from seven departments namely labour, MCD, Delhi Pollution Control Committee, weights and measures, DJB, power discoms and industries were onboarded on the single window system in the first phase of the plan, the minister said. In the second phase, 22 services from five departonline application status tracking system.

Notifications at critical stages of application processing, application and query submission, application approval or rejection at various levels-through SMS and emails is being integrated with the system, the statement said. The user will also obtain the approval or registration certificate online via the portal

It will enable the investors to apply for multiple clearances and approvals from different departments on a single platform rather than applying individually. All onboarded departments are bound to deliver the requested clearances or services within the stipulated timeline as prescribed in the Public Service

Rai unveils 14-point construction guidelines as part of Winter Action Plan

STAFF REPORTER ■ NEW DELHI

Tn a bid to curb rising dust I pollution during the winter months, Delhi Environment Minister Gopal Rai on Saturday unveiled a comprehensive 14-point construction guideline as part of the city's 'Winter Action Plan'. The rules aim to tackle dust

pollution from the construction sites, which is a major contributor to the city's declining air quality, Rai said. He stated that these guidelines will be strictly enforced starting October 7 adding any violations after this date will lead to penalties with the repeat offenders facing a halt in the construction activi-

The rules mandate that all construction sites must be covered with tin sheets to prevent dust from spreading into



the surroundings.

"People involved in any kind of construction work whether private, government or company-driven must ensure compliance with these rules," Rai emphasised during his press conference.

Rai stated that all construction areas must be enclosed with tin sheets, vehicles transporting construction materials must have clean tires and materials like sand and gravel must be covered to prevent dust from spilling onto the roads. To control dust, regular water sprinkling at the construction sites is compulsory, he added.

Rai further said that workers must be provided with dust masks and health kits at all times. The Delhi government has also deployed 523 teams from 13 departments to monitor compliance.

These teams will inspect the construction sites around the clock, ensuring that the new norms are followed to prevent dust pollution, he said. The anti-dust campaign will run from October 7 to November 7 as part of the winter action plan to tackle pollution in the capital, Rai added. Rai said that for not register-

ing on the C&D portal, a fine of Rs one lakh will be imposed on construction projects with an area of less than

20,000 square meters and Rs two lakh on construction projects with an area of more than 20,000 square meters. A fine of Rs 7,500 per day will be imposed for not installing anti-smog guns.

According to Rai, earlier there was a rule to install anti-smog guns only on construction sites above 20,000 square meters. Now on the basis of the new rule, it has been made mandatory to install anti-smog guns on construction sites with an area of 5,000 square meters and more. There should be 1 antismog gun on a construction site of 5,000 to 10,000 square meters, 2 on a site of 10,000 to 15,000 square meters, 3 on a construction site of 15,000 to 20,000 square meters and at least 4 anti-smog guns on a construction site above

Rijiju stresses on educational collaboration, cultural exchange between India, Japan

PTI GUWAHATI

Union Minister Kiren Rijiju on Saturday stressed on strengthening educational collaboration and India and Japan, which will provide the youth of both countries with opportunities to explore global education

He was speaking at the 3rd India-Japan Education Conclave in Guwahati, which brought together key figures of the two countries to strengthen educational, cultural and research ties, an official statement said.

Organised by the Indo-Japan Business Council (IJBC) in celebration of Japan Month. Rijiju, the parliamentary affairs minister, maintained that the conclave is a testament to the growing bond between the two countries.

"By fostering educational collaboration and cultural exchange, we are not only strengthening our diplomatic ties but also providing our students with opportunities to explore global education and

"This initiative, rooted in the collaboration with the Japan-India Vision 2025, will Vivekananda Kendra Institute shape the futures of countless of Culture, the event was supported by the Embassy of Japan in India as part of the Japan in Ind immense," Rijiju added. Assam Education Minister Ranoj Pegu, also present on the occasion, said such programmes bring Japanese institutions closer to students of

and taxes, excise, entertain-

ment and luxury tax, DSIIDC

and GSDL --were onboarded.

Also, 27 services have been

made "live" on the SWS Portal,

he said. The single window

facility will allow the investors

and entrepreneurs to fill up,

upload documents and submit

the application form online

with the possibility of fee pay-

ment being made online as

'By opening doors to higher education, research and cultural exchange, we are empowering the youth of



collaboration between India and Japan is a vital step for-North East India to take part in global opportunities. This tional and cultural developward for our region's educaconclave has laid the groundwork for future collaborations in the field of education and beyond.

desire for deeper educational ties between Japan and India," Jiro added.

Indo-Japan Business Council (IJBC) president Siddharth Deshmukh and Vivekananda Kendra Institute of Culture's Kumari Sayanti were among other dignitaries present on the occasion.

The conclave featured a variety of activities aimed at promoting India-Japan academ-

the conclave, with more than ic cooperation and cultural exchange.

Representatives from top Japanese universities, lan-The enthusiasm from stu- guage schools and research dents and educators alike institutions interacted with about study opportunities in

Moreover, participants engaged with Japanese traditional arts, anime and pop

Experts and educators from India and Japan discussed expanding joint research, student exchanges and technology transfer programmes at the meet. Over 1,600 students and educators attended

70 per cent of attendees being from the North East region. Dignitaries at the meet also emphasised the potential for further collaboration between sities through joint research, technology transfer and student exchange programmes. The event aligns with the Japan-India Vision 2025, a roadmap set forth by Prime Minister Narendra Modi and the late Japanese Prime Minister Shinzo Abe to enhance the special strategic and global partnership between the two countries, the statement added.

PM Modi consistently advocating betterment of sporting facilities for players: Nadda

PTI PATNA

Union Minister J P Nadda on Saturday said Prime Minister Narendra Modi has been consistently advocating betterment of sporting facilities for players.

He also said the budgetary allocations for the Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports have been increased threefold in the BJP-led NDA government at the Centre.

Speaking at a function organised to felicitate Paralympians at the Bihar BJP office here, Nadda said, "The budgetary allocations for the Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports have been increased threefold under the leadership of our PM. The central government is providing world-class training, equipment and coaching facilities to our sportspersons in 34 sports disciplines.'

"Whether it is Olympic or Paralympic, our PM has been consistently advocating betterment of sports and facilities for players. The budgetary allocation has been increased to Rs 3,342 crore in the current financial year for the ministry," he added.

The initiatives taken by the central government have con-



performance at the Olympic, Paralympic and other international sports events, he said, adding that achievements have surpassed all previous records. India won six medals - a silver and five bronze - at the Paris 2024 Olympics.

The country secured a total of 29 medals - seven gold, nine silver and 13 bronze- in the 2024 Paralympics.

"Various initiatives have been undertaken by the Centre in the recent past to promote sports excellence and foster a strong sporting culture across the country. There are a total of 1,000 Khelo India centres in the country and 715 are already operational. The 'Khelo India' scheme aims to foster a mass movement for promoting sports excellence across the country," the BJP president

Give more time for filing selfdeclaration about land ownership: **Nitish to Revenue Department**



hief Minister Nitish Kumar Con Saturday directed the Revenue and Land Reforms Department for the timely completion of the ongoing survey and to provide more time to people to file self-declarations about land ownership. Chairing a review meeting of the department, Kumar said people should not face difficulties while submitting documents pertaining to land own-

"The ongoing land survey exercise should be completed on time, and the department should give more time to landowners for submission of self-declaration. Besides, other works like mutation and updation of jamabandi register should be continued simultaneously," he said.

Pending cases of mutation must be reduced on a priority basis at the block offices across the state. Senior officials must conduct regular inspections of the survey works that are going on in the state," he added.

The CM's direction came amid speculations that the government may extend the timeline of the survey in view of obstacles at the ground level. The government is chasing a July 2025 deadline to complete the

The government's main aim for conducting special surveys and settlement is to reduce cases of land disputes in the state. The government has taken several steps to reduce the cases of land disputes," the

Gang shootouts on the rise in...

Jiro Kodera, counsellor

(Economy and Development),

Embassy of Japan, said the

From Page 1

On Friday night, three men opened fire at a second hand luxury car show room called Car Street Mini in southwest Delhi's Naraina, situated just a kilometre away from the Naraina police station. In this case also, no one was injured but the attackers targeted the cars in the showroom. Witnesses reported hearing at least 20 rounds being fired by three men,

causing widespread panic.
The shooters fled the scene after

damaging four luxury cars - two BMWs, a Mercedes, and a Mini Cooper. They also snatched the phone of a salesman and tossed it 100 meters away from the showroom. A slip reading "Bhau Gang, Since 2020" was found at the site, referencing the notorious gangster Himanshu Bhau, who fled to Portugal in 2022 and is suspected of orchestrating extortion attempts from abroad. The gangster has demanded Rs 5 crore from the owner of the car showroom as protection money, they said.

According to police, the assailants fired more than two dozen bullets inside and outside the showroom. In a purported

CCTV footage of the incident which was surfaced on social media on Saturday, three men are seen firing at the cars in the showroom. In the video, a shooter is also seen pointing his gun at a customer and employee sitting inside the showroom. In a similar attack in May, the Fusion Cars showroom in Tilak Nagar was targeted, and Rs 5 crore was reportedly demanded by the Bhau Gang. The gang is primarily involved in extortion, demanding large sums of money from business owners in exchange for protection. Police have identified the three suspects involved in the Naraina shooting and have registered

India slams Pakistan at...

From Page 1 She asserted that as the

world knows, Pakistan has long employed cross-border terrorism as a weapon against its neighbours. "It has attacked our Parliament, financial capital Mumbai, marketplaces and pilgrimage routes," she said, referring to the 2001 Indian Parliament attack and the 26/11 Mumbai terror attacks carried out by Pakistanbased terror groups. "The list is long. For such a country to speak about violence anywhere is hypocrisy at its ween." hypocrisy at its worst," Mangalanandan said.

In his address, Sharif raised the Kashmir issue, as expected, and said that to "secure durable peace", India make it their home. "Perhaps it should come as

Abrogation of Article 370 and enter into a dialogue for a "peaceful" resolution of the issue. He said India has spurned Pakistan's proposals for a mutual "Strategic for a mutual Restraint Regime".

Responding to this reference "to some proposal of strategic restraint", India asserted that there "can be no compact with terrorism. In fact, Pakistan should realise that cross-border terrorism against India will inevitably consequences."

Reminding the international community that this was a nation that for long hosted Al Qaeda leader Osama bin Laden, Mangalanandan said Pakistan's "fingerprints are on so many terrorist incidents across the world, whose policies attract the dreads of many societies to

unacceptable his words are to all of us. We know that Pakistan will seek to counter the truth with more lies. Repetition will change nothing. Our stand is clear and needs no reiteration," she said.India stressed that it is even more extraordinary for a country with a history of rigged elections to talk about political choices, that too in a democracy. "The real truth is that Pakistan covets our territory, and in fact, has continuously used terrorism to disrupt elections in Jammu and Kashmir, an inalienable and integral part of India," the young Indian diplomat said. She said it is ridiculous that a nation that committed

genocide in 1971 and which

persecutes its minorities

no surprise that its Prime

Minister would so speak in

this hallowed hall. Yet we

must make clear how

relentlessly even now, "dare speak about intolerances and phobias. The world can see for itself what Pakistan

A Pakistani diplomat went to respond Mangalanandan with a Right of Reply.

Describing India's assertions

as "baseless and misleading", the Pakistani diplomat said the United Nations Security Council, through numerous resolutions,

unequivocally called for a free, impartial plebiscite to enable the people of Jammu and Kashmir to exercise their inalienable right to self-determination. Every year, Pakistan's

leaders, on expected lines, make references to Jammu and Kashmir in their UNGA speeches and India fields its young diplomats to deliver hard-hitting retorts to Islamabad's rants.

Decomposed bodies of man, four disabled daughters found in Vasant Kunj

n a tragic incident, five members of a family were found dead at their rented flat in Vasant Kunj's Rangpuri village, South west Delhi. The family consisted of a man and his four daughters. The matter came to light after the neighbours of the family noticed a foul smell emanating from the house. Following that, they

called the police.
Police suspect the deceased, a man and his four daughters, allegedly died by

bodies, discovered on Friday afternoon, did not have and a spoon containing a suspicious liquid in the

According to police, the door was bolted from the inside and could be opened by the police with the help of the fire brigade team. There are two rooms in the flat. The daughters were found lying on a double bed, with their father's body in an adjacent

consistent with poisoning. A red sacred thread was tied injury marks but police around the stomachs and found three packets of necks of the daughters, celphos poison, five glasses adding to the mystery.

According to police, the deceased have been identified as Heeralal Sharma, 46, and his four daughters - Neetu, 26, Nikki, 24, Neeru, 23, and Nidhi, 20. According to the locals, the daughters hardly came out of their room. The neighbours claimed that they last saw the man and his daughters on



While police said the man's two youngest daughters were differently-abled, neighbours claimed that all four were

Legislative Assembly was formed, government bunga-

low number 33 at Shamnath

Marg, near the Assembly, was

allocated to then-Chief

Minister Madanlal Khurana.

After that, the next Chief

Minister, Sahib Singh Verma,

chose to live in a different

bungalow where he had pre-

viously resided as a minister.

Following Sahib Singh Verma,

BJP leader Sushma Swaraj

became Delhi's Chief Minister

for a few days before the 1998 assembly elections. She

opted to reside in her gov-

ernment bungalow in

Lutyens' Delhi instead of the two bungalows in Civil Lines.

Swaraj's tenure lasted only 53

days, after which the BJP lost

the elections, leading to Sheila

Dikshit becoming Chief Minister. Dikshit lived at AB-

17 on Mathura Road during

her first term. Atishi now

occupies this house, which

was previously allotted to for-

mer Deputy Chief Minister

Manish Sisodia. When Sheila

Dikshit began her second

term in 2003, she moved to a

government bungalow on

Motilal Nehru Marg, where

After he became Delhi chief

minister for the first time in

2013, he moved to a bungalow

at Tilak Lane in Delhi. He

shifted to the Flagstaff Road

residence in 2015 after once

again swearing in as the chief

she lived for 10 years.

challenged. verifying the claim, said Deputy Commissioner of (Southwest) Rohit

Nitin Chauhan, the owner of the building, told police that his caretaker Mohan Singh informed him that during the cleaning of the third floor, a foul smell was observed coming from flat number C-4. On Friday at 10:18 AM, the Delhi Police received information from neighbors regarding a foul smell and flies around the

When they broke the door and found a man lying dead in one room while the bodies of four women were found in the other room, the officer

from Rohini and Lodhi Road, and senior doctors from Safdarjung Hospital were called to examine the bodies and the scene, said the police. An inquest proceeding under section 194 of BNSS have been initiated and a medical board has been constituted for post-mortem, police

Visuals from the CCTV footage shows him entering the house on September 24, and since then, the door remained locked

difficulty walking, while details of the others are still being investigated,an official

An inquiry with neighbours and close relatives revealed that Heeralal's wife had died of cancer about a year ago. Heeralal was employed as a carpenter at the Indian Spinal Injury Centre in Vasant Kunj for the past 28 vears and earned Rs 25,000 per month. However, he had not been attending to his duties there since January

Kejriwal searches for new home

AP supremo Arvind Ar supremo ...
Kejriwal will soon vacate the official residence of Delhi chief minister in the city's Civil Lines area, with an intensive search on for a new house near his New Delhi constituency, the party said on Saturday.

Kejriwal, who resigned as Delhi chief minister earlier this month, said he would vacate the official Flagstaff Road residence during the Navratri period. The auspicious Hindu festival commences from the first week of October.

"Arvind Kejriwal will vacate the CM residence soon and search for his new accommodation has been intensified. Kejriwal is prioritising locations near his assembly constituency New Delhi, as he intends to remain connected with the people there," the Aam Aadmi Pary (AAP) said in a statement. The AAP has also requested the Central government to provide Kejriwal with an official residence due to his role as the president of a national party. There is no official government residence allocated for the Chief Minister or former Chief Ministers in Delhi and Kejriwal will be looking for alternative accommodations. With Delhi Assembly elections only a few months away,



the AAP national convener is 'keenly focused" on finding a property that will allow him to utilise his time and resources to the fullest, the party said.

He is searching for a place that not only provides a base for his work but also allows him to travel and stay connected with every corner of the city and its people, it said. AAP MLAs, councillors, workers as well as the common people are offering the former chief minister accommodation, regardless of their social, economic, or political background, the party said. Some have requested him to live with them, others have offered shared spaces, and many have provided vacant places for him to stay, it

Offers of accommodation

for Kejriwal have come from across the city, including from neighbourhoods such as Defence Colony, Pitampura, Jor Bagh, Chanakyapuri, Greater Kailash, Vasant Vihar,

and Hauz Khas, the statement

The former Delhi chief minister is looking for a property which is clear of all sorts of encumbrances and disputes, it said. The AAP has demanded that the Central government provide an official accommodation to Kejriwal for holding the position of president of a national party. Kejriwal lives with his family, including his wife, children and elderly parents. Before joining politics, Kejriwal who hails from Haryana, used to live in the Kaushambi area of Uttar Pradesh's Ghaziabad.

In 1993, when the Delhi

AAP leaders' comments on Keiriwal's residence extremely ridiculous: BJP



STAFF REPORTER NEW

Delhi BJP spokesperson Praveen Shankar Kapoor on Saturday said remarks by Chief Minister Atishi and Aam Aadmi Party leaders regarding Arvind Kejriwal's residence are extremely ridiculous.

The Chief Minister's claim that Kejriwal is an honest politician and has no house in Delhi is an old argument, which holds no relevance for the people of Delhi, he said. In the past, prominent leaders like Madan Lal Khurana, Sheila Dikshit, Sahib Singh and Sushma Swaraj vacated their government accommodations without making any excuses after stepping down from the Chief Minister's position, Kapoor said. If Kejriwal does not have a bungalow, he can rent a house, he

Mayor urges MCD Commissioner to submit status report on road maintenance within two days

STAFF REPORTER NEW DELHI

Delhi Mayor Shelly Oberoi has directed the Municipal Corporation of Delhi (MCD) Commissioner Ashwani Kumar to submit a status report on road maintenance and construction within two days, raising concerns over the poor condition of roads across the city.

In a letter to the Commissioner, Oberoi on Saturday pointed out that the damaged roads contribute to air pollution in the city by suspending road

dust.
"It has come to my notice that most MCD roads in colonies all over Delhi are in serious disrepair. Not only is this making travel difficult for all the residents of Delhi but it has also put residents at increased risk of accidents due to potholes.

