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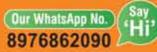


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## **Union Agriculture Minister advocates** environmental sustainability in Bokaro

### **R SHARMA : BOKARO**

nion Minister for Agriculture, Farmers' Welfare, and Rural Development, Shivraj Singh Chouhan, visited Bokaro on Friday as per the scheduled program, where he addressed a gathering on the theme of "Jharkhand kidhar .." at Vidya Mandir School. The included distinevent guished guests such as Jagannath Shahi and Dulu Mahato, MP Dhanbad.

Minister Shivraj Singh Chouhan, along with Bokaro

### **Director-In-Charge Quality Circle Trophy event held**

**PNS : BOKARO** 

The Business Excellence department organized a case study and model presentation for the Director-In-Charge Quality Circle Trophy at the Learning and Development wing. The event was attended by the Chief Guest, Rajan Prasad, Executive Director (HR & Additional Charge Operations)

A total of 55 teams participated in this mega event, including 35 Quality Circle teams, 15 Lean Quality Circle teams, and 5 Lean Safety Circle teams from various departments across the plant. The teams presented innovative solutions and addressed various challenges through their completed projects. Rajan Prasad inspected each model, offering valuable suggestions and encouraging participants to bring more projects in the future

Colorful models from various Quality Circle teams were also showcased during the presentations. The program was coordinated by Senior Managers of the Business Excellence department, Sagarika Sahoo, and Devyani Chakraborty





sunday pioneer

MLA Biranchi Narayan, BJP to contribute to environworkers, and employees of mental conservation by planting trees daily. This SAIL-Bokaro Steel Plant including Director Incharge of BSL B.K Tiwari particieffort not only advances the government's afforestation pated in a plantation drive goals but also sets a benchactively at the Jaivik Udyan mark for sustainable pracin Bokaro. This initiative tices that contribute to a healthier society. aligns with the minister's The event witnessed focus on promoting environstrong participation from sustainability through increased green the local community, high-

cover, a critical step towards lighting the increasing mitigating climate change awareness and dedication to environmental stewardship The plantation drive is in Bokaro, the Steel City part of a broader campaign renowned for its commitaimed at encouraging com-munities and organizations ment to a healthy, green environment.

### **3-Day Exhibition cum Fair** for SC/ST and Women **Entrepreneurs concludes** PNS : RANCHI



30.08.24 (Friday). The event aimed to provide a platform for SC/ST and women entrepreneurs to showcase and sell their handmade artefacts, handlooms and local dishes.

The fair witnessed an overwhelming response, with a significant footfall over the three days. Visitors and guests appreciated the unique items displayed, ranging from handicrafts to delicious food products.

The concluding ceremony was graced by esteemed guests, including Mrs. Sony Verma, Mrs. Nikki Řaj, Mrs. Lakshmi Mahto, Mrs. Seemantini Sahu, and Mrs. Seema Kumari, along with other officials from MECON.

The initiative was widely praised for its objective of empowering SC/ST and women entrepreneurs by providing them with a platform to showcase their talents and products. The efforts of WIPS, MECON was hailed as a unique and commendable step towards promoting entrepreneurship.

The success of this event has generated enthusiasm among the participants and visitors, with many expressing hopes for similar initiatives in the future.

### Shortage of professors at **SNMMCH** affects quality medical education

PANKAJ : DHANBAD

 $\oplus$ 

Recognition of Shaheed Nirmal Mahato Medical College and hospital (SNMM-CH) appears to be at stake owing to shortage of teachers, especially professors here.

Principal Dr. Jyoti Ranjan while admitting this said that we have a huge shortage of professors here. Out of a total of 33 sanctioned posts of professors in this medical college only 8 professors are working and the remaining 25 posts are vacant for a long time . He admitted that they face difficulties in imparting quality medical education to students here owing to the absence of professors despite attempts of special special care taken to ensure that studies are not affected due to the absence of professors

It's worth mentioning that the National Medical Commission ( NMC) increased MBBS seats from 50 to 100 after a lot of efforts and has allowed PG teaching in two departments but shortage of professors has come up as a hindrance in this. The NMC has approved 6 seats in medicine and 3 seats in orthopedics

continue to struggle with shortage of professors, then in a year or two NMC can withdraw PG seats and also put curb on UG seats.at present out of the total 100 seats, 83 are in state quota while 15 seats are from the all India quota, while there are two seats for central nominees

Regarding the shortage of professors, teachers here as the promotion process is stalled here in Jharkhand it's not only this but all the medical colleges of the entire state are suffering. If the situation fails to improve it's likely that this medical college may face recognition or seat cuts

### Dristi NGO hosts 'Rain Guard Health Initiative' at GHS, Ranchi PNS : RANCHI



Jharkhand 02

The event began with a Kriti, Harsh Kumar, Ayushi, Suruchi and Isha, facilitated interactive sessions and distation effectively conveyed cussions with students, providing in-depth insights into dents about identifying and health and hygiene during preventing mosquito-borne the monsoon season. illnesses, emphasizing the

A significant highlight of the event was the distribution of health kits. Dristi NGO provided 200 students with kits containing odomos, hand sanitizers, face masks, and gloves. This initiative aimed to promote mosquito protec-tion and personal hygiene among the students.

At the conclusion of the program, school teachers also addressed the students on monsoon health aware ness and conducted a detailed discussion on pre ventive measures against diseases. This awareness campaign not only enhanced health consciousness among students but also contributed to promoting caution and cleanliness in the wider community during the monsoon season

tions are being held across

Representing DAV Public

School Sector-4, three stu-

Kumar, and Gyan Kumar-

served as brand ambassa-

dors at the quiz competition

in Kolkata, showcasing their

knowledge and passion for

space under the guidance of

their mentor,

Principal

Kumar.

dents-Aman Sinha, Yuvraj

nationwide.

Subhash

Sarbendu

schools

**DAV Sector-4 becomes Jharkhand's** first entrant in Space Quiz



As part of the Space Week celebrations, the school organized a quiz competition today for students of classes 7th to 9th. The event coincided with India's first Space Day, celebrated on August 23, marking the one-year anniversary of the successful landing of the Vikram Lander on the Moon's surface during the Chandrayaan-3 mission.

In line with the Indian government's declaration of Space Day, various competi-

#### Shekhar Kar lauded the students' commendable efforts presenting them with certificates and posters. He empha sized that the purpose of education is not merely to learn facts but to train the mind "Strive for progress, not perfection. The goal of education is to create progressive individuals, not just those who chase perfection aimlessly Education is the only essential factor that can transform human society into a civilized one," he said, encouraging the students to continue their

pursuit of knowledge and excellence.

## AAXISS, RCSR, JCI host **Blood Donation Camp in XISS**

### **PNS : RANCHI**

Xavier Institute of Social Service (XISS) Ranchi, along with Alumni Association of XISS (AAXISS), Junior Chamber International (JCI) Ranchi, and the Rotaract Club of Social Revolution (RCSR), organized a Blood Donation Campus in campus on Saturday. As many as 94 units of blood were donated during this noble drive by Faculty, Staff, Students, Families of XISS fraternity and other blood donors. The camp began a solemn prayer JOS Marianus Kujur, Director, XISS where he urged everyone to join the noble cause and contribute towards nation-building. Shashi Prakash Jha, Director, Social Welfare, GoJ, inaugurated the camp and highly appreciated the efforts. "Blood donation is the best service to humankind and it is heartening to see students and others participate enthusi-



astically. XISS, AAXISS, RCSR, and JCI have brought together everyone for this noble cause and it would be a matter of pride to be associated with all for future camps to serve our state and nation,' said, Jha. The camp was attended by Assistant Director, Dr Pradeep Kerketta, along with Fr Claber Minz, Finance Officer, Dr Amar E. Tigga, Dean Academics, faculty, staff, and students of AAXISS representatives, have XISS. always been active for such social cause through their Ranchi Chapter and they ensured the smooth functioning of the camp. The team including Alok Gupta,

Secretary, Jasbir Singh Khurana, Vice-Chairman, Himalay, Joint Secretary, and others motivated many students to become donors

Representatives of JCI Ranchi, Vikram Choudhary, President along with Mayank Agarwal, Secretary, Rohit Dayani, Director Blood and Project Coordinators Ankit Modi, Agnish Mitra, Srijan Hetamsaria, and Sugam Sarawagi coordinated with the blood donors to ensure maximum participation.

The volunteers of the RCSR Club of XISS donated blood in good numbers Abhishek, Harsh, and Nishant, Shambhavi, Gauri, and others coordinated the successful completion of the camp. The blood donation camp concluded with a vote of thanks, recognizing the collective efforts that made the event a success. This initiative reflects XISS's ongoing commitment to social service and community welfare.

### Municipal officials urged to ensure timely payment and health checkups for safai karamcharis **PNS : JAMSHEDPUR** social security schemes. Her

In a significant move to address the long-standing approach was direct, seeking immediate and actionable feedback from the workers

deserves timely payment for their hard work," Panwar

stated emphatically. "The

contractors managing out-

sourced Safai Karamcharis

must ensure that salaries are

disbursed between the 1st

and 7th of every month. It is

the responsibility of the

municipal body officials to

enforce this rule without

A major part of the discus-

The nature of work per-

hensive health checkups

sion focused on the health

fail.'



Teachers here said If we

**PNS : BOKARO** 

DAV Public School Sector-4 has etched its name in history as Jharkhand's first and only school to participate in the prestigious East India Inter-School Space Day Quiz, held in Kolkata. This remarkable achievement reflects the school's commitment to excellence in education and its dedication to fostering a deep interest in space science among its students.

Gossner High School in

Ranchi witnessed a unique

and impactful event, the

Initiative', organized by Dristi

NGO on Saturday. The pri-

mary aim of this initiative

was to raise awareness about

during the monsoon season

and to educate students on

essential preventive meas-

compelling street play, per-

formed by Dristi NGO mem-

bers. This engaging presen-

critical information to stu-

seriousness of diseases

contributions from the school

principal, Kuldeep Guria, and

Dristi NGO Chapter Lead,

Nihal Verma. Other NGO

members, including Arpita

The program featured key

caused by mosquitoes.

mosquito-borne

Health

diseases

Guard

'Rain

issues faced by the Safai Karamcharis. the Vice President of the National Karamchari Safai Commission. Anjana Panwar, convened a meeting at Sidhgora Town Hall. The meeting was attended by a large number of Safai Karamcharis and representatives of their union, along with officials from various municipal bodies and representatives from Jamshedpur

Utilities and Services Company (Jusco). The gathering saw the

and safety of the Safai participation of several key Karamcharis. Panwar high officials, including Ranjit Lohara, Additional Municipal lighted the necessity of providing proper uniforms, rain-Commissioner of Mango coats, jackets, and shoes to Corporation; the workers, especially given Municipal Krishna Kumar, Deputy the harsh weather conditions they often face. Municipal Commissioner of Jamshedpur Notified Area Committee (JNAC); Rajendra formed by Safai Karamcharis Gupta, District Welfare exposes them to a higher risk Officer: and the Executive of health issues," she said. "It is crucial to conduct compre-Officers of Jugsalai Municipal

Municipal Panchayat. every six months, including Anjana Panwar, while ECGs, blood tests, and screenings for other serious addressing the audience, inquired about several critidiseases. This will ensure cal issues faced by the Safai early detection and treatment Karamcharis. She discussed of potential health probtheir salary structures, regularity of payments, provision of uniforms and protective

and

Council

and their representatives "Every Safai Karamchari

ensure that Safai Karamcharis receive their honorarium at revised rates. She also directed that any arrears should be paid from the date the new rates were implemented.

'To safeguard the future of our Safai Karamcharis, we must provide them with comprehensive social security," Panwar asserted. "This includes ensuring that they are covered under schemes like the Awas Yojana and Pension Yojana. A survey report must be submitted within the next 15 days to ascertain how many Safai Karamcharis are currently benefiting from these schemes.

In a stern directive, Panwar insisted that Safai Karamcharis should not be assigned to clean large drains or tanks, a practice that has been life-threatening in many instances. She emphasized that all Safai Karamcharis,

Ranjan, Vijay Kumar and

In this monthly Lok

Adalat, 39 cases from

present. A total of 60

Hanseshwar Pandey-Nagar

Criminal Compensable, and

21 cases of Electricity were

cases, including 21 related

to the department, were

whether they are outsourced, working on a daily wage, or employed through any other means, must have their social security ensured.

The meeting concluded with a commitment from all attending officials to implement the directives issued by the Vice President of the National Safai Karamchari Commission. The representatives from the Safai Karamcharis union expressed their gratitude for the attention given to their concerns and hoped for prompt action on the issues discussed.

As the meeting adjourned, there was a palpable sense of optimism among the Safai Karamcharis. With clear Karamcharis. from directives the Commission and promises of better oversight from municipal authorities, many felt that a new chapter of dignity and respect was beginning for these essential workers.

#### **60** cases settled in Monthly Lok Adalat in Garhwa NITYANAND DUBEY : Rajesh Sharan Singh, a Untari were present. Along

### GARHWA

A total of 60 cases were executed. and a total revenue of Rs 1,96,750.00 was received in Monthly Lok Adalat held at Civil Court Garhwa and Sub-Divisional Court Nagar Untari, on Saturday. Following the instructions of Jharkhand State Legal Services Authority (JLSA), Ranchi and on the order of Principal District Judgecum-Chairman, District Legal Services Authority

(+)

"Monthly Lok Adalat" was organized on Saturday.

For the execution of various cases,, five benches (including Nagar Untari Sub-Divisional Civil Court) were constituted in which Dinesh Kumar, District and Additional Sessions Judge-VI, Kumar Vipul, Chief Judicial Magistrate, Veena Kumari, Judicial Magistrate, Abhinav Tripathi, Judicial Magistrate and Arvind Kachhap, Additional-Chief Judicial Magistrate Nagar

with the Judicial Magistrate, one advocate each was also nominated for all the benches. Among them were advocates Praveen Kumar Sahu. Nityanand Dubey, Anita

Untari.

executed. Due to which a total revenue of Rs 1,96,750.00/- was received. On this occasion, a

cheque of Rs 3,75,000 was given to the victims Krishna Ram and Geeta Devi in case number 06/2023 under the Motor Vehicles Act by the Hon'ble Principal District and Sessions Judge - Co-Chairman, District Legal Services Authority, Garhwa

Judicial officers, advocates, court personnel, PLB Suryadev Chaudhary and parties were present in the Lok Adalat.

### PDJ holds meeting with district officials on various issues

VINOD PRASAD LOHARDAGA

A district level meeting was held today on various subjects in the PDJ office room under the chairmanship of Chief District and Sessions Judge of Lohardaga Civil Court, Arvind Kumar Pandey. In which Superintendent of Police Haris Bin Zaman, First District Judge Shri Akhilesh Kumar Tiwari, CGM Krishnakant Mishra, Dalsa Secretary Rajesh Kumar, JM First Jaya Smita Kujur, DDC Pratap Dilip Singh Shekhawat, Public DS Prosecutor. Sadar Shambhunath Hospital Chaudhary, Jailer of Mandal Jail Subodh. Kumar, CWC members, Executive of Building Engineer Construction Department and others were present.

The meeting was called in the light of various guidelines given by the District Level Monitoring Committee, Compensation Victim Committee and the Honorable High Court. In this meeting, the immediate presence of witnesses, especially doctors and researchers, in the POCSO case and other cases was discussed. As victim compensation, it was decided by the Victim Compensation Committee to allot a compensation of Rs 38 lakh 50 thousand to 16 out of 17 victims. One case was kept pending.

## **Creativity Conclave** concludes at SBPS, Ranchi



in all walks of academics.

The day commenced with the welcoming of the guests with a graceful Odissi performance. This was followed by the lighting of the ceremonial lamp to mark the inception of the event. The culmination ceremony included two competitions- Inter School TOROUE- Integrated Dance Dialogues and 'Khelen Khilkhilayein' - a toy making competition to experience the concept of learning by doing and joyful learning. Participants from several schools participated with enthusiastic spirit. They were judged by a jury comprising experts from the fields of art

and education.

The jury included Vipul Nayak, Guest Faculty, Ranchi University, Deepak Kumar from Pazeb, Ranchi, Dr. Mukesh Kumar Singh, Professor, Assistant Commerce and Business Management, Sarala Birla University Ranchi, and Dr. Atul Kumar Karn, Assistant Professor, Sarala Birla University Ranchi.

