



**WORLD 6**  
STARLINER RETURNS TO EARTH, WITHOUT CREW

**SPORT 12**  
INDIA LOOK TO START FRESH AFTER OLYMPIC BRONZE

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## PAKISTAN ADMITS KARGIL WAR FOUGHT BY ITS SOLDIERS, NOT MUJAHIDEENS

## 5 dead, several trapped as building collapses in city



Pakistan Army Chief General Asim Munir admits Pak army's role in Kargil war, says several Pak soldiers died in the 1999 Kargil War against India

**PIONEER NEWS SERVICE ■ NEW DELHI**

Pakistan for the first time has admitted its soldiers fought in the Kargil war in 1999. This assertion came from none other than Pakistan Army Chief General Asim Munir. Islamabad, till now, denied any role in the conflict and maintained 'mujahideens' (freedom fighters) waged the war. India had all along reiterated that Pakistan army

soldiers were actively involved in the war. Speaking at an event in Rawalpindi to mark the country's Defence Day, Pakistan army chief General Munir said several soldiers had laid down their lives while fighting the wars in 1965, 1971 and in Kargil in 1999. "Be it 1948, 1965, 1971, or the Kargil war of 1999, thousands of soldiers have sacrificed their lives for Pakistan and Islam," the Army chief said.

"The Pakistani community is a community of braves which understands the importance of freedom and how to pay for it," General Munir said. The event was attended by senior military and governmental officials, and families of soldiers. "The Pakistani army has never publicly acknowledged its direct role in the Kargil War and has officially claimed that it was the work of 'mujahideen or freedom fighters.' In fact, it

refused to take bodies of its dead soldiers during the Kargil war. Pakistan suffered a crushing defeat in the war, with Indian soldiers successfully reclaiming the positions occupied by infiltrators on the Indian side of the Line of Control (LOC) in the Kargil sector, including Tiger Hill, after a nearly three-month-long battle. Then US President Bill Clinton also asked Pakistani



Prime Minister Nawaz Sharif to order the withdrawal of Army personnel from the Kargil sector. The day is observed as 'Kargil Vijay Diwas' to commemorate India's victory over Pakistan in the war. A total of 545 soldiers laid down their lives fighting the Pakistani intruders. India has always maintained the operation was a strategy by Pakistan to assert its claim over Kashmir. India has several evidence of involvement of the Pakistani army in Kargil, including prisoners of war, their pay books, uniforms, and weapons. The Indian Army buried several dead Pakistani soldiers in Kargil after the war. The Pakistani Army had refused to accept the bodies of soldiers killed in Kargil. The authorities had secretly sought bodies of Pakistani officers killed in the war. India has consistently asserted that the conflict was a direct act of aggression by the Pakistani military. The Pakistani army's intrusion into Kargil with terrorists as a cover became evident from the intercepted conversation between General Pervez Musharraf (while visiting Beijing) and his Chief of General Staff Lt Gen Mohammed Aziz in Rawalpindi on May 26 and May 29.



SDRF personnel conduct rescue operation after a building collapsed, crushing a truck under its debris, in Transport Nagar area of Lucknow on Saturday

**PNS ■ LUCKNOW**

Five people were killed and 28 others injured after a three-storey building in the Transport Nagar area of the state capital came crashing down on Saturday evening. Taking note of the incident, Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath issued directives to district officials to ensure immediate medical treatment for the injured and to expedite relief efforts. "Taking cognisance of the unfortunate accident that occurred in Transport Nagar, the Chief Minister has directed officials to conduct relief and rescue operations

on a war footing and to ensure that the injured are promptly taken to hospitals for treatment. Maharaj Ji has prayed to Lord Shri Ram for their speedy recovery," the Chief Minister's Office posted from its official X handle. Four teams of the National Disaster Response Force (NDRF), six teams of the State Disaster Response Force (SDRF), five teams from the fire department, and local police are engaged in rescue operations as more individuals are feared trapped in the debris. Initial reports suggest that the building, known as Harmilap Building among truckers and

workers, was constructed in 2010 and had its blueprints approved by the Lucknow Development Authority (LDA). The building, which was used as a warehouse by pharmaceutical companies and for water bottle packaging, was nearly 15 years old. UP Relief Commissioner Naveen Kumar confirmed five deaths and stated that 24 injured individuals have been hospitalised. There were 35 to 40 people inside the building at the time of the collapse, which occurred after a period of

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## Brij Bhushan gloats Phogat's Olympic miss

## HM Shah vows to decimate the Opp in J and K polls



(Left to right) Bajrang Punia, Brij Bhushan and Vinesh Phogat

**MOHIT KANDHARI ■ JAMMU**

Predicting the Assembly poll results in advance, Union Home Minister Amit Shah Saturday declared the National Conference and the Congress will never be able to form a government in Jammu and Kashmir. Shah said the BJP will contest and win these elections with full strength. He also emphasized that the election results will be decided by the people of Jammu. Addressing the 'Karyakarta Sammelan', a day after releasing the party's Sankalp Patra (Manifesto) here in Jammu Shah motivated the booth-level party workers to launch a door-to-door campaign to ensure the formation of the BJP government. "We just don't have to defeat them, we have to seize their deposits." "I am reading the writing on the wall that NC and Congress will never form a government. They are the



Union Home Minister Amit Shah during a party worker meet ahead of Jammu and Kashmir Assembly elections, in Jammu, Saturday, Sept. 7, 2024. MoS Jitendra Singh was also seen

people who forced Maharaja Hari Singh to exile and only his ashes could be brought back after his death," Shah said. The movement started by Pandit Prem Nath Dogra was ended by PM Modi Ji on August 5, 2019. He said, "It is a coincidence that the first election rally of

BJP is starting on the day of Ganesh Chaturthi and we all know that Lord Ganesh destroys all the obstacles of the path." The Union Home Minister said the upcoming elections are historic. For the first time since the country's independence, the voters of

Jammu and Kashmir will cast their votes under the tricolor. For the first time, votes will be cast under the Constitution of Baba Saheb Ambedkar and not under two constitutions. For the first time, no PM will sit in Jammu and Kashmir as only one person can be PM. These elections are taking

place out of the shadow of article 370 and we have seen its results in Lok Sabha elections." More than 58 percent of voters participated in the 2024 Lok Sabha polls. Addressing the gathering of party workers Shah assured people about the restoration of Jammu and Kashmir's statehood after the assembly election. Shah also urged the youth of Kashmir to refrain from supporting the National Conference-Congress alliance, warning their vote could potentially bring militancy back. The NDA Government will not allow the revival of terrorism, "autonomy" and injustice with any community, including Gujjars, Pahari, Bakerwals and Dalits who were granted reservation by the BJP dispensation, he asserted. The Union Home Minister came down heavily on Congress and the National

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**RAJESH KUMAR ■ NEW DELHI**

Fresh controversies have surrounded former Olympic wrestlers Vinesh Phogat and Bajrang Punia who has joined Congress to contest the forthcoming assembly elections in Haryana. While the wrestlers employer Indian Railways has given a notice seeking explanation to serve the three months notice period, their intentions to join politics were questioned by former BJP MP and Wrestling Federation of India (WFI) chief Brij Bhushan Sharan Singh against whom wrestlers levelled sexual harassment allegations. Bhushan accused that the protests against him over sexual harassment allegations were nothing but a political conspiracy by Congress two years ago. In his first response Brij Bhushan accused Phogat of "cheating" by taking another wrestler's spot at the Olympics. He claimed Phogat the "face of the Congress conspiracy" and claimed that she was part of a

plot hatched against him by Congress leader Deepender Hooda and the Hooda family. He further added that Phogat of cheating to attend the games saying she could not win a medal because God had punished her. Hitting back, Punia said Singh's remarks reflect his mindset, adding, "It wasn't just Vinesh's medal, it was a medal for 140 crore Indians. He is taking satisfaction in her loss." Punia further alleged that Vinesh Phogat's father to secure a medal at the Paris Olympics had been a moment of national sorrow, but the BJP's IT Cell launched a campaign to mock and belittle her. While Phogat has been fielded for the polls, Punia was appointed as the working chairman of the All India Kisan Congress. The BJP leader also alleged that Bajrang Punia participated in the Asian Games without completing the trials. Meanwhile, Punia questioned the patriotism of those who

celebrated Vinesh Phogat's disqualification, asking whether they could truly be considered 'deshbhakts.' He stressed that he and others had been fighting for the country since childhood, while those who criticise them "dare to teach patriotism" and are involved in "molesting girls" he alleged. Congress sources said the BJP's intention to prevent Phogat from contesting after she has resigned from her department will go futile since both the former railways employees have resigned with immediate effect and the railways have no choice but to either waive off the three months notice period or curtail financial benefits. Both have been served a show cause notice by Indian Railways and sources in the railways said as of now the resignations were not accepted and technically they continue to be a government servant. The election commission mandates that the contestant should not be a government employee.

**KUMAR CHELLAPAN ■ KOCHI**

Rationalists and atheists may not like this but the truth is that Lord Vinayaka (also known as Ganapathi or Vigneshwara) is an international figure who is respected and adored by believers of Sanatana Dharma spread across the world. Vinayaka Chaturthi is celebrated across India, Sri Lanka, Indonesia, USA, Britain and many other countries. Devotees cutting across caste, class and religion pay obeisance to the God (who has the head of an elephant) to invoke his blessings. While Sanatana believers organize Ganesh Festivals across Maharashtra as a mark of unity and nationalism, the rest of the country follows suit with "Sarvajanic Ganesholsav", immortalized by Bal Gaangadhar Tilak, the great freedom fighter India has seen. The Dravidians led by Ramasami Naicker had insulted Vinayaka by garlanding his idols across Tamil Nadu with footweers. Sri Lanka, which has 75 per



cent Sinhala population and less than nine percent Tamil population too comes alive with Vinayaka Chaturthi celebrations. The only difference is that many places in the island nation celebrate Ganesh Chaturthi on 6th and 7th September and immerse the colourful idols in lakes, rivers or in the mighty Indian Ocean. Employees, staff and management of ten tea plantations in Nuwara Eliya situated in central Sri Lanka had its Ganesh festivals on 6th and 7th of September which had a grand finale on Saturday. The devotees that

included Sinhalese, Indian Tamils led by the monks of Ramakrishna Mutt and Buddhist monasteries took the ten idols of Vinayaka as a procession to Commercial Lake at Kotagalla that is home to the biggest tea plantation. "As everywhere, Ganesh is considered as the remover of all obstacles. Any new ventures, whether it be initiation to a child's education, a business enterprises and all auspicious functions commence with Vinayaka Puja," said Ramaswamy Wijayabalan, a leader of Vishwa Hindu Parishad International in the

island nation. The Government of Sri Lanka had deputed the secretary, department of Hindu Culture to coordinate the event that saw thousands of people from the district assembling for the two-day event filled with poojas, devotional songs and cultural events to propitiate Ganesh. Wijayabalan said Ganesh was no stranger in Sri Lanka as the Buddhists too worship the remover of all obstacles in their temples. Pandit Bhaskara Sharma led the poojas and distributed prasadam to all those who assembled to pay their obeisance to the God of Knowledge. The bhajan "Ganapati Bappa Morrya, Mangal Moorthy Morrya, Akhil Baras Thu Jaldi Aaa" reverberated across the plantations and during the procession to the Lake for the Holy Immersion. Ganesholsav in Sri Lanka is not just a flash in the pan as the Elephant headed God is worshipped by the locals in many countries in Asia, said Ravi Kumar, Indian representative of SEWA based in Sydney.



## Puja Khedkar discharged unceremoniously

**PNS ■ NEW DELHI**

Centre has discharged Puja Khedkar, former probationary civil servant, from the Indian Administrative Service (IAS) with immediate effect, official sources said on Saturday. Khedkar has been accused of cheating and wrongly availing Other Backward Classes (OBC) and disability quota benefits to ensure her selection in the service. She has denied all allegations. The central government, vide order dated September 6, 2024, discharged Khedkar from the Indian Administrative Service

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## Fresh violence in Manipur

**PIONEER NEWS SERVICE ■ IMPHAL**

Five people were killed in fresh violence in Manipur's Jiribam district on Saturday. Security forces, on the other hand, destroyed three bunkers of militants in Churachandpur district on Friday after the insurgents launched rocket attacks in adjoining Bishnupur that killed one person and injured six others. Manipur Chief Minister N Biren Singh called an emergency meeting with

MLAs from the ruling coalition, which comprises the BJP, Naga People's Front, and National Peoples Party (NPP), on Saturday evening to discuss the prevailing law and order situation in the state, official sources said. The meeting, scheduled to take place at the Chief Minister's bungalow, is expected to focus on critical decisions concerning the recent attacks on civilians by armed men from elevated hill areas, sources added. Additionally, the legislators, along with Singh, may also

meet the governor, though this is yet to be confirmed. On Saturday, one person was shot dead in his sleep while four others were killed in subsequent exchange of fire between people of two communities in Jiribam district, a police officer said. Militants entered the house of the person who lived alone at an isolated location around 5 km from the district administration headquarters and shot him dead in his sleep, he said.

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# Chaotic scenes follow building collapse

PNS ■ LUCKNOW

Chaotic scenes ensued as it was a bolt from the blue for the people in and around the ill-fated building which collapsed in Transport Nagar on Saturday evening. Rajesh Pal, a truck driver from Delhi, recounted his experience: "I arrived at the building around 4:55 pm to unload pharmaceutical goods. As the goods were being moved to the second floor, about 15 to 20 people were unloading them from the truck. Suddenly, the entire building collapsed. No one knew what was happening. Some people unloading the goods fled to safety, while others escaped with the help of locals and police. I too ran to save my life." Amitabh Yash, UP Police's ADG (Law and Order), who arrived at the scene to oversee the rescue operations, confirmed that 28 people had been evacuated. "The cause of the incident is under investigation. NDRF and SDRF teams are actively engaged in rescue operations. The building's owner has been summoned for questioning," he stated. Yash emphasised that the immediate priority was to save lives. "Once the rescue is completed, we will conduct a thorough investigation. The injured are receiving treatment at various hospitals. We have made passages on two sides of the building to facilitate the rescue," he added. Despite their efforts, rescue teams struggled to



Rescue operation underway at the building collapse site; people injured in the incident at Lok Bandhu Hospital

determine the exact number of people working in the building at the time of the collapse. The building, constructed in 2010, had its blueprints approved by the LDA under Kumkum Singhal. Her husband Rakesh Singhal had rented out the floors to various pharmaceutical companies for use as warehouses. Reports suggest that a truck collided with the building

during unloading operations, potentially causing structural damage. Lucknow's Naib Tehsildar Govardhan Shukla, present at Lok Bandhu Hospital, reported that five people had died and 24 were injured. One injured person, referred to Apollo Hospital, died en route. The deceased have been identified as Pankaj Tiwari (40), Dheeraj Gupta (48), and Arun Sonkar (28).

Commissioner Roshan Jacob revealed that the ground floor of the building was used for water bottle packaging, while the upper floors served as warehouses for truck goods. Rescue teams are using drones and radar technology to locate trapped individuals, but the exact number of people inside the building at the time of the collapse remains unknown.



Pioneer

Immediately after the collapse, police, fire officials, and rescue teams from the NDRF and SDRF joined forces to assist those trapped. The building had partially collapsed and was precariously dangling, which posed additional risks during the rescue operations. The teams worked cautiously to reach the central areas where the highest number of workers were believed to be

trapped. By around 5 pm, the upper portion of the building had tilted before the entire structure collapsed completely. "We were bewildered and found ourselves in darkness, injured and surrounded by moans of pain," said survivors to Lucknow administration officials, who visited Lok Bandhu Hospital to supervise the medical treatment and gather more details about the incident.

# Imposter posing as sub-inspector held

PNS ■ LUCKNOW

A fake sub-inspector's cover was blown due to a mismatch between his shoes and the police uniform, which was quickly identified by a real cop's sharp observation, in Chinhat. Sub-Inspector Javed from Chinhat police station, while on patrol, noticed a man dressed in a police uniform with two stars on his shoulder straps. However, the man's shoes did not conform to the standard police uniform code, and the colour tone of his khaki uniform appeared slightly off. This discrepancy led Javed to question the suspect, later identified as Somil Singh (22), a student from Ramgaon in Bahraich district. He appeared nervous when approached by the police. As per reports, Singh had stolen a constable's uniform and bought two stars to pin on it. The shoes he wore did not match the standard police footwear, and his uniform's colour was slightly different from the norm. Singh had visited a car showroom in Chinhat, pretending to be a sub-inspector from Barabanki. However, Javed's keen observation skills revealed the inconsistencies, leading to further questioning. Singh initially tried to intimidate the police by asserting his authority, but he eventually confessed to being an imposter. During interrogation, Singh

admitted to stealing the uniform from a constable he knew and purchasing two stars to add to it. He also had a fake UP Police ID card in his possession. Singh revealed that he had come to Chinhat to buy a car and had an employee from the showroom with him. Singh was arrested near Adarsh Dhaba on Matiyari Road at 8 am on Saturday, and the employee accompanying him was also taken into custody. Inspector Ashwani Kumar Chaturvedi from Chinhat police station confirmed that a case has been filed against Singh, who is currently being questioned. A police spokesman stated that SI Javed's alertness and quick action led to the arrest of the fake sub-inspector.

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**Empanelment Notice**  
Applications are invited for empanelment as an authorized vendor for the supply of books to Doon University, Dehradun, for the financial years 2024-25. The details can be downloaded from the university website [www.doouniversity.ac.in](http://www.doouniversity.ac.in)

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**NOTICE OF THE 39th ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF THE SHAREHOLDERS**  
The 39th Annual General Meeting of the Company will be held on Monday September 30, 2024 at 10:00 a.m. at the Registered Office of the Company. Notice of the Annual General Meeting, Directors' Report, Auditors Report along with Audited Accounts is available at the registered office. Shareholders are requested to intimate their e-mail address to the Company to update their details/address.  
For Jasmine Leasing Limited  
Place : Kanpur  
Date : 06.09.2024

**DEBTS RECOVERY TRIBUNAL ALLAHABAD**  
ALLAHABAD-211002  
FORM NO.4 (See Regulation-15 (1) (b))  
**NOTICE UNDER SECTION 17 OF SECURITIZATION ACT R/W PROVISIONS OF THE DEBTS RECOVERY TRIBUNAL ACT AND THE DEBTS RECOVERY TRIBUNAL (PROCEDURE) RULES, 1993 AS AMENDED FROM TIME TO TIME.**  
Case No. SA/23/2024  
E.M. No. 1422  
**SMT REEMA TIWARI VS CANARA BANK**  
To, 1. DINESH KUMAR TIWARI S/O SHRI SUKHAKAR TIWARI R/O 57/11/74A, BACHAUDI, SULTANPUR. BENIGANI DEVKALLI MARG, SAHABGANI, DISTRICT FAIZABAD, UTTAR PRADESH  
An application under Section 17(1) of the Securitization & Reconstruction of Financial Assets & Enforcement of Interests Act, 2002 has been filed before this Tribunal on 02/08/2024 at the court of Presiding Officer/Registrar. (A copy of application is enclosed). Show cause as to why the relief prayed for should not be granted. You are required to file reply, if any, by the due date. The paper book form in two complete sets and produce all the documents and affidavits in support in the Tribunal personally or through your duly authorized agent or legal practitioner and appear before this Tribunal on 01/10/2024 at 10:30 A.M. failing which the application shall be heard and decided in your absence. You are further directed to supply advance copy of the reply to the SA to the Counsel for the Applicant. Given under my hand and the seal of this Tribunal on this date: 07/09/2024  
By order of Tribunal  
DRT Allahabad

**CLASSIFIEDS**

**सूचना**

मेरे भूखण्ड संख्या 453 ब्लाक - डी योजना संख्या -एल.आई.जी. III के.यू.डी.पी. स्थित बर्रा कानपुर नगर का मूल आवंटन पर दिनांक 02-03-1987 व मूल कब्जा लेटर कहीं खो गया जिसका प्रयोग अवैध होगा । किरन पत्नी सुनील कुमार नि. 485 डी ब्लॉक बर्रा के.यू.डी.पी कानपुर

**NOTICE**

The name Divyans of my son, as entered in my service records, is incorrect. His name Divyansh, as entered in Aadhar and school records is correct and should be recorded for all matters.

**NOTICE**

I have changed my daughter Adya Pandey's name spelling to AADYAA PANDEY for all future purposes. Aditya Pandey R/o Flat No. A-10, KDA Complex, Janta Nagar, Barra-3, Kanpur

**NOTICE**

I HAVE CHANGED MY NAME FROM VIJAY KUMAR BADLANI TO VIJAY KUMAR VIJAY KUMAR S/O KHIYA RAM BADLANI 117/H-1/322, MODEL TOWN PANDU NAGAR KANPUR.

**सूचना**

मेरे भूखण्ड संख्या 188 ब्लॉक ईस्ट योजना- 26 पुराना कानपुर नगर की मूल पट्टा विलेख संख्या 237 दिनांक 15-11-1958 कहीं खो गया है जिसका प्रयोग अवैध होगा द्वारा प्रकाश चंद्र पुत्र भगवती प्रसाद नि. 25 एन ब्लॉक किवदई नगर कानपुर नगर

**NOTICE**

I have changed my name from KESARVANI DILIPKUMAR RADHESHYAM TO DILIP RADHESHYAM KESARWANI. In future I shall be known as DILIP RADHESHYAM KESARWANI. DILIP RADHESHYAM KESARWANI S/o Radheshyam Kesarwani, Plot No-5A, Ganpati Colony Gangotri Nagar Dandi, Naini, Prayagraj, UP

**NOTICE**

I have changed my name from SYED ABID ABBAS NAQVI to ABID ABBAS NAQVI S/o Shri AFROZ ALAM NAQVI, R/o- 121, Choudharana, PS Kotwali, Unnao. In future I will be known & recognise by this name only.

**OBITUARY**

**OBITUARY**  
  
**NAIK GORDE GANESH DAGADU**  
01 JUN 1928 - 19 JUL 2024  
ALL RANKS OF ARMY MEDICAL CORPS SOLEMNLY PRAY TO THE ALMIGHTY TO BESTOW PEACE TO THE DEPARTED SOUL AND GRANT STRENGTH TO THE BEHEAVED FAMILY TO BEAR THE GREAT LOSS OF NK GORDE GANESH DAGADU WHILE SERVING WITH 331 FND HOSP. FROM: LT GEN KAVITA SAHAI AND ALL RANKS OF ARMY MEDICAL CORPS

**NOTICE**

I, Hav- Dorgesh Yadav, son of Rambachan Yadav aged about 40 yrs. residing at Vill- Chauki Tehuwan, Post- Tarawa, P.S. - Tarawa, District-Azamgarh, Army No. 4200637M Rank HAV-Dorgesh Yadav in my service book my father name is written Ram Vachan Yadav and age is written 09/03/1955 is incorrect. Rambachan Yadav and date of birth 01/01/1954 is correct according my Father Aadhar Card No. - 4203 0776 8314.