"It is unacceptable that such a routine matter of maintenance and construction of MCD roads in the national capital isn't being carried out in a timely manner," Oberoi wrote, adding that any further delays could negatively impact Delhi's pollution lev-

The mayor mentioned that the MCD has allocated Rs 1,000 crore for road maintenance and Rs 500 crore



for the current financial year. She has requested detailed information on how these funds have been utilized so far, reasons for any delays and the current status According to Oberai, during of road projects approved under her discretionary

Oberoi has asked for a breakdown of expenditure across different budget heads and a project-wise update on the implementation of the roadworks.

Oberoi directed the commissioner to share the status of maintenance and construction of MCD roads within two working days i.E. By 5 pm on Monday. Oberoi also inspected the Chandni Chowk area, Sawhney and Municipal Corporation of Delhi (MCD) officials, to address concerns regarding cleanliness and sanitation.

the inspection, she received numerous complaints from residents and vendors regarding the unsatisfactory cleaning conditions between Lal Quila and Fatehpuri Masjid Road.

In response, the Mayor directed MCD officials to deploy a dedicated team for night shift cleaning, apart from morning and afternoon shifts, a first-time initiative in Chandni Chowk market road, starting next

BJP murdering democracy: CM Atishi ABVP urges DU administration

STAFF REPORTER ■ NEW

Delhi Chief Minister Atishi accused the BJP on Saturday of "murdering" democracy and member of the MCD's standing committee was "illegal unconstitutional Addressing a press conference, Atishi said the Aam Aadmi Party (AAP) will approach the Supreme Court against the election held on Friday while reacting her allegations, Delhi BJP president Virendra Sachdeva said the chief minister's remarks were "completely driven by political self-interest" and aimed at spreading "confu-

The Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) won the vacant seat of the Municipal Corporation of Delhi's (MCD) 18-member standing committee unopposed as the councillors of the ruling AAP abstained from voting. Atishi dared the BJP to get the MCD dissolved and face the AAP in an election to see who according to people should rule the civic body.

"The country runs by the Constitution and laws, not by hooliganism. So the BJP should stop murdering democracy," she said, adding that the standing committee



member's election was held in violation of the Delhi Municipal Corporation (DMC) Act, 1957.

According to rules, only the

mayor can decide the date and place for the election of the MCD standing committee members. Only the mayor can preside over a meeting of the MCD councillors for the election, the chief minister said. "Flouting democracy. Constitution and laws, and on the lieutenant governor's instructions, the election of the standing committee member was conducted by making an additional commissioner of the MCD the presiding officer instead of the mayor," she claimed.

The BJP has no regard for the Constitution or rules and regulations and it is not bothered about ripping off democracy, Atishi alleged."The LG or the officers do not have the power

to call a meeting of the House, yet the LG gave the order, the commissioner obeyed it and called a meeting of the corporation for the election. And instead of the elected mayor, an IAS officer became the presiding officer," she said. Delhi BIP President Virendra Sachdeva on Saturday said the statements made by Chief Minister Atishi on the Delhi Municipal Corporation Act and its provisions are completely driven by political self-

ing confusion. 'Atishi should know that under section 45 of the DMC Act, the formation of the standing committee is mandatory. Under section 487, the LG and the municipal commissioner have the authority to convene a meeting of the corporation under special circumstances and they can appoint a presiding officer for

interest and aimed at spread-

the meeting," Sachdeva said. He added that Atishi should also explain why the AAP is not allowing the appointment of a Dalit mayor in the MCD in the third year of its tenure, "She is attempting to divert public attention from the AAP's loss in the standing committee election and the lack of unity among the party's councillors," Sachdeva said. The BJP leader claimed that the AAP did not even want the standing committee election to be held. The election took place only due to a Supreme Court order passed on August 5 and pressure from the Delhi High Court, Sachdeva

claimed. The chief minister should explain why the MCD had, in an affidavit, assured the high court that the process of constituting the standing com-mittee would be completed by the last week of September, he

The municipal commissioner and the mayor called a meeting on September 26 for the election of the standing committee member. However, under "pressure" from AAP leaders, the mayor postponed the meeting to October 5 which is a direct violation of the affidavit given to the high court, Sachdeva said.

to declare DUSU polls results

VIBHU JOSHI NEW DELHI

Parishad (ABVP) on Saturday urged the Delhi University administration to declare the results of the Delhi University Students' Union (DUSU) elections immediately. The counting of votes, originally scheduled for Saturday, was stalled following a Delhi High Court order earlier this week. The ABVP leaders argued that delaying the results undermines student representation. Addressing a press conference at the student union's headquarters, ABVP National Secretary Ğeneral Yagyavalkya Shukla said, "It is essential that the DUSU election results be declared as soon as possible. Student unions have long been a powerful platform for addressing issues related to education and youth, and delaying the results compromises this." He further stated that during the DUSU election related hearing in Delhi High Court, various stakeholders were not called upon to present their point of views in the court. "Among various issues, the rules of DUSU elections need



reforms as per the current requirements," he said. Shukla further said that the rule of spending only Rs 5,000 is unfair in context to Delhi University Students' Union election where almost 1,50,000 voters are there to cast their votes. "In addition to this, other rules related to the DUSU elections must be amended as per the requirements of today, he said.

He also accused the student wing of the Aam Aadmi Party (AAP) of attempting to discredit the DUSU elections after facing two consecutive

ABVP National Secretary Shivangi Kharwal called for the formation of a high-level

committee to review and recommend reforms in the student election process. "This committee should include former vice-chancellors, educationists, student union leaders, and representatives from student organisations to ensure that all stakeholders' perspectives are taken into account," she said.

Harsh Atri, ABVP's Delhi State Secretary, also raised concerns over efforts to halt student elections across various academic institutions. "While elections are being held in multiple bodies nationwide, attempts are being made to stop student union elections in educational institutions with flawed

arguments. The focus should be on reforms, not shutting down student unions," Atri

Rishabh Chaudhary, ABVP's presidential candidate for the DUSU elections, highlighted previous initiatives such as "One Day, One DUSU President" and emphasised the need for training both teaching and non-teaching staff to improve the election process.

On Friday, a senior DU official indicated that the announcement of the DUSU election results is likely to be delayed until October 21, when the court is set to hear the matter. The court had directed DU to withhold the counting until all posters, banners, and defacement of public property on the campus were cleared.

The court has also directed Delhi University to pay for the expenses incurred by the civic authorities, including the Municipal Corporation of Delhi (MCD), government departments and Delhi Metro, for restoring the public property noting that the varsity would have the right to recover the amount from the candidates thereafter.

Three housing schemes launched by DDA on Rakshabandhan received impressive response: Officials

STAFF REPORTER ■ NEW DELHI

The three housing schemes launched by Delhi Development Authority(DDA) on the auspicious occasion of Raksha Bandhan received impressive response, with flats of various categories across several locations, particularly affordable housing, generating good demand among the buyers, officials of the agency said on

Saturday Giving details, they said over 1,200 LIG and 440 EWS flats were sold out in Sasta Ghar and Madhyam Vargiya Housing schemes, with Rohini leading where all 708 LIG flats were sold while around 250 flats were booked

in Narela. Ramgarh also received impressive response. Out of 183 LIG flats in the scheme, 153 flats were sold. Among the EWS segment, around 300 flats were sold out in Narela and all 139 flats offered in Loknayakpuram were also booked.

Delhi Lt Governor(LG)V K Saxena who reviewed the status, lauded DDA's efforts in this direction and reiterated the Prime Minister's and his personal commitment to housing for all, while prioritising the poor and not so well of sections.

Since the first day of the booking, i.e., September 10, the scheme is receiving impressive response with all HIG flats offered at Jasola

The latest to join the bandwagon were flats in Dwarka, where balance inventory of one penthouse, three super HIG, 18 HIG and majority of MIG got sold in the bidding. The demand can be gauged from the fact that for 169 flats, around 2,000 people deposited the EMDs and after several rounds of bidding, the flats were sold at much above the reserve price. The success story of Narela

has been quite encouraging as DDA has taken several steps for the development of the promising sub-city. It is being developed as the upcoming education hub of Delhi, with many institutions being already operational and sev-



eral projects in pipeline. The proposed Rithala-Narela-Kundli metro rail corridor and Urban Extension Road project will further boost healthcare facilities are also

on the anvil in Narela, which

will aid growth of the sub city.

There are many works under-

way to improve and develop road network connectivity, drainage network, electrical connecting, water supply, and sewerage network in the Narela Zone.

The housing schemes were launched under the guidance of the LG, who has been personally spearheading and monitoring the housing schemes.

This remarkable success can be attributed to DDA's commitment to providing quality housing at affordable prices, coupled with the strategic development plans. The DDA is developing greens around the housing pockets to improve quality of life for the buyers.Besides, additional final touches are being given

to housing blocks to add value. Furthermore, DDA is in touch with local bodies to ensure cleanliness of the area. For those areas under its jurisdiction, DDA is leaving no stone unturned to ensure a green and clean Delhi. These efforts demonstrate DDA's dedication to not only providing just affordable housing but also creating a sustainable and thriving community for its residents.

For the ease of the buyers, seamless information to them is being provided. Property documents are being given in folder. The folder to contain all relevant documents that include demand-cum-allotment letter (DAL), payment receipt, possession letter (PL),

NOC for water and electricity, possession slip, RERA registration certificate and layout plan. Besides, DDA has provided all buyers with demand letters within 24 hours.

The DDA launched its three housing schemes in August 2024-Sasta Ghar and Madhyam Vargiya Housing Schemes and Dwarka Housing Scheme for various locations like Dwarka, Jasola, Narela, Rohini, Loknayakpuram, Ramgarh and Siraspur for various categories of flats.

While buyers can book flats for the first two schemes on First Come First Serve (FCFS) basis, flats were sold through e-auction in Dwarka Housing

FIR against Siddaramaiah exposes Congress corruption: BJP Youth will defeat

dhe BJP on Saturday asserted that the registration of a case on several criminal charges, including corruption, against Karnataka Chief Minister Siddaramaiah has exposed the Congress, as it noted that the FIR was lodged following a court order and central agencies had no role in it. BJP spokesperson Sudhanshu Trivedi told reporters that it is a rare case of a sitting chief minister being made an accused in a corruption case and has unmasked the "corrupt face" of the Congress. Siddaramaiah is the accused number one in the case, he said and took a swipe at Congress leader Rahul Gandhi, asking if he stood with the chief minister accused of corrupt practices. The Karnataka Lokayukta police on Friday registered an FIR against Siddaramaiah and others in the Mysuru Urban



following the court order. A special court in Bengaluru on Wednesday ordered a Lokayukta police probe against Siddaramaiah in the case, setting the stage for filing an FIR against him.

With the Congress leadership accusing the BJP of targeting the chief minister for political reasons, Trivedi noted that central probe agencies had no

(MUDA) site allotment case, He claimed that the case is an outcome of Siddaramaiah's own misdeeds, as he and his family abused government powers to acquire assets illegally.

He said a Congress candidate in the Haryana assembly polls had recently said that his party leaders will use power to enrich themselves and their relatives, and alleged that the Karnataka chief minister had already been doing it.



While Congress pocket thousands of crores of rupees, they give "lollypop" of a few thousands to people, he said. At the press conference, the BJP spokesperson also slammed the Trinamool Congress government in West Bengal for its "nexus" with criminals over the case of rape of an IAS officer's wife.

He made a mention of the Calcutta High Court's critical observation of the police and dance) by Gandhi in the context of the temple's inauguration ceremony. He said three generations of

He said three generations or Gandhi family had gone to Mughal king Babar's grave in Afghanistan to pay their respects, and claimed that their stand on the temple shows their real nature and contempt for Hinduism. Referring to Pakistani prime

its construction were felicitated by Prime Minister

Narendra Modi and showered

with flower petals. He objected to the use of

phrase like "naach gana" (song

UN targeting India over developments in Kashmir, Trivedi said the Congress-National Conference has also been speaking the same

minister's comments in the

Replying to a question about Noting that the anniversary of the surgical strikes targeting Rahul Gandhi's allegation that the poor had no place in the terrorists in Pakistan in 2016 Ram temple inauguration fell on Saturday, he said the ceremony, Trivedi accused the Congress and Pakistan have been echoing each other's disrespecting the temple and

BJP, says Kharge

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE **NEW DELHI**

Citing Periodic Labour Force Survey (PLFS) data, he said despite all efforts, this Government data is not able to hide the helplessness of the youth.

'There is no bigger issue in the country than unemployment. Modi ji has the biggest contribution in ruining the future of the youth. If we take a closer look at the latest data of PLFS, despite all efforts, this Government data is not able to hide the helplessness of the youth," Kharge said in a social media post in Hindi.

"Narendra Modi ji must answer — Isn't youth unemployment at a frightening 10.2% in 2023-24? Instead of giving colourful slogans and doing photo ops, what did Modiji do to provide jobs to the youth?" he asked. Is it not true that the number of women who have regular



in seven years at just 15.9 per cent, Kharge asked.

"Has not the number of women engaged in unpaid labour in rural areas increased from 51.9% (2017-18) to 67.4% (2023-24), which reflects rural unemployment? Why has the Modi Government, which makes a lot of noise about the manufacturing sector, not increased employment in it in the last seven years?" the Congress president posed. How did this figure fall from 15.85 per cent in 2017-18 to just 11.4 per cent in 2023-24,

BHISMA medical kits for Mahakumbh

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE

Uttar Pradesh, which is readying to host one of the world's largest religious festivals, the Mahakumbh 2025, has sought at least 22 BHISMA kits—India's first indigenous state-of-the-art portable medical facilities housed in a cube—from the Centre to address medical emergencies and ensure prompt healthcare for the anticipated influx of devotees at the mega event.

"The UP Government has requested at least 22 portable BHISMA (Bharat Health Initiative for Sahyog, Hita, and Maitri) Cubes to be installed at sensitive locations during the event in Prayagraj which is expected to attract around 40 crore devotees and

Two Cubes will be set up in each of the 11 zones, covering a total of 43 zones," said an official from the HLL lifecare Ltd, a PSU of the Union Health Ministry which has been tasked with assembling the equipments enclosed in the innovative product under the Government's Project

Arogya Maitri. Tailored to save the 'Golden Hour' for up to 200 BHISMA Cubes have already found successful deployments in countries like Laos, Sri Lanka, Vietnam, and recently Ukraine when India had gifted four units during Prime Minister Narendra Modi's

visit to the country. Back home in India, during Ram Mandir inauguration in Ayodhya, it emerged as a crucial lifesaver for a man during a medical emergency.

Dr Ankita, a member of the taskforce of the Union Defence Ministry for the Government's Project Arogya Maitri, shared that the Cubes are portable and rapidly deployable modular medical facilities intended to provide emergency lifesaving clinical care in event of disaster/public

health emergencies. These can be deployed within minutes and entails operation theatre, mini-ICU, ventilator, blood test equipment, X-ray machine, cooking station, food, water, shelter, power generator and much more Due to its modular design and ease of use, it can be transported by air, sea, land, or drone, ensuring timely medical assistance to even the most remote locations. The Cubes will help expedite treatment of the injured and save precious lives.

These cubes can handle several severe injuries including 40 bullet injuries, 25 major bleeds, 25 major burns, around 10 head injuries, long limb fractures, spinal injuries, chest injuries and spinal fractures, she explained. The BHISMA cube is already finding huge takers. The Union Health Minister JP

Nadda too recently announced that there are Cubes in 25 AIIMS and Institutes of National Importance (INIs) for rapid deployment in the respective region in case of disaster / health emergencies in the first

To enable operators to swiftly find items, track their usage and expiration dates, the cutting-edge BHISHM has a software system in a tablet along with the Cubes.



Modi pays tribute to Lata Mangeshkar on her birth anniversary

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE **NEW DELHI**

Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Saturday paid tributes to renowned playback singer Lata Mangeshkar on her 95th birth anniversary, and recalled his "special bond" with her. He said in a social media post, "Remembering Lata Didi on her birth anniversary. She will always live on in the hearts and minds of people due to her soulful songs."
"Lata Didi and I had a special

bond. I have been fortunate to receive her affection and blessings," he added. The Prime Minister also

shared an article written by her brother and music composer Hridaynath Mangeshkar in a national daily, which highlighted the bond between Modi and the great singer.

The unchallenged queen of playback singing for several decades, Lata Mangeshkar has been hailed by connoisseurs for her mastery of the intricacies of classical music and adored by the masses for the popular connect of her

Justice system must respond to disabled children's vulnerabilities: CJI

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE NEW DELHI

out at the regional party. It shows how dangerous the

state has become for women,

and a heinous nexus is visible

between government officials

Congress of repeatedly

and criminals, he alleged.

Chief Justice of India DY Chandrachud on Saturday said it must be ensured that the justice system, from the police stations to the courtrooms, understands and responds to the compounded vulnerabilities of children with disabilities. Speaking at

the ninth National Annual Stakeholders Consultation on Child Protection, the CJI said the challenges faced by persons with disabilities extend far beyond issues of physical accessibility and they must also contend with entrenched societal biases, stereotypes misconceptions that permeate nearly every facet of life.

justice system, from the police stations to the courtrooms, understands and responds to compounded vulnerabilities of these children. The incorporation restorative justice approaches is one such solution. The JJ Act (Juvenile

Justice Act) outlines various

rehabilitation

'We must ensure that the

reintegration measures for children in conflict with the law such as counselling, education, vocational training and community service. For children with disabilities, these measures can be

The two-day programme was organised under the aegis of Juvenile Justice Committee of the Supreme Court in association with UNICEF, India. Union Minister for Women and Child Development Annpurna Devi

adapted to ensure they receive the specialised support they

need to thrive," he said.

gave the special address for the two-day programme, while the opening remarks was given by Justice BV Nagarathna, who is also the chairperson of the Juvenile Justice Committee of the Supreme Court. Country representative of Unicef, India Cynthia McCaffrey, gave the introductory address on the

The CJI said the challenges faced by persons with disabilities extend far beyond issues of physical accessibility and "they must also contend with entrenched societal

When we talk about juvenile justice, especially in the context of children with disabilities, we cannot ignore the concept of intersectionality. Disability often intersects with other marginalised identities such as gender, caste, socioeconomic status, and ethnicity, amplifying the discrimination children face," he said, adding the doctrine of intersectionality highlights how multiple identities intersect to create unique experiences of discrimination. Highlighting that for children with disabilities, these compounded vulnerabilities can have devastating effects, the CJI stressed the state must ensure that children with disabilities are provided additional safeguards, recognizing that they face heightened risks and unique

biases, stereotypes, and

misconceptions that permeate nearly every facet of life".

We must ensure that our legal, social and institutional systems are designed not just to accommodate, but to actively protect and empower these children," he added.

challenges.

Special Gram Sabnas to guide Panchayat development plans

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE NEW DELHI

Special Gram Sabhas will be held on October two to guide panchayats on preparing their development plans for the 2025-26 financial year, officials in Panchayati Raj Ministry said.