The day ended with the vote of thanks and prize distribution ceremony. For the event Torque, DAV Public School, Hehal secured the first position followed by Surendranath Centenary School securing the first runner up position and Firayalal Public School, the second runner up position. For the event 'Khelen Khilkhilayein', Vivekananda Vidyamandir was declared as the winning team. Firayalal Public School secured the first runner up position and DAV Public

second runner up position.

who is also the President of RSSC, expressed her gratitude to all the schools for their active participation without which this series of events would not have been possible. She also added that in this month of August, we celebrate many festivals like Janmashtami, Bandhan, Friendship and Independence Day. Taking forward this immersive zeal of the august moments, the competitions organised by Ranchi Sahodaya School Complex have reached the successful culmination today. She reinforced that with the implementation of NEP 2020, art-integration will be pivotal and inclusion will be integral. It is also based on Gandhiji's sises on skill education and learning by doing which are

the need of the hour.

School, Bariatu secured the

Principal, Paramjit Kaur, Raksha 'Nayi Taleem' which empha-

lems." Further emphasizing the need for economic stability and security, Panwar instructed municipal officials gear, housing, and access to

Chakulia

RANCHI | SUNDAY | SEPTEMBER 1, 2024



# **BOSS KAUN THA?** DR CHANDAN MITRA

### By SIDHARTH MISHRA

It has been three years since Chandan Mitra is gone. I left the *Pioneer* in 2012 summer but my phone still has his number saved as Editor. I last met him on January 19, 2019. I presented him a copy of my book Delhi Political 1947-2013 and clicked a picture together. Since we both had French beards and sported similar glass frames, some commented that I was indeed a true disciple, since I did not simply follow him in his writings but also the style of his beard. Covid followed, poor health got the

better of Chandan's physical charm and our interactions got limited to exchange of messages on the phone. My last message to him was on 24 July 2021

on Guru Purnima. Somewhere I had this gut feeling that he may not be there to receive the customary message on Teachers' Day, September the 5th. It turned out to be true.

In 1992, I was working as a district correspondent in the Patna edition of the Hindustan Times. I remember reading a front-page review of Mani Ratnam's film Roja sitting in the dingy district bureau office. It was sometime then that somewhere inside me the thought arose, if I were to make a career in journalism. Chandan Mitra was the writer to follow.

Soon after, I came to Delhi and found a job at the newsdesk in The Pioneer. The newspaper then had a good number of feature and theme pages. The newspaper's then Editor, Ashok Bhattacharya, gave me somewhat of a license to write on these pages if it would not compromise with my desk work. I grabbed the opportunity with both hands.

In 1996, Chandan came as the Editor to Link House, the office of The Pioneer. In the first meeting with the newsdesk, then officiating editor Ajoy Bose introduced me saying that I was some kind of a specimen, who despite working till late in the night on the desk could still find time to write. Chandan responded, "I am surprised as I always thought of you to be in someone in the writing departments.

Soon he made me jump the fence, and I was part of the City reporting team. In less than two years' time I was heading the City unit. When I took over, my friends told me that the job was jinxed as, since the launch of the paper in Delhi, nobody completed a year as the Chief Reporter.

When I completed a year, I wrote a thanksgiving note to the Editor, and Chandan in a hand written reply said I survived not because of his benevolence but because of my work. He said I would have many more years in the office. I worked in The Pioneer for 18 years on a trot and of which 16 years were with Chandan. We were ideologically not much aligned. Given my military school background was never much amused by the life of glamour which he enjoyed but still we managed to work together. With time I came to look after the newspaper's editions in Debradun, Chandigarh and Banchi in addition to the Delhi City unit charge Those were tumultuous years. The Thapars gave up on the newspaper and Chandan brought it back from the brink of closure. In those years many left for better opportunities; sometimes I ask myself what held me back. The charm of attending the evening news meetings with Chandan in the chair, things never got boring. They used to be great gatherings with Swapan Dasgupta and Kanchan Gupta, all mahapandits of right wing ideology, with poor me fighting to justify my sympathies for the then Sheila Dikshit Government. Chandan would face a lot of heat from Delhi BJP leaders like Madanlal Khurana for having me as the head of the paper's City unit.

The majority of the years that Chandan held the reigns of The Pioneer. the paper vas in an Not that under the Atal Bihari Vajpayee Government, Chandan mortgaged his right to criticise. There was this instance of a border skirmish with Bangladesh in which a BSF officer was killed. His corpse was returned in a most undignified manner. The images made one baulk and at the same time anory even as the Government talked of peace. The front page editorial in the paper said, Bend, don't genuflect. Now this was a startling criticism coming from a newspaper known for its ideological proximity to the Government of the day. This must have required a lot of courage on the part of Chandan, and a real large heart on the part of the Government to take the criticism in the right spirit During those 16 years, Chandan gave me the freedom to make my team. The team had to be made every sixbmonths as someone who had just started to shine would be poached by bigger media houses. Today these 'freshers' are the strength and backbone of many a media house across the country.

# PM Modi assures women of swift action against male predators

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE NEW DELHI

n the backdrop of the rape and murder of a Kolkata Ldoctor and sexual assault on two kindergarten girls in Maharashtra's Thane region, Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Saturday reiterated the need and urgency to ensure safety of women, particularly at the workplace and called for quick disposal of cases of crimes against women. He said, "The faster justice is done in such cases, the greater will be the assurance of safety for half the population."

Speaking at the National of Conference District Judiciary in Delhi, the Prime Minister emphasised that atrocities against women and the safety of children were a serious concern in society today. On this occasion, the Prime Minister also unveiled the stamp and coin commemorating 75 years of the establishment of the Supreme Court of India. The two-day conference was organised by the Supreme Court of India to discuss the issues related to the district judiciary such as infrastructure and human resources, inclusive courtrooms for all, judicial security and judicial wellness,

Modi pointed out that many strict laws were enacted to ensure the safety of women in the country. He added that in 2019, the Government had planned to establish fast-track special courts. Explaining further, he said that there was a provision for a deposition center for important witnesses under the fast-track special courts. He further emphasised the important role of district monitoring committees under fast-track special courts, consisting of the district judge, district magistrate and superintendent of police. "Judiciary is considered as the

of District Judiciary, in New Delhi, on Saturday

Guardian of our Democracy", said the Prime Minister. Referring to the role of judiciary in protecting the Constitution and the spirit of law, the Prime Minister said the judiciary is considered the guardian of the Constitution, and that the Supreme Court and the judiciary have measured up to this responsibility. He added that the committee's role was important in promoting coordination between various aspects of the criminal justice system. Modi stressed on the need to make these committees more active. He

Prime Minister Narendra Modi with Chief Justice of India DY Chandrachud during the inauguration of the National Conference

added that the quicker the decisions in cases related to atrocities against women, the greater will be the assurance of safety for half the

population. The Kolkata incident has also become a flashpoint between the TMC Government in West Bengal and the BJP-led NDA Government at the Centre. On Friday, West Bengal Chief Minister Bengal Mamata Banerjee wrote to Modi, reiterating her request for stringent Central legislation and exemplary punishment for heinous crimes like rape and murder.



### Anguished women of Kerala cry for help

### KUMAR CHELLAPPAN KOCHI

Radhika Sarathkumar, a highly respected movie artist in South India, dropped a bombshell on Saturday by accusing some of the leading stars of the Malayalam film industry of making nude visuals of female artists with hidden cameras and blackmailing them later.

Speaking to the media, Radhika, who is married to Tamil superstar Sarath Kumar and is daughter of the iconic Tamil actor M R Radha, said that she has seen the these film stars videographing nude visuals with hidden cameras in the caravans hired for exclusive use by the female artists.

"It is done while the artists change their costumes or use the washrooms. I saw this with my own eyes and ever since stopped using the caravans. Though I alerted the director and other crew members, nothing happened. Malayalam film industry is not safe for female artists," said Radhika.

The revelations by the actress come in the wake of the #Me Too movement getting intensified after the release of the Justice K Hema Committee report about the murky happenings in Malayalam film industry. The committee was appointed by the CPI (M)-led Government in 2017 following reports of sexual harassment suffered by female film artists.

It may be recalled that a leading actress of Malayalam films was kidnapped by gangsters led by Pulsor Suni and raped as per the directive of reigning superstar Dileep.

Ramban districts.

### Haryana polls rescheduled

### RAJESH KUMAR NEW DELHI

case management and judicial

training.

eeping in mind a centuries-old this important cultural and religious K festival of the Bishnoi community, event without forgoing their voting rights. The poll body cited representations from national and the Election Commission of India (ECI) on Saturday deferred the polling date for Haryana Assembly elections to October 5. Earlier, voting was India Bishnoi Mahasabha in this scheduled to be held on October 1. regard. BJP leaders hailed the poll body's There has been no change in the polling date for the third phase of the Kashmir el and tions slated

### Jammu votes on September 18 in first phase MOHIT KANDHARI 🖬 JAMMU

With the completion of the scrutiny of the nomination papers for the first phase of the polling on September 18, the electioneering in Jammu and Kashmir has

intensified. Different political parties have stepped up efforts to reach out to the voters to Doda,

win their support. Out of 24 Assembly seats going to the polls in the first phase, 16 fall in the Kashmir valley and

eight in the erstwhile Doda district of Jammu province. According the to Election Commission of India, 64 candidates are left won by the Congress party in the fray for eight seats in candidates in the region.

and

Kishtwar

22 in Kishtwar and 15 in Ramban district. In 2014, the BJP had won four Assembly segments of Kishtwar, Doda, Bhaderwah and Ramban while two Assembly segments of Inderwal and Banihal were

include 27 in Doda district,

They

Whenever one gets to meet them, they show gratitude for giving them the break but I could do so because Chandan allowed it. That was Chandan!

Sidharth Mishra is author & president Centre for Reforms, Development and Justice

for October 1. The election results for both Jammu & Kashmir and Haryana will be now declared on October 8 instead of October

The change in the schedule was prompted by the ECI's decision to honour the centuries-old tradition of the Bishnois. The Bishnois, a prominent community in the region, observes the Asoj Amavasya festival, which holds religious importance as it commemorates Guru The Jambheshwar. ECI

Aadm Party have slammed the move.

decision while the Opposition

recognised the need to ensure that the

community could fully participate in

State political parties, as well as the All

Congress and Aan

BJP MP Biplab Kumar Deb who is also the incharge of Haryana BJP said, ...It is the duty of the Election Commission. At that time the main festival of the Bishnoi community takes place, so the Election Commission wants maximum voting in the elections and we welcome it... We have worked honestly in the State and the people will decide who will win..."

# **Remembrance of things past**

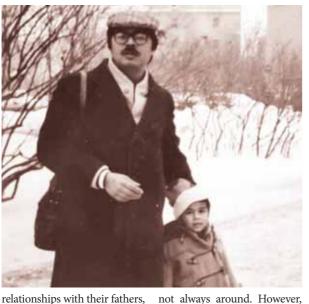
Chandan Mitra, pursuing his doctorate at Oxford, with son Kushan

### By KUSHAN MITRA

Three years ago, on the night I of the first of September, 2021, my father, Chandan Mitra, breathed his last. The last few months of his life had been hard for him, and also hard for those around him. Watching the cognitive decline of possibly one of the most intelligent human beings you have ever known is extremely tough and when that person happens to be your own father, it is so so much worse. I write a lot, but I haven't ever written about Baba's passing or my relationship with him. Three years on, I think it is time.

As I rode with his body in an ambulance to the cremation grounds, those 45 minutes gave me a lot of time to contemplate. Well, 45 minutes is nothing when you're trying to think over a 40-year relationship but there was some solitude inside the vehicle. I recall my fathers childhood friend from La Martinere, Paranjoy Guha Thakurta being in the van with me, but I think that we were both lost in thought. I will be honest, ours was not a

simple relationship. Most sons, particularly in India have deeply complicated



my younger brother and I did but I would like to think mine spend time with him and also was more complex than most. As many know, my parents stayed nights at his place in were divorced and had Vasant Vihar. I would also like separated when I was around to thank his landlady, the 13 years old. While that is not journalist Shiveshwarkar, who herself something easy for a young passed away earlier this year, teenager to process, as a 45for helping him and keeping year old man today, I understand how relationships him on the straight and narrow. That said, through my can wither away and die. But as a result of that, Baba was later teens and early twenties,

we were barely on talking terms, Baba's place was a place I only dropped into to party. Could it have been better or different? I don't know, but I do know that by this time, he had found companionship with the first of his many Labradors, Loin.

As I begun my career as a writer and journalist, Baba was always there to provide advice, and as he went beyond dipping his toes into politics, and started his time as a Member of Parliament, visits to his bungalows at Humayun Road and then Ferozeshah Road were common. He was someone I could always turn to for career advice and also talk about life and love. It was here I decided that I would help him in The Pioneer.

This newspaper was his soul by then, he had revived it from a moribund newspaper, to one of Delhi's most reliable and trusted newspapers, and when the rest of the Indian english media had bent over during the UPA-era, which they have all conveniently forgotten today, The Pioneer, remained steadfastly rightwing, despite the newspaper

Shymala

paying a severe commercial price for that, although my father maintained strong relationships with many on the other side of the aisle.

Many journalists across the media today got their start with The Pioneer and worked with my father and many of those keep on reaching out to me, from India and abroad to have a proper memorial service for 'Boss' because he passed away while Covid restrictions were on. This December would have been his 70th Birthday, and God willing, if things go right, I, along with many of those who loved him, hope to celebrate his life.

A lot of what has happened in the past few years is water under the bridge, and I hope a decision or resolution that honours the memory of my father is found soon. Unfortunately his trusting nature in some people allowed them to take advantage of him. I wish he was that trusting of me and others who had the best interests of the newspaper in mind, but it is what it is. And it is a damn crying shame, and that is all I will say other than to hope that the stag can jump high again in the near future in

memory of the man who kept

it going.





### **GUEST OF HONOUR**

Mr Rohit Kapoor Chief Executive Officer-Food Marketplace, Swiggy







Prof. Manoj K Arora Vice Chancellor SRM University-AP

Neerukonda, Mangalagiri Mandal, Guntur District, AP - 522240					
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# **Jharkhand** 04

# Former JMM MLA Lobin Hembrom joins BJP Hembrom flays JMM for working against its founding principles

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### **PNS : RANCHI**

MYK

day after former Chief Minister Champai Soren joined BJP, JMM's strongman Leader, Lobin Hembram, who was an MLA for five times, also joined the BJP state office today.

RANCHI | SUNDAY | SEPTEMBER 1, 2024

State BJP president and former Chief Minister Babulal Marandi, Chief Minister of Assam Government and co incharge of Jharkhand Assembly Elections Himanta Biswa Sarma, Leader of Opposition Amar Kumar Bauri gave him membership of BJP.

Former Chief Minister Champai Soren, Madhu Koda. Sita Soren were also present on the occasion. The program was conducted by

State General Secretary Manoi Kumar Singh.

Addressing the program, State President and former Chief Minister Babulal Marandi said that the air of Jharkhand is changing. The winds of change are flowing. Today, those who irrigate the movement by sweating blood for a separate state are getting humiliated, and brokers are getting rich in the happi-

sunday pioneer

ness of power. He said that those who are pain of Jharkhand, who love soil, want to save culture and leave JMM and come to BJP. He said that the same trust and trust increased in people like Champai Soren, Lobin

Hembrom. He said that the BJP gave a separate state. After two and a half years, the revered



Ex JMM MLA Lobin Hembrom joins Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) in presence of State BJP President Babulal Marandi and Assam Chief Minister Himanta Biswa Sarma at the party office in Ranchi on Saturday. Pix by Vinay Murmu

Atal Bihari Vajpayee realized the dream of a separate Jharkhand state in his government. He said that the BJP's intention is strong. The

party does what she says. Lobin Hembrom also recognized this He said that the BJP is determined, dedicated for the

development of tribal society. Atal ji formed a separate tribal ministry at the center. Santhali language was included in the 8th schedule

of the Constitution. Not only the state was formed on the birth anniversary of Lord Birsa Munda, but the Modi government also declared

के के कि ज अस्त ज

े हम सेन प्रास्त संस्क

Birsa Javanti as Tribe Gaurav Day. Today, the first citizen of the country is Draupadi Murmu, daughter of the Santhal tribal society.