**OBITUARY**

**OBITUARY**  
  
**NAIK IRAPPA V**  
02 APR 1994-02 JUL 2024  
ALL RANKS OF ARMY MEDICAL CORPS SOLEMNLY PRAY TO THE ALMIGHTY TO BESTOW PEACE TO THE DEPARTED SOUL AND GRANT STRENGTH TO THE BEHEAVED FAMILY TO BEAR THE GREAT LOSS OF NK IRAPPA V WHILE SERVING WITH BASE HOSP DELHI CANTT. FROM: LT GEN KAVITA SAHAI AND ALL RANKS OF ARMY MEDICAL CORPS

**NOTICE**

I have changed my name from SVALAHA KHATOON To SWALEHA KHATOON for all future purpose, Swaleha Khatoon W/o Masudul Hasan R/o 130/322A, Ajeetganj 130, Bagahi T.P.Nagar Kanpur

**NOTICE**

The general public is informed that my name is mentioned as Jyoti in the share bond whereas my correct name in my Aadhar card, bank passbook and educational certificates is Jyoti Gupta. From today onwards we should be known and recognized by the name Jyoti Gupta everywhere. Jyoti Gupta W/o Manoj Kumar Kaushal Residence- Kuchera Bazar Tehsil Milkpur District Ayodhya. Mob. 8714951333

# Girl preparing for CLAT thwarts molestation bid

PNS ■ LUCKNOW

A student preparing for the Common Law Admission Test (CLAT) thwarted an e-rickshaw driver's attempt to sexually assault her in the Ashiyana police station area on Friday. The student had hired the e-rickshaw to return home when the driver stopped in a secluded area, claiming that the vehicle's battery had died. While pretending to fix the issue, the driver made amorous advances towards the student. However, the girl pushed the driver away in self-defence and escaped. She ran to a nearby hotel, where the presence of bystanders prompted the e-rickshaw driver to flee. The student subsequently informed her family, who reported the incident to the Ashiyana police station. The police have launched an investigation, utilising CCTV footage to identify and apprehend the suspect.

The student recounted that the incident occurred near Vanasthali Park, an area poorly lit at night. She had boarded the e-rickshaw around 7:30 pm after finishing her coaching class. The driver, who did not pick up any additional passengers, stopped near the park around 7:40 pm, claiming the battery was exhausted. As the girl attempted to exit the vehicle, the driver insisted on checking the battery. He then approached her from behind and grabbed her hand. Overcoming her fear in darkness, the student fought back. Although she screamed, her cries went unheard in the deserted area. However, she managed to push the driver away. The driver chased her briefly, but she reached a hotel, where she felt safe. She immediately called her father to report her location and later shared the full details of the incident with her family.

# Scrap dealer stabbed to death

PNS ■ LUCKNOW

A scrap dealer was fatally stabbed during a confrontation in the Madaion police station area late Friday night, police said on Saturday. According to DCP (North) Abhijith R Shankar, the exact cause of the altercation remains unclear. "Upon receiving the report, we found the injured man, identified as Omveer Kashyap (25), who was subsequently taken to the hospital where he succumbed to injuries," the DCP said. The victim's father, Raj Kumar, identified the suspect as Sufyan. An FIR has been filed for murder based on Raj Kumar's complaint. Several individuals have been detained and are currently being interrogated. Bereaved family members revealed that both Omveer Kashyap and Sufyan, residents of Rahim Nagar Dudouli in Madian, were scrap dealers. While the exact motive behind the fight is still under investigation, preliminary reports suggest that the dispute may have involved financial transactions related to scrap or a personal disagreement over a

# 2 more arrested for duping SGPGI prof of over ₹2 cr

PNS ■ LUCKNOW

A team of the Uttar Pradesh Special Task Force (STF) arrested two members of a gang involved in a major fraud involving an associate professor at SGPGI, who was duped of over Rs 2 crore. The accused, Lokesh Jain and Pawan Jain (both from Jhalawar in Rajasthan) were apprehended by the STF team on Shaheed Path. A sum of Rs 9.91 lakh in cash, three mobile phones, and a luxury car were recovered from their possession. Deputy Superintendent of Police (STF) Deepak Kumar Singh reported that the arrests followed a tip-off. During interrogation, the accused revealed that their gang had posed as police or CBI officers and called the SGPGI professor, extracting

her personal information. The scammers coerced her into transferring money to various bank accounts, pretending there was a money laundering case involving her account. The money was then transferred to accounts controlled by accomplices who acted as money mules, and the gang members withdrew the funds using the detailed information they had acquired, including ATM card details. The fraud came to light when the assistant professor, who had been digitally arrested for over five days, realised she had been scammed. She subsequently filed a complaint with the police. The STF continues to investigate the case to uncover any further details and to locate additional suspects involved in the scam. Sufyan reportedly attacked Omveer with a knife during the altercation. Neighbours who heard Omveer's screams gathered at the scene and alerted the police. Upon seeing the crowd, Sufyan fled the area. The police are continuing their investigation to establish the full details of the incident and apprehend the suspect.

# 'Ganpati Bappa Morya' chants rent air

Lucknow (PNS): The state capital witnessed vibrant and enthusiastic celebrations as Ganesh Chaturthi commenced on Saturday. The 19th Shri Ganesh Mahotsav, organised by Shri Ganesh Pratayatya Committee, began at Jhulelal Vatika on Saturday. The festivities started with the installation, decoration, and worship of the Ganpati idol, following traditional rituals. The idol was placed amidst the resonant chants of mantras performed by acharyas from Ayodhya and Varanasi, under the guidance of Pandit Kaushal Pandey of Varanasi. Akhilesh Bansal, along with his family, participated in the worship as the host, and the pandal echoed with the chants of 'Ganpati Bappa Morya' during the installation. In the evening, cultural programmes, directed by Sanjay



Sharma of Kolkata and Sidhu Maharaj from Lucknow, took centre stage. Sanjay Sharma enthralled the devotees with bhajans. Patron Bharat Bhushan Gupta noted that around 82,000 letters are traditionally written to Lord Ganesh each year, with expectations of even larger crowds this time. The event also featured numer-

ous stalls selling chaat, fast food, and ice cream, drawing many women and children. General secretary Satish Agarwal announced that 'shringar' and 'aarti' would be performed daily at 10 am and 6 pm. In Aliganj, an 11-day Ganesh Mahotsav is being organised by Maa Siddheshwari Seva

Kutumb from September 7 to September 17 at the Maa Siddheshwari Temple complex. Committee president Krishna Gopal Sanwaria, general secretary Manish Agarwal, treasurer Yogi Agarwal, and temple incharge Ashok Agarwal said that the idol installation, conducted by Acharya Shivanand Shastri, took place at 8 am on Saturday. Manish Agarwal mentioned that 'modaks' would be distributed daily to devotees and that the 3-feet idol would convey messages of women safety. The immersion ceremony is scheduled for September 17 at Khatu Shyam Ghat. The SKD Group also celebrated Ganesh Chaturthi across all its branches. The SKD family engaged in devotional activities and bhajans, with children participating in creative events and sharing stories from Ganesh's life.

# JIM celebrates Foundation Day

Lucknow (PNS): Jaipuria Institute of Management (JIM) celebrated its 29th Foundation Day on Saturday. Vice-President (Sales), Vodafone Idea Ltd, Neelesh Kesarwani, also an alumnus of the founding batch of 1995-97, was the chief guest on the occasion. He shared memories of his student life in his address and also reminisced how the education received from Jaipuria guided him. Kesarwani also highlighted the importance of continuous learning. "If we do not prepare ourselves for upcoming changes, we will get lost somewhere in

the crowd or will become a history in the professional world. To prepare for change, we first have to develop the ability to learn fast while keeping a positive attitude towards change," he said. The guest of honour was Somit Chitrey, Global Head, WRB Lending and Application Fraud Risk, at Standard Chartered Bank from JIM batch of 2002-04. He emphasised several important principles for success. He highlighted the need for continuous hard work and smart effort. He also stressed the value of communication skills in the corporate world,



noting that effective communication, along with proper dressing and etiquette, leaves a lasting impression. Director of JIM Dr Kavita Pathak described the 29 years journey of the institute. She spoke about the various achievements made by the institute and also highlighted the contribution of the members.

**GIAN LIFE CARE LIMITED**  
Regd Office:- 72/16(6) Swarop Nagar (In front of L.R. Hospital), Kanpur, Uttar Pradesh-208002  
CIN:- L85100UP2016PLC110119; Mobile: 8808051919; Web: <https://gianlifecare.org/>;  
Email: [arunupgtagpx@gmail.com](mailto:arunupgtagpx@gmail.com)

**INFORMATION REGARDING 6<sup>th</sup> ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING, DISPATCH OF NOTICE AND E-VOTING INSTRUCTIONS**

Notice is hereby given that the 6<sup>th</sup> Annual General Meeting ("AGM") of Gian Life Care Limited ("the Company") will be held on Monday, September 30, 2024 at 09:30 A.M. (IST), to transact the business(es) as set out in the Notice convening the said AGM.

The Annual Report along with, the Notice convening the AGM and e-voting instructions have been sent on September 06, 2024 only in electronic mode to those Members whose e-mail addresses are registered with their respective Depository participant(s)/Registrar and Share Transfer Agent ("RTA") of the Company. The requirements of sending physical copies of the Notice of the AGM and Annual Report to the Members have been dispensed with for the year ended March 31, 2024. However, a member may request hard copies of AGM Notice and Annual Report by writing to us at [arunupgtagpx@gmail.com](mailto:arunupgtagpx@gmail.com) mentioning their Folio No./DP ID and Client ID.

The Annual Report for the FY 2023-24 along with the Notice of 6<sup>th</sup> AGM is also made available on the Company's website at <https://gianlifecare.org/> and on the website of the Stock Exchanges i.e., BSE Limited at [www.bseindia.com](http://www.bseindia.com).

**Electronic Voting and Participation at the AGM**

In compliance with the provisions of section 108 of the Act read with Rule 20 of Companies (Management and Administration) Rules, 2014, as amended from time to time, the Company, in accordance with Regulation 44 of LODR Regulations and Applicable Circulars, the Company is providing to its members the facility to cast their vote electronically on the resolutions proposed to be passed at the AGM through e-voting.

The Company has opted to provide the electronic voting system of CDSL at the AGM. A person whose name appears in the register of members or in the register of beneficial owners maintained by depositories as on Cut-off date i.e., Monday, September 23, 2024 only shall be entitled to avail the facility of remote e-voting. The voting rights of members shall be in proportion to the paid-up value of their shares. The venue voting shall be as per the instructions of Chairperson of the meeting during the AGM and only those members attending the AGM who hold shares as on Cut-off date i.e., Monday, September 23, 2024 and who have not already casted their vote at remote e-voting and are not otherwise barred from doing so, shall be eligible to vote at the AGM.

A member may participate in the AGM even after exercising his right to vote through remote e-voting but shall not be entitled to vote again. The remote e-voting will commence on Friday, September 27, 2024 at 09:00 A.M. (IST) and will end on Sunday, September 29, 2024 at 05:00 P.M. (IST). The remote e-voting module shall thereafter be disabled for voting and subsequently enabled for Insta poll during the AGM. Once the vote on a resolution is cast by a Member, the same cannot be changed subsequently.

Any person who becomes a member of the Company after dispatch of the Notice of the AGM and holding shares as on the Cut-off date i.e., Monday, September 23, 2024 may obtain the login ID and password by sending a request at [arunupgtagpx@gmail.com](mailto:arunupgtagpx@gmail.com). Any person who has not registered his/her e-mail address or has become a Member of the Company, and therefore annual report and this AGM Notice could not be sent, may write to [arunupgtagpx@gmail.com](mailto:arunupgtagpx@gmail.com) to receive the copy of Notice and Annual Report for FY 2023-24. Pursuant to SEBI Circular No. SEBI/HO/CFD/CIR/DP/2020/242 dated December 09, 2020 on "e-voting facility provided by listed Companies", e-voting process has been enabled for all individual demat account holder, through their demat account by way of single login credentials, through their demat Accounts website of Depositories/Depository Participants ("DP"), in order to increase the efficiency of the voting process.

**Scrutinizer for e-voting and declaration of results**

The Company has appointed M/s. Prakash Pandey & Co., Practicing Company Secretaries, to act as the Scrutinizer to scrutinise the e-voting process in a fair and transparent manner. Mr. Prakash Pandey (FCS No. 11815 and CP No. 23619), has communicated his willingness to be appointed and be available for the purpose. The results on resolutions shall be declared not later than 2 (Two) working days from the conclusion of the Meeting of the Company.

The results declared along with the Scrutinizer's Report will be made available on the website of the Company at <https://gianlifecare.org/> and the same shall be communicated to BSE Limited.

In case of any grievance related to non-registration of email id, for the purpose of attending AGM, e-voting, non-receipt of Notice, and Annual Report or for any further clarifications, you may contact the Company at [arunupgtagpx@gmail.com](mailto:arunupgtagpx@gmail.com).

By Order of the Board  
For Gian Life Care Limited  
Sd/-  
Rashika Agarwal  
Director  
DIN: 98275708

Place: Kanpur  
Date: September 07, 2024

# UP plays key role in shaping India's unique global identity: Dhankhar

PNS ■ LUCKNOW

Vice President Jagdeep Dhankhar hailed Uttar Pradesh as a shining example of progress, saying it plays a key role in shaping India's unique global identity and every citizen will have to make a sacrifice in the 'Developed India' mission.

Vice President Dhankhar was addressing the inauguration ceremony of Sainik School in Gorakhpur on Saturday. In his address, he called upon citizens to actively participate in the ongoing campaign for realising the vision of a 'Developed India' by 2047.

He said, "Every person should make sacrifices for the 'Developed India Mission' because no sacrifice is too great when it comes to serving the country."

Hailing Uttar Pradesh as a shining example of progress, the vice president commended Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath for the significant transformations witnessed in the state since 2017. He said that Uttar Pradesh had made a qualitative contribution in the distinct and strong identity of India in the world.

He praised the transformative changes in Uttar Pradesh under the leadership of Chief Minister Yogi, noting significant advancements in education, healthcare, entrepreneurship and other sectors since 2017. He remarked: "Indianness is our identity, and the nation is our religion."

He urged everyone to prioritise national interests above personal ones, warning that any compromise with nationalism would be a betrayal to the country. He asserted that those who question the nation's integrity would not be tolerated.

The vice president highlighted the dramatic change in Kashmir, where, following the abolition of Article 370, more than two crore tourists have visited the region over the past two to three years. He reminded the audience that while the framers of the Constitution intended Article 370 to be temporary, some mistakenly viewed it as permanent.

Vice President Dhankhar also praised Purvanchal as a vital region of Uttar Pradesh, commending the construction of the first Sainik School in the area. He exuded confidence that the school will play a crucial role in shaping future generations, standing as a testament to Chief Minister Yogi's unique vision and impact.



Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath presenting a memento to Vice President Jagdeep Dhankhar and his wife in Gorakhpur on Saturday

the day when Chief Minister Yogi personally visited his residence to extend an invitation for the inauguration of Sainik School Gorakhpur. He described the invitation as extraordinary, noting that Chief Minister Yogi's attention to detail and thoughtfulness were evident in how he invited him not just as a dignitary, but as an alumnus of a Sainik School. Reflecting on the inauguration ceremony, the vice president expressed how the event brought back vivid memories of his own time as a Sainik School student six decades ago. He described the experience as unforgettable, noting that Chief Minister Yogi's efforts had created an indelible moment in his life.

He emphasised that this invitation also served as a reminder of the transformative power of education, which has the ability to bridge inequalities and foster change.

The vice president lauded the newly established institution, expressing his belief that it will serve as an inspiration for other states to form similar societies and establish Sainik Schools of their own. He emphasised that the bond he has formed with Gorakhpur through this event will remain with him for life.

He reflected on his own connection to the region, recalling the time he served in the Lok Sabha alongside Yogi Adityanath's mentor, Mahant Avaidyanath, from whom he received blessings when he became a minister at the Centre.

Following the inauguration of the Sainik School Gorakhpur, Vice President Dhankhar inspected the new institution. He toured the school's facilities, including classrooms, playgrounds, the swimming pool, and the residential complex. He also tried his hand at shooting at the newly established Eklavya Shooting Range.

In a gesture reflecting his commitment to environmental sustainability, the vice president planted trees on the school grounds, sending a strong message about the importance of keeping nature green and maintaining a clean and beautiful environment.

The day's events commenced with the National Anthem and Saraswati Vandana as the vice president took the stage. The highlight of the ceremony was an emotional drama staged by the cadets, depicting the transition from student life to military service.

## Gkp has become hub for edu, health investments: Yogi

**Gorakhpur (PTI):** Uttar Pradesh Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath on Saturday inaugurated the Sainik School in Gorakhpur in the presence of Vice President Jagdeep Dhankhar and said that Gorakhpur is progressing rapidly under the inspiration and guidance of Prime Minister Narendra Modi. Addressing the inauguration programme, Adityanath said that Gorakhpur has become the dream destination for education, health and investment in the region. "Today the sacred purpose of building generations is fulfilled through Sainik School. This is an important day for eastern Uttar Pradesh," he said. Adityanath said that Gorakhpur has been an important place mythologically and historically. It is the place of worship of Mahayogi Guru Goraknath ji and also the centre for the publication of Sanatan literature all over the world through Gita Press. In the fight for freedom, during the first freedom struggle of 1857, under the leadership of Shaheed Bandhu Singh, the foundations of British rule

were shaken in the Gorakhpur region. The historic incident of Chauri Chaura in 1922 gave new impetus to the freedom struggle. Adityanath said that the Sainik School of Gorakhpur, which was completed in a short period of three years, will play an important role in shaping the future of upcoming generations. This Sainik School will build future generations and will prove helpful in making them understand the duties of life, he said and added that students passing out from this institute will pave the way for a developed India in future.

The first Sainik School in the country was established in Lucknow in 1960 by the then Chief Minister Sampurnanand. After that, in 1961, the then-defence minister also started five new Sainik Schools. Welcoming the Vice President, he said: "It is our pleasure that this Sainik School is being inaugurated by Vice President Jagdeep Dhankhar, an alumnus of Chittorgarh Sainik School during the period 1962 to 1969."

The vice president recalled that the country's first Sainik School was founded in Lucknow in 1960 by then-Chief Minister Dr Sampurnanand. "Now, decades later, Chief Minister Yogi

## Sugar mills of Baghpat, Muzaffarnagar set for expansion

PNS ■ LUCKNOW

In a significant move to boost the sugarcane industry, the Yogi Adityanath government is prioritising the modernisation and expansion of sugar mills in Uttar Pradesh. The government has laid out a plan to upgrade the sugar mills in Baghpat and Muzaffarnagar, aiming to enhance their efficiency and technological capabilities, ensuring maximum benefits for the state's sugarcane farmers.

The initiative was discussed in a high-level meeting chaired by Chief Secretary Manoj Kumar Singh, in which the state government proposed an investment of Rs 84.77 crore for the modernisation and marginal expansion of Kisan Sahakari Sugar Mill in Baghpat.

The project involves increasing the mill's crushing capacity from 2,500 TCD to 3,000 TCD, with the financial arrangement comprising 50 per cent share capital from the state government and 50 per cent as a loan. The government has allocated Rs 65 crore in the 2024-25 budget for this purpose. The mod-

ernisation is essential due to the ample availability of sugarcane in the mill's command area, with expectations of crushing about 5.01 lakh tonnes in the next five years, up from the current 4.82 lakh tonnes. Similarly, a proposal to invest Rs 88.02 crore for the expansion and technical upgrade of Ganga Kisan Sahakari Sugar Mill Ltd. in Morna, Muzaffarnagar, was also discussed. This mill will also see an increase in crushing capacity from 2,500 TCD to 3,000 TCD.

The financial strategy mirrors that of the Baghpat mill, with the state government providing 50 per cent of the funds as share capital and the remaining 50 per cent as a loan. The modernisation will enable the mill to crush up to 5.40 lakh tonnes of sugarcane over the next five years, compared to the current 4.85 lakh tonnes. These upgrades are expected to bring significant benefits, including reduced steam and power consumption, timely crushing of sugarcane, bagasse savings, and improved sugar recovery.

## Girl killed as truck hits schoolgoers

**Rae Bareilly:** A 16-year-old girl lost her life and two other teenagers were injured here on Saturday morning when they were hit by a truck, while they were on their way to school on their bicycles, police said. Angered over the incident, the victims' family members, villagers, and the school's students staged a sit-in protest. According to the police, the accident took place near Pyarepur turn in Salon police station area of Raebareilly district. Shaileja died on the spot, while two other girls -- Kanchan (17) and Aarti (16) -- got injured and were admitted to the district hospital, they said. The victims were students of a government-aided school in Raebareilly, they added. Family members of the girls and villagers started protesting on the Raebareilly-Pratapgarh road. A large number of girl students of the school also joined them and sat on the road in protest, the police said. PTI

## Lucknow ranks 4th in Swachh Vayu Survekshan

PNS ■ LUCKNOW

Lucknow has achieved the fourth place in the Swachh Vayu Survekshan rankings, results of which were announced on Saturday. The city was evaluated in the category for cities with populations exceeding 10 lakh. Notably, Lucknow was not part of last year's survey. Municipal Commissioner Inderjit Singh emphasised the need for further improvements. "While this ranking is an achievement, there is still much

work to be done. We need enhanced interdepartmental coordination to address the areas where we lost marks," Singh stated. One key area of focus is the promotion of electric vehicles. Singh noted, "We lost points in this category due to the low number of electric vehicles in the city. Increasing their adoption among the public is crucial."

Air pollution in Lal Bagh area is another concern. "Traffic congestion in this area significantly impacts air quality.

Decongesting this area will help improve the situation," Singh added. The city has made progress in managing legacy waste, with processing underway at the Shivri plant.

Approximately 18.5 lakh MT of legacy waste needs treatment on Mohan Road. Singh also pointed out that construction activities have contributed to dust and deteriorated air quality, particularly on Kanpur and Dubagga roads. "End-to-end pavements will help mitigate dust and further

enhance air quality," he said. The Swachh Vayu Survekshan is an initiative by the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change, which ranks cities based on their air quality and cleanliness.