The sabhas (meetings) would engage over 2.55 lakh Gram Panchayats (GP) across the country, they said.

The training and orientation

programme is being conducted under the 'Sabki Yojana Sabka Vikas' Abhiyan of the Panchayati Raj Ministry, which is aimed at participatory fostering planning and timely preparation of Panchayat Development Plans (PDPs) across all panchayats in the country. would involve 20,000

college students who will assist in the handholding and preparation of PDPs across



various gram panchayats, the officials said.

According to a ministry official, the special Gram Sabhas would involve over 2.55 lakh gram panchayats, 6,700 block panchayats, and 665 district panchayats.

Ahead of the October two programme, the ministry will organise a national workshop on September 30, across states and UTs. The which will bring together officials said the workshop representatives from various Union ministries and departments, state faculty departments, members from training

and

will be inaugurated by the Union Minister of Panchayati Raj Rajiv Ranjan Singh 'Lalan'. "The Unnat Bharat Abhiyan (UBA), coordinated by IIT-Delhi, will play a critical role elected representatives from different this year by involving over levels of Panchayats to share 20,000 students in the 'Sabki best practices for adoption Yojana Sabka Vikas' Abhiyan,

officials said the workshop

also known as the People's Plan Campaign," another official said.

These students will participate in the Special Gram Sabha on October two, and also assist in the handholding and preparation of GPDPs across various Gram Panchayats, the official added.

"The partnership between UBA and the Ministry of Panchayati Raj aims to engage young minds in grassroots-level planning, marking a first in the history of the campaign," the official said. Young Fellows working under

the 'Project for Creating Model Gram Panchayat Clusters' as well as Fellows from Piramal Foundation, Aspirational Bharat Collaborative Transforming Rural India Foundation will play a crucial

role in co-facilitating the October 2 Gram Sabha, the official added.

The sarpanchs (village head)

would be provided help in pre-planning and orientation Localisation of of Sustainable Development Goals (LSDG) and their themes, orienting Gram Sabha members on Panchayat Development Index (PDI) scores, and in identifying appropriate interventions.

Additionally, special sabhacum-orientation programmes will be held in 750 Gram Panchayats, where senior citizens aged above 75 will share their experiences, the official said.

A tree plantation campaign under the banner "Ek Ped Maa Ke Naam", involving the planting of 75 trees in each Gram Panchayat will also be undertaken, during which the participants will take pledges on "swachhata" (cleanliness), "Nasha-mukt Bharat" (drugfree India), Fit India, and youth-driven visions for the future, according to the

Health Ministry drafts guidelines for passive euthanasia

institutes,

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE

 $B_{\rm tion,\ medical\ consensus}^{\rm rainstem\ death\ declara-}$ on the patient's prognosis, documented informed refusal from the patient or surrogate, and adherence to Supreme Court protocols are some of the major specific conditions that have been outlined in the Union Health Ministry's draft guidelines for withdrawing life support in terminally ill

patients.
The 'Draft Guidelines for Withdrawal of Life Support in Terminally Ill Patients' come weeks after the Supreme Court refused to grant an aged couple's plea to

allow "passive euthanasia" for ethical their 30-year-old son, who has been lying comatose at home for 11 years after a fall from the fourth floor of a building. In 2018 also an seeking feedback from the elderly couple from stakeholders before finalizing Maharashtra had written to the President's office, seeking permission for "active euthanasia", where a person is killed. usually administering an overdose of pain-killers.

The legality of euthanasia varies across the globe, with a small number of countries like Belgium and Australia permitting it under strict conditions

As per the Ministry, these refusal, following prognostic guidelines aim to ensure

decision-making while recognizing that many patients in critical care may not benefit from continued life support. The Ministry is the guidelines. As per the draft, the

conditions are whether the individual has been declared brainstem death, if there is a medical prognostication and considered opinion that the patient's disease condition is advanced and not likely to benefit from aggressive therapeutic interventions, patient/surrogate documented informed awareness, to continue life

support and compliance with procedure prescribed by the Supreme Court. It also states that doctors

should take a considered decision to not start a life supporting measure in a terminally ill patient that is unlikely to benefit the patient and is likely to lead to suffering and loss of dignity. In such a case, three conditions — on whether the individual has been declared brainstem death, if there is a medical prognostication and considered opinion that the patient's disease condition is advanced and not likely to benefit from aggressive



documented into account.

therapeutic interventions, It also discusses the However, IMA's national patient/surrogate importance of Advance President Dr R V Asokan It also discusses the

refusal, following prognostic which allow patients to awareness — has to be taken specify their treatment preferences in advance.

stated that the proposed guidelines expose doctors to legal scrutiny and put them under stress.

"Such clinical decisions have always been taken in good faith by doctors.

The patient's relatives are explained and given all information, taken into confidence in a given case and decision is taken on merit in every single case. Putting it down in sort of guidelines and also alleging that inappropriate decisions have been taken or they have been prolonged

misunderstanding situation," Dr Asokan told a news agency. "First the perception and unnecessarily machines are used and lives are prolonged is wrong. It exposes the doctors to legal scrutiny. "More so what is left of a

assumption

doctor-patient relationship... Trying to define it in four corners of black and white documentation which is legally scrutinised is nothing but exposing the doctors to further stress," he said. Terminal illness in the draft

guidelines has been defined as an irreversible or incurable condition from which death is inevitable in the foreseeable future. Severe traumatic brain injury which shows no recovery after 72 hours or more is also included.

Mumbai on high alert ahead of Navratri, Diwali festivities

T N RAGHUNATHA MUMBA

¬he Mumbai police have placed the country's commercial capital on a high-alert on Saturday, after they received a tip-off from the central intelligence agencies about a possible threat of a terror strike in public places during the upcoming Navratri-Diwali festival season.

The police have beefed up security in and around the metropolis, particularly at the religions and crowded public places. The police stations across the city have been directed to maintain a strict vigilance at temples, tourist spots and other important locations.

The police on Friday conducted a mock drill at the Crawford Market area, where there are two famous religious sites including the Juma Masjid. "We are also conducting such mock drills in other parts of the city," a senior police officer said.

In a related development, the famous Siddhivinayak Temple at Prabhadevi in north-central Mumbai has come under a thick security blanket

Confirming that the Mumbai police had asked the temple management to beef up security in the temple, Sada Sarvankar, the chairman of the



Siddhivinayak Temple Trust, said: "We have been asked by Mumbai Police to increase the security at the temple. We have been told to pay attention to all the security arrangements,"

Similarly, the management of the major religious places including temples have been advised to increase their internal and external security detail. The Zonal Deputy Commissioners of Police have been asked to keep an eye in their jurisdictions for any suspicious activities. Security has also been strengthened at railway stations and public installations keeping in view the safety and security of the people.

Apart from the upcoming festivals like Navratri and Diwali, the authorities have also considered the forthcoming State Assembly as one of the reasons for increasing the security in and around

The Mumbai police are not taking any chances in matters relating to security in view of the recurring terror strikes that Mumbai has witnessed over the years. The country's commercial capital has witnessed 12 terror strikes ever since it had its first brush with international terrorism on March 12, 1993 when 257 people were killed and 713 others injured. The 12 terrorist strikes have collectively claimed a staggering 704 lives and left 2,300-odd people injured, besides a trial of destruction. Among these terror strikes, the 1993 serial bombings, the twin blasts at Zaveri Bazar and Gateway of India on August 25, 2003, the July 11, 2006 suburban train bombings and the 26/11 Mumbai attack have been major ones both in terms of casualties and loss of

In all, 166 people were killed and 300 others injured brazen attack indulged in by the 10 Pakistani terrorists, including Kasab, on various prominent landmarks in the metropolis like Chhatrapati Shivaji Terminus, Taj and Oberoi-Trident hotels, Jewish centre Nariman House, and popular eatery Café Leopold, between the night of November 26 and the morning of November 29, 2008.

Rahul Gandhi asks Jaishankar to help TN fishermen arrested in Sri Lanka

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE **NEW DELHI**

Leader of Opposition in Lok Sabha Rahul Gandhi on Saturday raised with External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar the issue of the arrest of 37 fishermen from Tamil Nadu and urged him to take up the matter with the Sri Lankan authorities to ensure the early release of the Indian nationals and their boats.

In a letter to Jaishankar, Gandhi said the "recurring incidents of small and marginal Indian fisherfolk being apprehended by Sri Lankan authorities and the unjust seizure of assets and imposition of hefty fines by them warrants strict condemnation". Referring to the arrest of 37 Tamil fishermen and the seizure of their boats by Sri Lankan authorities on September 21, 2024, the Congress leader said, "R Sudha, Member of Parliament Sabha) (Lok from Mayiladuthurai Parliamentary Constituency informed me that the arrested fishermen are small-scale fisherfolk operat-ing close to the coast, and that

on the day of the incident they had attempted to rescue a Sri Lankan boat in distress." It was stated that despite contacting Sri Lankan authorities for assistance with the rescue,

the fishermen were arrested on the grounds of crossing the International Maritime Boundary Line, he said. Furthermore, the fishing boats seized were community property purchased through pooled resources, he said. "A copy of Adv. R. Sudha's representation

is enclosed herewith..," he said "I request you to kindly take up this matter with the Sri Lankan authorities and ensure the early release of the fishermen and their boats," Gandhi said in his letter to Jaishankar. Tamil Chief Minister M K Stalin had on Monday apprised Jaishankar of the arrest of the 37 Tamil Nadu fishermen by the Sri Lankan Navy and the seizure of three boats while seeking measures

after the Bombay High Court stayed a directive from Maharashtra's higher and tech-

nical education department seeking postponement of the

The counting of votes that took place at the Cowasjee Jehangir Convocation Hall in Mumbai

the elections,



4.78 million tourist arrived in India this year 2024

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE

During the first six months this year, India welcomed nearly 4.78 million foreign tourist arrivals (FTAs), with Bangladesh and the US being the top source countries, according to data available from the Union Tourism Ministry. This reflects a 9.1 per cent increase from the same period in 2023, although it still trails

pre-pandemic levels from 2019, which recorded over 5.29 mil-The FTAs in June 2024 were

7,06,045 as compared to 6,48,008 in June 2023 and 7,26,446 in June 2019 registering a growth of nine per cent and a fall of 2.8 per cent with respect to 2023 and 2019 respectively, according to the data released by the Ministry on the occasion of the World Tourism Day marked on Friday.

"The FTAs during the period January- June 2024 were 47,78,374 as compared to 43,80,239 in January-June 2023 and 52,96,025 in January-June 2019 registering a growth of 9.1 per cent and -9.8 per cent with respect to 2023 and 2019 respectively," it added.

According to the data on the percentage share of FTAs in India during January-June 2024, among the top five source countries were -- Bangladesh (21.55 per cent), the US (17.56 per

cent), the UK (9.82 per cent), Canada (4.5 per cent) and Australia (4.32 per cent).

The FTAs trend for the month of June 2024 was similar with Bangladesh (28.49 per cent) occupying the first spot among the top five source countries, followed by the US (22.59 per cent), the UK (6.10 per cent), Australia (3.74 per cent) and Canada (3.01 per cent), as per the data shared by the ministry. In June 2024 alone, FTAs reached 706,045, up from 648,008 in June 2023 but slightly down from 726 446 in 2019. The increase in foreign exchange earnings, which rose to USD 15.339 billion for January-June 2024, suggests that spending per tourist is higher despite the overall lower number of arrivals.

Leisure travel remains the primary motivation for visitors, with the ministry emphasising the need for vigilance in monitoring and encouraging travelers to report symptoms of illnesses. Notably, recent geopolitical tensions could impact the recovery of inbound tourism. The Ministry also announced the winners of the Best Tourism Villages Competition 2024, recognising 36 villages for their

contributions to tourism. Overall, while inbound tourism is on the rise, it continues to face challenges in fully recovering to pre-pandemic levels, said the

experts in the sector.

T N RAGHUNATHA MUMBAI

In a mini elections of sorts held ahead of the Maharashtra Assembly polls, the Yuva Sena – the youth wing of the Shiv Sena (UBT) -swept the Mumbai University (MU) Senate polls from the Graduates' constituency by bagging all the 10 seats and handing a humiliating defeat to the ruling BJP's students wing Akhil Bharatiya Vidyarthi Parishad (ABVP) in the polls.

In a repeat of its sweep posted in the March 2018 Mumbai University Senate polls when it had won all the ten seats from the Graduates' constituency, the Yuv Sena – led by Sena MLA and former state minister Aaditya Thackeray — scored a perfect ten when the counting ended in a vast electoral constituency spread over 850-odd affiliated colleges Mumbai and neighbouring districts of Thane, Palghar, Raigad, Ratnagiri and Sindhudurg. The ABVP drew a blank in the MU Senate polls – in which there were 28 candidates for the ten seats. Nearly 55 per cent of 13,406 graduate-voters had cast their votes in 38 polling stations and 64 polling booths.

the open category. "Once again! 10 on 10 it is! We have not only repeated but bettered our performance at the Mumbai University Graduate Senate elections.

Candidates required a mini-

mum of 1,114 votes to win in

100 percent strike rate. From here we start the election victory stream," Aditya Thackeray wrote on micro-blogging site "X" early today, thanking all his colleagues in the Yuva Sena and SS (UBT).

The Yuva Sena not only walked away with all the five open-category seats in the Graduates' constituency, but it also posted



Yuva Sena sweeps Mumbai University Senate polls

a victory in all five reserved-category seats which included candidates from Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes, Nomadic Tribes, Other Backward Classes, and women. The ten Yuv Sena candidates who romped home in the polls were: Sneha Gawli, Sheetal Sheth Devrukhkar, Mayur Panchal, Dhanraj Kohchade, Kisan Sawant, Pradeep Sawant, Shashikant Zore, Milind Satam, Alpesh Bhoir and Paramatma

Yuva Sena supporters celebrated their victory, chanting slogans in favour of their leaders University's Fort campus ended in the small hours of Saturday. Accepting the defeat in the Mumbai University Senate polls, the ABVP's Konkan region head Sankalp Phaldesai said: "It was an election between political giants and the student

In the normal course, the MU

Senate polls were to be held in

2023 in 2023. However, the

elections had been delayed over

two years due to multiple hur-

dles, including political and legal disputes. The polls were finally held on September 24,

We did our best. There may have been some strategic faults, which we will surely introspect. The ABVP congratulates the winning candidates and wishes them the very best. We hope they will now focus on solving the issues of the student fraternity rather than on political agendas."

Sitaram Yechury kept INDIA bloc united: Rahul Gandhi



PIONEER NEWS SERVICE

Leader of Opposition Rahul Gandhi paid emotional trib-ute to late CPI(M) leader Sitaram Yechury on Saturday terming him as a glue between

Congress and other parties in the INDIA bloc. Speaking at the condolence meet, Rahul said Yechury was 100% trustworthy person who never compromises. "It's rare to see politics bring out the best in someone. I saw Yechury from the first day I started my political journey, and I observed him quite carefully. What I found was someone who was flexible and who lis-

Whatever he did, he always acted in the best interest of our country. Every single time, his

tened," he said.

starting point was India, said Rahul. He shared memories of Yechury's habit of smoking cigarettes, something Yechury was never able to quit.

Rahul also reminisced on the time the two leaders would talk about BJP or the RSS and said that the late leader wouldn't say that they were doing this and that, just that "this is a danger to the country".

Congress president Mallikarjun Kharge also paid tribute to Sitaram Yechury and noted his "huge role" in the formation of INDIA bloc.

Left leaders Prakash Karat, Brinda Karat, D Raja, Pinarayi Vijayan, Dipankar Vijayan, Bhattacharya, other opposition leaders Supriya Sule, Kanomozhi, Farooq Abdullah, Gopal Rai and Ram Gopal Yadav also spoke on the condo-

case, said: "According to BJP leaders' argument, Nirmala Sitharaman

Nirmala Sitharaman's personal

account to resign?



Three Mpox cases in India October

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE **NEW DELHI**

This year till date India has reported three Mpox cases with two from Kerala who have been infected with the fast spreading Clade One B variant, all the three had traveled

abroad. The first case that the country reported was of a 26-year-old resident of Haryana's Hisar, who had tested positive last month for the West African should resign now, right?"
Responding to this, JD(S) leader and Union Minister H D Kumaraswamy, said: "Why should Nirmala Sitharaman resign." Clade 2 strain, similar to the earlier 30 cases reported in India from July 2022 onwards. He was admitted to a govern-Nirmala Sitharaman resign? Has electoral bond funds gone to ment hospital in Delhi and later discharged after being fully recovered.

> However, the two cases reported from the Southern State have been found to be infected with the fast spreading virus that led the WHO to issue an advisory about the public emergency about the outbreak of the pathogen.

The youth diagnosed with Mpox (Clade One B) in Ernakulam, Kerala, is reported to be in satisfactory condition while receiving treatment at a private hospital in Kochi, said the health official from the

State Government. He exhibited symptoms after returning from the UAE and tested positive following an examination at Kochi airport. This marks the second Mpox case in Kerala; the first involved

a 38-year-old resident of Malappuram who had tested positive for Mpox. Tests revealed that he was infected with the Clade One B variant. Both cases highlight the importance of monitoring and swift testing for travellers showing symptoms like Mpox.

In response to these cases, health authorities stress the importance of monitoring symptoms and encourage anyone feeling unwell after travel to seek medical attention.

The World Health Organization has declared Mpox a public health emergency in Africa, with symptoms including fever, headache, sore

throat, and muscle aches. To enhance awareness, health camps have been set up at airports, and isolation facilities are established in 14 districts across the state, Kerala's Health Minister Veena George told

reporters in the State. She confirmed that a contact list for the latest patient has been created and that preventive measures are in place.

medical attention.

Since Mpox was declared a Public Health Emergency of International Concern by the WHO in 2022, India has reported a total of 30 cases. In view of the present situation, health authorities are emphasising on vigilance in monitoring symptoms and encouraging anyone feeling unwell after recent travel to seek immediate

FIR against Nirmala Sitharaman over electoral bonds

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE **NEW DELHI**

In an interesting development, Karnataka police on Saturday registered a case against Union Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman and others on the directions of a court here, following a complaint relating to the now-scrapped electoral bonds scheme. According to police, an FIR was registered under IPC sections 384 (punishment for extortion), 120B (criminal conspiracy) and 34 (acts done by several persons in furtherance of common intention) against Union Minister Nirmala Sitharaman, ED officials, BJP leaders JP Nadda, BY Vijayendra, Nalin Kateel, based on the order of a special court.

The complaint was lodged by Adarsh R Iyer, Co-President of 'Janaadhikaara Sangharsha Parishath' (JSP) alleging that the accused "committed extortion under the guise and garb of electoral bonds and benefitted to the tune of 8,000 and more crore of rupees. "The complainant further alleged that Sitharaman through the clanConstitution.

destine aid and support of ED officials facilitated extortion of thousands of crores of rupees for the benefit of others both at the state and national levels.