Marandi also gave the signed membership form to Lobin Hembrom.

Addressing the program after the membership, Lobin Hembram said that agitators are being forced to leave the JMM today. Now JMM is no longer the JMM of Guruji. Now the arrow is not in the bow.

He said that we were all followers of revered Shibu Soren. He always taught the workers to oppose the wrongdoings. Today we all follow the path given by them and when someone is opposing the decisions against Jharkhand from the House to

the road. We were forced to be humiliated. In such a situation, there is no justification for living in that party.

He said that water, forest, land is being looted in the state. Decisions are being made against the feelings of natives. tribal Gurui opposed alcohol and Hemant Sarkar was selling liquor.

He said that the identity of Jharkhand is in danger today. The state's demography has changed from Bangladeshi intruders. The intruders stayed the land by marrying tribal daughters forcing them to leave the vil-

He said that the BJP is fighting to save Jharkhand. The BJP gave it a separate state. If given, he will save and will also develop.

### Leaders from various political parties join Congress decided to join Congress have Constitution was being con-

### **PNS : RANCHI**

In a joining organized at Jharkhand Pradesh Congress Committee (JPCC) headquarter on Saturday, BJP Leader Lal Suraj Singh from Palamu, Chetna Sagar from Ranchi, Dr. P. Nayyar, Advocate Khurshid Ålam, Meera Hameed Mahuadar, Shashi Panna from Latehar, along with hundreds of people, took membership of Congress.

presence of State Congress President Keshav Mahato Kamlesh and Legislative Party Leader Dr. Rameshwar Oraon

On this occasion, Kamlesh made the people take membership by garlanding them and tying a bandage on their wrist. After this, while welcoming the newcomers, he

**5**-day training cum

These people took mem-bership of Congress in the

said that Congress has its own policies, principles and a

glorious history. The party State President said that what has been the contribution of the people of

BJP leader Lal Suraj Singh from Palamu and his supporters join Congress party in presence of JPCC President Kesav Mahto Kamlesh and Legislative leader Rameshwar Oraon in Ranchi on Saturday. PNS

Congress from independence to the construction of the country, what sacrifice and sacrifice has been made, is not hidden from anyone.

joined not out of any selfishness but because they are influenced by the Congress ideology. Its positive results will be seen in the upcoming assembly elections in various areas. Congress believes in following traditions and today the youth is leaning towards Congress. Certainly, in the coming times in Jharkhand, the youth will participate in a historic election result," he said. On the occasion, the leg-

islative party leader Dr. Rameshwar Oraon said that the history of Congress is for the development of the people and to protect their rights. Congress has given rights the tribals. to "Arrangements have been made for their development within the ambit of constitutional provisions. When the ceived in this country, the provision of reservation for the educational and economic development of tribals and Dalits was felt and arrangements were made for it. Congress talks about development and uniting, BJP talks about dividing. In the upcoming elections, due to these policies of BJP, the people will completely reject them," he said. Prominently present in the program were former **Congress President Pradeep** 

Kumar Balmuchu, former Union Minister Subodhkant Sahay, former MP Dhiraj Prasad Sahu, MLA Bhushan Bada, Satish Paul Munjani, Rajiv Ranjan Prasad, Amulya Neeraj Khalko, Geeta Shri Oraon, Sonal Shanti Rishikesh Singh, Rakesh Kiran Mahato and others

> State BJP president and for-mer Chief Minister Babulal Marandi today targeted the Hemant government. Marandi said that the notification of product constable recruitment came out on August 8, the admit card was given on August 14 and the race was started from 22 August for physical efficiency testing. In such a situation. what will the candidates prepare for the race in just 15 days?

**PNS : RANCHI** 

10 unemployed The vouths of the state died in ate due to the Hemant gov



MoS Sanjay Seth, Rajya Sabha MPs Deepak Prakash, Aditiya Sahu,

Pradeep Verma, Mahua Maji and MLAs CP Singh, Navin Jaiswal and

**BJP flays State Government on** 

Samri Lal during a meeting in Ranchi on Saturday. PNS

ing the job but to distribute death. He asked to tell the public who is responsible for the death of these 10 unemployed youths?

The state government should conduct judicial inquiry into the death of 10 unemployed youths and provide proper compensation

Amar Kumar Bauri, while reacting to the recruitment of the excise department, said that it is the Tughlagi decree of the state government that the first one could not fulfill the job promise in 5 years and when the youth's anger was shown on the streets and the pressure of the opposition If increased, in a hurry, the process of recruitment of the

product soldier started. He said that the humidity has become seriously ill in completing the 10 km race in 1 hour in the heat, while the

children have lost their lives. The vouth of the state are forced to put their lives a



Secretary PN Singh and WCA representatives were present in the press conference. On the occasion Sinha informed that the

ompetition will be inaugurated on September

"Today, the people who have **3rd edition of JSCA Women's** T20 League to begin on Sept 5

Secretary Devashish Chakraborty, Joint



### CEO K Ravi Kumar holds a meeting with ROs of all Assembly constituencies in **Ranchi on Saturday. PNS**

### **PNS : RANCHI**

Under the pre -determined schedule under the aegis of the Chief Electoral Officer's office, the five -day training cum certification program of the first phase of ROs of all assembly constituencies and more than 140 AROs was organized from 27 August to 31 August. For this, training programs were organized in various batches for the auditorium of the Chief Electoral Officer Office and the office bearers at JCERT Ratu.

During the five -day training session, the main instructors of Jharkhand, including Election Commission, Odisha, Haryana, Bihar, Madhya Pradesh, Chhattisgarh, gave order -wise training to the office bearers in various sessions. At the same time, Chief Electoral Officer K Ravi Kumar addressed the joint session of all the trainees. In his address, he highlighted some of the unexpected election related common mistakes and their measures for their resolving.

During the training session during the training ses-

sion, RO and ARO of all assembly constituencies to election related subjects such as eligibility and disqualification of candidates, election symbols, nomination related instructions, criminal precedent, e -roll, vulnerableness mapping, EVM and VVPAT training, ideal code of conduct, expenditure Point -wise training was given on topics like management, sweep, polling party system, postal ballot, paid news, MCMC, counting etc.

In the training program, e senior Principal the senior Secretary of the Election Commission of India, NN Butolia, Secretary Vinod Kumar. Under Secretary Rakesh Kumar Saini, NLMŤ Pankaj Setia of Haryana, NLMT KR Singh, Sunil Kumar Sharma, Pranab Singh, Odisha, Odisha NLMT Devi Prasad Mohanty, NLMT PN Sensor of Madhya Pradesh, NLMT Yashloka Ranjan of Bihar, while NLMT Rajesh Verma of Jharkhand, Geeta Choubey, Dev Das Dutta, SN Jamil, Sunil Kumar Provided training to officials on related subjects.

5 at JSCA. In which MLA Kalpana Soren will be present as the chief guest. "The competition will be played in collaboration with WCA as per the guidelines of BCCI. The competition is being organized on a large scale. Players will also be given cash awards and gifts," he added.

Joint Secretary PM Singh said that five teams have been kept in the competition. These include Ranchi Royals, Jamshedpur Titans, Dhanbad Dragons, Dumka Dynamos, Bokaro Warriors. Each team consists of 16 players. All teams have been formed by mixing senior, under 23 and under 19 players.

The tournament ma during which a total of 13 matches will be played. The tournament matches will be played at the JSCA International Stadium from 6 to 15 September.

Secretary Debashish Chakraborty said that two matches will be played every day. The first match will be played from 9 am. Spectators will get free entry to the match. Spectators will be able to enter only from the South Pavilion. The aim of the JSCA tournament is to promote women's cricket in Jharkhand. The aim is to provide a platform for women cricketers to perform excellently and inspire future generations.

ernment organized the race in the humid heat in the emergency. Hemant Sarkar has neither provided drinking water arrangements at the recruitment centers, nor toilets nor any arrangements for women to breastfeed young children... Unemployed youth will die of such maladies!

He asked it seems that Hemant Soren has confirmed the arrangement for not giv-

and government jobs to the dependents of the deceased vouths

the recruitment process of

the excise department has

been going on for the last few

days. In which students have

to complete a 10 km race in 1

hour. Many children are get-

ting seriously ill in this race,

while the children have also

died.

stake to get a government job, while the state government is dead. Leader of Opposition Amar Kumar Bauri said that

The Leader of Opposition demanded from the state government that all the students who died in this race should provide immediate compensation to their families and set up a medical team and complete the process of correct standards in this era, and get the race

Leader of Opposition only after them.

### Canara Bank organised coin and note exchange fair



Bank Canara Currency Chest Ranchi branch manager Deepak Kumar organised a coin and note exchange fair. The coin and note

exchange fair was organised near Canara Bank Birsa Chowk branch. A large number of customers took advantage of this fair. On the occasion, Deepak Kumar said that the exchange fair organised by Canara Bank has been organised keeping in view the needs of the customers. In this fair, coins of five, ten and twenty rupees were given to the customers. Hundreds of customers took advantage of this. The bank will organise exchange fairs in the future as well. Reserve Bank of India manager Shashank Soviyo Tirkey, assistant manager Prashant Gupta, Canara Bank regional office division manager Bhaskar Rai, Canara Bank Birsa Chowk branch manager Abhishek Prakash and others were present on the occasion.

### Forest workers hand over demand letter to MP

The Forest Department Non -Gazetted Employees Association submitted a list of the long -term demands of the clerks of the forest department to Rajya Sabha



MP Dr. Mahua Maji. In the letter the formation of the service manual for the department's clerks, regular promotion of clerks appointed since 10.07.2004 and 10.07. Since 2004, the demand for the forest departmental clerks appointed on the lines of equal pay for equal work is the main demand for grade pay 2400 etc were mentioned. Dr. Mahua Maji assured that efforts would be made to put the justified demands of clerks before the government. On this occasion, Balaram Oraon of the Forest Department Non -Gazetted Association, Balaram Oraon, Treasurer William Horo, Udit Lakra, Awadhesh Kumar Das were present.

### **Ram Temple Replica - A double** delight for devotees this Durga Puja PNS : RANCHI which will make the colour which will make the colour-

For ardent Ram Lalla devotees in Ranchi, a Ram Mandir will be unveiled in the City this Durga Puja.

Revellers, along with paying obeisance to Maa Bhavani who will be seated in the sanctum sanctorum of the pandal, will also be able to pay their respect to Lord Ram. A 26- feet high 4D model of Lord Bajrangbali made of fiber placed in the center of the ground will also be an added attraction.

The idol of Goddess Durga will be about 32 feet wide and 19 feet high while that of Lord Shri Ram which will be made of silicon will be about 8 feet high. The pandal is being constructed at a whop-



ping cost of Rs 98 lakh. to the City

The model of the puja pandal is being constructed in the old Vidha Sabha the seekers, fair and food stalls will also be set up in the ground by Shri Ram Lalla ground premises. Puja Committee, Ranchi. President

Chaudhary said that the length of the pandal will be 170 feet and the width will

ful decoration inside the pandal look even more beautiful. The idol of Ram Lalla which the devotees will see here will be directly or indirectly similar to the idol of Lord Shri Ram installed in Ayodhya.' General Secretary of the

committee Kunal Ajmani said that this time the Puja pandal will be the biggest pandal made in the whole of Jharkhand till date and will also be a center of attraction for the devotees. More and more people will be able to come to the pandal and see the model of Shri Ram temple of Shri Ram Janmabhoomi of Shri Ayodhya Dham continuously from Pratipada throughout Navratri.

### City kid secures 3rd spot in Handwriting Competition across country

### **DIVYA MODI : RANCHI**

Ranchi kid 8- year old Nehaal Hassan has secured an all India third position in the handwriting competition organised by Writing Wizard and conducted by Extraschool

A student of standard III of St. Xavier's School, Ranchi, Nehaal secured a place at the national level by winning the top spot at

the State level for the sesstudents from across the country will be felicitated on September 16 in Goa.

entire homework due to bad handwriting and I This is how I started to make an effort in writing

sion 2023-24. The top five "In class prep and class

I, my mother used erase my would have to redo it again. neatly and also developed an interest in cursive writ-

ing," said the budding calligraphist. The competition was conducted in two phases- qualifying and finals where the participants had to copy the style and font given. The participants were competing against students from the same class across the country. The State level results were declared in June 2024 where Nehaal clinched the top spot in Jharkhand in

the category of class II students. "I like to collect to various kinds of pens and pencils and spend my free time by learning how to write in different fonts and styles. I also like to cricket, guitar and enjoy drawing as well. I am very fascinated with airplanes and want to become a pilot," added Hassan. A resident of Main Road, his parents Shadab Hassan and Neha Kaur are

More than 200 artisans are

engaged in shaping the struc-

ture for which work has been

ongoing in Kolkata for about

two months. The fabrication

of the pillars, peak and other

designs which has been done

in Bengal has been brought

both professors in reputed colleges in Ranchi. He also has a younger brother Ruhaan. "I am very happy with his achievements. Nehaal from such a young age is very sensitive and empathetic as a person. Whatever comes his way, he participates in it very sportingly and even takes failure or rejection in his stride, said the proud mother Neha Kaur.





be 120 feet while the pandal will rise 100 feet high. "Unprecedented lighting is also being ordered from other places in the country,

As an added attraction for Ashok

# **Brazil bans X after disinformation row**

#### AP SAO PAULO

Brazil started blocking Elon Musk's social media platform X early Saturday, making it large-ly inaccessible on both the web and through its mobile app after the company refused to comply with a judge's order.

X missed a deadline imposed by Supreme Court Justice Alexandre de Moraes to name a legal representative in Brazil, triggering the suspension. It marks an escalation in the monthslong feud between Musk and de Moraes over free speech, far-right accounts and misinformation. To block X, Brazil's telecommunica-

tions regulator, Anatel, told internet service providers to suspend users' access to the social media platform. As of Saturday after midnight local time, major operators had begun doing so. De Moraes had warned Musk on Wednesday night that X could be blocked in Brazil if he failed to comply with his order to name a representative, and established a 24-hour deadline. The company hasn't had a representative in the country since earlier this month.

"Elon Musk showed his total disrespect for Brazilian sovereignty and, in particular, for the judiciary, setting himself up as a true supranational entity and immune to the laws of each

country," de Moraes wrote in his decision on Friday

The justice said the platform will stay suspended until it complies with his orders, and also set a daily fine of 50,000 reais (\$8,900) for people or companies using VPNs to access it. In a later ruling, he backtracked on his initial decision to establish a 5-day deadline for internet service providers themselves — and not just the telecommunications regulator — to block access to X, as well as his directive for app stores to remove virtual private networks, or VPNs. Brazil is one of the biggest markets for

X, which has struggled with the loss of advertisers since Musk purchased the former Twitter in 2022. Market research group Emarketer says some 40 million Brazilians, roughly onefifth of the population, access X at least once per month. "This is a sad day for X users around the world, especially those in Brazil, who are being denied access to our platform. I wish it did not have to come to this - it breaks my heart," X's CEO Linda Yaccarino said Friday night, adding that Brazil is failing to uphold its constitution's pledge to forbid censorship.

X had posted on its official Global Government Affairs page late Thursday that it expected X to be shut down by de Moraes, "simply because we would not comply with his illegal





orders to censor his political oppo-

nents? "When we attempted to defend ourselves in court, Judge de Moraes threatened our Brazilian legal representative with imprisonment. Even after she resigned, he froze all of her bank accounts," the company wrote. X has clashed with de Moraes over its reluctance to comply with orders to block users Accounts that the platform previous-

ly has shut down on Brazilian orders include lawmakers affiliated with former President Jair Bolsonaro's rightwing party and activists accused of undermining Brazilian democracy. X's lawyers in April sent a document to the Supreme Court in April, saying that since 2019 it had suspended or blocked 226 users.

In his decision Friday, de Moraes' cited Musk's statements as evidence that X's

conduct "clearly intends to continue to encourage posts with extremism, hate speech and anti-democratic discourse, and to try to withdraw them from jurisdictional control?