The top three cities in each category receive awards, including a cash prize, trophy, and a 'National Clean Air City' certificate. This recognition is part of the National Mission for Clean Air, awarded on September 7 in celebration of the International Day of Clean Air for Blue Skies.

## UP accords top priority to women-related issues

**Lucknow (PNS):** The Uttar Pradesh government has claimed that it has accorded top priority to empowering women with respect and their safety, positioning the state at the forefront of addressing women-related issues nationwide. The Uttar Pradesh Women Power Line (1090) is a major contributor to this success. According to 2023 data from the helpline, the department has successfully translated Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath's vision into action, achieving a 100 per cent resolution rate for women's complaints. Over the past 19 months, more than six lakh complaints have been addressed within the designated time frame. Specifically, in 2023, 4,09,433 out of 4,09,434 complaints were resolved, with just one default call. As of August 30, 2024, 83.92 per cent of the cases have been addressed, with the remaining complaints on track for resolution within the stipulated time. As many as 3,04,481 calls were registered during this period, of which 2,55,535 were resolved. Women Power Line ADG Padma Chauhan stated that in alignment with Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath's directives, complaints about women are being addressed on a priority basis, with immediate assistance being provided when needed. She highlighted that in 2023, an average of 1,122 complaints were resolved daily, with a significant number of 1,70,734 complaints successfully addressed through counselling. Additionally, FIRs were registered in 62,667 cases. To ensure prompt assistance, all remaining calls were forwarded to relevant departments.

## Forest dept intensifies efforts to prevent wolf attacks

**Lucknow (PNS):** The Uttar Pradesh Forest department is intensifying its efforts to prevent further attacks by wolves in Bahraich, as the elusive predators continue to evade capture. Chief Wildlife Warden and PCCF Sanjay Srivastava provided an update on the situation on Saturday, highlighting the ongoing strategies and challenges faced. Srivastava revealed that Mahsi tehsil, the area hardest hit by the attacks, is being monitored nightly. "We are working diligently to prevent further incidents and appreciate the support from local villagers," he said. Despite these efforts, locating the wolves has proven difficult. "The wolves have become very cunning, adapting to our methods and hiding themselves effec-

tively," he noted. The chief wildlife warden added that if no attacks occur for over ten days, it may indicate that the wolves have moved out of the area.

"Our focus remains on both prevention and capture, with the primary goal of stopping all incidents of killing and injury," he emphasised.

The department has identified sensitive villages out of the 50 affected by the wolves. "These areas are being thoroughly scanned with joint efforts from the police, revenue, and forest departments," Srivastava said.

Experts from the Wildlife Institute of India (WII) are assisting in distinguishing whether the attacks are by wolves or dogs.

## Principal Secretary, Jail, removed

**Lucknow (PNS):** The Uttar Pradesh government on Saturday removed Principal Secretary, Jail, Rajesh Kumar Singh following the adverse comments by the Supreme Court. He has been kept in the waiting list. Anil Garg has replaced Rajesh Kumar Singh. MP Agarwal has been posted as Principal Secretary, Cooperatives, and Venkateshwar Lu as in-charge of Rural Development Institute, Lucknow. The Supreme Court had warned of contempt action against officers in the office of chief minister's secretary on August 12, and sought to know the names of those officials who had refused to accept files of remission pleas of convicted prisoners due to enforcement of model code of conduct during the Lok Sabha elections. Remission is the cancellation or

reduction of a part of the prison sentence of a prisoner. Under Section 432 of the CrPc, state governments may remit the whole or part of the punishment to which a convict has been sentenced based on factors such as the prisoner's conduct, rehabilitation, health and time served in the prison.

A bench of Justices Abhay S Oka and Augustine George Masih expressed its displeasure over the state government not processing files related to remission pleas within the specified time frame despite its order.

**HDFC BANK**  
 HDFC Bank Ltd, 2nd Floor, Experio Building, Vibhuti Khand, Gomti Nagar, Lucknow, Uttar Pradesh-226010.

**POSSESSION NOTICE APPENDIX IV (RULE 8(1))**

Whereas, the undersigned being the authorized officer of the HDFC Bank Ltd. under the Secularization and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 and in exercise of powers conferred under section 13 read with rule 3 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002, issued demand notice dated 04-05-2024 calling upon the Borrower(s) 1. M/s Kanhaiya Lal Yadav S/o Mr. Sahab Lal Yadav (Guarantor & Mortgagor) 2. M/s Kanhaiya Lal Yadav S/o Mr. Sahab Lal Yadav (Guarantor & Mortgagor) 3. Mrs. Gudiya Yadav W/o Mr. Kanhaiya Lal Yadav (Guarantor) to pay the amount mentioned in the notice Rs. 15,59,134/- (Rupees Fifteen Lakhs Fifty Nine Thousand One Hundred And Thirty-Four Only) within 60 days from the date of receipt of the said notice.

The borrower(s) having failed to repay the amount, notice is hereby given to the borrower(s) and the public in general that the undersigned has taken possession of the property described herein below in exercise of powers conferred on him under section 13 (4) of the said Act on the read with rule 8 & 9 of the said Rules, on this 04-09-2024. The borrower's attention is invited to provisions of sub-section (8) of section 13 of the Act, in respect of time available, to redeem the secured assets.

The borrower in particular and the public in general is hereby cautioned not to deal with the property and any dealings with the property will be subject to charge of HDFC Bank Ltd. for an amount of notice Rs. 15,59,134/- (Rupees Fifteen Lakhs Fifty Nine Thousand One Hundred And Thirty-Four Only) and interest thereon together with expenses and charges etc. less amount paid, if any.

**DESCRIPTION OF THE IMMOVABLE PROPERTY**  
 Shop At H No. 537, Admeasuring 78.00 Sq Ft / 7.249 Sq. Mtr., Mohalla Chawni Sadar, Ward No. 22, Rudranagar, Paragana- Miranpur, Tehsil Sadar, District Sultanpur, Uttar Pradesh, 228001. (Property Owned By Mr. Kanhaiya Lal Yadav). **Bounded As Under:** - East: House Of Seller, North: House Of Seller, West: House Of Harish Chandra, South: Main Godam Road.

**Authorised Officer,**  
 HDFC Bank Ltd.

Date :- 04.09.2024, Place :- Sultanpur

**ASIAN FERTILIZERS LIMITED**

Regd. office: Flat No. 202, Preet Garden, 3A/172, Azad Nagar, Kanpur, 208002  
 Administrative office: P.W.D. officer's colony, Near Sahara Press, Park road, Gorakhpur-273001  
 E-mail: investor@asianfertilizers.com, afl@asianfertilizers.com  
 Phone: (0551) 2203421, Website: www.asianfertilizers.com  
 CIN: L99999UP1986PLC007621

### NOTICE OF 39<sup>th</sup> ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING, E-VOTING & CUT OFF DATE

In view of the continuing COVID-19 pandemic, the Ministry of Corporate Affairs (MCA) has vide its General Circular No.14/2020 dated April 8, 2020, General Circular No.17/2020 dated April 13, 2020, General Circular No. 20/2020 dated May 5, 2020, General Circular No. 33/3030 dated September 28, 2020, General Circular No. 39/2020 dated December 31, 2020 and General Circular No.02/2021 dated January 13, 2021 ('MCA Circulars') and Circular No. SEBI/HO/CFD/CMD1/CIR/PP/2020/79 dated May 12, 2020 and Circular No. SEBI/HO/CFD/CMD2/CIR/P/2021/11 dated January 15, 2021 issued by the Securities and Exchange Board of India ('SEBI Circulars'), permitted the holding of the AGM through VC/OAVM, without the physical presence of the Members at a common venue. In compliance with the MCA Circulars and the relevant provisions of the Companies Act, 2013, ('the Act') and SEBI (Listing Obligations and Disclosure Requirements) Regulations, 2015 ('SEBI Listing Regulations') and Circulars issued by SEBI, the 39th AGM of the Company is being held on Monday, September 30, 2024 at 03:00 PM through VC/OAVM.

Electronic copies of the Notice of AGM and Annual Report of the Company for the financial year 2023-24 have been sent to all the members whose email IDs are registered with Company or its Registrar & Share Transfer Agent (RTA) or with their respective Depository Participant in 39<sup>th</sup> AGM through the VC/OAVM facility only. The attendance of the Members attending the AGM through VC/OAVM will be counted for the purpose of reckoning the quorum under Section 103 of the Companies Act, 2013. The notice of the AGM and Annual Report will also be available on the Company's website and on the website of Stock Exchange i.e. BSE limited at [www.bseindia.com](http://www.bseindia.com) and also on the NSDL's website [www.evoting.nsdl.com](http://www.evoting.nsdl.com). The dispatch of notice of AGM through email has been completed on September 7, 2024.

Members holding shares as on the cut-off date i.e. September 22, 2024, cast their vote on the ordinary and special Business(es) as set out in the Notice of the 39<sup>th</sup> AGM may be transacted through electronic voting system of National Services Depository Limited (NSDL) before AGM or e voting facility at the AGM ("remote e-voting"). All the members are informed that:

- The remote e-voting shall commence on Friday, September 27, 2024 at 9:00 A.M.(IST)
- The remote e-voting shall end on Sunday September 29, 2024 at 5:00 P.M.(IST)
- Members may note that: a) the remote e-voting module shall be disabled by NSDL after the aforesaid date and time for voting and once the vote on resolution is cast by the member, the member shall not be allowed to change it subsequently; b) the facility of e voting shall be made available at the AGM and members attending the AGM who have not already cast their vote, may cast their vote electronically on business (es) set forth in the notice of AGM. Further members who have cast their vote by remote e-voting prior to the AGM may also attend the AGM but shall not be entitled to cast their vote again; and c) a person whose name is registered in the register of member or in the register of beneficial owner maintained by depositories as on the cut of date only shall be entitled to avail the facility of remote e-voting as well as voting at the AGM.
- Any person, who acquires shares of the Company and become member of the Company after the dispatch of Notice of AGM and holding shares as on the cut off date i.e. September 22, 2024, may obtain their user ID and password by sending a request at [evoting@nsdl.co.in](mailto:evoting@nsdl.co.in) or [afl@asianfertilizers.com](mailto:afl@asianfertilizers.com).

However, if a person is already registered with NSDL for E-voting than existing user ID and password can be used for casting vote.

- In case of any queries, you may refer the Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs) for Shareholders and e-voting user manual for Shareholders available at the download section of [www.evoting.nsdl.com](http://www.evoting.nsdl.com) or call on toll free no.: 1800 1020990 and 1800 224 430 or contact at [evoting@nsdl.co.in](mailto:evoting@nsdl.co.in).
- SEBI vide circular no. SEBI/HO/MIRSD/DOP1/CIR/PP/2018/73 dated April 20, 2018 has mandated the submission of copy of Permanent Account Number (PAN) by every participant in securities market. Therefore, members are requested to submit copy of their PAN and bank account details (original cancelled cheque leaf/ attested bank passbook showing name of account holder) to Company / RTA.
- In the support of Green Initiative in Corporate Governance, members are requested to register their e-mail address(es) and changes therein from time to time, by directly sending the relevant e-mail address along with details of name, address, Folio No., shares held:
  - To the registrar and share transfer agent, M/s Skyline Financial Services Pvt. Ltd or Company for shares held in physical form / Demat;
 Upon registration of the email address (es), the Company proposes to send Notices, Annual Report and such other documents to those Members via electronic mode/e-mail.

FOR ASIAN FERTILIZERS LIMITED  
 SD/- Kunika Meghani  
 Company Secretary & Compliance Officer

Place: Gorakhpur  
 Date: 08/09/2024

**इंडियन बैंक**  
 (भारत सरकार का उपक्रम)

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

**ALLAHABAD**

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

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

The Borrowers/Guarantors having failed to repay the amount, notice is hereby given to the Borrowers/ Guarantors and the public in general that the undersigned has taken possession of the properties described herein below in exercise of the powers conferred on him / her under section 13(4) of the said Act read with Rule 8 and 9 of the said Rules.

The Borrowers in particular and the public in general is hereby cautioned not to deal with the properties and any dealings with the properties will be subject to the charges of the Indian Bank.

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

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

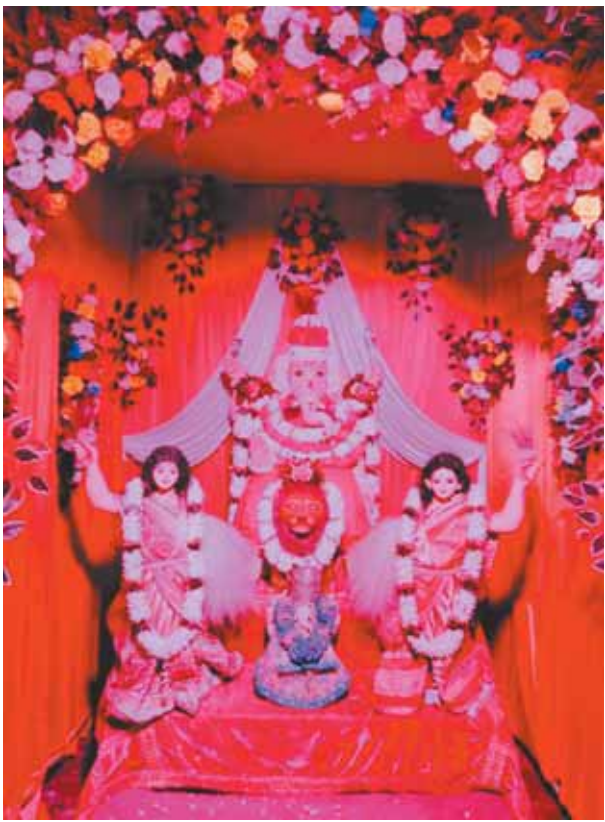
S. No.	Name & Address of the Borrower (s)/ Guarantor (s) / Proprietor / Mortgagors	Description of the Immovable Property	Dt. of Demand Notice / Dt. of Possession / Outstanding Amount
<b>Branch: Hazratganj Branch</b>			
1.	M/s Krishna Vision Energy Innovation LLP (Borrower/ Mortgagor), Add.-1: LS-2/655, Sector F, Jankipuram, Lucknow-226021	1. Factory Land and building situated at Industrial Plot No. B-23 belonging to one of the partner Sri Sachin Vikram Singh, Area: 2920 sq mtr, Village Raisa, UPSIDC Industrial Area, Phase II, Sandila, Hardoi, Boundaries: East: Plot No. C-23, West: 24 mtr wide road No. 2, North: 18 mtr wide road No. 12, South: Plot No. B-24	04.07.2024 05.09.2024 Rs. 7,87,91,562.00 and interest thereon
	Add.-2: Industrial Plot No. B-23, Village Raisa, UPSIDC Industrial Area, Phase II, Sandila, Hardoi	2. Non-agricultural vacant land, part of Khasra/ Gata No. 330 sq mtr, Village Rampur Devrai, Pargana Mahona, Tehsil-Bakshi Ka Talab, Lucknow, Boundaries: East: Gata No. 264, West: 25.00 ft wide rasta (chak marg), North: Land of seller, South: Plot of Ramesh Singh	
	2. Mr. Sachin Vikram Singh S/o Mr. Krishna Pal Singh (Partner/Guarantor/Mortgagor), LS-2/655, Sector F, Jankipuram, Lucknow-226021	3. Non-agricultural land, part of Khasra/ Gata No. 258 Kha in the name of Mrs. Manju Bala Singh, Area: 330 sq mtr, Village Rampur Devrai, Pargana Mahona, Tehsil-Bakshi Ka Talab, Lucknow, Boundaries: East: Gata No. 264, West: 25.00 ft wide rasta (chak marg), North: Khet of Radhey Shyam, West: Khet of Babu Lal, North: Chak Road, South: Bagh of Sundar Lal	
	3. Mr. Abhishek Singh S/o Mr. Om Prakash Singh (Partner/ Guarantor), B-2/111, Sitapur Road Scheme, Sector B, Jankipuram, Lucknow-226021	4. Non-agricultural land situated at Khasra/ Gata No. 492 & Khasra/ Gata No. 493 in the name of M/s Krishna Vision Energy Innovation LLP. Area: 0.03 + 0.03 = 0.06 Hectare, Village Mishripur, Pargana Mahona, Tehsil- Bakshi Ka Talab, Lucknow, Boundaries: East: Khet of Radhey Shyam, West: Khet of Babu Lal, North: Chak Road, South: Bagh of Sundar Lal	
	4. Mrs. Manju Bala Singh W/o Mr. Anil Singh (Partner/ Guarantor/ Mortgagor), 39/1, Rajapur, Induara, Bakshi Ka Talab, Lucknow-227202	5. Non-agricultural land situated at Khasra/ Gata No. 494 in the name of M/s Krishna Vision Energy Innovation LLP. Area: 0.147 Hectare, Village Mishripur, Pargana Mahona, Tehsil-Bakshi Ka Talab, Lucknow, Boundaries: East: Khet of Putli Lal & Others, West: Aabaadi, North: Chak Road, South: Bagh of Sundar Lal	
	5. Mrs. Nisha Singh W/o Mr. Anil Kumar (Guarantor/ Mortgagor), L-1/55, Sector- B, Aliganj, Lucknow-226024		
<b>Branch: Lucknow City</b>			
2.	M/s Sri Krishna Traders, Office Address: 332/32 Ghariyali Gali, Chowk Lucknow	1. All part and parcel of residential building bearing house No. 408/96 at Chaupatlaya Road Lucknow UP with details as under Sale deed dated 21.12.2011 registered in the office of registrar Bahi No. 1, Jilid No 8624 page no 313 to 354 at s.no.16431, Area-120.353 Sq. mtr., Boundaries: East-House of Warisan late Pandit Vishwanath Gaur & House Shiv Shankar (Babloo), West- 15 ft Wide Chaupatlaya Road, North- Gali 10 ft Wide, South-House Warisan Late Pandit	18.05.2024 03.09.2024 Rs. 95,68,786.00 and interest thereon
	2. Amit Agarwal(Borrower and Guarantor) s/o Naresh Kumar Agarwal, Office Address: 332/32 Ghariyali Gali, Chowk Lucknow	2. All part and parcel of Property Shop No. L-12 Lower Ground Floor HNo. 215/448 A Part of Kala Niwas Subhash Marg Naka Hindola Lucknow Area 12.509 Sq.Mt with details as under Sale deed Registered on 21.07.2011, Book No. 1 8577, page 255 to 282, S.NO. 5536 with the sub registrar (III) Lucknow, Boundaries: East: Shop No. L-11, West: Shop No. L-13, North: Passage of complex 9.6 Feet, South: Property of Deegar	

Date : 08.09.2024 Place: Lucknow Authorised Officer Indian Bank

# Ganeshotsav begins with religious fervour

PNS ■ VARANASI

Ganeshotsav began in this City of Lord Shiva with traditional gaiety and religious fervour on Saturday with the installation of the idols of Lord Ganesh at many places. The festival reflects Maharashtra colours as hundreds of Marathi families are living in Kashi since more than a century. Besides, on the auspicious occasion of Ganesh Chaturthi, a heavy rush of devotees thronged Bada Ganesh (Lohatia), Chintamani Ganesh (Sonarpura), Dhundi Vinayak (Vishwanath Gali) and many other temples to offer prayers. At Nana Fadnavis Ka Bada (Durga Ghat), the inaugural ceremony of the seven-day festival of Nutan Balak Ganeshotsav Samaj Seva Mandal began with the lighting of the lamp. The programme was presided over by regional organisation secretary of Sanskrit Bharati (eastern UP) Pramod Pandit. MLC Dharmendra Singh was the chief guest while Centre for Sanatan Research director Raman Tripathi was the guest of honour.



Idol of Lord Ganesh at Durga Ghat in Varanasi on Saturday; aarti being performed at Bada Ganesh Temple

The inaugural programme started with Vedic mangalacharan by Kaustubh Dixit and musical mangalacharan 'Mangal Mud Siddhi Sadan' sung by Anjali Yadav. The guests were welcomed and introduced by Dr Madhav Janardan Ratate and Santosh Solapurkar while Praveen Vasant Patwardhan threw light on the organisation.

The vote of thanks was proposed by festival president Anant Ashok Paradkar while the programme was conducted by Gaurav Gopal Ratate. The welcome song, 'Ganraj aaj grihi aala...' was presented by Anchal Yadav. On this occasion, Pt Ganesh Shastri Patwardhan Smriti and other awards were given to

meritorious students of educational institutions run by the organisation. At Agrawal Bhawan (Asbhairo), the five-day festival of Shri Kashi Maratha Ganesh Utsav Samiti began with the installation of the idol of Lord Ganesh, a replica of Mumbai's famous Lalbagh Ka Raja. The festival is also



being celebrated in the city at several other places. It is the 96th year of Ganeshotsav at Sharda Bhawan in Augustya Kund area. It was started in 1929 by Pt Gaurinath Pathak and since then the puja is organised every year. Apart from this, the week-long festival of Shri Kashi Vishwanath Chaturvish

Ganpati Mahotsav is also being celebrated at Shri Kashi Vidy Mandir at Machhodari (Ghai Ghat). At Bada Ganesh Temple, the volunteers of Ganga Sevak Namami Gange offered prayers for welfare, happiness and prosperity for all. Led by regional coordinator (Kashi) Rajesh Shukla, they also performed

aarti of Lord Ganesh, the protector of nature and symbol of divine knowledge, with the wish of environmental protection. Modak was offered with the wish of welfare of the people. An appeal was made to maintain cleanliness in the ancient temples. Puneet Jaiswal, Ganesh Prasad and others were present during the worship.

# Man impersonating IB officer arrested

PNS ■ PRAYAGRAJ

The Civil Lines police in Prayagraj have arrested a man for impersonating an Intelligence Bureau (IB) officer to pressurise a Girls' High School (GHS) into admitting students, police said on Saturday. The arrest followed a complaint from the school's principal.

Inspector Ram Asare Yadav of Civil Lines police stated that the principal reported that Akash Tripathi, a resident of Kailash Puri Colony in Shivkuti, had been posing as an IB officer and pressurising the school to admit girl students. This was not an isolated incident; Tripathi had made similar attempts in the past. Recently, he had resumed his attempts, and his photograph was taken while he was at the school. Upon investigation, the principal discovered that no IB officer by that name was stationed in the district. Further inquiries revealed that Tripathi had previously worked at a different school, BHS, under a different principal. As the police delved deeper, additional cases of blackmail emerged. Tripathi had extorted up to Rs 1.5 lakh from several individuals, promising them college admissions. The Civil Lines police arrested Akash Tripathi following their investigation. During interrogation, Tripathi admit-

ted to intimidating people by pretending to be an IB officer.