"The entire extortion racket under the garb of electoral bonds has been

orchestrated hand in glove with officials of BJP at various levels." The Supreme Court in February had struck down the electoral bond scheme, saying it violates the right to information and the freedom of speech and expression under the Authority (MUDA) site allotment

Karnataka Chief Minister Siddaramiah, whose resignation is sought by the opposition BJP as an FIR was registered against him over the Mysuru Urban Development Has she misused power and benefited herself like you (Siddaramaiah)?". Leader of Opposition in Legislative Assembly and BJP leader R Ashoka said the Congress doesn't have moral right to comment on the Union Finance Minister, and there can be no comparison between the electoral bond issue against her and MUDA case

against Siddaramaiah. "....(electoral bond) issue is over, it has been decided by the Supreme Court, and our leader will take necessary action in accordance with law (in connection with FIR).

Where is the comparison to a case where you (Siddaramaiah) used the Government (land) for personal benefit, to this (electoral bonds case)..." he said.

Hurricane Helene kills at least 44, cuts a swath of destruction across Southeast US

urricane Helene has left an enormous path of destruction across Florida and the southeastern US, killing at least 44 people, snapping towering oaks like twigs and tearing apart homes as rescue crews launched desperate missions to save people from flood-

Among those killed were three firefighters, a woman and her one-month-old twins, and an 89-year-old woman whose house was struck by a falling tree. According to an Associated Press tally, the deaths occurred in Florida, Georgia, North Carolina, South Carolina and

The Category 4 hurricane knocked out power to some hospitals in southern Georgia, and Gov. Brian Kemp said authorities had to use chainsaws to clear debris and open up roads. The storm had maximum sustained winds of 225 kph when it made landfall late Thursday in a sparsely populated region in Florida's rural Big Bend area, home to fishing villages and vacation hideaways where the state's panhandle and penin-

Moody's Analytics said it expects USD15 billion to USD26 billion in property damage.

The wreckage extended hundreds of miles northward to northeast Tennessee, where a "dangerous rescue situation by helicopter unfolded after 54 people were moved to the roof of the Unicoi County Hospital as water rapidly flooded the facility. Everyone was rescued and no one was left at the hospital as of late Friday afternoon, Ballad Health said. In North Carolina, a lake featured in the movie "Dirty Dancing" overtopped a dam and surrounding neighbourhoods were evacuated, although there were no immediate concerns it would fail. People also were evacuated from Newport, Tennessee, a city of about 7,000 people, amid concerns about a dam near there, although officials later said the structure

Tornadoes hit some areas, including one in Nash County, North Carolina, that

the existing 60 kg Rail by 60 kg/90

UTS Rail on PSC-6 sleeper from Km

144,30 to 145,10 (UP line), from Km

149.20 to 152.40, 156.70 to 157.40,

157.60 to 158.40, 158.70 to 159.10,

162.60 to 164.70, 165.10 to 165.90,

166.00 to 167.00 (DN line) between

Hatwar-Kumedpur section under the

iurisdiction of Sr. DEN/I/Katihar (Total

= 9.80 Km) (B) BG TTR (P) of the

existing 60Kg rail 1 in 12 (FS) by 60

(g 1 in 12 (FS) by 60 Kg 1 in 12 (TWS)

Pt. No. 104, 110, 109, 103, 105, 101 at

Kumarganj yard, Pt. No. 122 at Eklakhi

under the jurisdiction of Sr. DEN/I/

Katihar (Grand Total = 7 sets). Tender

Value: ₹95,25,423.56/- Bid Security

₹1.90.500/- Tender No. 3. Name of

work: (A) BG TTR(P) of the existing

60Kg rail 1 in 12 (FS) by 60 Kg 1 in 12

(TWS) Pt. No. 101 at Ambari Falakata

Yard, Pt. No. 111, 113, 115, 116 at

Belakoba Yard, Pt. No. 121, 122 at

Raninagar Jalpaiguri Jn. Yard (Total

= 7 Sets), BG TTR(P) of the existing

52Kg rail 1 in 8.5 (FS) by 60 Kg 1 in 8.5 (FS) Pt. No. 107, 108 at Paniipara

Yard, Pt. No. 108, 111 at Gaisal Yard

(Total = 4 Sets), BG TTR(P) of the

existing 60Kg rail 1 in 12 (FS) by 60

Kg 1 in 12 (TWS) with sleeper Pt. No.

102, 103, 104, 105, 107, 125, 124

123, 122, 121, 127 at Ambari Falakata

Yard, Pt No. 101, 105, 106, 103 at

Belakoba Yard, Pt No. 101, 102, 103

105, 106, 107, 126, 124, 125, 127,

131 at Raninagar Jalpaiguri Jn. Yard

(Total = 26 Sets) under the jurisdiction

of DEN/Line/Katihar. (B) BG TTR(P)

of the existing 60Kg rail 1 in 12 (FS)

by 60 Kg 1 in 12 (TWS)Pt. No. 101 105, 102, 110 at Mangurjan yard, Pt.

No. 101, 103, 105, 102, 106 at Tin

Mile Hat Yard, Pt. No. 101, 105, 102,

104, 106, 110 at Dumdangi Yard, Pt.

No. 103, 105, 102, 106, 110 at Chattar

Hat Yard under the jurisdiction of DEN/

Line/Katihar (Grand total = 20 sets)

Tender Value: ₹2,52,16,656.79/- Bid

Security: ₹2,76,100/-. Tender No. 4

Name of work: New Jalpaiguri Jn.

Kishanganj & Raninagar Jalpaigur

New Jalpaiguri Jn. (UP/DN) - Cess

Repair - 19,200 TKM & 12,000 TKM.

Tender Value: ₹4.45.14.697.84/

Bid Security: ₹3,72,600/-. Tender

No. 5. Name of work: Katihar

Replacement of Overhead tank at Old

Pit line by RCC Over Head tank 30000

gallon under Sr. DEN/IV/Katihar

Tender Value: ₹2,61,27,528.39/-, Bid



critically injured four people

Atlanta received a record 28.24 centimetres of rain in 48 hours, the most the city has seen in a two-day period since record keeping began in 1878, Georgia's Office of the State Climatologist said on the social platform X. The previous mark of 24.36 cm was set in 1886. Some neighbourhoods were so badly flooded that only car roofs could be seen poking above the water.

Climate change has exacerbated conditions that allow such storms to thrive, rapidly intensifying in warming waters and turning into powerful cyclones sometimes in a matter of hours. All five who died in one Florida coun-

ty were in neighbourhoods where residents were told to evacuate, said Bob Gualtieri, the sheriff in Pinellas County in the St. Petersburg area. Some who stayed ended up having to hide in their attics to escape the rising water. He said the death toll could rise as crews go doorto-door in flooded areas.

More deaths were reported in Georgia and the Carolinas, including two South Carolina firefighters and a Georgia firefighter who died when trees struck their trucks

Video on social media showed sheets of rain and siding coming off buildings in Perry, Florida, near where the storm hit land. A news station showed a home that was overturned, and many communities established curfews.

Also in Perry, the hurricane peeled off the new roof of a church that was replaced after Hurricane Idalia last year. President Joe Biden said he was praying for survivors, and the head of the

headed to the area. The agency deployed more than 1,500 workers, and they helped with 400 rescues by late morning. In Tampa, some areas could be reached only by boat.

Officials urged people who were trapped to call for rescuers and not tread floodwaters, warning they can be dangerous due to live wires, sewage, sharp objects and other debris.

More than 3 million homes and businesses were without power in Florida, Georgia and the Carolinas as of late Friday, according to poweroutage.us. The site also showed outages as far north as Ohio and Indiana due to Helene's rapid northward movement throughout the

In Georgia, an electrical utility group warned of "catastrophic" damage to utility infrastructure, with more than 100 high voltage transmission lines damaged. And officials in South Carolina, where more than 40% of customers were without power, said crews had to cut their way through debris just to determine what was still standing in some places. The hurricane came ashore near the mouth of the Aucilla River, about 20 miles (30 kilometers) northwest of where Idalia hit last year at nearly the same ferocity. Florida Gov. Ron DeSantis said the damage from Helene appears to be greater than the combined effects of Idalia and Hurricane Debby in August. Soon after it crossed over land, Helene weakened to a tropical storm and later a post-tropical cyclone. Forecasters said it continued to produce catastrophic flooding, and some areas received more than a foot of rain.

Forecasters warned of flooding in North Carolina that could be worse than anything seen in the past century. Evacuations were underway and around 300 roads were closed statewide. The Connecticut Army National Guard sent a helicopter to help.

School districts and universities cancelled classes. Florida airports that closed due to the storm reopened Friday. Inspectors were examining bridges and causeways along the Gulf Coast, the Federal Emergency Management Agency state's transportation secretary said.

Iranian Gen also killed in Israeli strike in Beirut

AP DUBAI

Aprominent general in Iran's paramilitary Alran's paramilitary Revolutionary Guard died in an Israeli airstrike that killed Hezbollah leader Hassan Nasrallah in Beirut, Iranian media reported Saturday.

The killing of Gen. Abbas Nilforushan marks the latest casualty suffered by Iran as the nearly yearlong Israel-Hamas war in the Gaza Strip teeters on the edge of becoming a regional conflict. His death further ratchets up pressure on Iran to respond, even as Tehran has signalled in recent months that it wants to negotiate with the West over sanctions crushing its economy.
Nilforushan, 58, was killed
Friday in the strike in Lebanon
that killed Nasrallah, the stateowned Tehran Times reported. Ahmad Reza Pour
Wheehan the deputy bead of

Khaghan, the deputy head of Iran's judiciary, also confirmed Nilforushan's death, describing him as a "guest to the people of Lebanon," the state-run IRNA news agency said.

Khaghan also reportedly said that Iran had the right to retaliate under international

The US Treasury had identified Nilforushan as the deputy commander for operations in the Guard. It sanctioned him in 2022 and said he had led an organisation "directly in charge of protest suppression. Those sanctions came amid the monthslong protests in Iran over the death of Mahsa Amini following her arrest for allegedly not wearing her headscarf, or hijab, to the liking of police.

Nilforushan also served in Syria, backing President Bashar Assad in his country's decades-long war that grew out of the 2011 Arab Spring. Like many of his colleagues, he began his military career in the Iran-Iraq war of the 1980s.

In 2020, Iranian state television called him a "comrade" of Gen. Qassem Soleimani, the head of its expeditionary Quds Force who was killed in a US drone attack in Baghdad that

COURT OF SH. RAJESH MALIK LD. DJ-06 CENTRAL DISTRICT, ROOM NO. 33 TIS HAZARI COURT DELHI

ASHISH GROVER -VS- THE STATE & ORS.

Whereas an Application under Section 276 of the Indian Succession Act 1925 for grant of Probate/Letter of Administration in respect of the Estate of LATE JAGTAR GROVER S/O LATE SH. HARDAYAL MAL, RAJOURI GARDEN, NEW DELHI-110027 DIED ON 13.10.2021 At NORTHSIDE HOSPITAL FORSYTH (CUMMING CITY Georgia State, County Forsyth) has been made by ASHISH GROVER S/O LATE Jagtar Grover R/O 5765, Willow Oak PASS CUMMING, GEORGIA-30040 (U.S.A) LOCAL ADDRESS: J-56, FIRST FLOOR, VISHNU GARDEN, NEW DELHI-110018 HROUGH ATTORNEY HOLDER SUSHANT SUMAN S/O SHRI

ROAD, PLOT NO. 24, SECTOR-43, SIKANDERPUR GHOSI, GURGAON, HARYANA-122002. Whereas the 20.11.2024 has been fixe for hearing of the case, notice is hereby giver that any person naving any interest in the robate/Letter of Administration of the estate the said deceased if he/she desire t ee the Proceedings before the grant of lette Administration.

NARAYAN SINGH, FLAT NO. 504, TOWER No, 2 Bajrang CGHS, Golf Course

ven under my hand and the Seal of th ourt, this **27TH day of SEPTEMBER 2024** (SH. RAJESH MALIK) DJ-06 (CENTRAL) Delhi ROOM NO. 33 TIS HAZARI COURT DELH

PUBLIC NOTICE

teg: Entire Ground Floor, without root ghts (i.e. the said floor), on Built-up) sq. mtrs., in Pocket No. 09, Sector No. 1. situated in Rohini Residential Scheme phini, Delhi-110085.; hereinafter referr

Konin, Delhi-110085; hereinafter referred to as "said property Be it known to all that our client, Mr Kundan Kumar Singh (hereinafter called the "Purchaser") intends to purchase the said floor from Mr. Abhishek Singf (hereinafter called the "Seller"). In this connection, the seller has informed the hurchaser that he is the selle and absolute that he selle and absolute that the selle and absolute that he selle and absolute that he selle and absolute that he is the selle and absolute that the sellent the sellent that the sellent the sellent that the sellent the sellent that the sellent the sel urchaser that he is the sole and absolut wner of the said floor. The seller ha owner of the said floor. The seller has urther informed the purchaser that the said floor was owned by Mrs. Anju Singh yide Sale Deed executed by Mr. Pramod Jain and registered as Document No. 2681 on 02/04/2009 (SRO-VI). Mrs. Anju Singh expired and the said floor devolved on her egal heirs viz., Mr. Harbans Singh and Mr. Abhishek Singh. Later on, Mr. Abhishek Singh relinquished his share in the said loor in favour of Mr. Harbans Singh vide Relinquishment Deed registered as elinquishment Deed registered a ocument No. 543 on 07/02/2019 (SRC Jocument No. 543 on 07/02/2019 (SAZ)
(I/D). Shri Harbans Singh also expired and he said floor devolved on his legal heir viz. Mr. Abhishek Singh. Thus, Mr. Abhishek Singh (present seller) became the sole and absolute owner of the said floor. The sellenas also informed the purchaser that the said floor is not mortgaged anywhere and here is no charge or dispute or any nere is no charge or dispute or any tigation pending regarding the said floor itigation pending regarding the said floor. Any person including Bank/s, Financial institution/s. relative/s having any claim, right, title or any interest of any nature whatsoever into or upon the aforesaid floor is hereby called upon to make the same known, in writing, with documentary evidence, by Registered AD Post, to the undersigned at the address mentional person below within Q7 days of our bligation person below within Q7 days of our bligation erein below within 07 days of publication this notice and in the event of no esponse having been received to the otice, the title of the seller to the said our shall be deemed to be clear of any harge or encumbrance of any nature hatsoever and any subsequent clairall not bind our client/Purchaser, in an approxymatoscoper.

nanner whatsoever.

Bhivkant Arora, Advocate

I/s Intellective Law Offices

A-74, LGF, Defence Colony,



Brazil judge sets fresh terms for X to resume services

AP SAO PAULO

 $B^{\text{razilian Supreme Court}}_{\text{Justice Alexandre de Moraes}}$ has added conditions for Elon Musk's X to have its service reestablished in the country, one day after the social media platform said it had complied with all the judge's demands, including naming a legal representa-

De Moraes said in a ruling on Friday that X may only be reinstated in Brazil after another company linked to the billionaire, satellite-based internet service provider Starlink, withdraws its appeals related to the case. X has been blocked in Brazil for nearly a month. De Moraes ordered the shutdown after sparring with Musk for months over free speech, farright accounts and misinformation. Earlier this month, de Moraes ordered Starlink's assets be used to cover X's fines that already exceeded USD3 million.

The Brazilian justice argued the two companies are part of the same economic group — a justification that has been questioned by some legal experts. His new ruling also established a fine of 10 million Brazilian reais (USD1.84 million). Experts examining X's IP addresses — numeric designations that identifies sites' location on the internet — said the company temporarily routed users through the servers of Cloudflare, a content delivery network. X said it changed its servers to service clients in Latin America, which inadvertently brought the social media network back online in Brazil. One source familiar with the judge's decision told The Associated Press that both of de Moraes' conditions are new. The source spoke on condition of anonymity because he was not authorised to speak publicly. De Moraes also accepted X's newly designated legal represen-

Tender Value Period of

without GST | Completion

PROJECT MANAGER

(Rs. In Lakh)

tative, but fined her in 300,000 reais (USD55,000) for not complying with other decisions he made in August. The company's lack of a legal representative in the country was the trigger for his decision to suspend the social media channel on August

The company has clashed with de Moraes since earlier this year over free speech, accounts associated with the far-right and misinformation on the plat-form, and it claims to be a victim of censorship.

Musk and his supporters have called de Moraes an authoritarian and a censor for his rulings, but those have been repeatedly upheld by his peers - including X's nationwide suspension. On August 28, X said it was removing all remaining Brazil staff in the country "effective immediately", saying de Moraes had threatened its legal repre-sentative in the country with

The company has reversed course in recent days. On Thursday, X submitted documentation to de Moraes saying it had complied with all his decisions and requesting its reactivation in Brazil, according to sources familiar with the decision, who spoke on condition of anonymity because they were not authorised to speak publicly. X was blocked in the highly online country of 213 million people, where it was one of X's biggest markets, with more than 20 million users. Brazil has more restrictive rules

X said in a statement on Thursday it is "committed to protecting free speech within the boundaries of the law and we recognise and respect the sovereignty of the countries in which we operate".

STORES E-PROCUREMENT

Tender Notice No.: S/66/09/24-25; Dated: 25-09-2024. E-Tenders are nvited by the undersigned for the following works:-

UTTARAKHAND PEYJAL NIGAM

E-Tender Notice

2. Date and Time of availability of Bid documents in the portal:

Name and Address of the Officer inviting bid: - Project Manager

6. Pre-bid meeting details (if required) Date & Place :- 04-10-2024

For further details, details of subsequent Amendment / correction

documentation etc. may be obtained from the e-Procurement portal

(11.00 hrs) Project Manager Construction Unit Uttarakhand Peyja

3. Online Bid submission: End date :- 15-10-2024 (17.00 hrs)

Construction Unit Uttarakhand Peyjal Nigam, Ranikhet.

Name of the work

CONSTRUCTION OF CONSERVATION

OF ART OBJECTS OF G.B.PANT

MUSEUM, ALMORA, DISTRICT

Nigam, Ranikhet.

www.uktenders.gov.in

SN. 1; Tender No. NJ241269;

Closing/ Opening Date: 15-10-2024 Brief Description & Qty: BRAKE PAD half 200cm^2 made of organic

materials to RDSO Spec:-RDSO/2013/CG-01(Rev-2)amendment-1. Warranty:-The composite brake pad will have warranty against any nanufacturing defect noticed during the service before the condemning limit is reached or 24 months from the date of supply whichever is earlier Consignee:- GSD/New Jalpaiguri, NFR. Qty: 1200 Pairs.