In April, de Moraes included Musk as a target in an ongoing investigation over the dissemination of fake news and opened a separate investigation into the executive for alleged obstruction. Musk, a self-proclaimed "free speech absolutist," has repeatedly claimed the justice's actions amount to censorship, and his argument has been echoed by Brazil's political right. He has often insulted de Moraes on his platform, characterizing him as a

dictator and tyrant. De Moraes' defenders have said his actions aimed at X have been lawful, supported by most of the court's full bench and have served to protect democracy at a time it is imperiled. He wrote Friday that his ruling is based on Brazilian law requiring internet

services companies to have representation in the country so they can be notified when there are relevant court decisions and take requisite action specifying the takedown of illicit content posted by users, and an anticipated churn of misinformation dur-

ing October municipal elections. The looming shutdown is not unprecedented in Brazil.

Lone Brazilian judges shut down

Meta's WhatsApp, the nation's most widely used messaging app, several times in 2015 and 2016 due to the company's refusal to comply with police requests for user data. In 2022, de Moraes threatened the messaging app Telegram with a nationwide shutapp Telegram with a nationwide shut-down, arguing it had repeatedly ignored Brazilian authorities' requests to block profiles and provide informa-tion. He ordered Telegram to appoint a local representative; the company ultimately complied and stayed online. X and its former incarnation, Twitter, have been banned in several countries mostly authoritarian regimes such as Russia, China, Iran, Myanmar, North Korea, Venezuela and Turkmenistan. Other countries, such as Pakistan. Other countries, such as Pakistan, Turkey and Egypt, have also temporarily suspended X before, usually to quell dissent and unrest. Twitter was banned in Egypt after the Arab Spring uprisings, which some dubbed the "Twitter revolution," but it has since been rectored

it has since been restored. A search Friday on X showed hundreds of Brazilian users inquiring about VPNs that could potentially enable them to continue using the platform by making it appear they were logging on from outside the country. It was not immediately clear how Brazilian authorities would police this practice and impose fines cited by de Moraes.

### Indian embassy in Laos rescues 47 Indians from cyberscam centres

#### PTI VIENTIANE

At least 47 Indians trapped in cyber scam centres in Laos have been rescued from the Bokeo province of the country, the Indian embassy in the Southeast Asian country said on Saturday

Indian authorities have been cautioning its nationals against fake job offers in Laos and urged them to conduct thor-ough due diligence to avoid being deceived. The Indian mission has so far rescued 635 Indians from the country and ensured their safe return to India. In the latest case, the embassy rescued 47 Indians trapped in cyber scam centres at the Golden Triangle Special Economic Zone (SEZ) in Bokeo province, a statement

from the Indian Embassy in Laos said. "Of these, 29 were handed over to the Embassy by Laos authorities after their crackdown on illegal activities in Golden Triangle SEZ, while other 18 had approached the Embassy in distress, seeking

help," the statement, which was posted on X, said. It said the embassy officials travelled from the capital Vientiana to Bokea to Jiaica Vientiane to Bokeo to liaise with local authorities for their rescue.

The statement added that

### **5 killed by Russian strike** in Donetsk region

home

elements.

### AP MOSCOW

AP/PT

Five people were killed by Russian shelling in the town of Chasiv Yar on Saturday as Moscow's troops continue their push on Ukraine's eastern Donetsk region.

The attack struck a high-rise building and a private home, said regional governor Vadym Filaskhin, who said the victims were men aged between 24 and 38. He urged the last remaining residents to leave the frontline town, which had a pre-war

population of 12,000. Normal life has been impossible in Chasiv Yar for more than two years," Filaskhin wrote on social media. "Do not become a Russian target evacuate

Meanwhile, Russia's Ministry of Defence said that it had tured the town of Pivnichne, also in Ukraine's Donetsk region. The Associated Press could not independently verify the claim. Russian forces have been driving deeper into the partly occupied eastern region, the total capture of which is one of the Kremlin's primary ambitions. Russia's army is closing in on Pokrovsk, a critical logistics hub for the Ukrainian defence in the area.

At the same time, Ukraine has sent its forces into Russia's Kursk region in recent weeks in the largest incursion onto Russian soil since World War II. The move is partly an effort to force Russia to draw troops away from the Donetsk front. Elsewhere, the number of injured following a Russian attack on the Ukrainian city of Kharkiv on Friday continued to

rise. Six people were killed, includ-ing a 14-year-old girl, when glide bombs struck five locations across the city, said regional Gov. Oleh Syniehubov. Writing on social media Saturday, he said that the num-ber of injured had risen from 47 to 96.

Syniehubov also confirmed that the 12-story apartment block that was hit strike, setting the building ablaze and trapping at least one person on an upper floor, would be partly demolished. The number of injured also continued to rise in the Russian border region of Belgorod where five people were killed Friday by Ukrainian shelling, said Gov. Vyacheslav Gladkov. He said Sunday that 46 people had been injured, of whom 37 were in the hospital, including seven children.

# **Trump continues personal** attacks against Harris

vative nonprofit.

### PTI WASHINGTON

Republican presidential nominee Donald Trump has launched a fresh personal attack on his Democratic rival Kamala Harris, calling her "defective".

His latest attacks come after Harris sat for her first major interview with CNN as her party's presidential nominee on Thursday

Fifty-nine-year-old Harris, who is of Indian and African descent, is the Democratic Party candidate in the November 5 presidential election in which she will contest

against Trump, 78. "I think she would've been better off if she just did interviews, even if they weren't al attacks on Vice President Harris as her political star has great it would have been bet-ter ... because now everyone's

campaign

watching and now we see, she's defective," Trump said on risen since she rose to the top of the Democratic ticket in Friday at the annual gathering recent weeks.

Earlier, Trump disparaged of Moms for Liberty, a conser-Harris' physical appearance and insisted that he was "She's a defective person." "And we don't need another "much better looking than defective person as president of the United States," Trump her"

Trump earlier this month said he was "entitled" to per-sonally attack Harris because said, likely referring to President Joe Biden who dropped out of the race last month and endorsed Harris. he doesn't "have a lot of respect for her". He also said Biden was "sharp as a tack," during the presi-dential debate in June and complained that it was He has also questioned her racial identity. Harris in the interview with

CNN on Thursday brushed "unfair" he had to spend mil-lions going after the wrong person during the Republican National Convention in off Trump's remarks questioning her race. "Same old, tired playbook. Next question, please," Harris

Milwaukee (RNC) last month. responded. Trump has unleashed person-During an election campaign

in Pennsylvania earlier Friday, Trump briefly commented on

I don't think so," he said. "Did you see her on television While the outlet aired the interview in its entirety, Trump and his allies criticised

view instead of airing it live as a way to cover up potential Harris slipups.

7 US troops hurt in raid with Iraqi forces targeting Islamic State group militants

### Iragi civilians, as well as US cit- ed in the raid, while two oth- targeting then

MOMS for ★LIBERTY★



#### the interview.

last night? This is gonna be the president of our country?

CNN for pre-taping the inter-

## world 05

Prashant Agrawal, the Ambassador of India to Laos,

met the group upon their arrival to discuss the chal-

lenges they faced and to advise

The embassy has undertaken

and completed all procedural

requirements of Laos authori-

ties for their repatriation to

India, the statement said,

adding that 30 of those have

already safely returned to India

or are on their way, while the

remaining 17 are only awaiting

travel arrangements to be

firmed up and would be leav-

ing the country soon. Agrawal emphasised that

"ensuring safety and well-being" of Indians was a matter

of top priority for the Embassy,

the statement said. External Affairs Minister S

Jaishankar last month dis-

cussed the issue of trafficking

of Indian nationals with Laos

Prime Minister Sonexay

Siphandone during his visit to

last month rescued 13 Indians,

who were lured into certain

cyber-scamming centres in the

country and sent them back

In Saturday's statement, the

Indian Embassy urged the Laos

government to take action at

their end against unscrupulous

the Southeast Asian nation. The Indian embassy in Laos

further course of action.

# begins in Gaza

**Polio vaccine** 

### AP JERUSALEM

campaign to inoculate chil-Adren in Gaza against polio and prevent the spread of the virus began on Saturday as Palestinians in both the Hamas-governed coastal enclave and in the occupied West Bank reeled from Israel's ongoing campaigns in both regions.

Children in Gaza began receiving vaccines on Saturday, the Strip's health ministry announced in a news conference, a day before the largescale rollout and planned pause in fighting agreed to by Israel and the United Nations World Health Organisation.

Associated Press reporters saw roughly ten infants receiving doses of vaccine in the Nasser hospital in Khan Younis on Saturday afternoon.

Hours earlier, Gaza's Health Ministry said hospitals received 89 dead on Saturday, including 26 who died in an overnight Israeli bombardment, and 205 wounded — one of the highest daily tallies in months.

Meanwhile, parts of the West Bank remained on edge Saturday as Israel's military continued its largescale military campaign, the deadliest since the Israel-Hamas war began, and two car bombings by Palestinian militants near Israeli settlements left three soldiers injured.

Two car bombs exploded early Saturday in Gush Etzion, a bloc of Israeli settlements in the West Bank. Israel's military killed both Palestinian attackers after the bombs exploded in a compound in Karmei Zur and at a gas station, Israel's military said. Three Israeli soldiers sustained minor injuries. Palestinian health officials said Israel was holding the bodies of the attackers, naming the men as Muhammad Marqa and

Zoodhi Afifeh.

Hamas did not claim the men as its fighters but called the attack a "heroic operation" and a "new slap to the occupation's officials said Saturday. security system" in a state-For years after dislodging the ment early Saturday. The militants from their selfdeclared caliphate across Iraq Palestinian militant group said earlier this month after a bombing attack in Tel Aviv that and Syria, US forces have fought the Islamic State group, it would continue such attacks. though the casualties from this The bombings took place as raid were higher than in previ-Israel continued its largescale raid - which includes destruc-

ous ones The US military's Central Command alleged the militants tion of infrastructure, airstrikes and gunbattles — into urban were armed with "numerous refugee camps in the cities of Jenin and Tulkarem, in the weapons, grenades, and explosive suicide' belts" during the north of the volatile West Bank. attack Thursday, which Iraqi forces said happened in the About 20 Palestinians have been killed since Israel's incurcountry's Anbar Desert. This operation targeted ISIS sion started Tuesday, causing leaders to disrupt and degrade alarm among the international community that the war ISIS' ability to plan, organise, might widen beyond the Gaza and conduct attacks against Strip. Israel has described the operation as a strategy to prevent attacks on Israeli civilians,

which since the start of the war have increased in the West Bank, including near settlements that the international community largely considers illegal. In return, the Palestinian Health Ministry noted a surge in Palestinian deaths by Israeli forces, with 663 killed in the West Bank in the nearly 11 months since the war began. In central Gaza, Israeli airstrikes hit a multi-story building housing displaced people in and around Nuseirat, a built-up refugee camp in central Gaza, further south in Khan Younis and northward in Gaza City, officials at hospitals

in the three areas said on Saturday morning. Among the dead were a physician and his family and a child whose right leg had been previously amputated, according to an initial list of casualties from the hospital and footage released on Saturday by civil defense officials who operated under Gaza's Hamas-run government.

izens, allies, and partners The United States military and Iraq launched a joint  $\left( \begin{array}{c} T \end{array} \right)$ throughout the region and beyond," Central Command raid targeting suspected Islamic said, using an acronym for the State group militants in the militant group. "Iraqi Security country's western desert that Forces continue to further exploit the locations raided." It added: "There is no indicakilled at least 15 people and saw seven American troops hurt, tion of civilian casualties."

An Iraqi military statement said "airstrikes targeted the hideouts, followed by an airborne operation.

"Among the dead were key ISIS leaders," Iraq's military said, without identifying them. "All hideouts, weapons and logistical support were destroyed, explosive belts were safely detonated and important documents, identification papers and communication devices were seized." A US defence official, speaking

on condition of anonymity to discuss details of the operation yet to be made public, told The Associated Press that five American troops were wound-

ers suffered injuries from falls during the operation. One who suffered a fall was transported out of the region, while one of the wounded was evacuated for further treatment, the official said. "All personnel are in stable con-

dition," the official said. It wasn't immediately clear

why it took two days for the US to acknowledge it took part in the raid. Iraq did not say the US took part in the operation when initially announcing it, as politicians debate the future of having American troops in the country. There are approximately 2,500 US troops in Iraq. Since the US toppled dictator Saddam Hussein with its 2003 invasion of Iraq, the country has struggled to balance relations between America and neighbouring Iran. Since the Israel-Hamas war broke out, Iraqi militias allied to Iran have targeted US forces there, leading to American airstrikes

At its peak, the Islamic State group ruled an area half the size of the UK. It attempted to enforce its extreme interpretation of Islam, which included attacks on religious minority groups and harsh punishment of Muslims deemed to be apostates.

A coalition of more than 80 countries led by the United States was formed to fight the group, which lost its hold on the territory it controlled in Iraq in 2017 and in Syria in 2019.

However, the militants have continued to operate in the Anbar Desert in Iraq and Syria, while claiming attacks carried out by others elsewhere in the world inspired by the group. That includes the two suspects in a foiled plot to attack Taylor Swift shows in Vienna. Meanwhile, the IS branch in Afghanistan is known to carry out intense ly bloody assaults.

### Helicopter with 22 onboard missing

Moscow (AP): Rescuers are searching for a helicopter that went missing in Russia's far east on Saturday with 22 people on board. The Mi-8 helicopter took off close to the Vachkazhets volcano in the Kamchatka region, but did not arrive at its destination as scheduled, Russia's Federal Air Transport Agency said in a statement. It said it believed that 19 passengers and three crew members were on board.

The Mi-8 is a two-engine helicopter designed in the 1960s. It is widely used in Russia, where crashes have been frequent, as well as in neighbouring countries and many other nations.

## British Sikh MP defends record as landlord amid tenant complaints

PTI LONDON

Anewly elected British Sikh Labour Member of Parliament has defended his record as a landlord after UK media reports highlighted anonymous complaints from his tenants of being subjected to poor living conditions in properties owned by him.

Jas Athwal, elected to Parliament in last month's general election from Ilford South constituency in east London, said he was "shocked" and "profoundly sorry" to hear of residents' issues after the BBC reported on mould and ant infestations on Friday. Athwal, 60, is said to own 15 rental flats and says he had not been aware of the issues due to the properties being managed by an agency. He has now promised that repairs and maintenance will

be completed through immediate action. "I am a renters champion. I'm proud to rent out homes with secure tenancies at below-market rents," Athwal said in a detailed statement.

"I want every one of my tenants to have excellent accommodation; I'm shocked at the reported condition of a number of the properties and have asked the managing agent for an explanation and immediate action to rectify any issues. I know it's my responsibility to have issues addressed as soon as they arise and have met with the property management company to understand failures in communication," he said. "I'm profoundly sorry that tenants have been let down and will be reviewing the property management and how matters are escalated going forward," he added.

Athwal, previously a local politician as leader of Redbridge Council, is also required to have a selective property licence in order to rent out a block of seven flats – a system he introduced in 2017 when he was in charge of the council. However, the BBC found the council's public licence register indicated that none of the seven properties had a licence. Athwal admitted that he had "recently seen an email" which said the licences were due to expire. He added: "I am in the process of renewing all licences. As council leader I implemented the most rigorous landlord licencing scheme in London in 2017, and expanded the scheme in 2023 and 2024 – the scheme would've been even stronger if Conservative housing secretaries had not repeatedly watered it down. "In 2019, I led a campaign

calling on the government to abolish Section 21 evictions, further protecting tenants' rights, which was again blocked by the Conservatives.

According to the BBC investigation, in one block of seven flats owned by Athwal nearly half the tenants said they had to regularly clean their bathroom ceilings to remove mould.

The news corporation said it also saw evidence of ant infestations in a number of the seven properties. Andrew Boff, Conservative member of the London Assembly who also visited the flats, is calling on the governing Labour Party and local Redbridge Council to investigate as the party's 2024 general election manifesto included a commitment to "prevent private renters being exploited and discriminated against".

### Houthi rebels fire missiles at container ship

#### Yemen.

Two missiles suspected to have been fired by Yemen's Houthi rebels targeted a Liberian-flagged container ship in the Gulf of Aden late Friday, splashing down nearby without causing any damage, authorities said.