## TEENAGE GIRL FEARED DROWNED

A teenage girl was feared drowned while bathing in the Ganga at Kandla village in the Handia police station area of Prayagraj, police said on Saturday.

The girl had gone to the river with neighbouring women when the incident occurred, they added.

When her feet slipped and she fell into the deep water, the accompanying women immediately informed the girl's family. The family was shocked, and a crowd of villagers soon gathered at the scene. The villagers promptly alerted the police.

The police reached the scene and conducted an extensive search with the assistance of divers, but the girl could not be found.

According to reports, Anoop Prajapati, who works for a private company in Pune, Maharashtra, has two daughters and a son. One of his daughters went to bathe in the Ganga with neighbouring women. However, she slipped and fell into the deep water. Handia SHO BK Gautam stated that upon receiving information about the incident, the police quickly reached the location and undertook a thorough search with divers. However, as of the time of this report, the teenage girl remains missing.

# Drive to find active TB cases from Sept 9 to 20

PNS ■ VARANASI

District Tuberculosis Officer Dr Piyush Rai said that to make Kashi tuberculosis-free, an Active Case Finding (ACF) campaign will be run in the district from September 9 to September 20 under the National Tuberculosis Eradication Programme (NTEP).

He said that all the activities of the campaign would be conducted under the direction of the district magistrate and under the supervision of the chief medical officer. At a media briefing organised at the District Tuberculosis Centre, Kabirchaura here on Saturday, the DTO said that TB bacteria spread in the air when the patient coughs, sneezes and spits and they reach the lungs of a healthy person through breathing and cause disease. "The people living in densely populated areas and slums are not able to get clean air and water, which has a deep impact on their health. This increases the risk of TB. In such a situation, if a person is coughing for more than two weeks, has continuous fever, sweats at



DTO Dr Piyush addressing mediapersons in Varanasi on Saturday

night, has lack of appetite and continuous weight loss, then one should go to the nearest hospital or health centre for examination and treatment," Dr Rai said. Under the campaign, 20 per cent of the total population of the district (about 8.50 lakh) will be screened door-to-door. For this, 198 teams (98 urban and 100 rural) have been formed. Twenty supervisors each have been deployed in the city and rural areas for supervision. All NTEP personnel and ASHA workers have been trained for the successful conduct of the campaign. District programme coordi-

nator Sanjay Chaudhary said that during the campaign, 20 per cent of the district's population will be screened door-to-door, covering sensitive areas (densely populated and slum areas) as per the microplan. Screening and awareness camps are being organised in residential complexes, such as orphanages, old-age homes, Nari Niketan, child protection homes, madrasas and hostels even before the campaign. On this occasion, MOTC Dr Anvit Srivastava, District PPM Coordinator Naman Gupta, CFAR representatives and other NTEP workers were also present.

# DM for treatment in FRUs at night too

PNS ■ VARANASI

A monthly review meeting of the governing body of the District Health Committee was held in the Collectorate auditorium here under the chairmanship of District Magistrate S Rajalingam. Chief Development Officer Himanshu Nagpal was also present.

In the meeting, the DM directed the officers concerned to remove the shops operating illegally outside Pt Deen Daysl Upadhyay Government Hospital in Pandeypur. "No outside medicine should be prescribed to any patient. The protocol of cleanliness and hygiene should be ensured in the hospital premises and all the wards. There should be no negligence of any kind in this work. Records of the services provided at CHCs/PHCs should be completed as per the standard. The basic facilities in the wards and premises of all medical units should be completed as per the standard," the DM instructed the health officers.



DM S Rajalingam reviewing progress of health schemes in Varanasi on Friday

According to him, patients coming at night should be admitted to all the first referral units (FRUs), district hospitals and the 100-bed MCH wing located at Kabirchaura in the district and medical facilities should be provided to them. The chief medical superintendents of all the government

hospitals were directed to take suo motu cognisance of the complaints received regarding issuance of disability certificates and take immediate action. Under the TB Mukht Gram Panchayat Abhiyan, in the gram panchayats where either one patient or zero patients have been found till now, the investigation target set

in these gram panchayats should be completed as soon as possible. "Hundred per cent achievement should be achieved in relation to the target set for antenatal check-up," he instructed. The CDO directed that 100 per cent payment of the beneficiaries of Janani Suraksha Yojana

should be made on time. He expressed displeasure over CHC Hathi Bazar, CHC Durgakund and LBS Government Hospital, Ramnagar for performing less cesarean deliveries this year as compared to last year.

He warned that if progress was not found next month, the salary of the medical superintendents concerned should be blocked for the next month.

In the meeting, a thorough review was made of National Child Health Programme, Kashi Anemia Mukht Abhiyan, Family Welfare Programme, progress of Ayushman Cards under Ayushman Bharat Scheme, regular vaccination and other programmes. Along with this, necessary guidelines were given.

Chief Medical Officer Dr Sandeep Chaudhary gave information about the progress of all programmes and schemes. During this, superintendents of all district hospitals, in-charge of CHCs/PHCs, other medical officers, ICDS officers and health workers were present.

# Focus on patents to encourage research innovation, development

PNS ■ PRAYAGRAJ

A workshop titled 'Intellectual Property Rights and the Role of NRDC in the Commercialisation of Technology' was held at the Eshwar Topa Auditorium of Allahabad University on Saturday.

The inaugural session was chaired by Vice-Chancellor Prof Sangita Srivastava. Keynote speakers included Dr SK Mazumdar, senior manager at the National Research Development Corporation (NRDC), and assistant manager Ruchi Singhal, who both discussed the protection of intellectual property.



Dean of Research and Development Prof SI Rizvi was the guest speaker for the session. During the inaugural address, Vice-Chancellor Prof Sangita Srivastava emphasised that ideas and thoughts are forms of intellectual property. She highlighted the importance of filing patents as a means to encourage research innovation and development, which are crucial for boosting the economy. She pointed out that intellectual property rights encompass not just patents, but also copyrights and trademarks. Protecting new research and innovations under these categories is essential, as it provides economic benefits and opens up new avenues for social util-

ity. Prof Srivastava noted that patents vary in scale but each holds social value. She said good patents can enhance the country's economic conditions, citing the examples of South Korea and Japan, where the commercialisation of patents has significantly strengthened their GDPs. She also encouraged the use of domestically manufactured products, as imported patented products can be significantly more expensive in India. Additionally, she urged teachers and researchers at the university to collaborate with the NRDC to protect their research through intellectual property

laws. Keynote speaker Dr SK Mazumdar discussed the development journey and achievements of the NRDC. He highlighted that the NRDC provides financial support for unique research and offers both financial and technical assistance for protecting intellectual property. The corporation is also focused on promoting startups in the country. In his presidential address, Prof SI Rizvi underscored the importance of the workshop, noting that human innovation needs protection. He also provided an overview of the history of patents in India.

# Withhold salaries of officials who skipped meeting: Minister

PNS ■ PRAYAGRAJ

UP Cabinet Minister Nand Gopal Gupta Nandi expressed dissatisfaction with the absence of District Supply Officer Kunwar Dinesh Singh and the designated officer for food security during a review meeting concerning the Maha Kumbh late Friday evening. As a result, the minister has instructed that the salaries of both officers be withheld. District Magistrate Navneet Singh Chahal, the chief development officer (CDO), and all other district officers were present at the meeting, but District Supply Officer Kunwar Dinesh Singh and the designated officer for food security were notably absent. The minister emphasised that it is mandatory for all department heads to attend future meetings. He directed the district magistrate to set up a committee to ensure the timely presence of officers in their offices. Additionally, the minister issued orders for the immediate arrest of wanted criminals, timely completion of pending investigations, and prompt action against individuals with reward notices. He also called for swift measures to address heinous crimes.

Earlier, the minister visited the Soraon area, where he met local residents Geeta and Munna Gupta and had tea at their home. During his visit, he inquired about the identifica-

tion and prosecution of land mafia and the progress in reclaiming government lands from encroachers.

## 3 MEDICOS SUSPENDED

The Proctorial Board of Motilal Nehru Medical College on Saturday submitted its investigation report concerning the assault on attendants in Banda. The report, presented to Principal Dr Vatsala Mishra, found three resident doctors guilty of indiscipline. Proctor Dr Dilip Chaurasia has recommended a 10-day suspension for each of the doctors with immediate effect. During their suspension, the doctors will be prohibited from performing any medical duties. Additionally, they have been assigned to the principal's office for the duration of their suspension. The investigation included written statements from the three junior resident doctors and testimonies from a ward boy and a nurse in Ward 12 of Swaroop Rani Hospital. It was determined that the attendants were the initial aggressors and had also misbehaved with the female resident doctors. In their statements, the junior resident doctors claimed that the attendants had started the altercation. Dr Chaurasia's report stated that while it is unacceptable to assure patients' attendants, the proper course of action would have been to involve the police rather than resorting to violence.

# Notices served on five schools operating beyond recognition

PNS ■ PRAYAGRAJ

Divisional Joint Director of Prayagraj Dibyakant Shukla is taking decisive action against schools operating beyond their recognised grades, targeting institutions running classes up to 12th grade with recognition only up to 8th grade, which is an illegal practice. Five such schools have been identified in the district. The joint director has issued notices to the operators of these schools, demanding clarification within one week.

The joint director has also initiated an investigation into these schools through the district inspector of schools (DIOS)-II.

All five identified schools are located in rural areas. JD Dibyakant Shukla stated that these schools, by holding recognition for classes 1 to 8 but teaching students up to 12th grade, are jeopardising the future of the students. According to regulations, institutions are required to obtain recognition from the relevant council before admitting students to any higher

classes or subjects. The schools in question have been issued notices, and if they fail to provide a satisfactory explanation within seven days, the basic shiksha adhkari (BSA) has been instructed to file FIRs against them and to revoke their recognition up to the 8th grade. The schools that have received notices are Jyotiba Rao Phule College, SS Memorial Public School, Gita Gyan Mandir Convent School, National Convent School, and Gyan Bharti School.

# Play on nutrition staged at BLW

Varanasi (PNS): A street play was staged for public awareness during the National Nutrition Week in the auditorium hall of Central Hospital in Banaras Locomotive Works (BLW) here on Friday.

Inaugurating the programme, Principal Chief Medical Officer Dr Devesh Kumar said that nutritious and balanced diet was very important for overall health, longevity and stability. "In present India, on the one hand, people are suffering from malnutrition due to ignorance of proper nutrition and on the other hand, they are getting afflicted with faulty diet and uncontrolled lifestyle," he added.

Senior Divisional Medical Officer Dr SK Maurya delivered a lecture on various aspects of the theme of



National Nutrition Week, 'Nutritious food for everyone'. On the occasion, under the guidance of Anand Kumar, assistant professor, Popular College of Nursing, Varanasi, BSc Nursing students Anupama Kumari, Gauri Pal, Devendra Kumar Singh and others presented a programme.

A street play was staged by Aditi, Anjali, Beauty, Jyotsna, Khushboo Verma and Neelam to create an awareness towards proper nutrition, balanced diet and prevention of nutrition related diseases. Fifteen parents along with their children and about 65 people participated in the programme.

# Crown Prince of Abu Dhabi to visit India on Monday

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE ■ NEW DELHI

Crown Prince of Abu Dhabi Sheikh Khaled bin Mohamed bin Zayed Al Nahyan will begin a two-day maiden visit to India on Sunday to hold wide-ranging talks with Prime Minister Narendra Modi.

The visit will further reinforce strong ties between India and the United Arab Emirates (UAE) and open avenues for partnership in new and emerging areas, the Ministry of External Affairs (MEA) said, announcing the trip.

Prime Minister Modi and the Crown Prince will hold talks on Sunday covering a wide range of areas of bilateral cooperation, it said. Besides bilateral issues, the two leaders are also expected to deliberate on the overall situation arising out of the Israel-Hamas conflict.

The visiting leader is also scheduled to call on President Droupadi Murmu. He will visit Raigat to pay tributes to Mahatma Gandhi.

The Crown Prince will be accompanied by several Ministers from the UAE Government and a business delegation. After concluding the Delhi leg of his visit, Al



Nahyan will travel to Mumbai to participate in a business forum on Monday. Top business leaders from both countries will participate in the forum. "At the invitation of Prime Minister Narendra Modi, the Crown Prince of Abu Dhabi Sheikh Khaled bin Mohamed bin Zayed Al Nahyan, will pay an official visit to India on

September 9 and 10," the MEA said on Saturday. The MEA also referred to the boosting of bilateral cooperation in a range of areas in the last few years. "India and UAE share historically close and friendly ties. In recent years, the Comprehensive Strategic Partnership between India and the UAE has deepened in a wide range of areas including

political, trade, investment, connectivity, energy, technology, education, and culture," it said. Following the landmark visit of Modi to UAE in August 2015, bilateral relations between the two countries were elevated to a Comprehensive Strategic Partnership. Both countries signed a Comprehensive Economic

Partnership Agreement (CEPA) in February 2022 and a Local Currency Settlement (LCS) System in July 2023 to promote the use of Indian Rupee and AED (United Arab Emirates Dirham) for cross-border transactions. The two countries are among each other's top trading partners with a bilateral trade of about USD 85 billion in 2022-23, according to official data. The UAE is also among the top four investors in India in terms of foreign direct investments in 2022-23. About 3.5 million strong and vibrant Indian community forms the largest expatriate group in the UAE. The UAE was invited as special invitee for G20 during India's Presidency of the grouping. In February 2023, the India-UAE-France (UFI) trilateral was formally launched. With India's active support, the UAE joined SCO as dialogue partner in May 2023. The UAE also joined BRICS as a member on January 1 with India's support. The India-UAE defence cooperation has also witnessed a renewed momentum in the last few years. In January 2024, the first India-UAE bilateral army exercise 'Desert Cyclone' was held in Rajasthan.

# About 62000 cases pending in High Courts since 30 years



PNS ■ NEW DELHI

There are nearly 62 thousand cases pending in various high courts, which are more than 30 years old, including three awaiting disposal since 1952. According to official data, there are four cases pending since 1954 and nine since 1955 in High Courts. Out of the three cases pending since 1952, two are in the Calcutta High Court and one in the Madras High Court. Addressing the national conference of district judiciary here earlier this week, President Droupadi Murmu had called for a change in the "culture of adjournments" in the judiciary. She said long-standing pen-

denalty and backlog of cases is a big challenge before the judiciary. "All stakeholders have to find a solution by giving priority to this problem," the President said. As many as 58.59 lakh cases, including 42.64 lakh of civil nature and 15.94 lakh of criminal nature, are pending across high courts. According to the National Judicial Data Grid (NJDG), nearly 2.45 lakh cases are pending in high courts which are 20 to 30 years old. Addressing the same event, Law Minister Arjun Ram Meghwal had called for breaking the perception that Indian courts follow the "tareekh pe tareekh culture". He said the law

Ministry has analysed that there were cases pending since five, 10, 15, 20 and 30 years. He said an analysis of pending cases mentioned on the NJDG shows that parties involved in litigation are either not present or not interested in taking the case forward. He said 25 to 30 per cent of such cases can be closed in one go. In this regard, some high courts have taken effective steps. Referring to the concepts of 'ageing analysis' and 'clubbing of similar cases', he said these have helped settle pending cases in a time-bound manner. More than five crore cases are pending in various courts, including district courts, High Courts and the Supreme Court.



# India willing to work with like-minded partners on specific agenda: Jaishankar

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE ■ NEW DELHI

India would be willing to work with like-minded partners on specific agenda and its role in the Quad is an example of such an approach, External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar said on Saturday, while calling for reformed multilateralism. In a virtual address at the FPCI Global Town hall, Jaishankar, delving into major geopolitical developments, said the world is looking at a more "sharpened contestation" between the US and China on a range of areas.

He underlined that even as the world looks "complicated", India's desire and determination to ensure its stability and contribute to its prosperity is only getting stronger. The Quad, comprising India, the US, Australia and Japan, has emerged as a key coalition focusing on working towards ensuring a free, open and rules-based Indo-Pacific against the backdrop of China's growing muscle-flexing in the region.

In the context of key directions and developments in international relations over the last few decades, the External Affairs Minister observed that many big powers are now content to do less and the newer ones are more reticent in stepping forward.

"In many situations, it is left to the regionally significant players to sort out their own particular mess. Beyond this, we are also looking at a more sharpened contestation between the US and China on

a range of areas," he said. "If we also take into account that technology advances like AI, electric mobility, space or drone can shape balances of power more strongly, then the global calculus looks even more daunting," he added. "This, in essence, is the world that we deal with," he said. The External Affairs Minister then explained what a country like India can do in response to such a situation. "First, it can build up its own national capacities so that there are more options and contributions that benefit the world. We have seen this recently during the Covid pandemic in terms of vaccine production capacity," he said.

"Or in the Arabian Sea to strengthen maritime security. As indeed, the supply of food grains to those in great need. Second, to de-risk the global economy from pandemics, climate events and conflicts, help build more resilient, reliable and redundant supply chains," he said.

This, Jaishankar argued, means working with global partners more efficiently and create an environment where it is easier to do business. "Many of the recent infrastructure initiatives in India will make a difference in that regard. Third, in the digital domain, create trusted partnerships and trusted vendors," he said.

This will ensure that the sensitivities at home that we have about our data are equally respected when they cross the borders, he noted.

# States, UTs surpass 50 pc rural tap water coverage: Government

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE ■ NEW DELHI

All States and Union Territories have surpassed 50 per cent coverage of tap water connections in rural households, as per official data. The Har Ghar Jal scheme ie 'Water to Every Household', a program launched in 2019 by the Ministry of Jal Shakti as a part of the Jal Jeevan Mission (JJM) aims to extend tap water connections to all rural households by the end of this year. Currently, all States and UTs have achieved over 50 per cent coverage, with 11 States and UTs reaching full coverage. As of now, all States and Union territories (UTs) have more than 50 per cent coverage of tap water connections in rural households with 11 States and UTs having 100 per cent coverage.

The States and UTs with 100 per cent coverage of tap water connections in rural households are Goa; Andaman & Nicobar Islands; Dadra and Nagar Haveli and Daman and Diu; Haryana; Telangana; Puducherry; Gujarat; Punjab; Himachal Pradesh; Arunachal Pradesh; and Mizoram.

The least coverage has been recorded in West Bengal at 52.30 per cent, Rajasthan at 52.91 per cent, Kerala at 53.62 per cent, Jharkhand at 54.26 per cent, and Madhya Pradesh at 64.84 per cent, according to the data.

# Government making efforts to recognise bright teachers practising innovative methods: PM

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

Prime Minister Narendra Modi has said efforts were being made to recognise bright teachers practising innovative methods as he took an apparent swipe at past Governments, saying he would not talk about what used to happen earlier. In an interaction with teachers who were conferred National Teachers' Awards, he said they could prepare young students for 'Viksit Bharat'. The interaction took place on Friday while his video was shared on Saturday.

Modi suggested that the teachers could involve the students in selecting the top 100 tourist destinations in the country by encouraging them to learn about different places they might visit as part of education tours. The teachers awarded were selected after a long process as their efforts can be useful in the new National Education Policy (NEP), Modi said while



noting that there would be many others doing excellent work. He told the teachers to take their students to nearby universities and watch sporting events as the experience could fire up their dreams. As many as 82 teachers from around the country were selected for the award. They included 50 teachers by the Department of School Education & Literacy, 16 by the Department of Higher Education and 16 by the Union Ministry of Skill Development and Entrepreneurship, an official statement said.

Modi suggested that the awardee teachers connect with each other on social media and share their best practices so that everyone could learn, adapt and benefit. He highlighted the impact of the NEP and spoke about the significance of attaining education in the mother tongue. The Prime minister suggested that the teachers teach local folklore to their students in different languages so that they learn multiple languages and also get exposure to India's vibrant culture.

# India sends medical aid to Chad as relief post fire

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

India on Saturday sent to Chad nearly 2,300 kg of medical supplies including life-saving antibiotics as part of assistance to the African nation to deal with the fallout of a devastating fire. A devastating explosion at a military ammunition depot in Goudji area of Chad's capital N'Djamena killed at least nine people and injured 46 others. The fire reportedly triggered a series of blasts in the area. "Extending Humanitarian Assistance to Chad: India - Vishwabandhu, a friend to the world!" Ministry of External Affairs Ministry spokesperson Randhir Jaiswal said in a social media post.

# CDS holds talks with Maldives' Chief of Defence Force

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

Chief of Defence Staff (CDS) General Anil Chauhan on Saturday held extensive talks with Maldives' Chief of Defence Force Major General Ibrahim Hilmy, focusing on a reset of military ties that came under severe strain after President Mohamed Muizzu assumed office in November last.

The talks between the two top military officials came a day after India and the Maldives held the fifth round of defence dialogue which decided to expedite implementation of the ongoing defence projects. Officials said the talks were aimed at furthering the bilateral defence cooperation, especially on measures to strengthen regional security and enhance bilateral training opportunities.



It is understood that cooperation in the maritime security domain dominated the discussions.

The ties between India and the Maldives came under severe strain since Muizzu, known for his pro-China leanings, took charge of the top office around 10 months back.

Within hours of his oath, he had demanded the withdrawal of the Indian military personnel from his country

## FROM PAGE 1

# 5 DEAD, SEVERAL TRAPPED AS BUILDING COLLAPSES IN CITY

intense rainfall that caused waterlogging in the area. Eight ambulances were dispatched to transport the injured to Lok Bandhu Hospital. The deceased have been identified as Pankaj Tiwari (40), Dheeraj Gupta (48), and Arun Sonkar (28), Raj Kishor (27), and Jaspreet Singh Sahni. Upon learning of the incident, Lucknow MP and Defence Minister Rajnath Singh contacted District Magistrate Surya Pal Gangwar. He sought details about the accident and instructed district authorities to ensure immediate and appropriate medical treatment for the injured. Chief Fire Officer Mangesh Kumar, one of the first responders, said that preliminary investigations suggest construction work was underway in the building's basement when it collapsed. "We are using both technological tools and manual efforts to locate any individuals trapped inside," Kumar said.

The collapse caused a chaotic scene, with a truck also trapped in the debris and victims calling for help. Local residents rushed to the site to assist in rescuing those buried under the rubble. Emergency response teams from the NDRF, SDRF, fire department, and local police quickly arrived to conduct rescue operations. DM Surya Pal Gangwar, Lucknow Police Commissioner Amrendra Sengar, Joint Commissioner of Police (Law and Order) Amit Verma, and Municipal Commissioner Inderjit Singh were present to oversee the rescue operation.