NOTE:- For full details of Tender notice and tender documents, tendered may log on to the website (www.ireps.gov.in) prospective bidder who ntend to participate in above tenders are required to log in themselves with the above website and submit their offer electronically, if they are already registered with IREPS. In case they are not registered with IREPS. hey are advised to obtain class-III Digital Signature Certificate from the certifying agencies under Govt. of India IT Act 2000 and participate in the

Dv. CMM/New Jalpaigur



E-AUCTION FOR AWARDING PARKING STAND CONTRACT

E-auction for awarding parking stand contract at following locations over Katihar Division for a period of 03 (Three) years. Description: Parking Lot for Two Wheelers, Three Wheelers, Four Wheelers & Passenger Carrying Commercial Vehicles. Auction Catalogue No.: C-KNE-EKI-ARR24; Auction Start Date & Time (All Lots): 10:00 hrs. on 08-10-2024: Auction Close Date & Time: 11:20 hrs. on 08-10-2024: Rate Unit:

Arifidal Licensing Lee, Imparbays. 1095.		
Seq No.	Lot No./Category	Location
AA/1	PARKING-KIR-AUB-MX-96-24-2 (Parking - Mixed)	Aluabari Road
AA/2	PARKING-KIR-ARR-MX-111-24-2 (Parking - Mixed)	Araria
AA/3	PARKING-KIR-KNE-MX-105-24-2 (Parking - Mixed)	Kishanganj/PRS Side
AA/4	PARKING-KIR-FBG-MX-125-24-3 (Parking - Mixed)	Forbesganj Station
AA/5	PARKING-KIR-EKI-MX-103-24-2 (Parking - Mixed)	Eklakhi Station
AB/1	PARKING-KIR-NJP-PCCV-104-24-1 (Passenger Carrying Commercial Vehicles)	New Jalpaiguri Goods shed

The press notification has already been uploaded in the IREPS website on 23-09-2024 through e-Auction portal www.ireps.gov.in

Divisional Railway Manager (C), Katihar NORTHEAST FRONTIER RAILWAY

Public Notice "General Public is hereby informed that my clients Sh. Lalchand S/o Sh. Ramnath and his wife Asha, both R/o C-337, GA, Indrapuri, Block-C. Loni Ghaziabad, Uttar Pradesh – 201102, do Daughter, Soni Gupta from all their movable and immovable Properties for her unacceptable act & bad behaviour. Now, my clients will have no concern with their daughter Soni Gupta in future Any person dealing or transacting with aforesaid daughter, will do so at his/her/their own risk and responsibilities and my clients will not be esponsible for any act, deed, or dealing done by

Vishnu Verma & Laxmi(Advocate) KKD Courts, Delhi-110092



CHANGE OF NAME

I, Harpreet Singh S/O Gurdev Singh R/O M-133-136, Raghubir Nagar, Tagore Garden, Delhi-110027 declares that name of my wife is wrongly mentioned in some of my minor daughter's namely Brahamleen Kaur documents as Pawan Kaur were in her actual name is Pawan kumari. Her Date of Death is 19/04/2021.

I, Rahul Gupta S/O Dudh Nath Gupta R/O RZ-C-77A Pole No-1 Gali No-98, Kamal Park West Sagarpur, Nangal Raya, South West Delhi-46, Do here I declare that my father name is wrongly written i.e Rakesh Gupta on my driving licence-DL09 20160373069 And the correct name is Dhudh Nath Gupta.

PD(802)C

Security: ₹2,80,600/-. Tender No. 6. Name of work: Katihar-Replacement of MG Loco tank No. 10 by RCC Over Head tank 50000 gallon under Sr. DEN/IV/Katihar. Tender Value ₹4,58,90,853.67/-, Bid Security ₹3,79,500/-.Date & time of closing of tender: 15.00 hrs. of 21-10-2024 & opening at 15.30 hrs. of 21-10-2024. The complete information with the tender document of above e-tender will be available upto 15.00 hrs. of 21-10-2024 in website 15.00 hrs. o. _ .. www.ireps.gov.in DRM (W), Katihar

NORTHEAST FRONTIER RAILWAY

Floods, landslides kill 59 in Nepal

BRIDGE RENEWAL WORKS AT KATIHAR DIVISION E-Tender Notice No. KIR/Engg/39 of 2024 Dated: 20-09-2024. E-Tenders landslides caused by incessant are invited by the undersigned for rain killed at least 59 people the following works: Tender No and injured 36 others in Nepal, 1 Name of work: Hatwar-Malda officials said on Saturday. Town (UP/DN)-TSR (P) Bridge Parts of Nepal have been inun-Approach-13.400 Tkm & Bridge dated with rainfall since Approach Sleeper-66 sets under the jurisdiction of Sr. DEN/I/Katihar Thursday, prompting disaster Tender Value: ₹3,23,01,499.77/-. Bid Security: ₹3,11,500/-. Tender No. 2 Name of work: (A) BG TRR (P) of

Kathmandu (PTI): Floods and authorities to warn of flash floods.

Police Deputy Nepal Spokesperson Bishwo Adhikari said that out of the 59 people killed in the Himalayan nation due to the continuous rainfall, 34 were killed in the

Kathmandu valley. As many as 36 people were also injured in the floods.

A total of 44 people remain missing countrywide, with 16 missing in Kathmandu Valley. More than 1,000 people have also been rescued

STORES E-PROCUREMENT

Tender Notice No.: S/21/2024-25, Dtd: 27-09-2024. E-Tender are invited by the undersigned for

SI.No.:1; Tender No.: 50/24/5162/OT/170/2024-25; Closing/Opening Date: 02-10-2024. Brief Description: 1) Schedule item No 1.Coral Flexicom 6000 Exchange 24 SLS Card [Warranty Period: 36 Months after the date of deliveryl [Inspection Agency: TPI, Stage Insp.: No. Stages: 0] [Item Type: Goods]. Qty-20 Nos for SSE/TELE/AUTO/Maligaon, NFR (Assam). P.L.No-539836680130. 2) Schedule item No2.Coral Flexicom 6000 Exchange 24 SFT Card [Warranty Period: 36 Months after the date of delivery] [Inspection Agency: TPI, Stage Insp.: No, Stages: 0] [Item Type: Goods]. Qty-4 Nos for SSE/TELE/AUTO/Maligaon, NFR (Assam). P.L.No-501027190060. 3) Schedule item No 3.Coral Flexicom 6000 Exchange PPS Card [Warranty Period: 36 Months after the date of ivery] [Inspection Agency: TPI, Stage Insp.: No. Stages: 0] [Item Type: Goods], Qty-5 Nos fo SSE/TELE/AUTO/Maligaon, NFR (Assam). P.L.No-539836680141. 4) Schedule item No 4. Coral Flexicom 6000 Exchange RPS Card [Warranty Period: 36 Months after the date of delivery] [Inspection Agency: TPI, Stage Insp.: No, Stages: 0] [Item Type: Goods]. Qty-4 Nos for SSE/ TELE/AUTO/Maligaon, NFR (Assam), P.L.No- 501024960097, 5) Schedule item No 5, Coral Flexicom 6000 Exchange PB ATS Card [Warranty Period: 36 Month after the date of delivery] [Inspection Agency: TPI, Stage Insp.: No, Stages: 0] [Item Type: Goods]. Qty-6 Nos for SSE/TELE/AUTO/

SI.No.:2; Tender No.: 30/24/0333/OT/171/2024-25; Closing/Opening Date: 03-10-2024. Brief Description: Head stock complete for BG/ICF, as per Drg. No. Drg. No.ICF/STD-1-2-001 Colum-III, alt-I/5 specn: Mat.Spec.-As per drg. [Warranty Period: 30 Months after the date of delivery] [Inspection Agency: TPI, Stage Insp. No, Stages: 0] [Item Type: Goods]. 1) Qty- 6 Nos for New Bongaigaon/Workshop/Depot, NFR (Assam), 2) Qty- 18 Nos for Dibrugarh Town/Workshop/ Depot, NFR (Assam). P.L.No-30126150.

Maligaon, NFR (Assam). P.L.No-560608650050.

SI.No.:3; Tender No.: 30/24/1275A/OT/172/2024-25; Closing/Opening Date: 07-10-2024. Brief Description: Primary Spring (INNER) for Power car (LWLRRM), AC Three Tier Sleeper/EOG (LWACCN) to Drawing No. 1277143 Ver.01R or latest Mat Spec.:- RDSO/2017/CG-01 (Rev-2) or atest [Warranty Period: 30 Months after the date of delivery] [Inspection Agency: TPI, Stage Insp No, Stages: 0] [Item Type: Goods]. 1) Qty- 648 Nos for Dibrugarh Town/Workshop/Depot, NFR (Assam), 2) Qty- 169 Nos for Pandu/GSD, NFR (Assam), 3) Qty- 100 Nos for New Bongaigaon/ Workshop/Depot, NFR (Assam), 4) Qty- 21 Nos for New Jalpaiguri/GSD, NFR (West Bengal), 5) Qty- 47 Nos for Katihar/GSD, NFR (Bihar). P.L.No- 33500356.

SI.No.:4; Tender No.: 30/24/0248/OT/173/2024-25; Closing/Opening Date: 14-10-2024. Brief Description: Decorative thermosetting synthetic resin bonded Laminated Sheet Size:3x1220x2440 mm. IR marking as per drg.,RDSO Shade Pattern NAC- SP05. Drawing - RDSO Drg. No.- SK-88143, alt-1. Mat. Spec. - C-K 514(With Amnd. Slip. No.-7) [Warranty Period: 30 Months after the date of delivery] [Inspection Agency: TPI, Stage Insp.: No, Stages: 0].1) Qty-70 Nos for Katihar/GSD, NFR (Bihar), 2) Qty- 4010 Nos for Dibrugarh Town/Workshop/Depot, NFR (Assam). 3) Qty- 126 Nos for Pandu/GSD, NFR (Assam), 4) Qty- 100 Nos for New Jalpaiguri/GSD, (West Bengal), 5) Qty-3020 Nos for New Bongaigaon/Workshop/Depot, NFR (Assam)

SI.No.:5; Tender No. : 37/24/0665/OT/174/2024-25; Closing/Opening Date: 14-10-2024. Brief Description: Draft gear assembly RF 361. Drawing - RDSO Drg. No.- WD-81010-S-3, Alt-12, item-19. Mat. Spec.- 71-BD-15 Rev-01 of November 2017. [Warranty Period: 30 Months after the date of delivery] [Inspection Agency: TPI, Stage Insp.: No, Stages: 0] [Item Type :Goods]. i) Qty-50 Nos for Pandu/GSD, NFR (Assam), 2) Qty- 1500 Nos for New Bongaigaon/Workshop/Depot NFR (Assam). P.L.No- 38134676 SI.No.:6; Tender No.: 37/24/0878/OT/175/2024-25; Closing/Opening Date: 14-10-2024.

Brief Description: Flap door complete for BCNA Wagon Drg. No: RDSO, WD-90030-S-66 item-3 13,14,15 & 16, alt-10. Mat. Spec: As per Drg. [Warranty Period: 30 Months after the date of delivery] [Inspection Agency: TPI, Stage Insp. No, Stages: 0] [Item Type: Goods]. 1) Qty- 664 Nos for New Bongaigaon/Workshop/Depot, NFR (Assam), 2) Qty- 20 Nos for New Jalpaiguri/GSD, NFR (West Bengal). P.L.No- 38450756. SI.No.:7; Tender No. : 30/24/1094/OT/176/2024-25; Closing/Opening Date: 14-10-2024.

Brief Description: Roller Blind Complete for LHB type coaches as per RCF specification No. MDTS 078 REV-03 Mat. Spec.:-MDTS 078 REV-03. [Warranty Period: 36 Months after the date of delivery] [Inspection Agency: TPI, Stage Insp.: No, Stages: 0] [Item Type: Goods]. i) Qty- 47 Nos for Pandu GSD. NFR (Assam). ii) Qty 2149 Nos for New Jalpaiguri GSD, NFR(West Bengal) iii) Qty-52 Nos for Katihar GSD, NFR(Bihar). P.L. No-33556088. SI.No.:8; Tender No.: 60/24/5013A/OT/177/2024-25; Closing/Opening Date: 14-10-2024.

Brief Description: Supply, fitment and commissioning of Eddy Current Array Testing Equipmen on tumkey basis with scope of supply and other parameters as per detailed specifications attached. [Warranty Period: 24 Months after the date of delivery] [Inspection Agency: TPI, Stage Insp.: No Stages: 0] [Item Type: Goods]. Qty-1 Set for SSE/MWS/Dibrugarh Workshop, NFR (Assam). Note :- For full details of Tender Notice and Tender Documents, Tenderer may log on to the website

(www.ireps.gov.in) prospective bidder who intend to participate in above tenders are required to log in themselves with the above website and submit their offer electronically, if they are already registered with IREPS. In case they are not registered with IREPS, they are advised to obtain class-III Digital Signature Certificate from the certifying agencies under Govt. of India IT Act 2000 and participate in the above tenders. PCMM, Maligaon

NORTHEAST FRONTIER RAILWAY



RAIN WASHES OUT SECOND DAY OF KANPUR TEST

The second day of the second Test between India and Bangladesh was on Saturday called off without a ball being bowled due to persistent downpour.
The drizzle in the morning

turned into heavy rain, not letting the action begin on

Stadium. The groundsmen put the three super soppers to work around 11:15 am after the rain stopped. The visibility was also poor.

As conditions did not improve, the second day's play was called off officially at 2:15pm.

As per the weather forecast,

rain even on Sunday but Monday and Tuesday are likely to be sunny and warm. In that scenario, the match seems to be headed for a

Bangladesh had ended the rain-curtailed opening day at 107 for three as only 35 overs could be bowled.

India pacer Akash Deep accounted for Bangladeshi openers - Zakir Hasan and Shadman Islam — while off-Ravichandran spinner sent back rival Ashwin Najmul Hossain skipper

India are leading the twomatch series 1-0, having won

Sinner rallies for win in Beijing as WADA appeals his steroid case

AP BEIJING

Top-ranked Jannik Sinner rallied to beat Roman Safiullin 3-6, 6-2, 6-3 in the second round of the China Open on Saturday and learned afterward that his steroid case is far from over. While Sinner was on court in Beijing, the World Anti-Doping Agency (WADA) announced it was seeking a ban of one to two years for the U.S. Open champion who tested positive twice for an anabolic steroid in March but was not suspended in a decision by an independent tribunal announced by the International Tennis Integrity Agency on Aug. 20 because the ITIA determined he was not to blame.

Sinner's fate will now be determined by the Switzerland-based Court of Arbitration for Sport after WADA said it filed an appeal or Thursday.

on Thursday.
On court Saturday, the two-time Grand Slam champion again found himself behind in the Chinese capital after Safiullin broke serve twice to claim the opening set.

Sinner's power and laser-like accuracy from the baseline gradually chipped away at his Russian opponent and helped the Italian to win seven straight games from 2-2 in the second set to take the ascendancy and close out a gritty win.

Sinner, who has reached at least the quarterfinals at every



tour-level event he has played in 2024, will next play Jiri Lehecka, who earlier defeated Roberto Bautista Agut 3-6, 6-

Also Saturday, Italy's Flavio Cabolli advanced after a 6-4, 6-2 win over Pavel Kotov. Daniil

Third-seeded Medvedev played his secondround match against French veteran Adrian Mannarino later Saturday.

In the women's draw, U.S. Open champion Aryna Sabalenka advanced to the third round with a 6-4, 6-1 win over Thai qualifier Mananchaya Sawangkaew. "In the first set, I was

struggling a little bit with the rhythm," said Sabalenka, who's best run in Beijing has only been to the quarterfinals.

"In the second set, seems like everything started working much better. I think that's why

it was more smooth and

better quality? The second-ranked Sabalenka is the top seed in Beijing in the absence of Iga Swiatek.

Next up for the three-time major winner is American Ashlyn Krueger, who beat New Zealand's Lulu Sun 6-1,

7-6 (4). Third-seeded Jasmine Paolini of Italy rallied from a poor first set to beat Denmark's Clara Tauson 1-6, 7-5, 6-4. Paolini will play Poland's Magda Linette after the 31stseeded player also needed

three sets to progress past Moyuka Uchijima 6-4, 4-6, 6-

Ninth-seeded

Kasatkina of Russia beat Croatian Jana Fett 6-1, 6-2. She will play Amanda Anisimova, who beat Camila Osorio of Colombia 1-6, 6-3,

Wimbledon champion Barbora Krejcikova was upset 1-6, 6-4, 7-5 by Romania's Jaqueline Cristian.

JAPAN OPEN:

Machac upset fifth-seeded Tommy Paul 2-6, 6-3, 7-6 (4) advance quarterfinals and continued a disappointing week for the top-seeded players in Tokyo. Top-seeded Taylor Fritz, third-seeded Casper Ruud and fourth-seeded Stefaos Tsitsipas were all beaten in the first round before seeded. first round, before second-seeded Hubert Hurkacz was also eliminated as he lost to U.S. Open semifinalist Jack Draper 6-4, 6-4 in the second

round. Sixth-seeded Holger Rune is the highest-ranked seed remaining in the draw. Rune, from Denmark, beat home favorite Yoshihito Nishioka 6-

Defending champion Ben Shelton, the No. 8 seed, is the only other seeded player left in the quarterfinal draw. Alex Michelsen of the U.S.

Also advanced after a 6-1, 6-4 win over Australian Christopher O'Connell to set up a quarterfinal match against Machac. Kei Nishikori beat Jordan

Thompson 6-2, 6-3 and will Rune in



NorthEast United FC aims to rebound against Kerala Blasters in ISL showdown

host Kerala Blasters FC in the Indian Super League at the Gandhi Athletic Stadium on Sunday.

The Highlanders secured a 1-

0 victory in their season opener against Mohammedan FC but faced a setback with a 2-3 loss to Mohun Bagan Super Giant in their last match. In contrast, Kerala Blasters come into this fixture after a 2-1 win over East Bengal FC.

previous In their in the ISL, encounters NorthEast United has won five matches, while Kerala Blasters have emerged victorious eight times, with seven matches ending in a

NorthEast United has previously kept clean sheets at home, with a 3-0 win over Odisha FC and a 2-0 victory Blasters. against Kerala However, they have never managed to achieve three consecutive clean sheets at home in the ISL, making this an important opportunity for

"I'm really happy, and proud of my players because we have NorthEast United FC will shown that we're growing," NorthEast United FC head coach Iuan Pedro Benali said in a release.

"My team needs to improve in many areas, from all the areas, we need to keep working, now we have another final (against KBFC) we will think about the next game."