AP DUBA

The attack comes after the Houthis repeatedly assaulted and then boarded a Greekflagged oil tanker in the nearby Red Sea, planting explosives on it they later detonated. That attack, the worst in weeks, risked a major oil spill as the rebels' campaign disrupts the USD 1 trillion in goods that pass through the Red Sea each year over the Israel-Hamas war in the Gaza Strip, as well as halting some aid shipments to conflict-ravaged Sudan and

The attack Friday saw two missiles "exploding in close proximity to the vessel" some 240 kilometres east of Aden, the British military's United Kingdom Maritime Trade Operations centre said.

The ship "reports all crew are safe and proceeding to next port of call," the UKMTO said. "Investigations are ongoing.

Joint The Maritime Information Centre, a multinational body overseen by the US Navy, on Saturday identified the vessel targeted as the Liberian-flagged container ship Groton. The Groton came under attack August 3 as well in a similar Houthi assault off Aden that included two missiles fired at the vessel, with one causing minor damage.

## nation 06

# PM Modi flags off three new Vande Bharat trains, says nation advancing

#### PIONEER NEWS SERVICE NEW DELHI

The railways have made big strides in addressing longstanding issues and will not stop till it becomes a guarantee of comfortable travel for all sections of society, Prime Minister Narendra Modi said on Saturday.

RANCHI | SUNDAY | SEPTEMBER 1, 2024

Flagging off three new Vande Bharat Express trains via video-conferencing, the Prime Minister said the nation was inching towards the goal of Viksit Bharat with modernisation and expansion of Vande Bharat trains. The three trains flagged off by the Prime Minister connect Meerut with Lucknow, Madurai with

Bengaluru, and Chennai with Nagercoil. Through its hard work over

sunday pioneer

the years, the railways have made big strides in addressing long-standing issues and offered new hopes and solu-tions. We will not stop until the Indian Railways becomes a guarantee of comfortable travel for evervone," Modi said. The Prime Minister said modern rail infrastructure was a strong pillar of the vision of Viksit Bharat. He said more than Rs 2.5 lakh crore was allocated to the railways in this year's Budget and the Government was connecting

He underlined that the rapid development of southern States was imperative to accomplish the goal of Viksit Bharat.

Southern India is the land of immense talent, resources and opportunities," the Prime Minister said adding that the development of Tamil Nadu, along with the entire southern India, was the Government's priority

He said the development journey of the railways was an example of the Government's commitment. Modi said more than Rs 6,000

crore was allocated for Tamil Nadu's rail Budget this year, Indian Railways with high-tech seven times more than in 2014. services to transform its old Similarly, a Budget of more than Rs 7,000 crore was allocated for



Karnataka in this year's Budget, which was nine times higher than in 2014. Eight Vande added.

Bharat trains are connecting The Prime Minister drew pardifferent parts of Karnataka, he allels from Budgets of the past and said the multiple-fold

increase in allocations further strengthened rail traffic in southern States, including Tamil Nadu and Karnataka. He said railway tracks were being improved, electrification of tracks taking place, and sta-tions modernised. The Meerut City-Lucknow Vande Bharat Express will help passengers save around an hour compared to the current fastest train between the two cities. The Chennai Egmore-Nagercoil Vande Bharat Express and the Madurai-Bengaluru Vande Bharat Express will cut down travel time by more than two hours and around one-and-a-

half hours, respectively.

The Prime Minister said while

the Regional Rapid Transit

System (RRTS) has helped connect Meerut with New Delhi, the distance to Lucknow has also been reduced with the introduction of the Vande Bharat Express. "The National Capital Region (NCR) is becoming an example of how PM Gatishakti's vision will change the country's infrastructure with modern trains, network of expressways, and expansion of air services," Modi said.

Railways Minister Ashwini Vaishnaw, Uttar Pradesh Governor Anandiben Patel, her Tamil Nadu counterpart RN Ravi and Uttar Pradesh Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath, among others, were virtually present on the occasion.

peninsula, northern Bihar,

and northeastern Uttar

Pradesh, as well as most of

the Northeast India, where

below normal rainfall is

expected," the IMD Chief

The monsoon trough is

expected to remain in its

normal position, with the

possibility of several low-

pressure systems developing

in the Bay of Bengal, which

may travel towards west-

northwest up to Rajasthan.

The trough could also shift

towards the foothills of the

Himalayas, and there is a

potential for a western dis-

turbance to affect the region

in September, Mohapatra

said.

said.

# District judiciary crucial component of rule of law: CJI

image

#### PIONEER NEWS SERVICE NEW DELHI

Chief Justice of India (CJI) D Y Chandrachud on Saturday said district judiciary is the "backbone of the judiciary" and thus a crucial component of the rule of law and calling it subordinate must be stopped.

Referring to the increasing number of women joining the district judiciary in the past few years, he highlighted that judges, despite being profes-sionals, are affected by their own "brush with reality" and their mental health may suffer as a consequence. Speaking at the 'National Conference of the District Judiciary', which was inaugurated by Prime Minister Narendra Modi here, Justice Chandrachud said district judiciary is the first point of contact for a citizen in search of justice.

"The district judiciary is a crucial component of the rule of law," he said, adding, "Data on the NJDG (National Judicial Data Grid) reveals a basic truth - the district judiciary is not just the first but is also the final point of contact for citizens". The CJI said the reasons may be numerous - many citizens are unable to afford legal representation, they have a lack of awareness about statutory rights, and there are geographical difficulties in physically accessing Courts.

"The quality of our work and the conditions in which we provide justice to citizens deterfidence in us and is a test of our own accountability to society," he said. "The district judiciary is therefore called upon to shoulder tremendous responsibility and is aptly described as the 'backbone of the judiciary," Justice Chandrachud said, adding, "The spine is the core of the nervous system. To sustain the spine of the legal system, we



must stop calling the district judiciary the 'subordinate' judi-ciary". He said 75 years after independence, the time has come to bury one more relic of the British era - the colonial mindset of subordination. Referring to the "multifarious responsibilities" of judges, the CJI said it was difficult for a

judge not to be affected by the actual face of suffering that each of us encounters every day a family which has faced a gruesome crime, an undertrial who is languishing for years or the children in a parental

matrimonial dispute. "Judges, despite being profes-sionals, are affected by their own brush with reality. Their mental health may suffer as a consequence.

This aspect is of great consequence but it unfortunately does not receive the attention that it merits," he said. Justice Chandrachud said as a

step towards a more open discussion on the topic, the third session of the conference on Saturday was on judicial wellness, with a focus on holistic mental health, and quality of Referring to the aspect of adoption of technology in the legal system, he said in 2023-24, 46.48 crore pages of court total number of judicial officers are women in the latest recruitrecords have been scanned or digitised and 714 district court ment. These are a few examples websites have been hosted on which paint the picture of a the SwaaS of the Government promising judiciary of the future," Justice Chandrachud of India He said the NJDG is a mine of

data not only for lawyers but also for citizens and it reflects real time data of over four crore cases across the district Courts and the High Courts.

The CJI said 970 e-sewa kendras were fully functional in district Court complexes, besides 27 in the High Court premises.

He said e-sewa kendras assist lawyers and litigants with eprocesses by providing assistance for e-filing, providing information regarding the case status and so on.

He said e-Courts project has been responsible for computerisation of over 3,500 court complexes and more than 22,000 court rooms.

The CJI also spoke about data on the changing demography of judiciary. "An increasing number of women have been joining the district judiciary in the past few years.

Women consisted of 58 per cent of the total recruitment for civil judges in Rajasthan in 2023," he said.

The Government on Saturday said 10 new AYUSH institutes will be set He said 66 per cent of judicial up over the next five years to officers appointed in Delhi in expand traditional medical Uttar Pradesh, 54 per cent of improve healthcare access in appointments for civil judge underserved areas, enhance (junior division) in the batch of the doctor-patient ratio, and 2022 were women. ensure that more citizens ben-"In Kerala, 72 per cent of the

# A wetter than usual August gets 16 per cent more rain :IMD

### PIONEER NEWS SERVICE NEW DELHI

n what remains a key factor in growth of the economy, India received around 16 per cent more rainfall than normal in August, with above normal rains forecast for September as well. The India Meteorological Department (IMD) said on Saturday that in addition to 16 per cent surplus rainfall in August, the Monsoon precipi-tation over Northwest India was recorded at 253.9 mm, the second highest in August since 2001.

Addressing a virtual Press con-ference, IMD Director-General Mrutyunjay Mohapatra said the country recorded 287.1 mm of rainfall in August, compared to the normal 248.1 mm. Overall, India has received 749 mm of precipitation against the normal 701 mm since the start of the monsoon season on June 1. The lifeblood of a nearly \$3.5-

trillion economy, the annual monsoon brings almost 70 per cent of the rain India needs to water farms and replenish reservoirs and recharge aquifers. Without adequate irrigation facility, nearly half the farmland in the country depends on the rain that is usu-

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE

NEW DELHI



ally received from June to September.

Several districts in the foothills of the Himalayas and the Northeast experienced belownormal rainfall as most of the low-pressure systems moved south of their usual position, and the monsoon trough also remained south of its typical position, the IMD chief said. Many States in the Northeast along with Kerala and the Vidarbha region of Maharashtra, experienced deficient rainfall, he added. The IMD chief said that six lowpressure systems formed in August, two of which intensified into monsoon depression or deep depression.

There were 17 low-pressure system days this August, compared with the normal 16.3 days. From August 10 to August 22, the monsoon trough remained along its nor-

mal position, resulting in good rainfall over northern and adjacent central India, parts of eastern India, and the extreme southern peninsula, especially Tamil Nadu. From August 23 to August 31, the trough shifted south of its normal position, causing very heavy rainfall over central and western parts of India.

No-break monsoon conditions were observed in August this year despite an increasing trend of break days during the month, Mohapatra said. He said the Madden-Julian Oscillation (MJO) was very active during the second half of the month, leading to good rainfall across the country. MJO is a large-scale atmospheric disturbance originating in tropical Africa and travelling eastward, typically lasting 30 to 60 days. Monsoon rainfall in September and October could be influenced by La Nina weather conditions, which are likely to develop from the next month, said another IMD official.

In the past, when La Nina develops during the second half of the monsoon season, it has led to a delayed monsoon withdrawal, said the official, adding that "this year, we could see a similar pattern".

Government to set up 10 new AYUSH institutes in 5 years

### Expect more rainy September this year

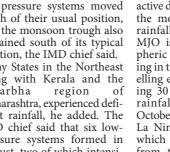
#### PIONEER NEWS SERVICE NEW DELHI

After a wetter than nor-mal August, India is likely to experience above normal rainfall in September too, with heavy to very heavy precipitation expected in Northwest India and the Addressing a virtual Press conference, IMD Director-General Mrutyunjay Mohapatra said that the country was expected to receive above normal rainfall in September, at 109 per cent of the long-period average of 167.9 mm. Heavy to very heavy rainfall

is anticipated in the Northwest region, including Uttarakhand, parts of Himachal Pradesh, Jammu and Kashmir, Rajasthan, and the adjoining areas of Madhya Pradesh.

"Above normal rainfall is likely over most parts of India, barring some areas in the extreme Northwest, many parts of the southern

> NirogStreet, India's Ayurveda product market is expected to grow to USD 16.27 billion by fiscal 2028, up from the current USD 7 billion. This substantial growth is driven by increasing demand for natural and herbal remedies, a rise in Ayurvedic practition



efit from it in the country. Announcing the Government's plan, Union Minister of Ayush Prataprao Jadhav, noted that "Ayurveda and our traditional medical system suffered significant damage during the colonial period and foreign



invasions but today, there has been a global shift in perception towards Yoga and Ayurveda, and their acceptance is rapidly increasing. He was at the All-India

Institute of Ayurveda (AIIA),

at Sarita Vihar here where he reviewed the facilities and the treatments being provided to the patients.

Professor Tanuja Nesari, AIIA Director, said Minister Jadhav has played a significant role in

it the institute. highlighting the sector's rising prominence and the Prime Minister's ambitious initiative to make Ayurveda accessible to every household.

promoting Ayurveda, and "his guidance and support will continue to help in taking

Ayurveda to the masses and

establishing it on the global

According to AIIA officials, President Droupadi Murmu is

stage."

Minister Jadhav also announced an international conference, titled 'AAROHA-2024,' scheduled to be held from October 17-19. According to a report by

Ayurveda tech startup

supportive Government initiatives, and the emergence of new entrepreneurs in the sector. As per the Government data,

about 12,121 Ayush Health and Wellness Centres (AHWCs), renamed as Ayushman Arogya Mandirs (Áyush), under Ayushman Bharat are functional in the country.

munity people. We will have a very large community gather-

ing. We will meet some tech-

nocrats and then we will have

dinner with Leaders from the

The following day, Gandhi will

travel to Washington DC where

there is a plan to have similar

interactions with a variety of

people, including think-tanks,

national press club and others,

the Indian Overseas Congress

There are a lot of events

planned with a variety of peo-

ple because we find that peo-

ple also have a lot of interest in

the States we run with a

Congress Government," he

"We look forward to a very suc-

Rahul Gandhi, who turned 54

in June, has been an MP for five

terms and currently represents

the Rae Bareli constituency

previously held by his mother

. Sonia Gandhi.

cessful visit," Pitroda added.

Dallas area," he added.

chief said.

said

### IMA urges NTF for Central law to protect doctors

#### PIONEER NEWS SERVICE NEW DELHI

The Indian Medical Association (IMA) has once again written to the Supreme Court-appointed National Task Force (NTF), for a central law, seeking protection of healthcare professionals and declaring hospitals as 'Safe Zones' across the States. The NTF is tasked with creating protocols to ensure the safety and security of medical personnel.

The IMA's request comes in response to the suggestions sought by the NTF, which is tasked with creating protocols to ensure the safety and security of medical personnel.

The NTF has been set up following a series of protests by doctors, triggered by the tragic rape and murder of a female trainee doctor at RG Kar Medical College and Hospital in Kolkata.

In their letter to the NTF, the IMA called for a uniform central law arguing that it acts as a deterrent and ensures consistent handling of violence across all states. They provided several documents to support their case, including a survey of 3,885 doctors, a draft legislation - "The Healthcare Service Personnel and Clinical Establishments (Prohibition of violence and damage to property) Bill, 2019", the Epidemic

Diseases (Amendment) Act September 2020 among others as annexures, and related leg-

islative amendments. 'The only preventive strategy that could be applied across the board and across all the States is deterrent central law in statute. Absence of such law has resulted in half-hearted actions by the police and less than optimum investigations and prosecution of the incident," it said. The IMA which is the largest body of the medical professionals from across the country contended that the lack of a national law leads to inconsistent enforcement and inade-

quate protection. The IMA has proposed that hospitals be designated as safe zones, with enhanced security measures. This designation, they argue, should be incorporated into the proposed central law, ensuring hospitals receive necessary security while maintaining a patient-friendly and culturally sensitive approach. "Declaration as safe zone enti-

tles the hospitals with security entitlements. These security entitlements however should be tempered with patient friendly nature and cultural sensitivity," said the Association having presence in almost all the districts of the country with 1,800 local

branches, 28 State branches

and 3,85,000 members..

# UNICEF issues urgent alert on Mpox risk for children



ARCHANA JYOTI NEW DELHI that children can be exposed to

s the World Health AOrganization (WHO) has called for increased vigilance against Monkeypox (Mpox), United Nations International Children's Emergency Fund (UNICEF) has issued an urgent alert regarding the heightened risk for children, especially those who are mal-nourished or suffering from other illnesses.

The new variant of Mpox (clade Ib) is particularly concerning due to its potential for broader transmission, including among young children, especially in Africa. The Unicef said that in the fight against the outbreak, prioritising the needs of children is not only necessary but urgent. The children's body warned

Mpox through close contact with symptomatic individuals, including parents or caregivers. The virus spreads via contact with skin lesions, infectious bodily fluids, contaminated materials, respiratory droplets, and infected animals. Pregnant women can also pass the virus to their unborn babies.

Mpox symptoms are similar to but less severe than smallpox and include skin rash, fever, sore throat, headache, body aches, back pain, low energy, and swollen lymph nodes. The virus poses a significant threat in areas with widespread malnutrition, crowded living conditions, other infectious diseases, and limited healthcare access

In India, while there have been no reported cases of Mpox so

taking precautionary measures with the AIIMS, RML and LNJP already allocating designated sites for the treatment of the patients in case if any. A 2022 study by Sir Ganga Ram Hospital, Delhi, noted the

far this year, authorities are

in the National Capital. Dr Chand Wattal, corresponding author and chairperson, ICMI, had said that waning immunity in humans due to the discontinuation of the smallpox vaccine established the scope for the resurstrated by the re-emergence of flight safety reasons.