# HM SHAH VOWS TO DECIMATE THE OPP IN J AND K POLLS

Conference on their claims that they would restore statehood and start talks with Pakistan. Shah, however, asserted "till there is no peace, there

will be no talks with Pakistan." The Home Minister said that the NC-Congress alliance was fooling people by saying they would restore statehood to Jammu and Kashmir as only the government can do this and PM Modi will do this. "Congress and the National Conference are saying they will restore statehood. Tell me who can give it? It is only the Central government, PM Modi who can give it. So stop fooling the people of Jammu and Kashmir. We have said that at an appropriate time after the elections, we will give statehood to Jammu and Kashmir. We have said this in Parliament. Rahul Gandhi should stop misleading the people of J&K," Union Minister Amit Shah said. He further alleged that only the Central Government under Prime Minister Narendra Modi has the authority to restore 'statehood' in Jammu and Kashmir. Stating the BJP's 10 agendas for elections, Shah said, "Congress and NC want to bring back two flags, article in Jammu and Kashmir, will you? They want to snatch the reservation of Gujjars, Bakarwal, Paharis and Dalits. I want to tell one thing to Rahul Gandhi: no matter how much effort you put in, we will not let the reservation of Gujjars, Bakarwal, Paharis and Dalits be touched. Abrogation of Article 370 has given rights to women, will you let them snatch their rights? They want to release the criminals wrapped up in terrorism, but we won't let them spread terrorism in Jammu, Poonch, Rajouri, and Doda. They say we will restart LoC trade, but who will benefit from it? Their profit will be used to spread terrorism. They want to talk to Pakistan but I want to say that till there is no peace, there will be no talks with Pakistan."

"Three families want Jammu and Kashmir to incline towards terrorism. Gandhi, Abdullah and the Mufti family have looted money from Jammu and Kashmir; they want to restore the old system, which means there will be inequality in Jammu. In a veiled attack at the National Conference and the PDP, Shah said "Kashmir has suffered a lot from terrorism. There were governments in Kashmir that turned a blind eye to terrorism. Some people would come here and become chief ministers when there was peace and when there was terrorism, they would go to Delhi and drink coffee in coffee bars." Praising the Modi government, Shah said that the BJP government has reduced up to 70 percent of terrorism in the territory and now Amarnath Yatra is carried out fearlessly. "The Bharatiya Janata Party has done the work of reducing terrorism by 70 percent in 10 years. After many years, the Amarnath Yatra was carried out fearlessly. After many years, night theatre started in the valley, Tazia procession was carried out in the valley. The people of Jammu and Kashmir, especially the people of Jammu have to decide whether they want terrorism peace, or development. If NC and Congress come to power, terrorism will come and if BJP will come, then no one can infiltrate here," said Shah.

# MAKE WAY FOR THE REMOVER OF OBSTACLES

"In Indonesia, they have Ganesha University of Education, the motto of which is Dharmaning Sajjana, Umerdhyaken Widyaguna (the duty of an educated person is to develop knowledge and character)", Ravi Kumar told The Pioneer. He also pointed out that Indonesia had currency notes of Rs 2,000 denomination imposed with the picture of Lord Ganesha. Next time, you see ladoos and modaks, the favorite delicacies of Lord Vinayaka, please bear in mind that he is a global God. Are you reading this, dear Owaisi?

# PUJA KHEDKAR DISCHARGED UN CEREMONIOUSLY

under Rule 12 of IAS (Probation) Rules, 1954, with immediate effect, the sources said. The rules allow the central government to discharge

probationers from service if they fail "to pass the re-examination..." or "if the central government is satisfied that the probationer was ineligible for recruitment to the Service or is unsuitable for being a member of the Service", among others. The Union Public Service Commission (UPSC) had on July 31 cancelled her candidature and debarred her from future exams. Khedkar was serving as a probationary IAS officer in her cadre state Maharashtra. She had allegedly changed her name and parents' names to appear for the examination more times than what is allowed. "The UPSC has examined the available records carefully and found her guilty of acting in contravention of the provisions of the CSE-2022 Rules. Her provisional candidature for the CSE-2022 has been cancelled and she has also been debarred permanently from all the future examinations/selections of the UPSC," a UPSC statement has said. A 2023-batch IAS officer, Puja also faces allegations of posing as an OBC non-creamy layer candidate in her UPSC candidature and refusing to take tests to corroborate her claims of visual and mental disabilities.

# FRESH VIOLENCE IN MANIPUR

After the killing, a heavy exchange of fire took place between people of the warring communities in the hills around 7 km from the district administration headquarters, leading to the deaths of four armed persons, including three hills-based militants, the officer said. Earlier this week, fresh arson took place in Jiribam district after suspected 'village volunteers' burnt down an abandoned three-room house of a retired police officer at Jakuradhor in Borobekra police station area. Tribal body Indigenous Tribes Advocacy Committee (Pherzawl and Jiribam) denied any involvement in the incident. The district witnessed fresh violence despite representatives of the Meitei and Hmar communities reaching an agreement to restore normalcy and "prevent incidents of arson and

firing" in a meeting held at a CRPF facility in adjoining Assam's Cachar on August 1.

In the meeting moderated by the Jiribam district administration, Assam Rifles and CRPF personnel, and representatives of Hmar, Meitei, Thadou, Paite and Mizo communities of Jiribam district were also present.

The agreement was, however, denounced by several Hmar tribal bodies based outside Jiribam district saying they did not have any knowledge about it. Meanwhile, security forces conducted operations in Mualsang and Laika Mualsau villages in Churachandpur district on Friday and destroyed three bunkers of militants. "Militants deployed long-range rockets among the civilian population in two locations of Bishnupur district in one of which one senior citizen civilian expired and six other civilians were injured," a police statement said.

Police teams and additional security forces conducted a combing operation in the adjoining hill ranges. "Two bunkers at Mualsang village and one bunker at Laika Mualsau village of Churachandpur were destroyed," it said. Police teams including the Bishnupur SP rushed to the area and were fired upon by suspected militants but the law enforcers retaliated and repelled the attack. A military helicopter has been deployed to conduct aerial patrolling, it added.

High-level security meetings have been held to take stock of the law and order situation, it said. Authorities are closely monitoring the situation, and the police are prepared to respond to any contingency that may arise, the statement added.

Suspected militants fired two rockets in Bishnupur district on Friday, killing one person and injuring six others, as tension gripped Imphal Valley following high-tech attacks over the past few days. The rocket attacks came after drones were employed to drop bombs on people at two nearby places in Imphal West district earlier this week.

# Starliner returns to earth, without crew

AP ■ NEW MEXICO

Boeing's first astronaut mission ended Friday night with an empty capsule landing and two test pilots still in space, left behind until next year because NASA judged their return too risky. Six hours after departing the International Space Station, Starliner parachuted into New Mexico's White Sands Missile Range, descending on autopilot through the desert darkness. It was an uneventful close to a drama that began with the June launch of Boeing's long-delayed crew debut and quickly escalated into a dragged-out cliffhanger of a mission stricken by thruster failures and helium leaks. For months, Butch Wilmore and Suni Williams' return was in question as engineers struggled to understand the capsule's problems. Boeing insisted after extensive testing that Starliner was safe to bring the two home, but NASA disagreed and booked a flight with SpaceX instead. Their SpaceX ride won't launch until the end of this month, which means they'll be up there until February — more than eight

months after blasting off on what should have been a quick trip. Wilmore and Williams should have flown Starliner back to Earth by mid-June, a week after launching in it. But their ride to the space station was marred by the cascade of thruster trouble and helium loss, and NASA ultimately decided it was too risky to return them on Starliner. So with fresh software updates, the fully automated capsule left with their empty seats and blue spacesuits along with some old station equipment. "She's on her way home," Williams radioed as the white and blue-trimmed capsule undocked from the space station 260 miles (420 kilometers) over China and disappeared into the black void. Williams stayed up late to see how everything turned out. "A good landing, pretty awesome," said Boeing's Mission Control. Cameras on the space station and a pair of NASA planes caught the capsule as a white streak coming in for the touchdown, which drew cheer. There were some snags during reentry, including more thruster issues, but Starliner



made a "bull's-eye landing," said NASA's commercial crew program manager Steve Stich. Even with the safe return, "I think we made the right decision not to have Butch and Suni on board," Stich said at a news conference early Saturday. "All of us feel happy about the successful landing. But then there's a piece of us, all of us, that we wish it would have been the way we had planned it." Boeing did not participate in the Houston news briefing. But two of the company's top space and defense officials, Ted Colbert and Kay Sears, told employees in a note that they backed NASA's ruling. "While this may not have been how we originally envisioned

the test flight concluding, we support NASA's decision for Starliner and are proud of how our team and spacecraft performed," the executives wrote. Starliner's crew demo capped a journey filled with delays and setbacks. After the space shuttles retired more than a decade ago, NASA hired Boeing and SpaceX for orbital taxi service. Boeing ran into so many problems on its first test flight with no one aboard in 2019 that it had to repeat it. The 2022 do-over uncovered even more flaws and the repair bill topped \$1 billion. SpaceX's crew ferry flight later this month will be its 10th for NASA since 2020. The Dragon capsule will launch on the half-year expedition with only two astronauts since two seats are reserved for Wilmore and Williams for the return leg. As veteran astronauts and retired Navy captains, Wilmore and Williams anticipated hurdles on the test flight. They've kept busy in space, helping with repairs and experiments. The two are now full-time station crew members along with the seven others on board. Even before the pair launched on June 5 from Cape Canaveral, Florida, Starliner's propulsion system was leaking helium. The leak was small and thought to be isolated, but four more cropped up after liftoff. Then five thrusters failed. Although four of the thrusters were recovered, it gave NASA pause as to whether more malfunctions might hamper the capsule's descent from orbit. Boeing conducted numerous thruster tests in space and on the ground over the summer, and was convinced its spacecraft could safely bring the astronauts back. But NASA could not get comfortable with the thruster situation and went with SpaceX. Flight controllers conducted

more test firings of the capsule's thrusters following undocking; one failed to ignite. Engineers suspect the more the thrusters are fired, the hotter they become, causing protective seals to swell and obstruct the flow of propellant. They won't be able to examine any of the parts; the section holding the thrusters was ditched just before reentry. Starliner will be transported in a couple weeks back to NASA's Kennedy Space Center, where the analyses will unfold. NASA officials stressed that the space agency remains committed to having two competing U.S. companies transporting astronauts. The goal is for SpaceX and Boeing to take turns launching crews — one a year per company — until the space station is abandoned in 2030 right before its fiery reentry. That doesn't give Boeing much time to catch up, but the company intends to push forward with Starliner, according to NASA. Stich said post-landing it's too early to know when the next Starliner flight with astronauts might occur. "It will take a little time to determine the path forward," he said.

# Protesters rally against Barnier's appointment as prime minister

AP ■ PARIS

Thousands of protesters took to the streets across France on Saturday, responding to a call from a far-left party leader who criticised as a power grab the president's appointment of a conservative new prime minister, Michel Barnier. The protests are a direct challenge to President Emmanuel Macron's decision to bypass a prime minister from the far-left bloc following a deeply dividing legislative election in July. The left, particularly the France Unbowed party, views Barnier's conservative background as rejecting the electorate's will, further intensifying the EU's second economy's already charged political atmosphere. Authorities expected tens of thousands of demonstrators. In Paris, protesters gathered at Place de la Bastille and tensions ran high as police prepared for potential clashes. Other rallies in 150 points nationwide include the southwestern cities of Montauban and Auch. In Montauban, the demonstrators denounced Barnier's appointment as denying democracy, echoing France Unbowed leader Jean-Luc Melenchon's fiery rhetoric from recent days. "The people have been ignored," a rally speaker told the crowd. While Barnier was meeting with health care workers at Paris' Necker Hospital for his first official visit as prime minister, opponents say the unrest in the streets is shaping his government's future. Barnier, who is working to assemble his Cabinet, expressed a commitment to listening to public concerns, particularly about France's public services. Jordan Bardella, leader of the far-right National Rally (RN), warned that Barnier was "under surveillance" by his party as well. Bardella, speaking at the Chalons-en-Champagne fair, called for the prime minister to include his party's priorities in his agenda, particularly regarding nation-

al security and immigration. Barnier, 73, is the oldest of the 26 prime ministers that have served modern France's Fifth Republic. He replaces the youngest, Gabriel Attal, who was 34 when he was appointed just eight months ago. Attal was forced to resign after Macron's centrist government suffered a major defeat in the July snap legislative elections. Macron called the election in the hopes of securing a clear mandate, but it instead produced a hung parliament, leaving the president without a legislative majority and plunging his administration into turmoil. Attal was also France's first openly gay prime minister. French media and some of Macron's opponents, who immediately criticised Barnier's appointment, quickly dug up that, when serving in parliament in 1981, the new prime minister had been among 155 lawmakers who voted against a law that decriminalised homosexuality. Though Barnier brings five decades of political experience, his appointment offers no guarantee of resolving the crisis. His challenge is immense: He must form a government that can navigate a fractured National Assembly, where the political spectrum is deeply divided between the far left, far right, and Macron's weakened centrist bloc. The outcome of the snap poll, far from providing clarity, has only served to destabilise both the country and Macron's grip on power. The president's decision to turn to Barnier, a seasoned political operator with deep ties to the European Union, is seen as an attempt to bring stability to French politics. And Barnier, who gained prominence as the EU's chief Brexit negotiator, has faced daunting tasks before. Critics say Macron, elected on the promise of a break from the old political order, now finds himself battling the instability he once promised to overcome.

# US, UK spy chiefs praise Ukraine's incursion; call for cease-fire in Gaza

AP ■ LONDON

The heads of the British and American foreign intelligence agencies said Saturday that Ukraine's surprise incursion into Russia is a significant achievement that could change the narrative of the grinding 2 1/2-year war. Richard Moore, the head of MI6, said Kyiv's surprise move in August to seize territory in Russia's Kursk region was "typically audacious and bold on the part of the Ukrainians, to try and change the game." He said the offensive had "brought the war home to ordinary Russians". Speaking alongside Moore at a rare public event in London, CIA Director William Burns said the offensive was a "significant achievement" that had exposed vulnerabilities in the Russian military. Burns also warned of the growing and "troubling" defence relationship between Russia, China, Iran and North Korea that he said threatens both Ukraine and Western allies in the Middle East. North Korea has sent ammunition and missiles to Russia to use against Ukraine, while Iran supplies Moscow with attack drones. Burns said the CIA had yet to see evidence of China sending weapons to Russia, "but we see lot of things short of that". And he warned Iran against supplying ballistic missiles to Moscow, saying "it would be a dramatic escalation" of the relationship. The two spymasters also wrote an opinion piece for the Financial Times, calling for a cease fire in Gaza and saying their agencies had "exploited our intelligence channels to push hard for restraint and de-

escalation". They said a cease-fire in Israel's war against Hamas "could end the suffering and appalling loss of life of Palestinian civilians and bring home the hostages after 11 months of hellish confinement". Burns has been heavily involved in efforts to broker an end to the fighting, traveling to Egypt in August for high-level talks aimed at bringing about a hostage deal and at least a temporary halt to the conflict. So far there has been no agreement, though United States officials insist a deal is close. US President Joe Biden said recently that "just a couple more issues" remain unresolved. Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu, however, has said reports of a breakthrough are "exactly inaccurate". "I cannot tell you how close we are right now," Burns told an audience at the FT Weekend Festival at London's Kenwood House. Burns said ending the conflict would require "some hard choices and some political compromises" from both Israel and Hamas. The US and the United Kingdom are both staunch allies of Israel, though London diverged from Washington on Monday by suspending some arms exports to Israel because of the risk they could be used to break international law. In their article, Burns and Moore stressed the strength of the trans-Atlantic relationship in the face of "an unprecedented array of threats", including an assertive Russia, an evermore powerful China and the constant threat from international terrorism — all complicated by rapid technological change.



Environmental activists stage a die-in rally in Seoul, South Korea on Saturday demanding actions to stop the climate crisis. AP/PTI

# Oil, gas reserves found in Pak waters: Report

PTI ■ ISLAMABAD

A substantial deposit of petroleum and natural gas has been discovered in Pakistan's territorial waters, a cache so large its exploitation could change the country's destiny, according to a media report. A three-year survey was undertaken in collaboration with a friendly country to verify the presence of the oil and gas reserves, DawnNewsTV quoted a senior security official as saying on Friday. The geographic survey has allowed Pakistan to identify the location of the deposits, and the relevant departments have informed the government of the resources found in Pakistani waters.

Terming it an effort to benefit from what he called the 'blue water economy', the official said that proposals for bidding and exploration were being studied, meaning that the exploration work can be started in the near future. However, he said the work of digging wells and actually getting oil out could take several years. But the 'blue water economy' can yield more than just oil and gas; there are several other valuable minerals and elements that can be mined from the ocean. The official said that taking the initiative and acting quickly could help turn around the country's economic fortunes. Some estimates suggest that this discovery constitutes the

fourth-largest oil and gas reserves in the world. Currently, Venezuela is thought to be the leader in oil reserves with around 3.4 billion barrels, while the US has the most untapped shale oil reserves. Saudi Arabia, Iran, Canada and Iraq constitute the rest of the top five. While talking to DawnNewsTV, former Ogra (Oil and Gas Regulatory Authority) member Muhammad Arif said even though the country should remain optimistic, there's never 100 per cent certainty that the reserves would be discovered as expected. When asked if these reserves are enough to meet the country's energy needs, he said it depends on the size and recov-

ery rate of the production. "If this is a gas reserve, it can replace LNG imports and if these are oil reserves, we can substitute imported oil." However, he cautioned that it is "wishful thinking" until the prospects for the reserves are analysed and the drilling process begins. He pointed out that exploration alone required a hefty investment of around USD 5 billion and it might take four to five years to extract reserves from an offshore location. He said if the exploration resulted in the discovery of reserves, then further investment would be needed for wells and laying down the infrastructure to extract the reserves and produce fuel, reported Dawn.

# Kenyan officials still look for missing kids

AP ■ NAIROBI

Officials began removing the bodies of children who burned to death in a school dormitory in central Kenya on Sunday as they tried to account for dozens of boys who are still missing. Journalists were moved to wait outside the school compound as a team that included morticians from the Nyeri provincial hospital set up tables outside the dormitory on Saturday. Eighteen boys aged between 10 and 14 are known to have died and 27 were hospitalised after the Thursday night fire at Hillside Enderasha Primary school, but 70 others are still

unaccounted-for. The country's president, William Ruto, has declared three days of mourning. Police are still investigating the cause of the fire. Anxious parents who had been waiting all day for news about their children were on Friday evening allowed to see what remained of the dormitory. Some parents broke down as they left the scene. The government has urged school administrators to enforce boarding guidelines that require dormitories to be spacious, with three doors and no grills on the windows for easy escape in case of fires.

# Nepal-India can resolve issues through open dialogue: Oli

PTI ■ KATHMANDU

Nepal's Prime Minister KP Sharma Oli said on Saturday that the problems between Nepal and India could be resolved through open dialogue and warmheartedness. "There exist few problems, not many, between Nepal and India, and they can be resolved, if we maintain warm heart and open dialogue," Oli said here at the launch of former administrator Surya Nath Upadhyay's book titled 'International Watercourses Law: A Perspective on Nepal-India Cooperation'. "India is our friendly neighbour and Nepal and India have rich cultures so we should have an open dialogue. The blame cannot be merely imposed on the geopolitical situation for our inability to speak openly. We should not be involved in any game meant for gaining and sustaining power," Oli said. "Earlier, foreign relations were maintained and dominated by the country's strengths. After the IIInd World War, a country should present its national interests reasonably



and justifiably in line with international treaties and agreements." "There should not be a unilateral approach while working on common resources. It should be done based on consensus and bilateral discussion", Oli asserted. Ties between the two countries came under severe strain in 2020 after Kathmandu published a new political map that showed the three Indian territories - Limpiyadhura, Kalapani and Lipulekh - as part of Nepal. The then Prime Minister Oli attempted to use the issue to fend off increasing domestic pressure. Oli in the past had publicly criticised India for allegedly interfering in Nepal's internal matters.

Upadhyay said the Himalayan nation has yet not received the report prepared by the Eminent Persons Group of Nepal and India. "The EPG was formed based on consensus between the prime ministers of the two countries to resolve issues between Nepal and India," the former bureaucrat said. "There was no issue of timing from the Nepali side to receive the report. Maybe the Indian side will arrange an appropriate time for it," he said, adding that "it will be easier to discuss the pending issues between the two countries" after the Himalayan nation received the report. Land-locked Nepal relies heavily on India for the transportation of goods and services. Nepal is also important for India in the context of its overall strategic interests in the region, and the leaders of the two countries have often noted the age-old "Roti Beti" relationship. Nepal shares a border of over 1,850 km with five Indian states - Sikkim, West Bengal, Bihar, Uttar Pradesh and Uttarakhand.

# Ukraine mourns dead from major Russian strike

AP ■ POLTOVA

Funeral services were held Saturday for victims of one of the deadliest Russian airstrikes since the war in Ukraine began, as Ukraine's president vowed to increase domestic military production by creating underground weapons factories. The funerals took place in the eastern Ukrainian city of Poltava for the victims of a Russian missile attack on a military training facility that left over 50 dead and more than 300 injured. Hundreds of mourners, including grieving families, local residents, and officials, gathered at the Cathedral of the Assumption in the city, some 350 kilometres (200 miles) southeast of Kyiv, for the solemn ceremony. Sobbing relatives, many holding red carnations, stood over caskets placed outside the church, draped in yellow-and-blue Ukrainian flags. An air raid siren sounded during the service. Local residents knelt in silent tribute as hearses carrying the victims passed by on their way to a military cemetery outside the city for burial. Russia has intensified missile and drone attacks on Ukrainian cities in recent weeks, targeting

energy infrastructure across the country and causing deadly strikes in residential areas. The attacks have underscored Moscow's long-range capabilities as Ukraine braces for what will likely be another difficult winter as Russia continues to smash Ukraine's power grid, knocking out some 70 per cent of generation capacity and rupturing heat and water supplies. The sound of explosions thundered over the Ukrainian capital overnight as multiple Russian attack drones were intercepted by the city's air defences. No injuries or serious damage were reported. The Ukrainian Air Force said that 67 drones were launched over the country overnight, with air defences active in 11 regions. Fifty-eight drones were shot down, with three more destroyed by electronic weapons systems, it said. Debris from one drone was photographed on the street outside Ukraine's parliament, the Verkhovna Rada. Ukraine's parliamentary press service confirmed that drone fragments had been found but said there were no casualties and no damage to the parliament building. Elsewhere, a Russian artillery attack Saturday on the eastern



Ukrainian city of Kostiantynivka killed three men and injured three other people, said Donetsk region Gov. Vadym Filashkin. He said the attack damaged a high-rise building and local power lines. Late Friday, Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelenskyy said the death toll from the Sept. 3 strike at the Military Institute of Communications in Poltava had risen to 55, with 328 people injured. "That includes people with severe injuries, such as amputations and internal organ dam-

age," Zelenskyy said, speaking at a conference outside the Italian city of Milan. "Our people are under constant threat of Russian missile and drone strikes — every night and every day." Zelenskyy renewed his call for the removal of restrictions on using Western-supplied weapons to strike Russian territory, adding that Ukraine was ramping up its own weapons production. "We are setting up underground weapons production facilities so Ukrainian soldiers can defend themselves, even if supplies

from our partners are delayed," he said. "We have developed new drones and missiles, and we are gradually bringing this war back to Russia. Eventually, (Russian President Vladimir) Putin will feel the pressure to seek only one thing: peace." Kyiv has continued to launch its own strikes against Russia. In the Russian border region of Voronezh Saturday, Gov. Aleksandr Gusev said that a drone strike had sparked a fire and the detonation of "explosive objects."