Kerala Blasters boast a positive track record against NorthEast United, having won three times and drawn twice in their last six encounters. Their aerial threat is evident, with five headed goals scored in the ISL since the start of the 2023-24 season, a factor that the home team will need to monitor closely.

In their last match, Kwame Peprah came off the bench to score the winner against East Bengal FC. Notably, 14 goals have been scored in or after the 85th minute in the competition, underscoring the competitive nature of the matches.

'The reason we won against EBFC is not only because of a strong starting line-up, but also because of a really good finishing line-up," head coach Mikael Stahre said

Canadian striker Larin scores against old club as Mallorca win 2-1 to maintain good start to season

anadian striker Cyle Larin Uscored against his old club as Mallorca kept up its promising start to the Spanish league season with a 2-1 win away at Real Valladolid.

It was the third win in a row for Mallorca, which moved into fourth place with 14 points from eight games. Valladolid, meanwhile, has

not won a league match since the opening day of the season and has now taken only two points from its last seven

Although all five of its points this season have come at



home, the newly promoted side was unable to make much of an impact in front of 20,000

Yet it took almost an hour for Mallorca to make its dominance count when Larin, who signed from Valladolid last month, controlled a nice ball from Dani Rodríguez and then converted with poise

from close range.
Substitute Valery Fernández made it 2-0 with seven minutes remaining, before Iván Sánchez got one back in stoppage time for Valladolid. "We're very disappointed because we we've been strong at home," Sánchez saiod.

points from six games.

recent run of form.

consecutive

Auxerre beat Brest 3-0 to

grab its second league win

of the season and put the

brakes on the visitor's

Brest was coming off two

including a 2-1 win over

Sturm Graz in its first ever

Champions League match.

But under the pouring rain

in central France, Auxerre

victories,

Wimbledon's plans for expansion approved by London authorities

despite residents' concerns

Aproposal by Wimbledon Aorganizers to expand the site of the Grand Slam tournament with 39 new tennis courts has been given the green light by local authorities.

The All England Club's plans which include a new 8,000seat show court with a retractable roof approved Friday by the Greater London Authority despite protests by local residents.

The planned expansion in Wimbledon Park, which is adjacent to the All England would Wimbledon's qualifying tournament to be held on site rather than at nearby Roehampton Community Sports Centre. But some locals have objected to the plans over concerns about the environmental impact.

Protesters assembled outside City Hall ahead of the hearing on Friday and a number spoke in the chamber during a morning session lasting

But Jules Pipe, London's deputy mayor for planning, said "the proposed said "the proposed development would facilitate very significant benefits. I agree with my officers that these benefits clearly outweigh the harm."

Debbie Jevans, the chair of the All England Club, promised that the project "will be delivered with a meticulous attention to detail and the utmost respect for both our neighbours and environment."

The All England Club says the benefits of the expansion will include a 23-acre public park where there used to be a private golf course, and a minimum of seven grass courts that will be open for community use.

'We look forward to working with all parties to bring this vision to life, delivering one of London's greatest sporting transformations since the 2012 (Olympic) Games and securing Wimbledon's future at the pinnacle of world sport," Jevans said.

Barcola scores twice as PSG extends unbeaten run in France with 3-1 win over Rennes

Bradley Barcola scored goal in each half and Lee Kang-in added a third as Paris Saint-Germain beat Rennes 3-1 to extend its unbeaten run in the French league. Barcola took a pass from

Ousmane Dembélé after half an hour on Friday and steered a right-foot shot inside the far post. Lee got his third goal of the

season to double the home side's advantage 12 minutes into the second half and Barcola added his second with a simple

tap in after 68 minutes. Arnaud Kalimuendo scored a consolation goal for Rennes from the penalty spot. Rennes had a second goal chalked off by VAR with two minutes to end any hopes of a comeback.

Barcola's fifth and sixth goals of the

season take him to the top of the Ligue 1 scoring charts, one clear of Marseille's Mason Greenwood.

PSG has 16 points from its first six games. Marseille is also unbeaten and has 13 points from five games. The south coast club plays at Strasbourg on Sunday. Rennes is in eighth place with seven

finally showed some of the form that won it promotion last year and staved off a fifth straight defeat in Ligue Elisha Owusu put the home side ahead with a left-foot shot after 26 minutes and

captain Jubal doubled the lead from the penalty spot 11 minutes later. Hamed Traorè, on loan from Bournemouth, then got his second goal in two games 14 minutes into the second

IndyCar teams this season - for admitted it is under investigation Herta, Marcus Ericsson and Kyle by the Department of Justice for

Michael Andretti hands over control of race team to business partner

AP WASHINGTON

 $M^{\rm ichael \quad Andretti \quad has}_{\rm restructured \ Andretti \quad Global}$ to give co-owner Dan Towriss control of the organization while Andretti will stay on as a strategic advisor of the team he has led since

Andretti in early 2023 confirmed he'd sold part of the company to Towriss, owner of Gainbridge and holding company Group 1001. Gainbridge is one of the largest sponsors in IndyCar and also sponsors Andretti driver Colton Herta's car and the Indianapolis

The team has rapidly expanded with Towriss' influx of cash, and Towriss has been part of Andretti's push to join Formula 1. Andretti is still listed as CEO and chairman of

the team changed to when Towriss became part of the ownership

Towriss is listed on the team's official website as a partner who with a genuine passion for motorsports and deep partnerships in the industry, Dan is changing the way people look at the business of motorsports."

'Michael's goal has been to transition to a more strategic role with Andretti Global and focus less on the operational side of the race team," the team said in a Friday statement.

"Michael and Dan Towriss have working closely developing this new structure, one which Michael is excited to see take shape under Dan's guidance.

"Mīchael remains engaged and will continue to serve as a strategic Andretti Global, which is the name advisor and key ambassador."

The transition was first reported by Sportico, a publication owned by Roger Penske's son. Andretti and Penske have been at odds the entire season with Andretti complaining at the March season-opening race that Penske was not spending enough to properly market the series and if he wasn't willing to pump in the needed cash, he said Penske should sell IndyCar and Indianapolis Motor Speedway. The comments infuriated Penske,

and his leadership group slowly began dealing more directly with Towriss instead of Andretti. amplification of resentment between Andretti and Penske grew as the season went on and in late August, Andretti leadership noted there was a clear conflict of interest when Penske



driver Josef Newgarden was not Andretti Global said it would share penalized for various maneuvers

changes "after Michael and Dan while winning at Gateway outside have had an opportunity to speak to the team? more details of the leadership Andretti Global fielded three

Kirkwood - and won the season finale with Herta at Nashville Superspeedway. Herta scored the only two victories of the year for the team, which has

not won an IndyCar championship since 2012. With Herta's win in the season finale, he surged to second in the final IndyCar standings. Andretti drivers have won the Indianapolis 500 five times.

Michael Andretti's 42 career IndyCar victories ranks fifth on the all-time list. It was not immediately clear what

happens next with Andretti's ongoing effort to enter F1, which has been heavily blocked by both the owners of F1 and the majority of the 10 existing teams on the F1

grid. Liberty Media, which owns F1, has

possible antitrust violations in not allowing Andretti into F1. Andretti and his father, Mario, in

2021 formed a special purpose acquisition company (SPAC) that was separate from Andretti Global and called Andretti Acquisition. The SPAC was designed to raise cash in an IPO to buy and take public another business. Andretti in March closed a merger

with Zapata Computing Holdings, a generative AI company. Andretti Global is Zapata's largest customer, while Zapata is a sponsor of the motorsports team.

Zapata, per filings, is paying Andretti Global \$9 million under the agreements while Andretti Global is paying Zapata \$6 million. The agreements expire at the end of 2024, per Sportico.

SUNDAY | SEPTEMBER 29, 2024 WWW SUNDAY | SEPTEMBER 29, 2024

COLOURS VIVACILY 08

ELEGANCE REDEFINED Experience the joy of fashion

Ravi Bajaj, renowned for his elegance in fashion, recently unveiled his redesigned store at DLF Emporio, New Delhi. This event showcased his latest collection, celebrating the blend of traditional craftsmanship and modern design, writes SAKSHI PRIYA



avi Bajaj has always been synonymous with style and sophistication in the fashion industry. His unique ability to craftsmanship with modern sensibilities has made his designs timeless and appealing to a wide audience. As the festive season approaches, there was a strong sense of excitement surrounding the grand unveiling of his newly redesigned store at DLF Emporio in New Delhi traditional

Upon entering, guests were welcomed by a warm and inviting atmosphere. The stunning wall art and soft, warm lighting created a comfortable yet elegant setting. The store's transformation was impressive, with every detail thoughtfully curated to highlight the exquisite fabrics and intricate designs on display. The ambience was perfect for an display. The ambience was perfect for an evening dedicated to celebrating fashion

and creativity.

The new collection was nothing short of The new collection was nothing short of a visual delight, showcasing a captivating range of colours and designs. One standout piece was a beautiful blue saree adorned with intricate red lacework. Its vibrant shade and delicate detailing instantly captured the attention of the guests, who couldn't help but admire its elegance. Nearby, a striking black saree with white lacework also drew admiration. The classic contrast of black and white offered a timeless elegance and white offered a timeless elegance that resonated with many. But it was a that resonated with many. But it was a stunning lavender saree embellished with silver and gold embroidery that truly left a lasting impression. As it caught the light, one enchanted guest described it as "simply gorgeous," perfectly echoing the sentiments of those around. The teal colour of the sarees also captured attention, their





stunning shades receiving numerous compliments. One guest perfectly expressed the sentiment with a single word: "Outstanding."

The collection also featured a range of The collection also featured a range of warm-toned kurtas in various colours, designed to beautifully blend traditional and modern styles. The bandis and coats, crafted with great attention to detail, provided a sophisticated touch to the ensemble. There was something for everyone, making it clear that these were not just garments but pieces meant to be treasured and worn with pride. As the evening unfolded, the atmosphere was filled with lively conversations and filled with lively conversations and laughter. Guests moved around, appreciating the intricate details of the collection. One particular item that caught many eyes was a striking white with

musical notes in black and shimmering glitter that sparkled beautifully in the store. At first glance, its simplicity was striking, but a closer look revealed delicate embroidery that showcased its craftsmanship. It served as a reminder that sometimes, the most understated designs leave the biggest impact designs leave the biggest impact.

As the night came to a close, it became evident that this event was about more than just launching a store. It was a celebration of elegance, creativity, and the joy of fashion, perfectly timed for the festive season ahead. Ravi Bajaj's redesigned store is more than a shopping destination; it's a place where people can experience the beauty and artistry of fashion in a welcoming environment. With his signature blend of tradition and modernity, Ravi Bajaj continues to be a favourite for those who appreciate style



From the Man Himself An Exclusive Interview with Ravi Bajaj

Ravi Bajaj's redesigned store is not just a new chapter in his fashion journey but also a clear example of his commitment to innovation and excellence. As he continues to shape the future of fashion with his unique vision, one thing is certain: his influence and creativity will remain at the forefront of the industry for years to come. He talked to Sakshi Priya

about his passion. Excerpts: What story do you want to convey through your new

Well, it's somewhat art-inspired. You can see it up to the ceiling. It's art-inspired but very subtle - not in your face. If you notice it, you notice it. The entire ceiling features French and Italian masks, symbolicing Mass and symbolising Mars and Venus. We also have Iris and Morpheus, the god of sleep, and the famous depiction of Adam and God. The rest is quite modern with clean lines - that's my style. There's a touch of grandeur as well, with handmade chandeliers combining elements from Firozabad and Swarovski. So, it's a blend of modernity and subtle artistry.

Which piece from your latest collection are you

YUDHRA: A HIT OR MISS ACTION

Oh, that's a tough one. It's like choosing a favourite child! I probably like about 20% of my work and not the other 80%. That's how you keep yourself motivated. The day you like 100% of your work, I think you're

What challenges did you encounter in shaping the final design?

In shaping the final design?
Ravi Bajaj: There weren't any significant challenges in terms of ideas. The challenge usually comes with execution. Conceiving an idea is easy; the germ is always there. But translating it into reality - that's the tough part. Once it's done, it's beyond your control, and then it's about how it's perceived.

how it's perceived. What's in my control are the initial idea and its execution.

How do foresee intersection of fashion and retail experiences evolving over the

next few years?
It's difficult to say. biggest challenge is staying relevant. There's so much happening in the industry, and I've been in this business for 37 years. Staying persistent maintaining your grit is

NEW OFFERINGS



JOIN THE DJGF CELEBRATION!

Don't miss the 12th edition of the Delhi Jewellery and Gem Fair (DJGF) at Pragati Maidan! This premier B2B jewellery exhibition features over 650 exhibitors showcasing 150,000 stunning designs, including gold, silver, diamonds and more. Enjoy networking opportunities, informative sessions and the

exciting DJGF Silver Show. Connect with industry leaders and explore the latest trends in jewellery.

EVENT DETAILS

Dates: 29th September-1st October,

Location: Pragati Maidan, New Delhi Time: 10 AM – 6 PM



NATIONAL COFFEE FESTIVAL 2024!

Calling all coffee lovers! Join this October for the India International Coffee Festival featuring the National Barista Championship across three cities. Experience thrilling competitions, tastings and workshops celebrating coffee culture. Don't miss out on this caffeinated celebration!

EVENT DATES:

Delhi: 4th-6th October, 2024 at Pacific Mall, Tagore Garden Mumbai: 11th-13th October, 2024 at Phoenix Marketcity, Kurla Bangalore: 28th-30th October, 2024 at Bangalore International Centre, Domlur

SCULPTING MASTERCLASS

Atelier Della Firenze by Niyamat Mehta is hosting a Masterclass series led by renowned sculptor Niyamat Mehta. This four-session course offers personalised attention with only 7 seats per class, focusing on sculpting the human portrait. Perfect for anyone aged 16+, this is a unique opportunity to master the anatomy and proportion of the human skull. Don't miss out!



COURSE DETAILS Dates: 5th, 12th & 19th October, 2024 Time: 11:00 AM - 1:00 **Location:** Top Floor Studio, Sector 3, Noida

Rs.

Price:

(materials included) action cinema.

50,000

Action scenes come to the rescue for an unhooked plot for Yudhra, says ABHI SINGHAL Nikhat (Malavika Mohanan) *Tudhr*a is an action thriller film remains underdeveloped and fails

directed by *Ravi Udyawar*. Its script is done by *Shridhar* Raghavan and dialogues are written by Farhan Akhtar and Akshat Ghildial. The film stars Siddhant Chaturvedi in the title role, alongside Malavika Mohanan, Raghav Juyal, Gajraj Rao, Ram Kapoor, Raj Arjun and Shilpa Shukla.

Yudhra, who is struggling with anger issues, is assigned an undercover mission to bring down a powerful drug syndicate headed by Firoz and his son Shafiq. Yudhra accepts the responsibility as he wants to exact revenge against Firoz for his parents's death.

The film commences with a loose narrative from the start and revolves around the character's anger issues. The movie opens with an over aggressive orphan kid played by *Siddhant*. It is the point from where action packed role of *Chaturvedi* as *Yudhra* starts.

To counterbalance Yudhra's irascible demeanour and immense

rascible demeanour and immense power, the film features *Gajraj Rao* as his foster father who plays his deceased father's friend. Gajraj is a senior and experienced actor but unfortunately his role does not add weight to the movie. *Siddhant* who made his electrifying debut in *Gully Roy*, tries to experiment with the Boy, tries to experiment with the

The scenes in the film are set with a narrative of high octane action and Siddhant Chaturvedi is seen pushing his limits with the role. The bike chasing scene raises expectations but only to be dashed shortly after. The romantic subplot in the film between Yudhra and

to resonate with the audience. Their chemistry does not work and

disappoint to say the least.

Yudhra lacks a distinctive quality that sets it apart from other action films. The storyline could have been more engaging to keep the audience interested. There are some violent scenes that captivate the audience.

Raghav Juyal, playing the antagonist in the film. His entry could be more powerful. His presence does help you to sit through the film.

Siddhant could have shone but the sloppy storyline snatches away that from him. But Raghav Juyal does proves himself despite short screen time he gets and that too spaced by an hour.

Gajraj Rao and Ram Kapoor have played their roles in a decent manner and have adjusted well to their roles. Raj Arjun as Firoz plays Yudhra's father's killer's rival and fits in well. The music of the film is also average, and was not expected

from someone like Shankar Ehsaan Loy. He has composed two songs in the film. The film can be considered a one time watch but it lacks Siddhant clarity to Chaturvedi's

character and is a bit blunt and intimidating to understand. The film's duration of two hours and thirty minutes is rather long



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The pioneer of the pi

"The best way to approach
Navratri is in a spirit of
celebration. This is the secret
of life: to be non-serious but
absolutely involved"
— Sadhguru



Over the centuries, Durga Puja has evolved from a private affair of Zamindars to a mass celebration on a global scale. It is now much more than just a religious festival — it's a cultural spectacle, writes **GYANESHWAR DAYAL**

DURGA PUJA

A SYMPHONY OF TRADITION AND TRANSFORMATION

ome September and everyone is busy making plans for the 'Puja', a festival dedicated to Goddess Durga, in eastern India. Of course it is Kolkata which is the epicentre of all celebrations. Over the years, *Durga Puja* has evolved into a pan-Indian and global festival. With unmatched fervour and devotion, people across the world now come together to honour the goddess, celebrating her victory and divine power.

Durga Puja, one of the most revered and vibrant festivals in India, particularly in West Bengal, celebrates the victory of the goddess Durga over the demon Mahishasura, symbolising the triumph of good over evil. Rooted in Hindu mythology, the festival commemorates the goddess as the embodiment of Shakti, or divine feminine power. Over the years, *Durga Puja* has transformed from a primarily religious observance into a grand socio-cultural extravaganza that has few parallels.

Durga Puja marks the victory of Goddess Durga, a fierce yet compassionate deity, over Mahishasura who threatened to disrupt the balance of the universe. According to legend, Mahishasura received a boon that no man could defeat him. As he unleashed terror, the gods united to create Durga, a divine warrior goddess, who fought and eventually killed Mahishasura. The festival celebrates Durga's strength, resilience, and protective nature, while also invoking blessings for peace, prosperity, and protection against evil forces. That is mythology for one and all but it is a metaphor which might have fewer takers but nevertheless the

message is crystal. The metaphor and hidden message of Goddess Durga lie in her embodiment of divine feminine power, resilience, and protection. As a multi-armed warrior goddess, Durga symbolises the shakti (cosmic energy) within all beings, representing the strength needed to overcome life's obstacles. Each weapon she holds signifies various tools required to defeat inner and outer evils like fear, ignorance, pride and injustice. Metaphorically, Durga's battle with Mahishasura, the demon king, is a reflection of the ongoing struggle between good and evil, not just in the cosmic realm but within individuals and society at large. Her victory underscores that evil - be it oppression, greed or violence - can only be defeated through righteous action, courage and the collective strength of the divine and human will.