India declared itself smallpoxworld around 1979-80. The study highlighted con-

cerns about waning immunity and the potential for Mpox to re-emerge after a long absence.



### Rahul Gandhi to visit US for first time as LoP, to interact with diaspora

#### PIONEER NEWS SERVICE NEW DELHI

Leader of Opposition in the Llok Sabha Rahul Gandhi will visit the US from September 8-10 during which he will hold numerous interactions in Washington DC and Dallas, including at the University of Texas. Indian Óverseas Congress Chief Sam Pitorda shared details of Rahul Gandhi's first visit to the US after becoming

the leader of Opposition in the Lok Sabha in June.

An Indian Air Force heli-acopter airlifting a dam-aged Kestrel civil helicopter in 'Since Rahul Gandhi has become the Leader of Uttarakhand on Saturday had Opposition, I, as chairman of to "jettison the load" due to the Indian Overseas Congress, which has a presence in 32 countries, (have) been bomflight safety reasons, the IAF said. It said an inquiry has been ordered into the matter. "An barded with requests from the #IAF Mi-17 V5, while airlifting Indian diaspora, diplomats, damaged Kestrel civil heliacademicians, businesspersons, copter in Uttarakhand today, leaders, international media had to jettison the load due to and many others, for interactions with him," Pitroda said in

The crew safely released the a video statement. load over an unpopulated area, "Now, he (Gandhi) is coming to the US for a very brief visit. He will be in Dallas on ensuring no damage to life or property. An enquiry has been ordered, #AviationSafety," the September 8th and Washington IAF said in a social media post. DC on September 9th and The defective helicopter was 10th. In Dallas, we will have being airlifted from Kedarnath interactions with the University to Gauchar airstrip, it was of Texas, (with) students, academic institutions and com-

He won from two constituen-cies in the Lok Sabha polls but resigned from the Wayanad seat in Kerala, from where his sister Priyanka Gandhi Vadra will contest a bypoll. Rahul Gandhi entered the Lok

Sabha for the first time in 2004 following his victory from Amethi in Uttar Pradesh.

potential for Mpox resurgence in India due to the discontinuation of the smallpox vaccine, which had historically provided 85% protection. The study was published in the Indian Journal of Medical Microbiology. In 2022, at least 14 people with the disease

were reported in the country out of which 9 were reported

gence of Monkeypox, demonthe outbreak after a break of

30-40 years. free in 1979 while it was offi-cially eradicated all over the

casualties PIONEER NEWS SERVICE NEW DELHI

learnt.

## sports 07



sunday pioneer

# Bhambri and Bopanna win with respective partners, Balaji exits

### PTI NEW YORK

ndia's Yuki Bhambri and Albano Olivetti advanced to the men's doubles third round of the US Open with a hard-fought win over 15th seeds Austin Krajicek and Jean-Julien Roger here.

RANCHI | SUNDAY | SEPTEMBER 1, 2024

Indo-French pair The defeated the USA-Dutch team 4-6 6-3 7-5 in the second round that lasted two hours and five minutes on Friday. This is only the second time that Bhambri has reached the

third round at a Grand Slam, having reached the same stage at the Australian Open back in 2014 Second seeds Rohan Bopanna

and Matthew Ebden also moved to third round with a 6-2 6-4 win over Spain's

Roberto Carballes Baena and Federico

Argentina. Bopanna also won in the mixed doubles with Indonesian partner Aldila Sutjiadi. Seeded eighth, they won 7-6 (7) 7-6 (5) against Germany's Tim Puetz and

Dutch player Demi Schuurs in the opening round. However, another Indian in the fray, N Sriram Balaji and his Argentine partner Guido Andreozzi exited the US Open after losing to Michael Venus of New Zealand and Neal Skupski of Great Britain. The Indo-Argentine pair lost

6-7 (4), 4-6 in the second-round match that featured just one break of serve in the second set. In total, Venus and Skupski

received seven break points, and converted one, while Balaji and Andreozzi failed to Coria from

capitalise on their lone opportunity for a service break. "The first step is to consistently play at this level.

It's starting from here. Now the next step is to get my ranking higher slowly," Balaji told PTI, reflecting upon his campaign. "Game wise I'm feeling confident and moving in the

right direction. I also have to keep working on certain aspects of my game and keep getting better. This year the difference was a main coach/trainer travelling with me almost every other week, to the thanks doubles

program," he said.

# Defending champion Novak Djokovic is shocked at the US Open one night after Carlos Alcaraz's loss

### AP NEW YORK

Tovak Djokovic did not go easy on Novak Doctor as the philosoft way he performed from the start of the U.Ś. Open, pointing to his sloppy serving as the main reason the defense of his 2023 title surprisingly ended in the third round.

"I have played some of the worst tennis I have ever played, honestly," Djokovic said, just after midnight as Friday turned to Saturday. "Serving - by far the worst ever."

With 14 double-faults, raising his tournament total to 32, Djokovic bowed out with a 6-4, 6-4, 2-6, 6-4 loss to 28th-seeded Alexei Popyrin of Australia, another shocking result at Flushing Meadows one night after Carlos Alcaraz exited.

"It was just an awful match for me," the No. 2-seeded Djokovic said. "I wasn't playing even close to my best. It's not good to be in that kind of state where you feel OK physically, and of course vou're motivated because it's a Grand Slam, but you just are not able to find your game. That's it. The game is falling apart, and I guess you have to accept that tournaments like this happen."

Not often for him, though. After all, Djokovic was trying to become the first player in tennis history with 25 Grand Slam singles titles. Instead, after knee surgery in June, he finishes a year without claiming at least one major championship for the first time since 2017. Before that, it hadn't happened since 2010.

Also of note: 2024 now becomes the first season since 2002 in which none of the Big Three of men's tennis -Djokovic, Rafael Nadal and Roger Federer - earned a Slam trophy.

The third-round exit equals Djokovic's worst showing at Flushing Meadows; the only other occasions he was beaten

best ball-winning midfield play-ers in the world," United sport-

ing director Dan Ashworth said

United manager Erik ten Hag

said. "Together we will fight to win trophies and reach the level

The deal for Ugarte includes the potential for 10 million euros

(\$11 million) in bonuses, subject

Ugarte spent just one year at

PSG after joining from

to performance and success.

Portuguese team Sporting.

where this club needs to be."

that early at the U.S. Open came in 2005 and 2006. The man who defeated Djokovic 18 years ago, International Ténnis Hall of Fame member Lleyton Hewitt, is now Australia's Davis Cup captain and was sitting in Popyrin's guest box in Arthur Ashe Stadium Djokovic, who is 37, has reached the

final in Ashe 10 times, leaving with the title in 2011, 2015, 2018 and 2023. On Friday, though, he was sluggish and emotionally flat, perhaps residual fatigue after collecting his first Olympic

gold medal for Serbia by beating Alcaraz in the final at the Paris Games earlier in August.

"Obviously, it had an effect," Djokovic said. "I spent a lot of energy winning

the gold, and I did arrive to New York could see that with the way I played." on Thursday night.

just not feeling fresh mentally and physically. But because it's the U.S. Open, I gave it a shot and I tried my best. I mean, I didn't have any physical issues. I just felt out of gas. And you The No. 3-seeded Alcaraz entered the U.S. Open as the tournament favorite having won the French Open and Wimbledon, and acknowledged his energy was lower than he realized after getting eliminated by 74th-ranked Botic van de Zandschulp 6-1, 7-5, 6-4 Djokovic then replaced Alcaraz as the

CHASE

money-line pick to take the men's title, according to BetMGM Sportsbook, but

that status didn't last long at all. For the 25-year-old Popyrin, this represents a real breakthrough: He had been 0-3 against Djokovic and 0-6 in third-round matches at majors.

But the strong-serving Popyrin is playing as well as ever, coming off the biggest title of his career less than three weeks ago at a hard-court tournament in Montreal, where he picked up five wins against opponents ranked in the top 20.

Everything was working against Djokovic.

Popyrin was terrific at the net, going 10 for 10 on serve-and-volley approaches and 25 for 36 overall on points when he pushed forward. Djokovic, in contrast, only won the point on 19 of his 40 trips to the net, in part because Popyrin kept flipping passing shots by him.

Popyrin took big cuts with his powerful forehand, accumulating 22 of his 50 total winners with that shot.

And he broke Djokovic five times, including for a lead of 3-2 in the fourth. That game felt titanic, lasting more than 10 minutes and including four break chances for Popyrin, who converted the last with an inside-out forehand to close a 22-stroke exchange, then rocked back on his heels, clenched both fists and let out a roar. He took Djokovic's next service game, too, to make it 5-2.

The first time Popyrin served for the match, he faltered, allowing Djokovic to break. The second time, Popyrin finished the deal, holding at love when Djokovic sent a forehand long. Now Popyrin will try to reach his first Grand Slam quarterfined by getting post

Grand Slam quarterfinal by getting past No. 20 Frances Tiafoe, who advanced Friday with a 4-6, 7-5, 6-7 (5), 6-4, 6-3 win over No. 13 Ben Shelton in a matchup between two Americans.

"If he serves well, plays well, he can beat anybody," Djokovic said about Popyrin. "Look, Alcaraz is out.

Swaroop finishes 14th,

Pistol shooter



### Samit Dravid in India U19 squad to face Australia in multi format series

### Man United signs Uruguay midfielder Shuttler Mandeep wins first match in Ugarte from PSG for \$55M to take summer spending to \$240M

#### **AP** MANCHESTER

anchester United signed Muruguay defensive mid-"I will sacrifice and give every-thing for my teanmates," Ugarte fielder Manuel Ugarte from Paris Saint-Germain for an an initial 50 million euros (\$55.7 million) on Friday, with the transfer announced only in the final hour of the summer transfer window.

Ugarte is United's fifth signing of the window - after striker Joshua Zirkzee, center backs Leny Yoro and Matthijs de Ligt, and full back Noussair Mazraoui - and takes the club's summer spending on new players to around \$240 million. The 23-year-old Ugarte

PTI PARIS

Tndian shuttler Mandeep Kaur entered quarterfinals of the women's singles SL 3 category in the Paris Paralympics after defeating Australia's Vinot Celine Aurelie in the women's singles SL 3 event on Saturday. Mandeep regrouped to win her last group B match 21-23 21-10 21-17 against her Australian rival. She had lost her opening match to Nigeria's Bolaji

Mariam The Indian finished second in the three-player group B to book a quarterfinal spot. Mariam topped the group to

Earlier Friday, United sold Scotland midfielder Scott enter the semifinals. ers of group



severe lower limb disability. They compete on half-width court

In Friday's late night matches, Suhas Yathiraj and Palak Kohli lost their opening mixed doubles SL3 contest 11-21 17-

The only win in the mixed doubles came through Nithya Sivan Sumathy and Sivarajan who defeated Solaimalai, Thailand's Natthapong Meechai and Chai Saeyang 21-7 21-17 in group B.

points. Later on Saturday, Nitesh South Korea's Park Jinho analificati hna

Group B, enters SL3 singles quarterfinals the

21 to top seeded Indonesian pair of Hikmat Ramdani and Kumar Leani Ratri Oktila. In another group A SL3 mixed doubles contest involving Indians, Nitesh Kumar and Thulasimathi Murugesan lost 22-24 19-21 to the French team of Faustine Noel and Lucas

fails to qualify for final at Paralympics PTI CHATEAUROUX

Indian shooter Swaroop Unhalkar finished a dismal 14th in the men's 10m air rifle standing (SH1) qualification round to miss the eight-player final by quite a distance at the Paralympic Games here on Saturday.

The 3ǿ-year-old Unhalkar, who had missed a bronze medal by a whisker at the Tokyo Paralympics three years ago, was far from impressive in an 18-shooter field on Saturday, aggregating 613.4

#### PTI NEW DELHI

Samit Dravid, son of former India captain and head coach Rahul Dravid, was on Saturday drafted into the India under-19 squad for the upcoming multi-format series

against Australia. The three-match one-day series will be held in Puducherry on September 21, 23 and 26, and India will be led by Uttar Pradesh's Mohammad Amaan.

The series will then roll to Chennai for two four-day matches beginning on September 30 and October 7. The India squad for this leg of the tour will be captained by Soham Patwardhan of Madhya Pradesh.

Samit, a pace-bowling allrounder, is currently playing for Mysore Warriors in the ongoing KSCA Maharaja T20 trophy in Bengaluru. However, his outings so far

have been underwhelming with the bat - 82 runs from seven innings with a highest of 33, and he is yet to bowl in the tournament.

But earlier this year, Samit had a productive time in the Cooch Behar Trophy, playing an

important role in Karnataka's maiden title triumph in the

event. The 18-year-old made 362 runs from eight matches and his 98 against Jammu and Kashmir stood out for its quality and fluency.

Samit also had a memorable tournament with the ball, where he claimed 16 scalps in

ONE-DAY SERIES: Rudra Patel, Sahil Parakh, Kartikeya Mohd Enaan.

FOUR-DAY SERIES: Vaibhav Suryavanshi, Nitya Pandya, Vihan Malhotra, Soham (Captain), Patwardhan (Captain), Kartikeya KP, Samit Dravid, Abhigyan Kundu (WK), Harvansh Singh Pangalia Chetan Sharma, (WK), Samarth N, Aditya Rawat, Nikhil Kumar, Anmoljeet Singh, Aditya Singh, Mohd Enaan.

for Casemiro, who is 32. Signing Manuel was another of our primary targets for this summer. He is among the very

Jadeja is a complete all-round fielder, Raina too was brilliant: Rhodes

PTI NEW DELHI

South African cricket legend Jonty Rhodes on Saturday called Ravindra

Jadeja a "complete all-round" fielder in

the world right now, and also spoke highly about former India player Suresh

Raina's abilities on the ground. The 55-year-old Rhodes, regarded as

one of the greatest fielders of all time

who became the first South African

cricketer to take 100 ODI catches,

played for the national team from 1992

Suresh Raina was someone who used to throw himself around the field," said

eight matches, including two in the final against Mumbai. INDIA U19 SQUAD FOR

KP, Mohd Amaan (Captain), Kiran Chormale, Abhigyan Kundu (wk), Harvansh Singh Pangalia (WK), Samit Dravid, Yudhajit Guha, Samarth N, Nikhil Kumar, Chetan Sharma, Hardik Raj, Rohit Rajawat,

INDIA U19 SQUAD FOR till 2003. Post retirement, Rhodes became associated with several IPL teams, including Mumbai Indians, Punjab Kings and most recently Lucknow Super Giants, as fielding coach. "I am a big fan of Suresh Raina. I enjoyed his playing days but now he has retired. In the past in India, the cricketing infrastructure wasn't there to support the passion and love for cricket.

signed a contract until 2029, has McTominay to Napoli for 30 been a target of United throughmillion euros (\$33 million), a out the summer and looks set to transfer which created space in be the long-term replacement the squad for Ugarte.

Mali youth international Sekou Kone also joined United from Guidars FC in his homeland and will initially play in the academy.

directly advanced to the semifinals. The top two teams in group B as well as secondplace finishers in group A and C compete in the quarterfinal for the two remaining semifinal spots. SL3 class is for players with

remaining Mazur.

categories of men's singles. Sumathy will present their challenge.

Sarkar, Sukant a score of 624.4, a clear 10.5 Kadam, Sivarajan Solaimalai and Tarun points ahead of Unhalkar. Unhalkar never rose beyond will compete in different the 13th rank, and at one In women's singles, Manisha point during the contest had slipped to 16th. Ramdass and Nithya Sivan

The Kolhapur marksman, who was diagnosed with polio at an early age that left him paralysed in both the legs, did manage a decent second series of 103.0 but again slipped back into mediocrity.

He had scores of 101.8, 103.0, 101.7, 101.8, 102.4, 102.7 to aggregate 613.4.

The SH1 category is for para shooters who can hold their gun without difficulty and shoot from a standing or sitting position (in a wheelchair or chair).