# PAJAMAS AND PLATES

## A BLISSFUL BLEND OF COMFORT AND CUISINE

The Grammar Room in Khan Market turned up the cozy vibes with a pajama party that mixed laid-back comfort with mouthwatering treats and fun-filled ambiance, making it the perfect place to relax, sip and savour the moment, says **SAKSHI PRIYA**

Welcome to the new opening of The Grammar Room in Khan Market! Imagine walking into a cafe where the lights are soft and the vibe is pure comfort - all while everyone is dressed in their comfiest pajamas. This was the scene at The Grammar Room's pajama party in the heart of Khan Market, where a delightful fusion of food, fun and comfort created an unforgettable experience. From the moment guests arrived, it was clear that The Grammar Room was not just another place to grab a bite. The cafe welcomed everyone with warm hues, inviting couches and stacks of books that practically begged them to sit down and relax. The ambiance was thoughtfully crafted, with soft pillows, rustic wooden accents and large windows offering views

of lush greenery outside - an aesthetic that felt just right for a laid-back afternoon. Add to that a collection of board games and a perfectly curated playlist and it was the perfect setting to kick back and enjoy. But, of course, the real highlight of the evening was the food. Chef Dhruv Oberoi treated everyone to a culinary journey that satisfied every craving. The Cheese Platter was a crowd-pleaser, featuring an assortment of cheeses that delighted the taste buds with each bite. The Burrata & Co. brought together the comfort of cheese and the crunch of toast in one irresistible dish. Meanwhile, the BR-AVO! - Avocado, roasted pepper, citrus,

sun-dried tomatoes, jalapeño and cilantro, on toasted sourdough was both a visual and a gastronomic delight, ideal for the Instagram-loving crowd. The Jackfruit Tostada offered a crispy, flavourful bite, while the Granola Bowl catered to those looking for something fresh and healthy. The ever-popular Truffle Fries were served hot and perfectly seasoned, and the cleverly named XO Fried Rice added a playful and tasty twist to the menu. And then there were the desserts - each one more mouthwatering than the last. The Crème Brulee Pancake stood out as a masterpiece, with a fluffy pancake topped with butterscotch crunch, vanilla crème and port-soaked currants. It was the kind of dessert that made everyone close their eyes in sheer delight. Meanwhile, the Affogato Tartine provided a unique treat, combining espresso rum-soaked pound cake with vanilla mascarpone and coffee-



flavoured toasted popcorn. This creation was so innovative and delicious that it could easily become a signature dish on its own. No pajama party is complete without something special to drink and The Grammar Room delivered on that front as well. Their Iced Latte was the drink of choice, offering a refreshing blend of freshly brewed coffee that was just right for those needing an energy boost. It was the perfect companion for anyone looking to start their day, keep it going, or even survive an all-nighter. The atmosphere at The Grammar Room was another big draw, blending cozy charm with stylish decor to create a space that felt like home - only better. The music was just right, setting a mood that was both lively and relaxing, while the friendly staff made

every guest feel welcome and at ease. All in all, The Grammar Room's pajama party was a resounding success, combining delicious food with a cozy and inviting setting that encouraged everyone to relax and have fun. Whether stopping by for a leisurely brunch, a caffeine kick or a sweet treat, The Grammar Room proved to be the ultimate destination for anyone seeking a unique and memorable café experience. It's the kind of place that stays in the memory and has visitors planning their return before they've even left.

**FACTSHEET**  
NO RESERVATIONS, ONLY WALK INS.  
TGR KHAN MARKET  
Meal for two: 2600 with alcohol  
Address: The Grammar Room, 73B, Middle Lane, Khan Market, Rabindra Nagar, New Delhi 110003  
PHONE: 7304983920

Photos: Sakshi Priya

## NEW OFFERINGS

### SATIRICAL SYMPHONY

Dhoomimal Gallery is proud to showcase *Satirical Symphony*, a compelling solo exhibition by the distinguished artist A. Rajeshwara Rao. This exhibition offers a captivating blend of humor, observation, and artistic mastery. Curated by Annapurna M. and Kiran Mohan, *Satirical Symphony* provides a rare opportunity to experience Rao's insightful and witty approach to contemporary issues. His artwork combines sharp satire with stunning visual technique, creating a dynamic and engaging experience for viewers. *Satirical Symphony* promises to be a memorable experience, offering a fresh perspective through the lens of art. It's an opportunity for visitors to immerse themselves in a world where art and satire intersect in unexpected and enlightening ways. Following its run at the Visual Arts Gallery, the exhibition will continue at Art Magnum Gallery from September 21 to October 20, 2024.

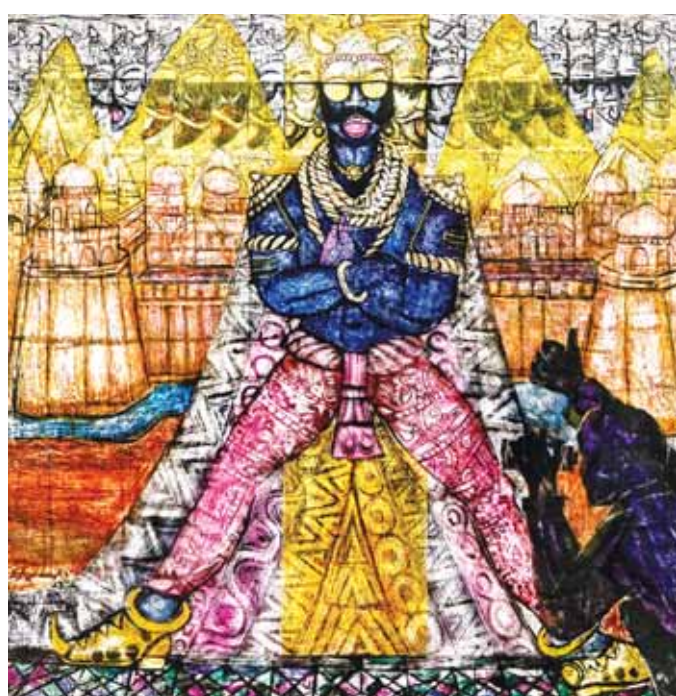
**Dates:** September 13-18, 2024  
**Timing:** 11:00 AM - 7:00 PM  
**Venue:** Visual Arts Gallery, India Habitat Centre, Lodi Road, New Delhi, 110003

### MAGIC OF PICHHWAI: DARSHANAM

From September 8th to 11th, 2024, immerse yourself in the enchanting world of *Pichhwai art* at Darshanam, an exhibition at Bikaner House, New Delhi. Curated by Raghukul Trust and supported by Rajasthan Tourism, this event brings to life 78 exquisite paintings by over 30 heritage artists, preserving one of Rajasthan's oldest artistic traditions.

In a world where art often feels fleeting and disconnected, Darshanam offers a chance to reconnect with our roots, to witness the beauty of a craft passed down through generations. Let these intricate works inspire you, drawing you into stories painted with devotion and love. Come, explore and be inspired!

**Dates:** September 8th-11th, 2024  
**Timing:** 10 AM - 7 PM  
**Venue:** Bikaner House, Pandara Road, New Delhi.



### A TASTE OF JAPAN

MKT, The Chanakya is excited to unveil the *Sake Soiree Pop-up*, an enchanting event that transports guests to the heart of Japan. This pop-up experience captures the lively spirit of Tokyo's izakayas and the tranquil ambiance of Kyoto's sake breweries. Chef Rinki Saha and head mixologist Sanjay Rawat have crafted an Izakaya-inspired menu featuring crispy Tebasaki Wings, delicate Salmon Tartare and bold New Age Hamachi Sashimi. The selection is perfectly paired with sake cocktails like the citrusy Shichimi and the effervescent Chuhai.

MKT, The Chanakya continues to impress with its diverse international offerings and sophisticated setting, making this pop-up a must-visit for those seeking an authentic Japanese culinary adventure in Delhi.

### FACT SHEET

**Address:** Lower Ground Floor, The Chanakya Mall, Chanakyaपुरी, Delhi - 110021  
**Telephone:** +91 083769 86799  
**Timings:** 12:00 pm to 1:00 am  
**Cost for two:** Rs. 3000 + taxes

## TAAZA KHABAR SEASON 2 A High-Stakes Drama That Elevates the Series

### TEAM VIVA

As anticipation builds for the return of *Taaza Khabar* on September 27, 2024, exclusively on Disney+ Hotstar, the stakes have never been higher. The trailer for Season 2 offers an exciting glimpse into a narrative that promises to deepen the drama and escalate the tension, setting the stage for what could be a landmark season in the series.

The new season continues the story of Vasya, who now faces a crucial crossroads: Vasya aur uske vardaane ke beech ayegi uski kismat ya koi dushman? A tale of miracle and magic that led Vasya to a journey of greed and arrogance but was it all a facade? With this central question looming, Season 2 promises to delve deeper into Vasya's complex character. Bhuvan Bam, returning as Vasya, continues to be the emotional core of the show. His performance, marked by a blend of vulnerability and strength, remains a standout feature. Bam's enthusiasm for the new season is clear. "Taaza Khabar Season 2 has been on everyone's minds and I'm thrilled that Vasya is back!" Bam declares. "The anticipation from our fans has been incredible and shooting has been emotionally challenging. I'm deeply connected with Vasya's journey." His remarks underscore the weight of the character's evolution, as Vasya grapples with the moral and emotional complexities of his life.

The introduction of Jaaved Jaferi as Yusuf Akhtar brings a new level of intensity to the series. Jaferi's portrayal of Yusuf promises to be a formidable addition, offering a fresh dynamic to the show. "Playing Yusuf is unlike any role I've taken on before," Jaferi notes. "Collaborating with Bhuvan Bam has been incredible and audiences are in for a treat with



Vasya and Yusuf's ultimate showdown." Jaferi's role as the antagonist is set to challenge Bam's Vasya in ways that could redefine the series' dramatic stakes. Shriya Pilgaonkar's Madhu is another highlight, bringing depth and resilience to the narrative. Her character's journey from a tumultuous past to a position of strength is compelling and promises to add a new dimension to the series. Pilgaonkar's portrayal of Madhu, as she fights to reclaim her life and navigate her evolving relationship with Vasya, continues to be a poignant and powerful element of the show. Produced by Rohit Raj and Bhuvan Bam under the banner of BB Ki Vines Productions and

directed by Himank Gaur, *Taaza Khabar* Season 2 is shaping up to be a critical success. *Taaza Khabar* Season 2 is shaping up to be a critical success. The series has consistently delivered a potent mix of drama and emotional depth and this season appears poised to build on that legacy. With a cast that includes both seasoned performers and emerging talents, the new season is expected to offer a rich and engaging narrative that will resonate with audiences. The high stakes and complex character dynamics in Season 2 promise to deliver an engaging viewing experience. The exciting trailer and strong cast only add to the anticipation. If the series continues to meet the high standards set by its predecessors, it will be the perfect cherry on top for fans eagerly awaiting its return. So, get ready for September 27th. Settle in, because *Taaza Khabar* Season 2 is about to deliver a roller-coaster of emotions and drama that you won't want to miss.

Photos: Pankaj Kumar

# the pioneer agenda



"People say to me, 'You're so lucky. You get to see the world.' But I don't. I go to the hotel and to the pools and back again. That's it!"  
— Michael Phelps

In the last two years, India's travel and tourism industry has flourished in an unprecedented manner. In the past, Westerners and even visitors from other Asian countries associated India mainly with landmarks like the Taj Mahal, Lal Qila, Qutub Minar, and Jama Masjid.

Although India had several opportunities in the 1980s and 1990s to showcase its rich heritage to the world, leadership failed to seize the moment and market the country's lesser-known attractions. Events like the Non-Aligned Movement meeting in 1982 and the Commonwealth Heads of Government Meeting in 1984 were limited to New Delhi. The same pattern followed during the SAARC summit under Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi's tenure.

The world, however, took notice during Chinese President Xi Jinping's visit to India in 2014, where Prime Minister Narendra Modi hosted him in Ahmedabad and Raj Nagar, Gujarat. This visit stood out for the unprecedented camaraderie between Modi and Xi. The "Chai Pe Charcha" and stroll along the Sabarmati River, along with traditional Gujarati delicacies, were a new experience for Xi (though, in an ironic twist, while enjoying hot and crispy pakoras, Xi had already instructed the PLA to provoke incidents along the India-China border).

After this visit, India hosted several significant events, including the G-20 summit. For the first time in India's history, global dignitaries were taken beyond the capital to experience the diversity of the subcontinent. They were captivated by India's opulence and natural beauty, pushing the country to the forefront of desirable travel destinations.

India truly has something for everyone. The enchanting beauty of Kashmir, the stunning landscapes of the northeast, the lush jungles of the south, and the winding rivers of Krishna, Kaveri, and Godavari, along with the mesmerizing western coastline, are sure to attract hundreds of thousands of tourists every year. The concept of tourism has evolved over the last decade, and it is no longer just about leisure. The serene locations across India can rejuvenate the spirit, and the ancient Ayurvedic medicine system offers a holistic experience, revitalizing both body and soul.

An untapped potential in India's tourism sector is MICE tourism—Meetings, Incentives, Conferences, and Exhibitions. Pradeep Shetty, president of the Federation of Hotel and Restaurant Associations of India, believes that MICE tourism could play a crucial role in positioning India as a global tourism powerhouse.

Beyond its cultural and scenic wealth, the sector offers immense job and business potential, catering to both skilled and unskilled labour, as well as entrepreneurs. Hotels in India are no longer limited to luxury chains like Taj Residences or Hilton. Even clean, hygienic, and safe accommodations that serve regional cuisine with a smile can qualify as excellent hospitality options, regardless of star ratings.

## INDIA'S TOURISM BOOM: A JOURNEY BEYOND THE ICONS



### UNVEILING THE FUTURE OF INDIA'S HOSPITALITY AND TOURISM INDUSTRY

**PRADEEP SHETTY**, President of the Federation of Hotel and Restaurant Associations of India (FHRAI), is currently preparing for the association's 54th annual convention, set to take place in October 2024. In an exclusive interview with *Kumar Chellappan*, Shetty shared insights into the immense potential of India's hospitality and tourism sector, its challenges, and the expectations from both the central and state governments

#### What is the real potential of the hospitality and tourism industry?

India's hospitality and tourism industry is on a remarkable growth trajectory. According to Mordor Intelligence, the sector is projected to reach a valuation of USD 247.31 billion by 2024, with forecasts indicating it could soar to USD 475.37 billion by 2029, growing at a compound annual growth rate (CAGR) of 13.96%. Key trends driving this growth include a shift towards sustainable tourism, with eco-friendly accommodations and community-based initiatives gaining traction. India's rich cultural heritage, diverse landscapes, and geopolitical stability further bolster this expansion. However, to fully capitalize on its potential, the industry must address sustainability, infrastructure development, and adaptability to evolving consumer preferences.

#### How do you view the current and future employment trends in the hospitality sector?

Despite challenges posed by the COVID-19 pandemic, the hospitality sector is expected to rebound strongly. The India Food Services Report-2024 projects that by 2025, the sector will employ approximately ten million people. The industry's resilience, coupled with advancements in accommodation and government initiatives to promote tourism, supports its significant role in job creation.



**PRADEEP SHETTY**  
President, Federation of Hotel and Restaurant Associations of India (FHRAI)

INDIA'S HOSPITALITY AND TOURISM SECTOR HAS THE POTENTIAL TO GENERATE 50 MILLION DIRECT AND INDIRECT JOBS IN THE NEXT 5-7 YEARS. THIS GROWTH WILL DEPEND ON ROBUST GOVERNMENT SUPPORT, INCLUDING GRANTING INDUSTRY AND INFRASTRUCTURE STATUS AT VARIOUS LEVELS

#### What are the prospects for job creation in the hotel and restaurant industry over the coming years?

India's hospitality and tourism sector has the potential to generate 50 million direct and indirect jobs in the next 5-7 years. This growth will depend on robust government support, including granting industry and infrastructure status at various levels. The sector's resilience and strategic investments, along with effective policy implementation, are critical for shaping its employment landscape. Notably, the industry has already seen a 14% increase in Revenue Per Available Room (RevPAR) in the first half of the current fiscal year, with expectations of a further 15-20% growth in the latter half of FY24.

#### What does the industry expect from the Government of India and state governments?

The industry seeks favorable policies that encourage investment, reduce regulatory burdens, and provide tax incentives. Essential infrastructure development, such as improved roads, airports, and connectivity, is crucial. State governments should align regional policies with national goals, streamline hotel project approvals, and support skill development through training programs. Promoting India as a global destination requires targeted campaigns that highlight its cultural diversity and unique experiences. Post-pandemic, enforcing health and safety protocols is vital for rebuilding traveler confidence, while state governments should foster sustainable tourism and create a

business-friendly environment by simplifying licensing and permits. Public-private partnerships and engagement with industry stakeholders are also key to enhancing tourism growth.

#### Has the Government of India shown any commitment to granting infrastructure status to the hospitality sector?

The Government of India's interest in granting infrastructure status to the hospitality sector is a promising development. If approved, this status could attract more investments and empower the sector to contribute to the development of the 50 new destinations recently announced by the government.

#### What benefits would infrastructure status bring to the industry?

Granting infrastructure status to the hospitality sector could provide access to more favorable financing options, including better interest rates. Currently, the lack of industry status in several states results in higher power tariffs and interest rates. Infrastructure status would incentivize both domestic and international investments, fostering stability and growth within the sector.

#### As the current President of FHRAI, how well is the Federation positioned to address these issues with regulators?

The Federation of Hotel and Restaurant

Associations of India (FHRAI), founded in 1955, is the apex hospitality association in India and the third largest globally. It represents 55,000 hotels and 500,000 restaurants across the country. FHRAI advocates for the industry's interests, engaging with government bodies, regulatory agencies, and other stakeholders to promote growth and address challenges.

#### What are the major issues facing the industry, and what do you expect the government to do about them?

The hospitality industry faces several critical challenges that require strategic solutions. First, GST rationalization is needed to implement a uniform rate of 12% across all hotels. Second, separating GST on food services from room rates would address high costs and complex regulations. Third, granting infrastructure status would provide access to better financing options and encourage investment. Finally, uniform sectoral reforms and streamlined business processes under the Business Reforms Action Plan (BRAP) would attract more investments. The government should simplify regulations, support infrastructure development, and provide incentives for training and technology to foster a vibrant and resilient tourism industry. Addressing these issues will enhance service quality and support industry growth.







BY SHARMILA CHAND

Onam, the harvest festival of Kerala, is renowned for its grand feast known as the Sadya. Also known as Thiru-Onam or Thiruvonam, this is a harvest festival that celebrates the return of King Mahabali/Maveli to his beloved state. It's a time of thanksgiving for the bountiful crops. Truly, what adds to the festival is the tradition of the 'Onam Sadya'.

Traditionally, an Onam Sadya consists of around 24 to 64 dishes. What sets this meal apart is its intricate balance of tastes—sweet, sour, salty, bitter, and spicy—all harmoniously combined to create a delightful experience.

The number of dishes vary based on the region. There is a specific order in which the dishes are served on the banana leaf. It usually starts with serving the rice, followed by various curries, pickles, and desserts.

Interestingly, the feast is traditionally eaten with the hands, believed to enhance the sensory experience of the varied flavours. Families and communities come together to enjoy the feast, which is a way to celebrate the bountiful harvest, express gratitude, and bring people together in a spirit of joy and togetherness.

People decorate their homes with floral arrangements called "Pookkalam" and wear traditional attire during the festival for a holistic experience, an integral and cherished part of the celebration.

**Folding the Banana Leaf Is Important Towards You:**

Once you've finished eating, fold the banana leaf towards you. This helps to signify that you've enjoyed the meal and are satisfied. The grandeur of Onam Sadya awaits you offering annual culinary extravaganza in Delhi, Mumbai, Goa, Pune and Bengaluru.

**EXCLUSIVE ADIPOLI ONAM SADHYA AT SOUTH OF VINDHYAS, THE ORCHID HOTEL, MUMBAI**

South of Vindhyas, the authentic Southern Indian restaurant at The Orchid Hotel Mumbai, is all set to



welcome the diners for the much-awaited ADIPOLI ONAM SADHYA feast. This exclusive culinary experience promises an immersive experience for guests to the rich flavors of Kerala, in authentic style.

Chef Bala Subramaniam, the culinary maestro behind South of Vindhyas, has meticulously crafted a menu featuring 56 authentic dishes that capture the true essence of Southern India. Upon arrival, guests will be greeted with a refreshing Kachia Moru (Buttermilk) or a warm Thakkali Rasam (Tomato Soup), setting the tone for the culinary journey ahead. The feast unfolds with a variety of crispy and flavorful chips, including Banana Chips, Jackfruit Chips, Plantain Chips, and the ever-popular Nendrankai Chips. Guests can indulge in an array of traditional breads like Appam, Kal Dosa, and Malabari Paratha with main course, which includes a diverse selection of vegetarian dishes that celebrate the harvest. From Olan (Chowlibeans & White Pumpkin) and Kalan (Suran) to the flavorful Avial and Kootu Curry and much more, each dish is a celebration of Kerala's culinary heritage. A variety of pachadis (pickles) such as Vellari Pachadi (Cucumber Pickle), Pavakkai Pachadi (Ridge Gourd Pickle), Bhindi Pachadi (Okra Pickle), and Manga Curry (Mango Curry) add a tangy twist to the meal. Complementing the spread are rice preparations including Red Rice, Steamed Rice, Lemon Sevai, and Coconut Sevai.