It is the triumph of dharma (righteousness) over adharma (immorality), a reminder that good eventually prevails even in the face of insurmountable odds. Furthermore, Durga, as a motherly figure, embodies compassion and protection, highlighting the balance between fierceness and nurturing, teaching that strength does not negate love and compassion. Goddess Durga conveys the message of empowerment, particularly for women, demonstrating that power and authority lie in embracing one's true self and purpose. In a broader sense, Durga's story speaks to the need for balance between action and patience, destruction and creation, power and empathy.

The festival is observed during the Hindu Calendar month of Ashwin

DURGA PUJA IS AN **ELABORATE AND COLOURFUL FESTIVAL** TYPICALLY SPANNING FIVE DAYS - SHASHTHI. SAPTAMI, ASHTAMI, **NAVAMI AND** VIJAYADASHAMI. EACH DAY IS MARKED BY RITUALS, PRAYERS, CULTURAL EVENTS AND, OF COURSE, THE UNVEILING OF THE IDOL OF GODDESS DURGA IN PANDALS (TEMPORARY, ARTISTICALLY DESIGNED STRUCTURES). THE CELEBRATION BEGINS WITH THE RITUAL OF BODHON, OR THE WELCOMING OF THE GODDESS, ON THE SIXTH DAY





FROM ZAMINDAR PUJA TO PUBLIC

Historically, *Durga Puja* was a private affair, celebrated within the homes of wealthy zamindar (landlord) families. However, during the late 18th century, it began to shift towards community-based celebrations. In Kolkata, the first publicly organised Durga Puja, known as the Baroyari Puja, was held in 1790, and since then, the practice has spread across Bengal and beyond.

and beyond. The first major move toward a community-based *Durga Puja* or Barowari Puja, took place in 1790 in Hooghly district, near Kolkata. A group of twelve friends organised this puja to make the festival more inclusive and community-oriented, free from the exclusivity of the zamindar class. This concept of collective worship was revolutionary at the time and set the foundation for public celebrations of the festival. The term "Barowari" comes from baro (twelve) and yari (friends), representing this group's efforts to democratise Durga Puja.

Raja Nabakrishna Deb, an influential zamindar of the Shobhabazar Rajbari in Kolkata, played a critical role in popularising *Durga Puja* beyond the private confines of aristocratic families. In 1757, following the British victory at the Battle of Plassey, Nabakrishna Deb invited British officers, including Robert Clive, to his *Durga Puja* celebration, creating a hybrid of Indian tradition and colonial influence.

In the late 19th century, Swami
Vivekananda and the Ramakrishna Mission
also played a pivotal role in giving *Durga Puja* a broader, more public dimension.
Through the Ramakrishna Mission, *Durga Puja* became associated with nationalistic
and cultural identity, with an emphasis on
social service and community welfare.
Swami Vivekananda himself performed

Durga
Puja at Belur
Math in 1901, marking
the festival as both a spiritual and
community event.

PANDAL HOPPING

The centrepiece of the festivities is the pandals, where elaborate idols of Durga, along with her children - Lakshmi, Saraswati, Kartikeya and Ganesha - are displayed. These pandals often feature intricate themes that range from mythological tales to contemporary social issues.

Durga Puja pandals have evolved far beyond simple religious displays, becoming powerful platforms for artistic expression and social commentary. Every year, these temporary structures turn into creative masterpieces that reflect not just devotion to Goddess Durga but also highlight contemporary issues ranging from politics to global events and pressing social concerns.

Some pandals artistically engage with local and national politics, offering thought-provoking critiques or support for political movements. For example, some recent themes have explored elections, portraying the goddess battling forces of greed and dishonesty, metaphorically addressing societal upheaval.

Several pandals focus on international matters, such as climate change, world peace or refugee crises. They utilise innovative materials and designs to depict how these global challenges affect humanity. For instance, some recent installations have depicted the Amazon rainforest fires, the pandemic or refugee struggles, merging Durga's fight against evil with the global battle for environmental protection or humanitarian aid. Many pandals are now powerful vehicles for raising awareness about social issues. They have addressed women's rights, child labor, education and even mental health. Some pandals creatively use Durga's weapons to symbolise the tools needed to fight social evils like gender inequality or poverty, aligning the goddess's mythology with contemporary societal struggles. Themes such as women empowerment, gender justice and communal harmony are

In recent years, with growing awareness about environmental conservation, ecofriendly pandals have gained popularity. Artists use biodegradable materials like clay, bamboo and jute to create these installations, while themes often focus on

depicted with a blend of artistry and

symbolism.

environmental consciousness. These efforts not only contribute to reducing pollution during idol immersion but also send a strong message about the urgent need to protect nature. These innovative pandals transform Durga Puja into not just a religious celebration but a cultural forum where tradition and modernity intersect, sparking dialogue on critical societal and global issues. Through artistry, they encourage introspection, inspire change, and bring communities together in shared reflection.

RITUALS AND PRAYERS

Devotees perform elaborate

sustainability and

rituals, such as the pushpanjali (flower offerings) and aarti (lamp offerings), invoking the goddess's blessings. On Ashtami, the main day of the festival, the Sandhi Puja, symbolising the transition from Ashtami to Navami, is performed with great fervour. Kumari Puja, where young girls are worshiped as manifestations of the goddess, is also a key ritual.

CULTURAL PERFORMANCES AND FEASTING

Beyond its religious aspect, *Durga Puja* is also a cultural celebration. Communities organise music and dance performances, theatrical productions and art exhibitions. The festival is a time for feasting, with special foods like bhog (a sacred offering) and traditional Bengali sweets such as sandesh, rasgulla, and mishti doi adding to the festive charm. While *Durga Puja* retains its core religious significance, the festival has undergone significant transformations over the centuries, evolving into a social, artistic, and commercial spectacle.

GLOBALISATION OF DURGA PUJA

Today, *Durga Puja* is not confined to Bengal. Thanks to the global Bengali diaspora, the festival is celebrated with grandeur in cities like London, New York and Dubai. Modern technology, social media and live streaming of rituals have expanded the reach of Durga Puja, allowing devotees from across the globe to participate.

Durga Puja has also seen commercialisation, with sponsorships and advertisements driving the festival economy. The shopping, food, and tourism sectors receive a massive boost during this time, as people from across the country and the world flock to experience the grandeur of the celebration.

Durga Puja is more than just a religious

festival; it is a vibrant, living tradition that has evolved with time. While the core message of the triumph of good over evil remains intact, the festival has grown to embody the cultural and social heartbeat of Bengal, touching the lives of millions across the globe. As Durga Puja continues to transform, it serves as a powerful reminder of the enduring strength of faith, community and creativity. In today's society, with the increasing disregard for women's dignity, the timeless message of Goddess Durga appears to be lost in the din. People seem more focused on indulging in the festive revelry rather than embracing the deeper significance of Durga's empowerment. Yet, this is the fate that most festivals eventually meet - a shift

from reflection to celebration.

A TASTE OF HOME AWAY FROM LI

day the pioneer leading th

Durga Puja brings feeling of home for everyone. For those in Delhi, Oh! Calcutta offers the flavours of Bengal. It Celebrates 25 years, serving authentic Bengali food, making it a perfect spot to enjoy the festival in all its grandeur, writes

SAKSHI PRIYA



Photos: Pankaj Kumar







urga Puja is more than just a festival; it's an emotion, a time when everyone feels an irresistible pull towards home. The smell of incense, the rhythm of the 'dhak' and the sight of the majestic idols fill hearts with nostalgia. For those who find themselves far from Kolkata during this time, there's a place that offers a slice of home. Oh! a place that offers a slice of home: Oh!

Oh! Calcutta has been serving the flavours of Bengal for 25 years. As the city prepares to welcome Durga Maa, this iconic

restaurant remains a favourite for all those hoping for the familiar taste of home-cooked Bengali food. Recently celebrating its silver jubilee, *Oh! Calcutta* has not only kept the essence of Kolkata's cuisine alive, showing that the spirit of Bengali food remains strong and proud, no matter where you are. Established in 1992, *Oh! Calcutta* was

born from a passion to showcase the unique flavours of Kolkata's 300-year-old culinary traditions. The restaurant's menu is a tribute to the city's gastronomic legacy, influenced by British, Armenian, French and Mughal cultures. This blend of influences captures Kolkata's essence of influences captures Kolkata's essence as a melting pot of communities. The founder, *Anjan Chatterjee* and his team of chefs envision their cuisine as a tribute to the rich and diverse culinary heritage of Kolkata, which has been shaped over centuries. As they say, "Kolkatay khabar mane sudhu peth bhora noi, eta hridoy bhora" (In Kolkata, food is not just about filling the stomach but the heart).

As part of its silver jubilee celebrations, Oh! Calcutta has introduced a special anniversary menu that beautifully captures Kolkata's culinary heritage. The menu, curated by Chatterjee, marries traditional recipes with a contemporary touch, ensuring that the authenticity of Bengali cuisine remains at its heart. Signature dishes such as Aam Ada Grilled Bhetki, Jackfruit Tikki and Prawn Malai Curry are shining examples of the restaurant's dedication to preserving the old while embracing the new.

One of the highlights is the crispy *Hilsa Fish Fingers*, served with a tangy mustard mayo that brings back memories of home-cooked meals. The Calcutta Fish Fry is another star, with its tantalising blend of spices that capture the essence of family gatherings. And, of course, there's the Bhetki Machher Paturi,





"KOLKATAY KHABAR MANE SUDHU PETH BHORA NOI, ETA HRIDOY BHORA" (In Kolkata, food is not just about filling the stomach, but the heart)

where fish marinated in mustard and coconut, wrapped in banana leaves, and steamed to perfection.

Mutton dishes hold a special place in Bengali cuisine, and Oh! Calcutta's offerings don't disappoint. The rich, slow-cooked *Kosha* Mangsho (mutton curry) is simmered with spices that warm the soul, while the Railway Mutton Curry, inspired by the classic railway-style preparation,

evokes nostalgia and comfort. These are dishes that remind you of home-cooked meals during Pujo and family journeys.

The vegetarian fare at Oh! Calcutta is

equally delightful. Dishes like Mochar Ghonto (Banana Floret Subzi) and Cholar Dal (Bengal gram lentils cooked with coconut and spices) highlight the rich vegetarian tradition of Bengal.

And let's not forget the Begum Bhaja, deep-fried slices of eggplant that are the perfect accompaniment to the Cholar Dal. For seafood lovers, there's the *Prawn Malai Curry*, a creamy and indulgent

prawn dish cooked in coconut milk and lightly spiced. And for those seeking something lighter, the *Maacher Dom Jhol* (fish curry) with luchi offers a delicate blend of spices with fresh

vegetables and fish. This simple yet heartwarming dish is a staple in Bengali households and is often served during Durga Puja feasts.

No Bengali meal is complete without a sweet ending, and *Oh! Calcutta* makes sure this tradition is upheld. The restaurant offers a range of traditional sweets, including *Sandesh*, *baked Rasgulla* and *Mishti Doi* is a staple at the end of every Bengali meal.

at the end of every Bengali meal. As they say, "Bangalir mishti priyo, eta toh shobar jana" (Everyone knows that Bengalis love sweets).

What sets Oh! Calcutta apart is its tireless commitment to authenticity. The restaurant sources key ingredients directly from Kolkata, ensuring that every dish retains its traditional flavour. From the Kakra Chingri Bhapa to the fragrant Gobindobhoger Bhaat (a special variety of rice), every ingredient is carefully chosen to maintain the integrity of Pangali guicing. This attention to

Bengali cuisine. This attention to

detail ensures that each dish not

only tastes authentic but also evokes a sense of nostalgia.

The atmosphere at *Oh! Calcutta* further enhances the dining experience. The decor, featuring traditional Bengali art and nostalgic photographs of Kolkata, creates a warm and inviting setting. The staff, always attentive and knowledgeable, make sure that guests feel at home, guiding them through the menu and sharing the stories behind

As the festivities unfold, the connection between food, culture and family shines brightly at Oh! Calcutta. It's a place where both Bengalis and non-Bengalis can celebrate the rich and diverse cuisine of Kolkata. This Durga Puja, let the flavours of Kolkata fill your heart and your plate as you indulge in the culinary brilliance that has delighted guests for 25 years. As they say, "Banglar khabar mane sudhu taste noi, eta hridoy er kotha" (Bengali food is not only about taste, but it's also a matter of the heart).

So, this Pujo, if you find yourself longing for the flavours of home, head over to *Oh! Calcutta* in GK-2, New Delhi. With dishes like kosha Mangsho, Mochar Chop and Gol Morich Chicken, you will be treated to a culinary journey that's as close to Kolkata as you can get without leaving Delhi. Let the food fill your beatt with jour warmth and a total your heart with joy, warmth, and a taste of home, reminding you that the spirit of Durga Puja can be felt wherever you are.

SIP THE ESSENCE OF ASIA: A UNIQUE BEVERAGES EXPERIENCE

Yauatcha's 'Asia In A Glass' is more than just a cocktail menu, it is an homage to the traditional flavours and modern techniques that define Asian cuisine, says **SHARMILA CHAND**

Yauatcna, unc standard known contemporary Dim sum Tea House in Bengaluru is celebrating a unique cocktail menu, 'Asia In A Glass'. It is a vibrant celebration of Asian ingredients, masterfully crafted into exquisite cocktails that promise to transport guests on a sensory journey across the continent. I was thrilled to see how they have gone beyond their culinary fare to extend their philosophy seamlessly into the heart of their bar program, where mixology transforms into an art form.

THE DRINK'S NARRATIVE

Ranging from classic cocktails with a unique twist to refreshing fruit-forward and tea-infused concoctions, each libation at this London-style bar is a meticulously crafted narrative. The carefully designed cocktail menu embodies innovation and sophistication in showcasing Asian ingredients.

'When I working on the 'Asia In A Glass' article, I had the pleasure of meeting with Merwyn and deeper gained of the understanding Yauatcha's evolution of cocktail scene. Yauatcha has always been at the forefront of mixology trends, being one of the pioneers in implementing an innovative ice program. Sitting down with Merwyn provided invaluable insights that helped shape the story. It's truly gratifying to see this meticulously crafted menu come to fruition with this article." said Aslam Gafoor,





who inspired the creation of this cocktail menu with his article in the Yauatcha Life magazine, titled 'Asia In A Glass'.

As the name suggests, Asian ingredients take the spotlight Yauatcha's cocktail program philosophy, turning cocktail into a distinctive masterpiece. From the invigorating zing of lemongrass to the

comforting warmth of ginger, Yauatcha's lead Mixologist, Head Merwyn Alphonso has curated a sensory experience that reflects Asian culinary heritage in every sip. Furthermore, the glassware and ice story transform into canvases for expression, enhancing visual allure and turning the bar into a dynamic masterpiece where flavours dance and

Sharing his excitement about the launch of the new cocktail menu, Merwyn said, "Discussing the beverage program at Yauatcha, it's clear that it's more than just a dim sum restaurant. When Allen Yau founded Yauatcha, it was built on the four pillars of hospitality, patisserie, dim sum, mixology and tea. To __this day, these pillars

guide us in crafting every cocktail that we put on our menus. The 'Asia In A Glass' menu was created with this ethos in mind, and we hope our guests enjoy these beautiful libations. The cocktails draw inspiration from across the Asian continent, incorporating traditional Asian ingredients such as Yuzu, Lychee, Pandan and Lemongrass. The result is a series of exclusive beverages they are delicious, each one telling a story of its own."

HIGHLIGHTS FROM THE

- Tian Shang: A refreshing blend of Gin, Vodka, raspberry liqueur, lemon, fresh raspberries, elderflower foam.
- Jian Mei: A tea twist with Gin, sake, floral tea liqueur.
- Around The World: A delightful concoction of White rum, limoncello, Aperol, lychee, homemade apricot compote, rosemary
- **Ginger Martini:** A zesty, aromatic blend with White rum, ginger, green apple, orgeat, lime.

Each cocktail is a testament to the skill and creativity of Yauatcha's mixologists, who have drawn inspiration from diverse culinary landscapes of Asia. Experience the vibrant flavours and innovative creations that set Yauatcha apart. The drinks echo Yauatcha's ethos, embodying innovation and sophistication in showcasing Asian ingredients. The concoctions are more than just drinks, they are conversation starters and memory makers. Step in, have your pick from the 'Asia In A Glass' menu and see how a world of flavours is waiting to be explored by you! Cheers!

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A JOURNEY THROUGH TIME: FROM SOVIET SHADOWS TO MODERN MARVELS

From the historical depths of Red Square to the majestic Kremlin, each corner of this sprawling metropolis reveals layers of history - burnt, rebuilt and revived - beckoning travelers to explore its rich tapestry of culture and heritage, writes **GYANESHWAR DAYAL**

s I step off the plane at Moscow's Sheremetyevo Alexander S. Pushkin International Airport, the brisk, cold breeze is a refreshing change from the humid warm air of Delhi. This is my second trip to Moscow; my first visit occurred shortly after the Soviet Union disintegrated and Russia emerged as a new entity. Indeed, Moscow has transformed significantly since then. The city's infrastructure has improved dramatically, making it almost unrecognisable; the roads and the cars on them wear a fresh look. Yet, amidst this change, Moscow retains its unique character—inviting yet inherently private.

Over its 877-year history, the city has withstood a lot. Moscow lives fully, with its history woven into every brick and stone. Each regime has left its imprint, manifesting in monuments and relics scattered throughout the city, which now stand in contrast to modern

architecture. Moscow, the capital of Russia, boasts a rich and complex history that spans over 800 years. Founded in 1147 by Prince Yuri Dolgoruky, the city initially served as a minor trading post. Its strategic location on the Moskva River facilitated trade and communication, contributing to its gradual rise in importance. By the 15th century, under Ivan III (Ivan the Great), Moscow emerged as a significant political and cultural centre, ultimately overthrowing Mongol dominance.

In 1547, Ivan IV (Ivan the Terrible) was crowned as the first Tsar of Russia, marking the official establishment of the Tsardom. This period was characterized by territorial expansion, the consolidation of power, and the construction of iconic structures like St. Basil's Cathedral, which symbolizes Moscow's architectural heritage. Red Square, the iconic heart of Moscow, was established in the late 15th century, specifically during the reign of Ivan III (Ivan the Great). Originally, the area served as a marketplace and a central hub for various activities, but it gradually evolved into a political and cultural centre. It is now a must visit tourist attraction. And if one wants to understand Moscow brace up for a long

Red Square transports you to the 15th century. Our guide, an enthusiastic and energetic lady tells us Red is not for colour though the bricks and stones used are Red, Red in Russian means beautiful so it is a beautiful square and I couldn't agree less. You have colourful St. Basil's Cathedral overlooking the square, commissioned by Ivan IV (Ivan the Terrible) in 1555 to commemorate the conquest of Kazan. Done in Disney style (or maybe it is the other way round). This style of structure painting is categorical of Russia and is called "Russian patterning." It is the place to click selfies.