The disappointment comes just a day after women's 10m air rifle shooter Avani Lekhara came up with an extraordinary performance to become the first Indian woman to win two Paralympic gold medals with a record-

breaking performance. India had also won a silver medal through Manish Narwal in the men's 10m air pistol (SH1) final, and a bronze through 37-year-old late-bloomer Mona Agarwal, who finished third in the same event as Avani, on Friday.

I am on the field I am not thinking about 'should I dive or should I not'. I think that's what made me successful on the field," he said. "So, if you are thinking about (not) diving you can never stop the ball. My

Rhodes, who was roped in as the brand ambassador of Hero Pro Corporate League cricket tournament on Saturday.

"Unlike Raina, I had a very fortunate upbringing. I played football, hockey and cricket on good grounds. So I was very fortunate.

"I think Jadeja is at the next level, he

the ball. And his accuracy at throwing down the stumps is somewhat like Ricky Ponting. He fields on the boundary, he fields on the circle. He is a complete all-round fielder," added Rhodes. Rhodes also gave a meaningful insight on what it takes to become a

good fielder. "It has nothing to do with the hands; it's doesn't dive as much but he is so fast to actually all about the legs because if you

father, who was my coach, and and a

school principal used to tell me that the

saying 'practice makes perfect 'is not

correct but what matters is perfect

practice. Practice like you play in the

match." he added.

Kimi Antonelli named as Lewis Hamilton's replacement at Formula 1's Mercedes

### AP MONZA (ITALY)

Teenager Kimi Antonelli has been named as Lewis the tire barrier. Hamilton's replacement next year at Mercedes, a day after his Formula One debut ended have no impact on Antonelli's in the 18-year-old Italian F1 chances, and confirmation driver hitting the wall.

Antonelli took over for George Russell in the opening practice session for Sunday's Italian Grand Prix at Monza.

But his much-anticipated first appearance lasted fewer than two laps, and only 10 minutes, after he lost control of his Mercedes at the is a dream I've had since I was Parabolica, sliding backward a small boy."

through the gravel and into Antonelli has been with Mercedes since he joined its Team principal Toto Wolff junior program when he was said Saturday the crash would

"I want to thank the team for the support they've given me of his elevation as a junior in my career so far and the driver with the team was faith they've shown in me. I am still learning a lot, but I confirmed ahead of final practice at his home event. "It is an amazing feeling to be feel ready for the opportunity," said Antonelli, who only turned 18 last announced as a Mercedes works driver alongside George for 2025," Antonelli Sunday. "I'm also really excited to

said in Saturday's become George's teammate. announcement. "Reaching F1 He came through the team's



junior program just like myself and is someone I have a huge amount of respect for." After titles in Karting and Formula 4, Antonelli only made the step up to F2 this year, winning two races.

There were promising signs for the limited time he was on the track on Friday, with Wolff labelling it "astonishing." But Antonelli was keen to impress, perhaps too keen, and he crashed after seemingly taking too much speed into the final corner of his second lap.

The debutant had just set the

fastest middle sector of the session and was looking to reclaim the fastest time from Hamilton, who had just beaten Antonelli's first lap by 0.6 seconds.

It is Hamilton he is replacing, with the seven-time F1 champion departing for Ferrari at the end of the season.

"Our new lineup is perfect to open the next chapter in our story," Wolff said. "It is also a testament to the strength of our junior program and our belief in homegrown talent.

the talent and speed needed to compete at the very top of our sport," Wolff added. "We know it will be another big step up, but he has impressed us in his F1 testing this year and we will be supporting him every step of the way in the learning process."

Excitement had been growing at Monza over the prospect of a first Italian F1 driver in

three years. Italy has had to wait since

2006 for a win in F1 and much longer for the title, as the last Italian champion was

"Kimi has consistently shown

Alberto Ascari in 1953.

Former India pacer Chetan Sharma is the commissioner of the league.

use your legs and be there at the right time, you can get your hands in good position. You can have the best hands in the world and the most magnetic hands but if you don't have the legs you cannot get there. It's more about quick body positions. It' all about technique," he added. Rhodes said that at 55 he still doesn't think twice about diving on the field. "Flying is not the problem for me right now, the landing is the problem. When

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# sunday pioneer

# **SLAN** HADDNG -""HF Ν MALDIVES



Traveling within the Maldives proves that the journey can be just as enchanting as the destination itself say **RUPALI & BAKSHISH DEAN** 

[COLOURS] VIVACILY

### LANDAA GIRAVAARU The Four Seasons Landaa Giraavaru boasts a prime location in Baa Atoll, easily reached via one of the

ust a quick 20-minute speedboat ride from the capital, Male, transforms us from weary travellers to relaxed coconut sippers in an instant. That's no small feat, especially when many islands require lengthy boat and seaplane journeys just to begin the island experience. But don't be misled-despite its proximity to the capital, this island captures the enchanting 'island feel' and sets the perfect tone for arriving at this tronical perfect tone for arriving at this tropical paradise resort on its own private island. Four Seasons Kuda Huraa truly embodies the essence of Maldivian luxury. Since opening its doors in 1998, it has set the standard for other hoteliers hoping to offer a taste of paradise to their discerning guests. After undergoing several renovations, it's no surprise that this island boasts a remarkably high rate of returning visitors. Its positioning grants us uninterrupted views of the mesmerizing Indian Ocean, stretching as far as the eye can see. We are delighted by the choice of accommodations, whether overwater or on the beach. For our trip, we opt for a Sunset Overwater Villa with Pool, and it is simply magnificent. If it's your first time in the Maldives, we wholeheartedly recommend staying overwater it's an appring you won't overwater-it's an experience you won't want to miss. The villa features a cloudlike bed, expansive bathroom, a magnificent bathtub, plus an infinity pool and the spacious terrace boasts an infinity pool and hammocks for relaxing while watching the fish below. Every amenity I could wish for is provided, and we especially appreciate the nightly replenishment of cooling Aloe Vera, which we slather on each evening to soothe my skin after a day in the sun. With so many amazing amenities available, it would be easy to spend your entire stay exploring the island's quartermile stretch. However, just a short 20minute boat ride away, you'll find incredible world-class dive sites and renowned surf breaks waiting to be discovered

hotel's charming private seaplanes: the delightful yellow-and-black polka-dotted Flying Boxfish or the vibrant Flying Triggerfish. From our window, we are treated to a breath-taking aerial view, gazing down at the atolls from a lofty 5,000 feet. Below me lies the expansive 44-acre Four Seasons Resort on Baa Atoll, nestled within a serene 1.5-mile lagoon. Here, nature takes centre stage, with two stretches of pristine beaches calling me to explore their untouched beauty. As we step off the pier, we are instantly captivated by the ethereal blue waters and sweeping stretches of white sand. Towering 50-foot palm trees line a grand boulevard while mature gardens burst with the vibrant colours of banyan grand boulevard while mature gardens burst with the vibrant colours of banyan trees, lemongrass, frangipani, and orchids. The island feels completely untouched by time, offering plenty of space for leisurely strolls or even a solid 10,000 steps a day. If we ever need a break, we can easily hop on one of the electric bicycles available for everyone, or simply call for a buggy to whisk me or simply call for a buggy to whisk me away in comfort. The 102 thatched beach and water bungalows, more spacious than accommodations found elsewhere in the islands, blend seamlessly into the lush jungle, vibrant gardens, and soft sands. The bungalows, set in private gated enclosures, offer an intimate retreat.

This remote island is a sanctuary for conservation, led by the Marine Research Centre's vital efforts to protect marine life. As nature enthusiasts, we truly appreciate this commitment to preserving the Maldives' natural treasures. Upon arrival, guests are greeted by a lively lagoon bustling with marine life, including eagle rays, stingrays, reef sharks, clownfish, and parrotfish-just in the house reef! As part of the UNESCO Biosphere Reserve, visitors can also experience vast pods of





dolphins, nests of sea turtles (some even lay their eggs on the island), and the spectacular Hanifaru Bay, where massive swarms of manta rays feed the plankton-rich monsoon season from May to November. For those eager to May to November. For those eager to delve into local culture, nearby inhabited islands offer an inviting glimpse into the vibrant tapestry of Maldivian village life, providing an opportunity to immerse myself in the authentic rhythms of this idyllic archipelago. For those eager for adventure, the luxury live-aboard catamaran, The Explorer, is an excellent option for diving and exploring the option for diving and exploring the waters surrounding both Four Seasons resorts. This stay is not only luxurious but also mindful of the environment, making it all the more memorable. Our last stop is Blu for lunch, and what

an experience it was! The restaurant, beautifully designed, overlooks the main pool and the vast ocean beyond. The food is simply phenomenal-we can easily dine there for a week without getting bored. Twice a year, the renowned Italian chef Gaetano Trovato and his team enhance the culinary journey with their exquisite creations. Dinner at Arnolfo is in a league of its own. Honestly, it is the best steak we have ever had, even surpassing those from Argentina. We would gladly return to Landaa Giraavaru just to savour it once more! The Moroccan-themed Al Barakat is equally exceptional. This resort truly prioritizes wellness in many forms. While the yoga classes and spa services are fantastic, it is the Ayur $\bar{\mathrm{M}}\mathrm{a}$ Ayurvedic centre that truly captivates me. The consultations are thorough and illuminating; we learn things about ourselves that we have never realized before. Another compelling reason to visit the Maldives-it's a chance for self-discovery! After soaking in the serene beauty of Baa Atoll, we look forward to stopping by Male Citv to further embrace the richness of Maldivian culture

MALE CITY BY FOOT hile Kuda Huraa feels cosy and inviting, Landaa Giraavaru v strikes us as grand and expansive, like a swinging pendulum. Since both are part of the Four Seasons family and many guests spend time at each resort, it's easy to draw comparisons, but we won't go down that road. Each place is truly a gem in its own right, and I can honestly say we cherished our time at both. Taking a seaplane back to Male offers a stunning view of the azure waters and lush green islands below. Each resort we pass has its own unique charm, showcasing the diverse beauty of this enchanting paradise. Once in Male, we are guided by a knowledgeable local expert as we explore the city's historic landmarks. We ctart of the herbour and more meet the start at the harbour and move past the oldest school, a proud symbol of the Maldives' impressive 98% literacy rate. At the Royal Garden Café, nestled in a nobleman's 'Ganduvaru,' we enjoy a lovely cup of tea surrounded by beautifully carved wooden interiors. The November 3rd Memorial pays tribute to the heroes of 1988, while Sultan Park and the National Museum preserve the rich history of the sultanate era. As we continue our journey, the Grand Friday Mosque and the Islamic Centre impress with their striking architecture, and Independence Square reveals yet another chapter of Male's story. The local markets are alive with colour and energy, showcasing an array of tropical delights. In this enchanting place, time seems to stand still, inviting us to discover more at every corner. It is a journey we won't soon forget!

— Awarded the 'Best food writer in the country' by the Indian culinary forum, WACS and the ministry of Tourism, Rupali Dean writes on food and travel. Bakshish Dean, a 'distinguished chef and writer' with over 25 years of experience, excels in food styling and rraphy while passionatel wildlife, forgotten recipes, and advanced culinary techniques



A peaceful retreat with old world charm and stunning views beckons travelers for a luxe. exclusive vacation, writes SHARMILA CHAND

estled in the foothills of The Himalayas, Kinwani House is a charming retreat that offers guests a rare opportunity to immerse themselves in the rich heritage of Tehri Garhwal. One remarkable aspect of Kinwani House is its geographical significance, with its longitude nearly aligning with 79 degrees east, passing through all twelve Shiva temples from Kedarnath to Kanyakumari, enhancing its spiritual aura, making it a unique destination.

#### WHERE CULTURAL HERITAGE MEETS NATURAL SPLENDOR

bout 40 minutes uphill drive from Rishikesh, took us to the stunning ▲ ▲home of the Royal family, 'Kinwani House'. The estate, built in 1954, now stands as an architectural gem, a testament to passionate restoration, regal grandeur and a beacon of warm luxe hospitality. It offers a unique blend of modern comfort, natural beauty, and cultural richness, making it a perfect choice for discerning travellers.

From the moment of arrival, the warmth of Marisha Chheda, Resort Manager and her team sets the tone for a truly memorable stay. That exactly is the sentiment as expressed by Aditya Paul Lakhanpal, Chairman, JPL Group, when he tells me, "Our goal is to seamlessly blend the regal charm of the past with modern luxury, offering our guests a stay that is as memorable as it is meaningful. We invite you to explore the spiritual treasures of Rishikesh and experience the tranquil beauty of Kinwani House-a place



where history and luxury meet in harmony

I stepped into my Princess Suite with smiling Aryan escorting me, and was captivated by the aesthetics infused with traditional and contemporary touches, featuring signature Aalia Collection amenities. Spread over two floors, the tastefully re-done House comprises six large suites, each with their own ensuite baths, drawing rooms and private decks. Each suite is a harmonious blend of old world charm and contemporary elegance, offering a unique blend of art deco design and modern luxury, providing guests with an enriching and tranquil experience. The house also boasts lush gardens, sweeping views of the holy river Ganges, breathtaking panoramic vistas of the majestic Himalayan foothills, creating a captivating backdrop for moments of serenity and reflection. I loved my High Tea at the beautiful conservatory with a bar and sitting area for an indoor evening under the stars or a special evening of cocktails by candlelight. Every detail, from the room amenities to the dining options, is

designed to ensure guests feel truly at home.

#### DINING: CELEBRATION OF LOCAL **FLAVOURS!**

was happy to see the menu that blends local regional dishes and world cuisine. Be it a hearty breakfast featuring both Indian and international favourites, or meals, the food caters to every palate. Here you celebrate both global flavours and the rich tapestry of Pahari cuisine. No wonder, the star of my meal was 'Pahari Thali' with local ingredients and specialities of the region. Chef Arvind Negi, Aalia Collection pointed out, "Our culinary offerings blend local flavors with global influences, ensuring a delightful gastronomic journey. From fragrant biryanis and robust curries, to succulent kebabs and the authentic Pahadi thali, our menu across celebrates the diverse culinary heritage of India. For our discerning global travelers, we present a thoughtfully curated selection of international dishes. Whether one wishes to experience Oriental, Continental, Italian, or Thai flavours, we love to create exquisite dishes. Our sweet offerings are the perfect finale to your dining experience enhanced by homemade fresh ice creams.' ROOTED IN WELLNESS tart the day with a serene Sunrise Yoga session, followed by an Oindulgent spa treatment featuring varied therapies. What better way to unwind, than the temperature-controlled outdoor pool, a perfect de-stress mantra.