To conclude the meal, guests can indulge in a range of traditional sweets like Ada Pradhaman, Kadala Pradhaman (Black Gram Payasam), and Mambazha Pradhaman/Chakka Pradhaman (Mango/Jackfruit Payasam), along with other delightful treats like Pazham Pori (Banana Fritters) and Panchamrutham (Sweet Nectar).

Step in and you will be transported to Kerala with the venue adorned in beautifully arranged banana leaves and vibrant rangoli patterns. Enhancing the authenticity, the staff will be dressed in traditional South Indian attire adding a genuine touch of Kerala's rich heritage to your dining experience. The ADIPOLI ONAM SADHYA at South of Vindhyas is not just a meal; it's a celebration of culture, tradition, and the joy of sharing food with loved ones. The meticulously prepared dishes, the vibrant ambiance, and the warm hospitality make this an experience not to be missed.

**LUNCH & DINNER**  
12th to 16th September  
At South of Vindhyas,  
The Orchid Hotel Mumbai  
Contact : 7506010316

# CELEBRATE THE SPIRIT OF ONAM WITH SADHYA ROOTED IN TRADITION

The Onam is a celebration of culture, tradition, nature's bounty, symbolising harvest festivals and expressing gratitude, bringing families, communities together in a spirit of joy and togetherness



**SADHYA CULINARY VOYAGE AT SANA DI GE, DELHI**

Sana-di-ge, the well known culinary haven for coastal cuisine enthusiasts, is set to treat the patrons once again with an exceptional Sadya experience. The acclaimed restaurant, like every year, promises a sensory journey into the diverse and aromatic world of coastal India's gastronomic legacy.

The stunning entrance with beautifully oil lit diya is the reminder of its name - Sana-di-ge, derived from the Tulu language meaning a brass lamp. The restaurant is known for its authentic coastal recipes curated with freshly sourced ingredients. The extensive menu comprises delicacies from Mangalore, Goa, Maharashtra, and Kerala. The food here is served on brass plates lined with plantain leaves giving an experience of Dakshina Kannada dining.

Savour a symphony of Sadya feast with dishes, elegantly served on traditional banana leaves. Says Executive Chef Sukesh Kanchan, "In our Sadya menu, each dish captures the essence of Kerala's culinary heritage. The highlights of the menu are Sambharam - Spicy buttermilk with fresh coriander, ginger and curry leaves; Upperi - Banana chips; Sharkara Upperi - Sweet banana chips; Kosambari Salad - Traditional Kannadiga salad; Cabbage



THE ADIPOLI ONAM SADHYA AT SOUTH OF VINDHYAS IS NOT JUST A MEAL; IT'S A CELEBRATION OF CULTURE, TRADITION, AND THE JOY OF SHARING FOOD WITH LOVED ONES



Thoran; MezhukkuPuratti - Stir fried raw banana finished with coconut silvers & crushed dry red chilli; Avial and a lot more. The feast concludes on a sweet note with the signature 'Chana Dal Payasam', a melding of jaggery, cow's milk, coconut milk, and chana dal." The culinary art and decor of Sana-di-ge are sure to transport patrons to the kitchens of the coast bringing in a one-of-a-kind experience.

**LUNCH & DINNER**  
12th to 16th September  
22/48 Malcha Marg, New Delhi  
Contact : 01140507777

**ONAM SADHYA EXTRAVAGANZA AT TAJ RESORTS, GOA**

Celebrate the joyous occasion of Sadya at the luxurious Taj Holiday Village Resort & Spa and Taj Fort Aguada Resort & Spa. Chef Dibyendu Roy and Chef Somnath Rakesh are all set to prepare Sadya where each dish comes in its authentic style, ensuring that the flavours and textures are true to tradition. The meal is served in a traditional setting, complete with banana leaves and copper vessels, service team in traditional ensemble, creating a truly immersive experience. Beyond the culinary delights, the Onam celebrations at these resorts also feature Carnatic music playing in the background. These performances offer guests a glimpse into the rich cultural heritage of Kerala and add to the festive atmosphere. By celebrating Onam with traditional food and cultural performances, Taj Holiday Village and Taj Fort Aguada are fostering a sense of community and preserving the rich heritage of Kerala.

**Venue :** Caravela at Taj Holiday Village  
**Date :** Lunch On 15th Sept  
**Venue :** Kokum Kitchen at Taj Fort Aguada  
**Date :** Lunch on 14th and 15th Sept

**ONAM SADYA AT SANTOSHAM, MUMBAI**

Santosham Foods is thrilled to unveil its beloved Onam Sadya, where tradition meets taste in a celebration that promises to be nothing short of spectacular.

At Santosham, which aptly translates to 'Happiness' or 'Joy' in Malayalam and Tamil, the team is passionate about delivering an experience that lives up to its name.

Founded in May 2022, Santosham Foods has become synonymous with genuine South Indian flavors in Mumbai. While the city is known for its love of South Indian cuisine, finding those truly authentic tastes amidst a sea of fusion trends is rare. That's where Santosham comes in, offering a slice of home with every dish.

The Head Chef and Co-Founder, Bhagyalakshmi Gohokar, brings her rich heritage to her kitchen. Growing up in the bustling environment of Shanti Bhavan in Nagpur, she has always been surrounded by the irresistible aroma of freshly brewed filter coffee and crispy medu vadas. Her childhood memories of watching the magic of South Indian cooking unfold have inspired her to bring these authentic flavours to Mumbai.

This year's celebration promises to be even more memorable, with a menu featuring over 40 traditional dishes that will transport your taste buds straight to South India. From the rich and sweet Palada Pradhaman to the spicy and tangy Lemon Achar & Manga Kari, each dish is crafted with love and care, reflecting the true spirit of Onam.

"Last year, we had the pleasure of serving over 2,000 delighted diners during Onam, and this year, we're set to create even more unforgettable experiences. Our Sadya is not just a meal; it's a vibrant celebration of tradition, culture and culinary excellence.

So, come and join us at Santosham for a feast that's brimming with flavour and festivity. Whether you're a longtime fan or a first-time guest, our Onam Sadya is sure to leave you with a smile and a satisfied belly," says Bhagyalakshmi.

**Dates:** September 13th, 14th, 15th, 21st, & 22nd  
**Location:** Powai, Chandivali  
**Date:** September 14th & 15th  
**Location:** Manpada, Thane

**EXQUISITE SADHYA AT THE SHERATON GRAND PUNE BUND GARDEN HOTEL**

Celebrate the spirit of Onam with a traditional Sadya at the Sheraton Grand Pune Bund Garden Hotel. Feast starts with classic starters like Dal Wada, and Medu Vada, perfectly complemented by refreshing Sambar and the Ingi Thayir. Next are the traditional condiments like Sarakara Uperi, Nendran Chips, and Mango Pickle that set the stage for the main course. A vast range of authentic delights such as the Avial, Kadla Curry, Olan, and Thoran, all served with the aromatic Ponni Rice, flaky Pooris and finished with the comforting Thayir Sadam. Indulge in Paruppu Payasam and the Banana Sheera to complete the feast.

**Lunch** On 13th, 14th, and 15th of September  
At Feast, Sheraton Grand Pune Bund Garden Hotel

**GRAND SADHYA AT HILTON BANGALORE EMBASSY GOLFLINKS**

Savour timeless classics like the appetizing Neyyappam, wholesome Avial, Kootu Curry, Thoran, Olan, Kalan, Pachadi, Inji Puli, and Erissery, each crafted with a perfect balance of spices to awaken your senses to be enjoyed with the wholesome goodness of Parippu, Matta rice and the delightful flavours of Sambar and Rasam, all served on the traditional banana leaf. Conclude your Sadya on a sweet note with desserts such as Paal Payasam.

**Venue:** MOF, Hilton Bangalore Embassy GolfLinks  
**Date:** 15th September  
**Timing:** 12:30 pm to 04:00 pm

Sharmila Chand is a senior Journalist and Author who writes on Food, Travel, Lifestyle.



# A FUSION OF LUXURY, TRADITION AND CULINARY EXCELLENCE

Discover how Crowne Plaza New Delhi Okhla, brings dreams to life with its exquisite and personalised approach to creating unforgettable wedding celebrations, says SAKSHI PRIYA

Crowne Plaza recently presented a magnificent Wedding Showcase, offering an immersive experience that symbolises elegance and grandeur. The event showcased the hotel's ability to create unforgettable wedding celebrations with a blend of stunning venues, luxurious decor and exceptional culinary offerings.

## A GRAND WELCOME: SETTING THE TONE FOR ELEGANCE

The red and white theme, aesthetic lighting and wedding-themed photo booth set a vibrant and warm tone for the evening. Guests were greeted with an opulent welcome as they entered the beautifully decorated lobby. The grand entrance was further enhanced by the Red Wedding Hues Tunnel, accompanied by the traditional shehnai music, creating a memorable and enchanting atmosphere from the very start. The grand welcome was a perfect introduction to Crowne Plaza's commitment to blending luxury with tradition, ensuring that guests felt special and immersed in the wedding experience right from the beginning.

## EMERALD BALLROOM: A GLAMOROUS COCKTAIL EVENING

The Emerald Ballroom was transformed into a glamorous cocktail venue with a black and glitter theme, highlighted by a breathtaking chandelier. Accommodating up to 400 guests, the ballroom provided an elegant setting enhanced by a soulful Sufi live band, which created a magical and romantic ambience for the evening. The Emerald Ballroom exemplified Crowne Plaza's ability to create a luxurious and adaptable space, making it an ideal setting for a grand wedding reception that



can be tailored to the couple's preferences.

## JADE LAWN: A SERENE OUTDOOR CEREMONY

The Jade Lawn offered a picturesque outdoor setting for the wedding ceremony. Adorned with floral decor and soft lighting, the lawn, which can host up to 500 guests, provided a serene backdrop for the bride and groom's vows. The vibrant mandap, decorated with red and white flowers against lush greenery, created an elegant and natural atmosphere. The Jade Lawn was an ideal venue for couples seeking a tranquil and naturally beautiful outdoor setting for their wedding, showcasing Crowne Plaza's ability to create serene and picturesque environments.

## OPAL BANQUET: A VIBRANT HALDI CEREMONY

The Opal Banquet was transformed into a lively venue for

the Haldi ceremony with a vibrant yellow and blue theme. The banquet, which accommodates 180 guests, featured joyful decor, including entries decorated with yellow marigold flowers, capturing the essence of the traditional ceremony. The Opal Banquet's vibrant and traditional setting perfectly captured the joyous spirit of the Haldi ceremony, reflecting Crowne Plaza's attention to detail and commitment to creating memorable pre-wedding rituals.

## POOLSIDE: A FESTIVE MEHENDI CELEBRATION

The poolside venue was styled for a vibrant Mehendi night with colorful decor in red, yellow, pink, and green. This intimate space, accommodating 60 guests, featured delightful food and drinks, creating a lively and festive atmosphere for an unforgettable celebration. The poolside setup was perfect for an intimate yet vibrant Mehendi



celebration, demonstrating Crowne Plaza's expertise in crafting fun and festive environments for wedding events.

## CHAOBELLA: A CHIC BOHEMIAN DINNER EXPERIENCE

The evening concluded with a Bohemian-themed sit-down dinner at ChaoBella. The al fresco setup, adorned with chic

bohemian decor, offered a stylish and intimate dining experience, providing a perfect end to the showcase with its elegant and relaxed ambience. ChaoBella's Bohemian-themed dinner provided a sophisticated and unique dining experience, showcasing ability to deliver memorable and stylish wedding receptions.

## CULINARY EXCELLENCE: A FEAST FOR THE SENSES

Food is an integral part of any celebration and Crowne Plaza excelled in delivering an exceptional culinary experience. The showcase featured an array of mouthwatering dishes, like *kulhad wale taka-e-tak*, a variety of *idlis - ragi, vegetables and steaming hot idlis* - paired with five types of chutneys. *Street-style chats* and *pani puri* added a burst of flavours, while the dessert table was a highlight with options like *berry panna cotta, tres leches cake, tiramisu, brownies* and the star dessert - *badam halwa*. Each dish, from the street-style treats to the exotic desserts, demonstrated the hotel's dedication to providing an extraordinary dining experience with a diverse range of flavours meticulously prepared by talented chefs. The culinary offerings were a standout feature of the event, showcasing Crowne Plaza's commitment to excellence with a



diverse and delectable menu that catered to all tastes and preferences, enhancing the overall wedding experience.

## CRAFTING UNFORGETTABLE WEDDING EXPERIENCES

"At Crowne Plaza New Delhi Okhla, we believe in creating wedding experiences that are as unique and special as the couples themselves," said the General Manager. "This showcase was a glimpse into the endless possibilities we can offer, from personalised decor to gourmet cuisine, ensuring that every wedding is truly unforgettable." Wedding Showcase exemplified their commitment to creating exceptional wedding experiences. From the grand entrance to the diverse and delectable culinary offerings, every detail was designed to impress. As the General Manager noted, "We strive to make every wedding unique and unforgettable." The Wedding Showcase at Crowne Plaza exemplified luxury and attention to detail. With stunning venues, exquisite decor and a diverse culinary spread, the event demonstrated the hotel's dedication to crafting unforgettable wedding experiences. Crowne Plaza is ready to turn every couple's vision into a unique celebration, ensuring each moment is as special as their love story.

Photos: Pankah Kumar

## CANVAS OF HERITAGE AND CONTEMPORARY EXPRESSION

Artix 3.0, the much-awaited sequel in New Delhi, once again dazzled art enthusiasts by bringing a vivid fusion of indigenous and global art to the forefront. The event, held at The Claridges Hotel, showcased the power of creativity, seamlessly blending the worlds of tribal art, textiles and luxury and creating an unforgettable experience for both artists and visitors says SAKSHI PRIYA

Entering the transformed spaces of The Claridges Hotel, attendees immediately sensed the magic in the air. Each room was thoughtfully curated to provide a distinct narrative, turning the venue into an immersive, multi-dimensional art gallery. The transformation was not just physical but also emotional, offering art lovers and connoisseurs a unique opportunity to engage deeply with the artworks, live installations and textile displays. It felt as if each room had its own story waiting to be discovered. The lineup of galleries was extraordinary, featuring established names like *Treasure Art Gallery, Artrise Art, 108 Art Projects, Bespoke Art Gallery, Ashvita's and Vision Art Gallery*, among others. These galleries, along with solo artists like *Aanchal Garg, Shobha Broota and Cholamandal*, created a vibrant mosaic of artistic expression that was both diverse and profound. Artists such as *Raza Husain, Sanjay Bhattacharyya, Anjolie Ela Menon and Prabhakar Kolte* showcased their works, alongside renowned names like *FN Souza, Laxma Goud and Manu Parekh*, adding depth and dimension to the event. The inclusion of luxury brands such as *Heeramaneck & Son Fine Jewellery, Lotus Arts de Vivre and Chayroot x Prabhu Viswanathan* further enriched the event,



creating a confluence of art, fashion, and design that was truly mesmerising.

A special highlight of the opening was an engaging session featuring luminaries like *Satish Gupta, Prayag Shukla, Sanjay Bhattacharyya, Shobha Broota and Arpana Caur*, followed by a curatorial walkthrough by *Jyoti Kathpalia*. The discussions were insightful, providing a deeper understanding of the themes and ideas that shaped this year's Artix. Each day was packed with activities that encourage interaction and exploration, enriching a vibrant dialogue between artists, collectors, and art lovers.

The exhibition also paid tribute to the lesser-known but equally captivating traditions of Indian art. *The Devi Art Foundation* presented "A Little Bird Told Me..." featuring artworks by the Tribal Women Artists Collective from Hazaribagh, Jharkhand. This collective has worked tirelessly to keep the centuries-old traditions of the Kohvar (marriage) and Sohrai (harvest) wall paintings alive, transitioning these from the mud walls of village homes to paper, ensuring their survival and giving women artists a means to sustain themselves. These panels, with their vivid



depictions of flora, fauna and life, evoked a deep connection to the past while providing a glimpse into the future of tribal art in India. Similarly, the work of *Usman Tirandaz* from Rajasthan, known for his intricate depictions using pigments on cloth, added another layer of cultural richness to the exhibition. *Shobha Broota*, one of India's most celebrated contemporary artists, showcased her ethereal canvases that possess a deceptive simplicity. Her works, characterised by abstract forms, rhythmic lines and rich textures, brought a sense of calm and introspection to the event. Broota's unique artistic journey, from portraiture to abstract and

her ongoing exploration of the spiritual and metaphysical, captivated visitors and provided a contemplative counterpoint to the more vibrant displays. The corporate social initiative AADYAM Handwoven, by the Aditya Birla Group, added another dimension to Artix 3.0 by showcasing the intricate craftsmanship of weavers from various parts of India, such as Varanasi, Pochampally, Bhuj, Kashmir and Bhadoli. Their efforts to create a self-sustaining ecosystem for artisans were evident in the quality and diversity of the textiles displayed, which celebrated age-old weaving techniques while appealing to contemporary tastes.

What made Artix 3.0 truly special was its ability to humanise the experience of art. It went beyond just exhibition spaces and brought together a community, creating a dynamic space where art was not only viewed but felt. It challenged the conventional gallery model, making art more accessible and intimate. The organiser's, led by *Payal Kapoor, Malvika Poddar and Sethu Vaidyanathan*, envisioned a traveling art affair that not only defied traditional norms but also celebrated the multitude of forms that art can take. Their dedication and passion were visible in every corner of the exhibition, making Artix a unique and memorable experience.

Artix 3.0 succeeded in capturing the essence of what makes art truly powerful, its ability to connect people across boundaries, evoke emotions and inspire new ways of thinking. The atmosphere was electric, filled with conversations that ranged from the technical aspects of a painting to the deeper philosophical questions it raised. Artix 3.0 was more than just an art exhibition - it was a celebration of creativity, a gathering of minds and a bold statement that art is for everyone.

As Artix 3.0 works to expand to other cities like Bangalore, Mumbai and Kolkata, it is hoped that it will continue to build on this momentum, bringing its unique blend of luxury, creativity and accessibility to new audiences. For those who had the chance to experience Artix 3.0, it was a reminder of why art matters and how it has the power to transform spaces, people and even our understanding of the world. Artix 3.0 served as a vivid reminder that art is not just something to be looked at but something to be experienced, felt and lived. And that, in itself, is its greatest achievement.

Photos: Pankah Kumar



### YOUR WEEK AHEAD



MADHU KOTIYA



#### ARIES March 21-April 19

This week, you're entering a phase where you'll experience the satisfaction of seeing your efforts pay off, leading to a more secure and prosperous situation. This is a perfect moment to enjoy the culmination of past diligence and smart choices. Your self-reliant nature will flourish, enabling you to appreciate your accomplishments and relish in your progress. This period is ideal for treating yourself to some well-deserved rewards and relaxation. It's also an opportune time to review your economic strategies and think about ways to enhance your financial security. The current cosmic energies are aligned to bolster your personal growth and solidify your achievements. Harness this favorable atmosphere to reinforce your position and revel in the stability that your hard work has afforded you.

Lucky number 20 | Lucky colour Lavender  
Lucky day Tuesday



#### LEO July 23-Aug 22

This week could present some emotional hurdles, possibly linked to previous challenges or deep-seated pains. You may find yourself navigating a landscape of intense feelings that demand attention and resolution. This period calls for a direct approach to confronting and processing these emotions. Embracing introspection and nurturing self-care practices will be crucial. It's beneficial to lean on the support of trusted friends or family during this time. Although this phase might be demanding, it holds the potential for substantial personal development and enhanced emotional strength. Engaging with this process fully can pave the way for clearer insights and healing, turning a tough time into a transformative experience. Moving through these challenges, you'll emerge more robust and aware, ready to move forward with renewed purpose.

Lucky number 17 | Lucky colour Mustard  
Lucky day Friday



#### SAGITTARIUS Nov 22-Dec 21

This week marks a period of transition and forward momentum. You may find yourself moving past previous challenges and stepping into new opportunities. This time signifies a shift toward more promising and stable circumstances, whether in personal or professional realms. View this transition as an opportunity for renewal and advancement. Your adventurous nature will be your guide through this changing landscape, steering you towards a more fulfilling future. Embrace the shifts occurring around you, as they are paving the way for growth and improvement. Your ability to adapt and explore will be key in navigating this period of change, leading you to brighter horizons and rewarding experiences. Use this time to streamline your goals and align your actions with your long-term vision. Harness this dynamic energy to propel yourself into a prosperous phase.

Lucky number 2 | Lucky colour Aqua  
Lucky day Friday



#### TAURUS April 20-May 20

This week presents a period of reflection, where you find yourself weighing multiple paths and ambitions. You may encounter a sense of being swamped by various potentialities or grand visions. It's crucial during this time to stay rooted and approach your choices with careful judgment. Resist the urge to wander into daydreams and concentrate on attainable objectives. Take this opportunity to organize your priorities and strategize effectively to transform these aspirations into tangible outcomes. Your inherent practicality will serve as a guiding light through any moments of uncertainty, helping you to select options that truly resonate with your core principles and future goals. Remember, patience is key as you navigate through this maze of options. Evaluating each carefully will ensure that your decisions are well-informed and aligned with your long-term success.

Lucky number 7 | Lucky colour Olive  
Lucky day Sunday



#### VIRGO Aug 23-Sep 22

This week focuses on enhancing your sense of security and stability. You may find yourself assessing your financial situation and material assets more critically. It's advisable to manage your resources wisely, being careful not to cling too tightly or become overly conservative in your approach. Consider striking a balance between maintaining security and exercising generosity. Now is an opportune moment to reevaluate your budget and financial strategies to ensure you are laying a robust groundwork for future expansion. Your attention to detail will serve you well, helping you to address both your current necessities and prepare for long-term objectives effectively. Taking proactive steps now can lead to significant rewards, reinforcing your path toward financial resilience and prosperity.

Lucky number 6 | Lucky colour Rose  
Lucky day Saturday



#### CAPRICORN Dec 22-Jan 19

This week emphasizes structure, authority, and leadership. You may find yourself taking charge and establishing order in various aspects of your life. The focus is on setting clear goals and implementing practical strategies to achieve them. Embrace your natural leadership abilities and use this time to solidify your plans and assert your influence. Your disciplined and organized approach will help you create a stable foundation for future success and maintain control over your personal and professional realms. This period is ideal for consolidating your efforts and defining clear boundaries, ensuring you are well-prepared to handle challenges. Your ability to lead and plan effectively will be key to navigating this week successfully.