Red square is also the place where Lenin's embalmed body is kept and many other Generals were buried. We don't get a chance to go inside as it is closed by the time we reach. Vladimir Lenin, leader of the October Revolution and the first leader and founder of the Soviet Union, died in Gorki aged 53 after falling into a coma on January 21,







MOSCOW, THE CAPITAL OF RUSSIA, BOASTS A RICH AND COMPLEX HISTORY THAT SPANS AROUND 800 YEARS. FOUNDED IN 1147 BY PRINCE YURI DOLGORUKY, THE CITY INITIALLY SERVED AS A MINOR TRADING POST. ITS STRATEGIC LOCATION ON THE MOSKVA RIVER FACILITATED TRADE AND COMMUNICATION. **CONTRIBUTING TO ITS GRADUAL RISE IN IMPORTANCE**





1924. It has been 100 years since he died. The GUM Department Store is a major shopping destination nearby. It is beautiful no doubt and has best brands on offer. I buy nothing but being it is an experience; the aura of the place is awesome. Nearby there is a souvenir shop which has a good collection of memorabilia and offers discounts and prices are negotiable, feels like home. I buy a few souvenirs.

Red Square has been the site of numerous significant events throughout Russian history, including military parades, public gatherings, and political demonstrations, making it a symbol of both the historical and contemporary Russian state. Then there is a change of guards where every two hours Presidential guards change their duty. They say you have to be the best to be presidential guards. Three tough

looking guys come and replace the three guards on duty and walk beating their boots on the ground. The Moscow Victory Day Parade is an annual military parade of the Russian Armed Forces on Moscow's Red Square on May 9 during the Victory Day celebrations and is a big draw with the tourists and locals alike The other most visited complex in the

world is perhaps the Kremlin, the seat of power, where you still have the president's office. We walk through the door rather easily. Our guide is smart; tells us the President is not there else it would not be that easy. There is the president's office and a broken bell which never rang once as it broke while making it. Then there were buildings that were set on fire when Napoleon attacked. People abandoned them and went to jungles. All Bonapart found was

Tzars were baptised, crowned and laid to rest. All have shining brass tops. Don't know how they keep them so shiny. I can't keep my small Buddha statue that shiny anyway. Moscow became the capital of the new socialist state, undergoing rapid industrialisation and significant urban development, exemplified by the construction of grandiose structures like the Seven Sisters skyscrapers. These seven huge buildings still stand tall and are landmarks. They now house a university, a government ministry, a hotel and no idea about the others. Interestingly the underground in Moscow was used as bunkers by the Muscovites during the second world war. The stations are indeed nothing short of a palace with large murals exquisitely done and preserved. We decide to take a ride. The coaches are neat and people are friendly. We exchange smiles with fellow passengers. Our short but sweet journey comes to an end we are back to our hotel. The dissolution of the Soviet Union in 1991 marked another pivotal moment in Moscow's history. The city transitioned from a socialist regime to a market economy, leading to significant social and economic changes. Modern Moscow has seen extensive urban development and globalisation. Moscow has now become a business hub and opened to inter cultural relations and tourists from all over the world Today, Moscow stands as a vibrant metropolis that beautifully blends its rich historical heritage with modernity, attracting millions of visitors each year who come to explore its vast cultural

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a smoking burning building. They were

restored and did not look burnt now.

We moved on to the churches where

tells a story of resilience and transformation, reflecting the enduring spirit of its people.

Moscow is a foodie's paradise. I enjoyed Zhivago's food, excellent food served with a charming smile. Apart from Dr Zhivago there are many restaurants that dot the city and have amazing food and

treasures, including historic churches,

vibes.Moscow is a vibrant city where

tapestry of dining experiences that

culinary culture thrives, offering a rich

museums, and vibrant neighbourhoods

Each brick and stone of this ancient city

reflect both tradition and innovation. From elegant restaurants serving classic Russian fare like 'borscht' and 'pelmeni' to trendy eateries embracing global influences, the city's food scene is diverse and sophisticated. In the heart of Moscow, Café Pushkin stands as a symbol of elegance, offering a nostalgic ambiance reminiscent of

a nostalgic ambiance reminiscent of 19th-century aristocratic Russia. For those seeking modern Russian cuisine with a twist, White Rabbit is a mustvisit, famous for its innovative take on local ingredients and breathtaking views of the city.

For a more casual yet equally delightful experience, LavkaLavka, a farm-to-table restaurant, emphasizes sustainable dining, offering dishes made from fresh, locally sourced ingredients. Meanwhile, Dr. Zhivago of course presents a chic, contemporary take on traditional Soviet-era dishes in a stylish setting. For travellers and locals alike, these eateries are more than just places to dine—they offer an immersive experience into Moscow's rich cultural heritage and evolving modern palate.

Moscow has a good number of Museums too; they are a must visit if

Restaurants which Moscow has plenty. The guides are funny and knowledgeable at the same time. Moscow has a huge collection of paintings from bygone eras. Mostly of the Christ, kings but also of the people their life and woes. One could spend a day just watching the masterpieces. For the intellectually

inclined, Moscow has a number of

libraries with excellent collection of

you have taste beyond Malls and

books. Russian libraries are not just repositories of books but vital cultural institutions that embody the country's rich literary and intellectual tradition. The most iconic among them is the Russian State Library in Moscow, one of the largest in the world.

Founded in 1862, it holds millions of volumes, including rare manuscripts, maps, and other historical documents, making it a treasure trove for researchers and scholars.

The library's architectural grandeur reflects its significance, with vast reading rooms and meticulously curated collections covering a wide range of disciplines. Beyond the Russian State Library, Moscow is home to numerous other libraries, such as the Lenin Library, which is also highly regarded for its expansive catalogue of works. But the best thing about Moscow is its people; friendly courteous and always willing to help.

The warmth of the Russian people is often a pleasant surprise for those visiting the country for the first time. Once you break through the initial formalities, you'll find that Russians are deeply hospitable, warm-hearted, and generous, especially when it comes to welcoming guests into their homes. The tradition of hospitality runs deepguests are treated with great respect, and hosts often insist on sharing hearty meals and meaningful conversations, making you feel genuinely at home. As we pack bags, they are filled with souvenirs and memories one would share back home. As you board the flight and bid goodbye to Moscow you are still yearning for more.

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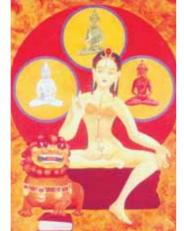


tarot IV

ARIES March 21-April 19

This week, focusing on financial discipline is crucial as managing your budget becomes a priority. Assess your spending habits and income, noting that while your earnings are substantial, your outlays may exceed them. Aim to establish equilibrium not just in your finances but across all areas of your life that are rapidly evolving and require your focus, such as home matters, property dealings, educational pursuits, and professional growth Consider limiting social engagements and leisure activities for the majority of the week to concentrate on these pressing issues. As the week progresses, you'll find the weight of stress lifting, allowing you to move forward more freely. You'll end the week feeling vibrant, joyful, and full of zest, ready to embrace your journey with caution and awareness of potential challenges.

Lucky number 2 | Lucky colour Coral Lucky day Tuesday



LEO July 23-Aug 22

This week may present a series of challenges, including unexpected obstacles, misunderstandings with friends, and financial delays. Despite these difficulties, your resilience will shine through as you confront each issue with calm and determination. Financially, returns on past investments or repayments may be underwhelming, prompting careful consideration and planning. However, this is only a temporary setback. Prioritizing health through timely medical consultations, meditation, and yoga will contribute to overall well-being. Engaging in spiritual practices can provide additional solace and strength during this period. Stay proactive and remember that your choices have the power to alter your path forward. You are equipped to handle any disruptions, drawing strength from spiritual connections to navigate this complex time.

Lucky number 11 | Lucky colour Tangerine Lucky day Saturday



SAGITTARIUS Nov 22-Dec 21

Individuals with boundless energy need to channel it effectively to achieve optimal results. There are some immediate adjustments required in your approach. Prioritize delegating tasks and organizing your schedule efficiently, as effective time and resource management is key. A career advancement may be on the horizon this week, accompanied by financial benefits. Work-related travel could be fruitful, providing opportunities to establish long-term connections. Confidence and determination will propel you toward success. By week's end, expect significant financial rewards and the satisfaction of tangible accomplishments. This period also presents a favorable opportunity for investing in assets, though cautious decisionmaking is advised. Don't be overly concerned about your professional trajectory; you're nearly at your goal. Maintain your focus to ensure you reach your full potential.

Lucky number 12 | Lucky colour Grey Lucky day Friday



TAURUS April 20-May 20

This week might start on a positive note with new possibilities ahead, but be prepared for some unexpected sharp exchanges from a coworker or a close one. Your romantic overtures could face setbacks, potentially leading to feelings of isolation and sadness. It's wise to keep your expectations realistic and maintain a practical outlook. You may find yourself on the brink of ending a relationship that hasn't fully begun. It's important to manage your emotions and keep your temper in check to avoid feeling overwhelmed and drained. Remember, this challenging period is only temporary, and you'll soon regain control of the situation. A maternal figure or a more experienced female relative in your life could offer the support and guidance you need during this time.

Lucky number 10 | Lucky colour RFuchsia Lucky day Sunday



VIRGO Aug 23-Sep 22

This week may find you feeling deeply emotional, with nostalgic thoughts urging you to reconnect with old friends or visit your family. You might find yourself exchanging gifts or reliving cherished moments with loved ones. However, matters of the heart could prove challenging, possibly leading to feelings of disappointment or heartache, especially for those anticipating significant commitments in romantic relationships. An inclination towards possessiveness might also surface, suggesting a need for emotional balance and calm. To navigate this period, consider engaging in meditation or other calming practices. Focusing on creative or spiritual activities can be particularly beneficial, offering a productive outlet for your emotions and helping to shift your perspective towards

Lucky number 4 | Lucky colour Indigo Lucky day Thursday



CAPRICORN Dec 22-Jan 19

This week presents a spectrum of outcomes. Guidance from a mentor or family elder will help clarify your life direction. High ambitions may lead to confusion, especially concerning property matters. Beware of potential deception and criticism from others. Stay grounded to avoid complications, particularly in relationships. Practicality is key in overcoming these challenges. Give yourself and your significant other adequate space and time before making decisions. Emphasize honesty and use your intellect to discern realities. There's a need to cleanse a negative influence affecting your well-being. enabling you to embrace positivity. Trust in your own capabilities and proceed with confidence. Cultivating patience and resilience will fortify your journey through uncertain times. Focus on nurturing your inner peace to ensure you can make balanced and thoughtful choices.

Lucky number 9 | Lucky colour Turquoise Lucky day Thursday



GEMINI May 21-June 20

This week promises an uplifting journey filled with heartfelt connections and personal triumphs. The initial days bring a deepening bond with your partner, marked by a nurturing love that enhances your vitality and encourages your best efforts. Your positive outlook will help you overcome challenges that previously seemed overwhelming. Your abilities and determination are set to earn you admiration, even from those who have doubted you, marking a significant victory. Your inspiring presence motivates others, and your own well-being-both physical and emotionalsees significant improvement. As the week progresses, you will experience a profound sense of vindication and fairness that reaffirms your path and choices. This period culminates in a joyful realization of your desires and goals, illuminating the rewards of your perseverance.

Lucky number 8 | Lucky colour Lavender Lucky day Wednesday



LIBRA Sep 23-Oct 22

This week you're infused with a dynamic drive to excel in your career. An awaited piece of positive news from afar is likely to arrive, bringing joy and potential opportunities. Financial matters will demand your focus, with transactions, payments, and investments taking center stage. Remember, sharing your prosperity with those in need can bring profound rewards. You'll also find satisfaction in disseminating the knowledge you've accumulated, providing guidance to those around you. Embrace this phase of abundant possibilities, but consider a significant shift in your perspective or approach. Making these adjustments will lead to gratifying outcomes. Challenges may arise, yet your seasoned judgment and keen intellect will enable you to overcome them and thrive

Lucky number 3 | Lucky colour Teal Lucky day Monday



AQUARIUS Jan 20-Feb 18

This week presents promising opportunities for career advancement and personal connections. You might unexpectedly receive a promotion or pay increase. Be prepared for potential work-related travel, which is likely to yield significant benefits in the future. If you're renting, this period may also bring changes to your work or living spaces. Midweek, emotions run high, enhancing your romantic and passionate pursuits. However, you might find yourself conflicted about a particular relationship or decision, torn between differing inner voices. Trusting your instincts will serve you well. As the week closes, you'll find greater emotional equilibrium and control over your feelings, leading to a broader perspective on potential opportunities. These could be linked to professional growth. significant personal milestones, or creative inspiration, igniting a strong drive to achieve notable goals

Lucky number 8 | Lucky colour Orange Lucky day Thursday



CANCER June 21-July 22

Regulate your emotions! Your emotional responses are currently heightened, possibly leading you to dwell on past mistakes or express frustration toward those close to you. To navigate away from disappointment and a gloomy mood, engaging in mental wellness activities car be very helpful. Consider practices such as meditation, yoga, breath work, or immersing yourself in inspiring literature. Remember, the past is behind you, and focusing on the present can illuminate the path to a brighter future. This week, embrace the closure of old chapters and start anew with a fresh perspective. Being proactive rather than avoiding issues will foster strength and wisdom. Embrace optimism and maintain faith to achieve your aspirations.

Lucky number 5 | Lucky colour Yellow Lucky day Monday



SCORPIO Oct 23-Nov 21

This week brings a series of delightful events and laughterfilled moments. You'll find yourself deeply invested in a challenging project, pouring your energy and passion into it. This experience is unique as teamwork amplifies its new skills and untapped potential. Your focus and determination will make it easier to stay on track and meet your objectives. There may be opportunities for international connections, either through friendships or potential travel plans. Your ambitions keep you driven, and undistracted by romance or leisure as you aim for significant financial and professional achievements. Expect recognition for your dedication, possibly in the form of a raise or promotion. Be grateful for these blessings and savor the rewards of your hard work.

ucky number 6 | Lucky colour Saffron Lucky day Wednesday



PISCES Feb 19-March 20

This week starts with a focus on reflection and growth as recent efforts and challenges are reviewed. Despite considerable dedication, you may find that the rewards of your labor are yet to be fully realized. It's a period where doubts could cloud your judgment. By midweek, a sense of satisfaction emerges as unexpected professional opportunities present themselves, offering the potential for financial gains. This phase is ideal for initiating new ventures or investments. Throughout the week, various propositions will appear, necessitating careful selection to align with your goals. Financial prudence is advised to avoid unnecessary expenditures. As the week concludes, the desire for travel or leisure activities may arise, leading to plans for enjoyable outings or romantic escapades with a

ucky number 1 | Lucky colour Mustard

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The Kriyamana Karma encapsulates theincrediblybrilliant dynamism of how Karma works. While living our Karmas, we continue to createmore in the present life, influencingour future

Actions Have Corresponding Consequences

ne does not merely earn Karma. One seeds it and grows it. And then - it grows on you Everything connects with

connect.

deliverance.

concept

It is in thought - not only in action. Neither fate nor destiny.A matrix that includes our choices, samskaras and more. Our conscious and unconscious acts, ideas and deeds determine our karma. It is about ownership and

everything else - and Karma is the

Simplistically it means the idea of cause and effect, where thoughts, emotions, actions (karma) have corresponding consequences (karma-phala). It comes around as an energy that originates with us. It shapes individual destinies, influences rebirths, and underscores the ethical framework of traditions. It is almost impossible to comprehend the cycle of Karma in a unidimensional way. The limitations of human comprehension restrict our understanding of this extremely complex but immensely beautiful

With its roots in the intention of the action, Karma is also defined as our prescribed duties towards our ecosystem. Krishna asserts in the Bhagavat

tasmād asaktah satatam kāram karma samāchara asakto hyācharan karma param āpnoti pūrushah

"Therefore, always perform your duties efficiently and without attachment. By performing duties without attachment, a person attains the highest.'

Performing duties conscientiously(Sattvik Karma) without attachment to the results, leads to liberation (Moksha). We travel through births, with our accumulated karma due toour past actions. This Sanchita Karma and plays a major role is shaping one's life circumstances. The portion of Sanchita Karma that has to be inescapably experienced in the present life is Prarabdha Karma. It determines the significant conditionsand events of one's current life.



The Krivamana Karma $encapsulates\ the incredibly brilliant$ dynamism of how Karma works. While living our Karmas, we continue to createmore in the present life, influencingour future. One of the purposes of spiritual study and growth is to discern right from wrong action. As Krishna explains in the

karmaṇo hyapi boddhavyam

Bhagavat Gita

boddhavyam cha vikarmanah akarmanash cha boddhavyam gahanā karmaņo gatiķ

"One must understand what is action, what is inaction, and what is forbidden action. The path of action is very mysterious.

We must understand the nature of different types of actions (karma) and inactions, discerning right actions (Dharma) from wrong

actions (Adharma). In daily life, understanding karma influences decision-making, virtuousconduct, and spiritual application in our actions and duties. It encourages us to uphold principles of righteousness (Dharma) and avoid harmful actions, perform our duties selflessly, and practice mindfulness by reflecting on our intentions.

Karma grows with intention, and reflects in your volition. It is not merely the content but the context.

It is complex. It is not linear and it is Real and authentic. We have the right to it through our choicesand yet are urged not to consider ourselves as the cause of the results. It is about staying connected to the action with commitment but not attached thereafter.

One of the most popular shlokas of the Bhagavat Gita, that has been a guiding principle

karmany-evādhikāras te mā phaleșhu kadāchana mā karma-phala-hetur bhūr mā te sango 'stvakarmani

"You have a right to perform your prescribed duties, but you are not entitled to the fruits of your actions. Never consider yourself to be the cause of the results of your activities, nor be attached to inaction.'

Karma entwines spiritual evolution, and the interconnectedness of all beings. It is not a punishment. it is a consequence of our choices. It is a reminder to be mindful, conscious, aware, and selfless. As Lord Buddha asserted - it is not possible to avoid experiencing the result of a karmic deed once it has been committed. Karma has no standard Menu - you get served what you deserve.

— The writer is a versatile professional with 3 decades in corporate experience & leadership roles, exceling in several areas as a ICF C ertified Mentor Life Coach, Corpor ate Coach, Spiritual Intelligence Co ach & CXO Coach. Spiritual coun-

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