Lucky number 19 | Lucky colour Coral  
Lucky day Tuesday



#### GEMINI May 21-June 20

This week, you may find yourself navigating scenarios where truthfulness and clever planning are crucial. You might feel tempted to sidestep direct confrontations or to manipulate situations to your advantage. However, this approach could lead to complications. Embrace transparency and strategic thinking instead. Being straightforward and thoughtful in your dealings will not only prevent potential missteps but also build stronger, more trustworthy relationships. Employ your analytical abilities to handle matters tactfully and steer clear of conflicts that could arise from misunderstandings. Keeping your interactions clear and your intentions pure will help you overcome obstacles effectively and enhance your reputation among your peers. This approach will prove beneficial, fostering an environment of respect and credibility.

Lucky number 4 | Lucky colour Scarlet  
Lucky day Thursday



#### LIBRA Sep 23-Oct 22

This week encourages forward-thinking and strategic planning. It's a favorable time to set new goals and explore fresh opportunities. You might find yourself considering long-term projects or contemplating new directions in your professional or personal life. This period is about taking the initiative and approaching your options with optimism and confidence. Embrace a proactive stance and use this energy to establish a solid foundation for future achievements. Your ability to mediate and your forward-looking attitude will serve you well in making strategic choices. Explore with enthusiasm, as this is a moment to expand your horizons and lay the groundwork for what's to come. Emphasize collaboration and gather insights from diverse sources to enrich your plans. Your thoughtful approach will pave the way for rewarding outcomes.

Lucky number 12 | Lucky colour Copper  
Lucky day Wednesday



#### AQUARIUS Jan 20-Feb 18

This week finds you in a light, relaxed, and romantic mood, making it an ideal time to enjoy quality moments with your partner. Engaging in activities like shopping and dining out will be particularly appealing. Those who are single might encounter someone who feels like a breath of fresh air, possessing qualities of independence, sensuality, and ambition. Your natural charm and enthusiasm are likely to draw people towards you, enhancing your social circle with valuable allies and friends. Midweek, you may find yourself in a position where others seek your advice, allowing you to tackle challenging issues with vigor. Your leadership qualities shine, backed by a deep respect for others and an extensive compassionate reach.

Lucky number 5 | Lucky colour Tangerine  
Lucky day Thursday



#### CANCER June 21-July 22

This week, dedicate yourself to engaging deeply with traditions and gaining wisdom, ensuring everything aligns with your foundational beliefs. It's an ideal time to connect with experienced mentors or delve into practices deeply resonant with your core principles. Reflect thoughtfully on your long-term aspirations and the supporting structures that make them achievable. Turning to established wisdom or seeking guidance from seasoned advisors will provide profound insights and broaden your understanding. Embrace activities that promote stability and strengthen your connection to your inner self. This time is pivotal for solidifying your spiritual and emotional foundations, enabling you to navigate life with renewed purpose and clearer vision. Cherish this period as an opportunity for significant personal growth and spiritual enrichment.

Lucky number 9 | Lucky colour Teal  
Lucky day Monday



#### SCORPIO Oct 23-Nov 21

This week heralds a period of inner fortitude and resilience. You'll find yourself tackling challenges with heightened confidence and determination, displaying courage and grace under pressure. This time encourages you to draw upon your inner strength and face situations with patience and compassion. Whether you're navigating personal issues or professional obstacles, maintaining calm and focused composure will be your greatest asset. Embrace this period as a chance to showcase your emotional strength and perseverance. By doing so, you'll find yourself emerging from the challenges not just intact, but stronger and more empowered. This is a time to reinforce your resolve and demonstrate the depth of your resilience. Let this phase of growth be a testament to your enduring spirit and ability to thrive under any circumstances.

Lucky number 3 | Lucky colour Peach  
Lucky day Monday



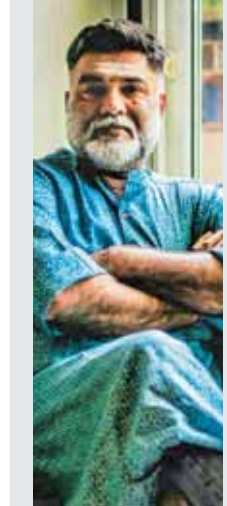
#### PISCES Feb 19-March 20

This week unfolds with an infusion of romance, creativity, and deep emotional exploration. You may find yourself increasingly drawn to artistic endeavors or deepening your emotional bonds. The period is ripe for following your heart and passionately pursuing what truly moves you. Whether in relationships or in creative projects, let your emotions steer your actions and embrace the opportunities to express yourself genuinely. Your empathetic nature will come to the forefront, enhancing both your personal fulfillment and your connections with others. Allow this time to nurture your creative spirit and strengthen your emotional ties, as you explore and express the depths of your feelings. Use this time to reflect and perhaps recalibrate, ensuring your pursuits align closely with your deepest desires.

Lucky number 10 | Lucky colour Ivory  
Lucky day Monday

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### THE TUNING FORK



C V Srikanth

From the disciplined learning of youth to the ultimate renunciation of worldly attachments, the four stages enunciated in the scriptures offer a blueprint for balancing our worldly duties with our spiritual aspirations

## Behave like a child when Nature is your Mother ...

Is climate change here? Is it on its way? Is it still some time away?

Or is it ....? So ... how long does one wait, for the inflection point to be reached. Or ... have we just started tipping over and we want to safely wish it away. And stay in denial. The jury is still out in the open. However, two things are in our face - the enormity of the situation (if it is here or for others when it will be) and the pivotal role Nature has in our life and existence on earth.

Our ancient texts have always given the highest status to Nature - The Maternal status. Devoted. Nurturing. Pliable (to the maximum extent). Warm. Affectionate. Effusing warmth and care. Protecting. Tender. Strict when rules bend beyond a point. Gentle. And perhaps the most important - Trusting. Nature signified as the Maa Prakriti or Mother Nature and the consequent behaviour of the Child (the inhabitants) plays a key role in Vedic philosophy. The Indian scriptures give precious insights and reflect a deep philosophical significance to this. This concept and understanding are rooted in the Vedas, Upanishads and Smritis elucidate the relationship between us humans' conscious beings and the natural world, personifying nature as a fostering mother. The oldest of scriptures available to us (The Vedas) depict the portrayal in of Nature as The Divine Mother form. This portrayal



encourages the reverence for the natural elements and the understanding that they have been and continue to be the main sustaining force for all life forms. One of the earliest mentions can be found in the Rig Veda, where various hymns celebrate the Mother Earth (Prithvi) as a maternal figure who caters to the sustenance and nourishment of all living beings.

स घाता पृथ्वी भवत्यजायमानायां विश्वायुः कवयाय अग्रमुदूर्त्वा विवस्वानमानमृतयेमे  
sa dh t p^thv^ bhavatyaj yam n y  
visv yu^kavy m agrabh^d^ rdhv  
vivasv nam nam^ tayeme

'He is the establisher of the Earth when she was being born, the Sage, the lord of what

has been and what will be, all-seeing, the light of lights.' This hymn compliments Mother Earth as the provider and sustainer of life. It emphasizes its role akin to a nurturing mother who supports and nourishes all living beings. If Nature and the Earth are The Mother ... we palpably are Her children, often having to be brought to book because of frequent infringements with Mother Nature. The spiritual analogy of behaving like a child in the context of Vedic interpretation symbolizes qualities such as innocence, trust, spontaneity, and a sense of awe and wonder. I wish I could add the word 'simple' here. If only we were simple, tolerant, and sensitive to the value of coexistence with Mother Nature. The Chandogya Upanishad (7.26.2)

explores the nature of reality and self and uses the metaphor of a child to illustrate the point.

तं विद्याकर्म शान्तः समः प्रज्ञानं ब्रह्म ।  
ta vidy kama^s^ nta^ sama^

prajna^ brahma  
'Desiring that wisdom, he becomes tranquil, disciplined, restrained, self-controlled, patient, and refined.' This verse underscores the qualities of tranquility, patience, and wisdom that a seeker of truth cultivates, qualities that are often compared to those found in a child who is innocent and trusting - What we need to imbibe as inhabitants (children of Mother Nature) Integration of Concepts The Vedic construal highlights this integration as a holistic worldview where we humans are inseparably interconnected with the Nature and the It encourages humility, sensitivity, veneration, a sense of responsibility towards nature, viewing it not merely as a resource but as a living entity deserving reverence and care. The Bhagavad Gita, reflects these principles (9.17)

पितामहस्य जगतो माता धाता पितामहः वेदं पवित्रमोकार ऋक्साम यजुरेव च ।  
pit hamasya jagato m t dh t  
pit mah^ vedyam pavitram o k r  
^ks ma yajureva ca

"I am the father of this world, the mother, the support, and the grandsire; I am the object of knowledge, the purifier, the syllable Om, and also the Rig, the Sama, and the Yajur Vedas." Here, Lord Krishna identifies himself with various aspects of creation, reinforcing the idea of divinity permeating all existence and nurturing it, akin to a loving parent. Nature and its inhabitants are indivisible, like mother and her child entwined in a spiritual understanding. It lends not only reverence for life and existence but for spiritual growth and self-understanding. It urges us to embrace sublime qualities with every resource existent on earth - not as a tool for survival always but as a vital coexistent partner. The gorgeous connect invites embodies the spiritual journey fostering a harmonious relationship with the environment. Where we are now may not be sustainable. Where we are headed needs to be.

— The writer is a versatile professional with 3 decades in corporate experience & leadership roles, excelling in several areas as a ICF Certified Mentor Life Coach, Corporate Coach, Spiritual Intelligence Coach & CXO Coach. Spiritual counselor, Astro & Vastu consultant (25+ years of grounding in Vedanta philosophy) and a Motivational speaker. He is a Dale Carnegie's T3 graduate

# From J&K battlefield to Paralympics bronze: Sema's inspirational journey through hardships

PTI ■ PARIS

On a quiet October day in 2002, a young soldier's dreams were shattered in a heartbeat in the volatile terrain of Jammu and Kashmir's Chowkibal. An unexpected explosion ended the ambition of Havildar Hokato Hotozhe Sema to join the Special Forces. That landmine blast during an anti-terrorist operation claimed his left leg below the knee, inflicting immense physical pain and mental trauma. Sema's world went dark, or everyone thought so. But for Sema, it was the beginning of an extraordinary journey of resilience, courage, and fierce determination to rebuild life — a process he went through at the Army Paralympic Node, BEG Centre in Pune.



Twenty-two years later, at the swank State de France, the 40-year-old Indian shot-putter came up with his career-best throw of 14.65 metres to secure a bronze medal in the men's F57 category at the Paralympics to swell the country's medal haul to 27 (six gold, nine silver and 12 bronze). His rise in para-athletics has been nothing short of

inspiring. He quickly distinguished himself with his sheer willpower in the F57 category, which includes athletes with limb deficiencies and impaired muscle power. Sema was encouraged by senior army officials at the Pune-based Artificial Limb Centre to take up shot put after seeing his fitness as he embraced the sport in 2016 at

the age of 32. That year, he travelled to Jaipur to compete in the National Para Athletics Championships. A silver at the Morocco Grand Prix in 2022 was followed by a bronze medal at the Asian Para Games in Hangzhou. He narrowly missed a medal at the 2024 World Championships, finishing fourth. But Sema's determination never wavered. The defining moment came during his Paralympics debut, when he battled against a fiercely competitive field. Strapped to a throwing chair, each of his six throws was a manifestation of grit and physical strength. He touched the 14m mark on his second throw and then improved further with a heave of 14.40m. Sema achieved his best throw in his fourth attempt, bettering his personal best to 14.49m en

route to the bronze. Iran's Yasin Khosravi, the 31-year-old two-time para world champion, clinched the top spot with a Paralympic record of 15.96m, while Brazil's Thiago Dos Santos took the silver (15.06m). Prime Minister Narendra Modi described Sema's win a "proud moment" for the nation while hailing his incredible strength and determination. "A proud moment for our nation as Hokato Hotozhe Sema brings home the Bronze medal in Men's Shot Put F57! His incredible strength and determination are exceptional. Congratulations to him. Best wishes for the endeavours ahead," PM Modi wrote on X. Sema has been supported by the Khelo India initiative and his training, boarding, and lodging were taken care of by the National Centre of Excellence (NCoE) scheme.

# India look to start fresh after Olympic bronze, eye title defence

PTI ■ HULUNBUIR (CHINA)

The Indian men's hockey team will look to press the restart button after a successful Olympic campaign and defend its Asian Champions Trophy title when it opens its campaign against hosts China here on Sunday. After bagging back-to-back Olympic bronze medals, India will start as favourites to defend their ACT title against top hockey playing nations of Asia in the form of China, Japan, Pakistan, Korea and Malaysia. Last year, India won the title at home, making them the only team to bag four titles in the history of the tournament. Back from a short break after the Paris Olympics, India skipper Harmanpreet Singh is keen on continuing their dominance in the continental championships.



"The Asian Champions Trophy last year gave us the right momentum going into the Asian Games and followed it up with the Olympic Games triumph of standing on the podium yet again. This time too, we want to begin the fresh Olympic cycle by winning this tournament," Harmanpreet said ahead of their tournament opener. "While we have 10 members from the Olympic side playing in this tournament, we have a few youngsters trying to make their impact in the team. "In terms of game point-of-view, our attacking and penalty corners are our forte but we will be looking to play a structured defence, particularly against teams like Japan, Malaysia and Pakistan.

This is an important tournament for us in terms of world ranking points and we are ready for the challenge," he added. After China, India will take on Japan in their second match on September 9, followed by games against last year's runners-up Malaysia on September 11, Korea on September 12 and arch-rivals Pakistan on September 14. The semifinal and final are scheduled for September 16 and 17. Young India midfielder Vivek Sagar Prasad, who has been named as Harmanpreet's deputy for this tournament, said this would give them a chance to see other teams' progress ahead of the 2026 Asian Games. "This tournament is one of the most exciting ones in the Asian Hockey calendar. We will also get to see the progress the Asian teams are making in the new cycle as they will play with a fresh group of players keeping in mind the Asian Games in 2026," said Vivek, who will replace Hardik Singh as vice-captain. Vivek is mesmerised by the scenic view and facilities on offer here. "We arrived here earlier this week and have got good time on the pitch. The weather is suitable for us, but it gets a bit cold in the evening. The facility is incredible and perhaps one of the most beautiful hockey venues in the world. "The excitement of hosting the first international tournament here is quite evident and we are looking forward to playing quality matches and entertaining the hockey-loving people of this region," he said.

# Ashwin favours DRS in domestic cricket

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

Senior spinner Ravichandran Ashwin lauded BCCI's move to have DRS in the ongoing Duleep Trophy, saying it will help an upcoming batter to make necessary technical tweaks before his possible initiation into international cricket. Ashwin was pinning his argument on the leg before dismissal of India D batsman Ricky Bhui against India C left-arm spinner Manav Suthar in the Anantapur-leg of Duleep Trophy on Friday evening. Bhui was batting on 44 and

looked fluent but he stretched forward to play a defensive prod, and got pinged on his pads. The on-field umpire initially didn't give him out as the bowler was forced to resort to the Decision Review System, which favoured the bowler's plea for a leg before dismissal. "DRS for domestic cricket is not just for the right decisions to be made. Ricky Bhui's (Bhui) dismissal last evening against Manav Suthar is a classic case of a batter who will get away with this technique 10/10 times in FC cricket," Ashwin wrote on his official X

handle. "This was not a faulty technique pre DRS but now it is. Back in the day batters were given not out just because they managed to get on the front foot," he added. Ashwin's observation was spot on because in earlier days, umpires hardly gave a batter out if he had plonked his front foot forward, using pad as the first line of defence while tucking the bat behind the pads. In pre-DRS days, the former West Indian batter Jimmy Adams employed this technique quite routinely to escape from lbw, so much that

he received the moniker — 'Padams'. But now, the bowlers have the option of leaning on DRS to overturn the on-field decision, and the batters will have to adjust their style of play accordingly early in their career. Ashwin alluded to that. "Now, keeping your bat behind the pad can be fatal, imagine someone making the climb to international cricket without getting this experience Ricky got yesterday. "He could very well take an entire Test series to understand what he needs to work on and

his career could well be over," he wrote. However, the DRS, first introduced in the domestic circuit during the 2019-20 season, is yet to be fully implemented in domestic matches. It is still restricted to big-ticket domestic matches such as Ranji Trophy semifinals and finals. Initially, the DRS came without the UltraEdge feature and it was later added to the system during the 2022-23 domestic season, albeit only for the final. But the full version of the DRS is available for the ongoing Duleep Trophy matches in Bengaluru and Anantapur.

# Haaland kept scoreless by Kazakhstan's five-man defense in Nations League; Italy and Belgium win

AP ■ ROME

Maybe the English Premier League teams struggling to contain Erling Haaland should consider employing the 5-4-1 formation that Kazakhstan used against Norway on Friday. Kazakhstan's yellow-clad defenders swarmed around Haaland for the full 90 minutes of a 0-0 draw in the Nations League and kept the striker scoreless following his consecutive hat tricks in the Premier League. Haaland failed to hit the target with any of his four shots during a match in which Norway had 65% of the possession and produced 19 shots to Kazakhstan's four. Haaland has seven goals in three Premier League matches for Manchester City this season and hadn't been held scoreless for nearly a month - since City won the Community Shield in a penalty shootout over Manchester United on Aug. 10. Haaland did find the target in the shootout of the Community Shield, though. Haaland has been the joint top scorer with six goals in each of the past two editions of the Nations League. Overall, he has 31 goals in 34 matches for Norway. He still needs two more goals to match Norway record-holder Jørgen Juve, who scored 33 from 1928-37. On Wednesday, Haaland was among the 30 players nominated for the Ballon d'Or. Norway is in League B of the Nations League, in a group with Austria and Slovenia, who drew 1-1 after both sides advanced to the knockout stages of the European Championship. ITALIAN STYLE: Italy turned on the



style to beat France 3-1 in Paris for the first time in 70 years. After Bradley Barcola put France ahead 13 seconds in, Italy struck back with goals from Federico Dimarco, Davide Frattesi and Giacomo Raspadori. Barcola's first international goal came after Italy full back Giovanni Di Lorenzo lost possession, allowing Barcola to advance on goal and shoot past the onrushing Gianluigi Donnarumma. DiMarco's equalizer was an extraordinary angled volley into the far corner following an exchange with Sandro Tonali, who provided the assist with a backheel flick. Frattesi scored his sixth goal in 20 appearances - impressive production for a midfielder - by redirecting a cross from Mateo Retegui. Then Raspadori, a substitute, sealed it by concluding a counterattack. Spalletti's youth movement After losing to Switzerland in the round of 16 at Euro

2024, Italy coach Luciano Spalletti eliminated over-30 players like Francesco Acerbi, Jorginho, Matteo Darmian and Stephan El Shaarawy from his squad. Dimarco is 26 and Frattesi and Raspadori are 24. "It was not easy to get back on track after the Euros," Dimarco said. "We needed this victory to raise the morale of the team." De Bruyne brace Kevin De Bruyne scored twice for Belgium in a 3-1 win over Israel in neutral Hungary. De Bruyne put Belgium ahead after being set up by his Manchester City clubmate Jeremy Doku and converted a second-half penalty. Yuri Tielemans restored Belgium's advantage following an own goal for Israel by Belgium full back Timothy Castagne. The game was in Debrecen after the Belgian soccer federation said in July "no local authority in Belgium considers it possible" to stage a game against Israel for security reasons. LEAGUE B: Euro 2024 quarterfinalist Turkey was held to 0-0 at Wales after playing the final half hour with 10 men after Baris Alper Yilmaz was sent off for two yellows. Former Wales captain Craig Bellamy made his debut as Wales coach - his first senior coaching role. Iceland beat Montenegro 2-0 with goals from Orri Steinn Oskarsson and Jon Dagur Thorsteinnsson. League C Romania won 3-0 at Kosovo and Cyprus beat Lithuania 1-0. The European qualifying groups for the 2026 World Cup will be drawn in Zurich in December, likely with seedings decided by FIFA world rankings updated in November after Nations League group play ends.

# Fritz wins all-American matchup against Tiafoe in 5 to reach the US Open final against Sinner

AP ■ NEW YORK

When Taylor Fritz, a 26-year-old from California, and Frances Tiafoe, a 26-year-old from Maryland, strode under the Arthur Ashe Stadium lights Friday night for the first U.S. Open semifinal matching two American men in 19 years, the crowd might have been forgiven for not knowing which to support. There was a burst of clapping right before the initial point, a curtain-raiser befitting the show about to unfold. Once the contest got going, maybe the momentum shifts made it tough to choose between a pair of close pals who've known each other since they were playing

tournaments for kids younger than 14. In the end, the roars were for Fritz, who surged with a six-game run against a fading and frustrated Tiafoe to come out on top 4-6, 7-5, 4-6, 6-4, 6-1 and reach his first Grand Slam final. "It's the reason why I do what I do," Fritz told the fans, his voice cracking during a post-match interview. "It's the reason why I work so hard." The No. 12-seeded Fritz's momentum-shift-filled victory against No. 20 Tiafoe earned a showdown against No. 1 Jannik Sinner for the championship on Sunday. "He was overwhelming from the baseline so much ... And I just tried to tell myself to stay in it and fight," said Fritz, who was

two games from losing in the fourth set. "I told myself that if I didn't give it absolutely everything I had - to just stick with it and see if his level might drop a little bit - then I was going to regret it for a long time. He will be the first U.S. Man to appear in a major final since Andy Roddick lost to Roger Federer at Wimbledon in 2009. And if he can get past Sinner, Fritz would become the first U.S. Man to win a Slam trophy since Roddick got his 21 years ago at the U.S. Open. "It's a dream come true. I'm in the final. So I'm going to come out and give everything I can possibly give," Fritz said. "I can't wait." From 4-all in the fourth

set Friday, he seized control as Tiafoe's strokes and usual confidence betrayed him. After Tiafoe's double-fault handed over a break to make it 4-0 in the fifth, more than three hours into the proceedings, he chucked his racket. Fritz repaid the favor by double-faulting to end the next game, but broke right back and soon it was over. They met at the net for an embrace. Sinner, a 23-year-old from Italy exonerated in a doping case less than three weeks ago, finished off a 7-5, 7-6 (3), 6-2 victory over No. 25 Jack Draper on Friday that featured simultaneous treatment of both competitors by trainers deep in the 1 1/2-hour second set.

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