Vehicles bearing Name, Model, Engine No .Chassis No. as mentioned in the schedule below are put on public auction as detailed below by CANARA BANK. The undersigned being an authorized officer of the bank is appointed for the above said purpose. The prospective purchasers, hereby called for the Open Bids on "AS IS WHERE IS CONDITION AND AS IS WHAT IS BASIS" for sale of the below mentioned Vehicle

SI. No.	Branch	Borrower/ A/c no.	Type of Vehicle	Registration No/ Engine No/ Chasis No.	Make	Reserve Price	Contact
01	LALPUR	ARADHANA KUMARI 5364768000020	HYUNDAI EON	JH-01DB-1583/ G3HAHM497145 MALA151ALHM540603	2018	Rs. 70,000.00	8370848862
02	LALPUR	MD HASNAIN 5364768000010	HYUNDAI XCENT	JH-01CR-9922/ D3FAHM437385 MALA741DLHM288531	2017	Rs. 80,000.00	8370848862
03	BIRSA CHOWK	SONI SINGH 5362768000183	MARUTI TOUR	JH-01DS-1994/ K12MN2384983 MA3EJKD1S00C35553	2019	Rs. 1,00,000.00	8373055843
04	BARIATU	ANIL MUNDA 3709768000124	TRACTOR INDO FARM	JH-01EE-4358/ C3286A01082NY CPM3035001437	2020	Rs. 1,50,000.00	9771413709
05	BARIATU	NAND KISHORE MUNDA 3709768000132	TRACTOR INDO FARM	JH-01EK-6262/ C3286B00977PM 35001314	2021	Rs. 1,50,000.00	9771413709
06	NAMKUM	SAKET KUMAR PANDEY 2670768000109	AUTO RICKSHAW	JH-01ED-7580/ BBXWLH33233 MD2A98AXL9LWH16852	2020	Rs. 60,000.00	7710425811
07	THARPAKHNA	NANDAN KUMAR RAJAK 161001608590	SUV300	JH01FD7759/ NPPZE87835 MAINM2NPIP2E78849	2023	Rs. 9,00,000.00	7042344040
08	NAMKUM	MR.SANDEEP KUMAR SAHU 2670603001722	MAHINDRA	JH-01 CM/2827/ WGH4D18905 MAITA2WGXH2D37920	2017	Rs. 3,00,000.00	7710425811

Date/Time of Auction : 19.09.2024, Thursday 3:00 PM

Place Of Auction: Canara Bank, Regional Office, Road No.4B, Ashok Nagar, Ranchi, Jharkhand-834001. Tel No- 0651-2240135 Last Date For Submitting the Bids & Deposit of EMD : on or before 17.09.2024, Tuesday 5.00 PM at Canara Bank, Regional Office, Road No.4B, Ashok Nagar, Ranchi, Jharkhand-834001. Tel No- 0651-2240135

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# MOSCOW FILM FESTIVAL KICKS OFF WITH FOCUS ON INDIAN CINEMA

Laapata ladies and Kalki resonate with Russian audience, opening up huge possibilities for Indian cinema in Russia, writes GYANESHWAR DAYAL



he Moscow International Films Week, an event that has become a significant cultural bridge between Russia and the world opened up in Moscow with much fanfare at Khudozhestvenny Cinema and with people from film fraternity from around the world in attendance at the gala event. On the first day of the Film Week, screenings of both foreign and domestic films took place, including the nationwide premieres of the Indian sports drama Field and the philosophical-mystical drama Alzheimer from Iran. This year it is an Indian-themed week with focus on Indian cinema and celebrating Indian art of storytelling on celluloid. The film festival is hosting films from more than 40-countries but the flavour of the festival is completely Indian. The second day was completely dedicated to Indian cinema, with Russian artists performing on Indian songs and Indian cuisine being served at the venue with Bollywood songs playing in the background. The Indian segment of the festival is dedicated to celebrating the richness and diversity of Indian cinema, offering Russian audiences a taste of India's cinematic brilliance through a curated selection of films. Among the highlights are two remarkable Indian films, Laapata Ladies and Kalki, which have captivated the Russian audience with their unique storytelling and cultural nuances. Indian cinema has long been admired in Russia, with classics from Bollywood making their mark in the past. Ra Kapoor was a household name in Russia and 'mera joota hai Japani, an all-time hit. The Indian-themed week at the Moscow International Films Week is a testament to the enduring connection between the two cultures. This year's selection is not just about showcasing films; it's about highlighting the shared human experiences and emotions that transcend borders. As one Russian filmmaker quipped, "Indian and Russian films are made with heart, the most striking similarity between Indian and Russian films is that the songs are woven into the storyline." This is despite the fact that much is lost in translation and language barrier remains a significant impediment. But that is about to change as Swapna Dutt, the co-producer of *Kalki*, told the Pioneer that they would be releasing the film dubbed in Russian. "Indian films were once very popular in Russia, we want to open that bracket again. I am sure Indian films have a huge

market here," said Swapna Dutt.

THE INDIAN SEGMENT OF THE FESTIVAL IS DEDICATED TO CELEBRATING THE RICHNESS AND **DIVERSITY OF INDIAN CINEMA. OFFERING RUSSIAN AUDIENCES A** TASTE OF INDIA'S CINEMATIC BRILLIANCE THROUGH A CURATED SELECTION OF FILMS. AMONG THE **HIGHLIGHTS ARE TWO** REMARKABLE INDIAN FILMS "Laapata ladies" and "kalki, WHICH HAVE CAPTIVATED THE RUSSIAN AUDIENCE WITH THEIR

Laapata Ladies, a film that delves into the complexities of womanhood in contemporary India, has struck a chord with Russian viewers. The film's narrative, which intertwines humor with social commentary, offers a glimpse into the challenges and aspirations of Indian women. The Russian audience, known for its appreciation of nuanced storytelling, has responded positively to the film's portrayal of universal themes such as identity, freedom, and societal expectations.

Kalki, another standout film screened on the second day, explores themes of mythology and modernity, blending them in a way that is both thoughtprovoking and visually stunning. The film's exploration of Indian mythology, set against the backdrop of modern societal issues, has intrigued Russian viewers. The films ability to weave together the old and the new, the mythical and the real, resonates deeply with a culture that values its own rich historical and cultural heritage. The success of Laapata Ladies and Kalki at the Moscow International Films Week highlights the growing appeal of Indian cinema in Russia. These films, while rooted in Indian culture, address universal themes that resonate with audiences across the world. The Russian viewers have found a connection with the characters and their stories, appreciating the films for their depth, creativity, and the way they tackle complex social issues.

### UNIQUE STORYTELLING AND CULTURAL NUANCES

Московская международная неделя кино

### - 28.08.2024

The Indian-themed week has also opened doors for cultural exchange, with discussions and workshops that allow Russian audiences to engage more deeply with Indian cinema. This exchange of ideas and cultural narratives fosters a deeper understanding between the two nations, reinforcing the importance of art in bridging cultural

gaps

As Indian films continue to gain popularity in Russia, the Indianthemed week at the Moscow International Films Week is likely to become a regular feature, showcasing the best of Indian cinema to Russian audiences. The success of Laapata Ladies and Kalki is not just a win for the filmmakers but also a testament to the universal appeal of Indian stories that, while deeply rooted in their own cultures, speak to the shared human experience.

The Moscow International Films Week's Indian-themed week is more than just a showcase of films; it's a celebration of the cultural connections between India and Russia. The warm reception of films like Laapata Ladies and Kalki by the Russian audience is a reflection of the power of cinema to transcend borders and bring people together through the shared language of storytelling.



### I DON'T SMOKE, DON'T DRINK MUCH, AND GO TO THE GYM FIVE TIMES A WEEK. I LIVE A HEALTHY LIFESTYLE AND FEEL GREAT. I CAN RUN A MARATHON, YOU KNOW — SARAH MICHELLE GELLAR





From leading corporate giants to shaping culinary excellence, **PAWAN SONI'S** journey is a celebration of passion and innovation in the food industry, says **SAKSHI PRIYA** 

# 000

# FROM CORPORATE SUCCESS TO CULINARY STARDOM A JOURNEY INTO THE WORLD OF FOOD BLOGGING AND AWARDS

n the culinary world, where flavours tell stories and meals become cherished memories, Pawan Soni has forged an extraordinary path. A former Vice President at global giants like HSBC and GE Capital, Soni made a bold yet passionate shift from the corporate boardroom to the vibrant food scene. Driven by his love for discovering hidden gastronomic gems, he founded Indian Food Freak, a blog that has since grown into one of India's most influential food and travel platforms. His journey took a remarkable turn in 2014 when he launched The Big F Awards, a celebration of culinary excellence that has now become one of Delhi NCR's most prestigious events. Now entering its 11th year. The Big

Now entering its 11th year, The Big F Awards have distinguished themselves with an unwavering commitment to transparency and integrity. Built on the principle of not imposing any financial burden on nominees, these awards have earned a reputation as a fair and respected platform for recognising excellence in the food industry. Over the past decade, they have become synonymous with culinary credibility, highlighting the region's finest dining establishments and championing new talents, including home chefs and bakers who bring fresh flavours and creativity to the table.

This year, The Big F Awards embark on an exciting new chapter by expanding their reach to encompass the entire Delhi-NCR region, reinforcing their vision of inclusivity and growth. This grand event will diverse array of culinar talent, with new categories that reflect the latest trends and celebrate the art of both dining out and home cooking. Attendees can look forward to an immersive experience where innovation, artistry, and passion are celebrated in a truly memorable way. At the heart of this celebration is a distinguished jury, featuring some of India's most renowned culinary experts, such as Chef Kunal Kapur, Chef Nita Mehta, Rocky Singh, and many others. These esteemed judges will rigorously evaluate each nominee, visiting the restaurants and sampling the dishes before casting their votes. This commitment to fairness ensures that the awards remain a beacon of trust and excellence in the food industry. For Pawan Soni, The Big F Awards are more than just an event, they are a community and a platform for supporting genuine connections and inspiring culinary creativity. As he prepares for the upcoming awards in September, Soni envisions an evening that brings together the best of Delhi NCR's food scene, offering an opportunity to celebrate, connect and elevate the standards of culinary excellence. With a legacy of integrity and innovation, The Big F Awards continue to shine as a cornerstone of the region's vibrant food culture. Founded in 2014, The Big F Awards have become a symbol of credibility and fairness, consistently upholding the highest standards in the industry. This year's edition promises to build on this legacy, with new surprises, new talents, and new stories to be told. Join Pawan Soni and his esteemed panel in this grand celebration of culinary brilliance, where the finest in food artistry come together to create an unforgettable experience. the early days and his commitment to transparency and excellence in The Big F Awards. He provides valuable perspectives on the growth of his blog, the influence of his corporate background and what to expect from this year's prestigious event.

You left a successful career as Vice President at MNCs like HSBC and GE Capital to follow your passion for food. What motivated this career shift, and how did your corporate experience shape your approach to food blogging and awards?

Back in our day, social media wasn't a thing. Like many, I followed the conventional route—completing an MBA and then diving into the corporate world. But food was my

with humor. I remained honest and objective in all my reviews, even if it meant ruffling a few feathers among friends in the industry. By avoiding fancy jargon and staying true to my readers, I built trust and loyalty. My guiding principle has always been to write for my readers, not for the restaurants.

How did you address the skepticism or resistance from both the public and industry professionals during the early days of food blogging, especially when it was an emerging field?

Skeptics are like stale spices - they need to be replaced with fresh perspectives. I proved that food blogging wasn't just a flash in the pan by consistently delivering quality content and building a loyal community. Facebook played a significant role in this, as I created a space where food enthusiasts could exchange opinions and learn from each other. delivering a verdict, venturing into other cities wasn't feasible. However, Delhi-NCR should be treated as one city, with people frequently traveling for work and pleasure. Including Delhi has given us broader and, in some cases, better choices, helping foodies make informed decisions when they dine out.

The introduction of categories for home bakers and home chefs is a unique and thoughtful addition. What inspired these new categories, and how do they reflect current trends in the food industry?

Home bakers and home chefs are the new spice merchants—they're driving innovation and shaping trends. These categories reflect the democratisation of food and the rise of culinary entrepreneurship. I'm pleased to see that home chefs and bakers are now taken seriously. Not only have their businesses expanded, but many new ventures are focused solely on this segment, helping them grow by organising pop-ups at fivestar hotels, developing apps for delivery, and introducing them to wider audiences.

PAWAN SONI

Food critic and founder of the Big F Awards

### A CONVERSATION WITH PAWAN SONI

Pawan Soni shares insights into his transition from corporate life to food blogging, the challenges he faced in escape. Traveling the world, I discovered hidden culinary gems and started writing for newspapers and magazines. Eventually, I launched my own blog, Indian Food Freak. Before I knew it, my passion for food had grown into a full-blown career.

MY CORPORATE EXPERIENCE WAS THE YEAST THAT HELPED INDIAN FOOD FREAK RISE. THE BIGGEST CHALLENGE IN ORGANISING THE AWARDS WAS SECURING SPONSORS WHO BELIEVED IN THE VISION BUT DIDN'T INFLUENCE THE RESULTS.



When you started Indian Food Freak food blogging was relatively new in India. How did you introduce the concept to an unfamiliar audience, and what strategies did you use to build your initial following?

Introducing food blogging to India was like adding a new spice to a traditional recipe—initially unfamiliar, but now indispensable. I focused on creating content that was relatable, authentic, and sprinkled What were some of the biggest challenges you faced in creating content for your blog in the early days, and how did you overcome issues related to resources, technology or audience engagement?

The early days were like cooking with limited ingredients—creativity was key. I tackled challenges by infusing my content with storytelling, leveraging social media, and engaging with my audience like a master chef. Content was never an issue because food is something we encounter daily. To improve the visual appeal, I invested in a DSLR. As the saying goes, a picture is worth a thousand words.

Indian Food Freak has grown into one of the largest food and travel blogs in India. What were some of the initial challenges you encountered when starting your blog and organising The Big F Awards, and how did your corporate experience help you navigate these obstacles?

My corporate experience was the yeast that helped Indian Food Freak rise. The biggest challenge in organizing the awards was securing sponsors who believed in the vision but didn't influence the results. My sales and marketing skills were crucial here. Convincing people of the brand visibility that our awards could offer was key, and looking back, I'm proud to say that I delivered on those promises.

This year, The Big F Awards has expanded to cover the entire Delhi-NCR region. What motivated this expansion, and what new opportunities and challenges do you anticipate?

Expanding The Big F Awards to Delhi-NCR was like adding a new course to the menu—a natural progression. Since it takes nearly six months to organize the awards, with our jury visiting each restaurant to taste the food before Winning the Best Influencer Award by BBC Good Food in 2018 is a significant achievement. How did this recognition impact your career and the growth of Indian Food Freak and The Big F Awards?

We all seek acknowledgment and appreciation. Winning the award was a validation that I was on the right path. It boosted my morale and increased confidence in the products and content I deliver.

The Big F Awards are known for their transparency and integrity. How are you ensuring these values are upheld in this year's expanded edition, especially with the addition of new categories?

Transparency and integrity are the secret ingredients in The Big F Awards' recipe. We ensure fairness by using a robust judging process, clear criteria, and a commitment to accountability. From selecting the right jury to deliberating each result, we remain steadfast in our dedication to honesty and transparency.

As you prepare for the 11th edition of The Big F Awards, what are your personal goals for the event, and what do you hope attendees and participants will take away from this year's awards?

My personal goal for The Big F Awards is to foster a culinary community that's the icing on the cake. I hope attendees and participants leave inspired, with new connections and a renewed passion for the food industry. People don't mind losing as long as they know they lost to a worthy opponent. Our aim is to be fair and just while building camaraderie among all industry professionals.



WE ARE WHAT OUR THOUGHTS HAVE MADE US; SO TAKE CARE ABOUT WHAT YOU THINK. WORDS ARE SECONDARY. THOUGHTS LIVE; THEY TRAVEL FAR – SWAMI VIVEKANANDA

art & culture 11 September 1, 2024

# A TRIBUTE TO TRADITION

# GURU SHOVANA NAKAYAN'S **75 YEARS OF** KATHAK MASTERY

Sharanyam, a heartfelt tribute to the legendary Guru SHOVANA NARAYAN on her 75th birthday, beautifully celebrated her extraordinary journey in Kathak. The evening was a touching tribute to her life's work, showcasing the profound impact she has had on the art form and her disciples, says SAKSHI PRIYA

n the world of Indian classical dance, few names resonate with as much reverence as Padmashri Guru Shovana Narayan. Her journey is not just a tribute to her unparalleled dedication to Kathak but a living legacy that has inspired generations. As she steps into her 75th year, the Asavari Centre for Kathak honoured this icon with an evening titled "Sharanyam," a celebration as vibrant and profound as Guruji herself.

Padmashri Guru Shovana Narayan is a celebrated icon in Kathak, with a remarkable career spanning over six decades. Her innovative approach and deep understanding of Indian culture have redefined the art form. of Indian culture have redefined the art form. With prestigious awards like the Padma Shri and Sangeet Natak Akademi Award, her influence extends beyond performance to visionary choreography, dedicated teaching, and cultural leadership. On this unforgettable evening, the Stein Auditorium at India Habitat Centre in New Delbi was transformed into a space of dance

Delhi was transformed into a space of dance and devotion. The evening was not just an event; it was a vibrant expression of love, respect and admiration from her disciples performanc just Kathak but the essence of Guru Shovana Narayan - the artist, the mentor and the visionary.

first note echoed through the auditorium, it was clear that this evening was extraordinary. The performance of "Taal Pancham Sawari" was a masterful display of rhythm and precision, perfectly embodying the discipline and expression that Guruji has always emphasised. Beyond the technical brilliance, it was the sheer emotion that captivated the audience. "Chaand" was not just a dance; it was a poetic journey that moved everyone present. Similarly, "Malika" seamlessly fused song and dance, creating a blend of beauty that felt almost otherworldly.

One of the most memorable "M o o n l i g h t Impressionism," a

performance that seemed to slow time itself. The dancers moved with such grace that the stage became a peaceful space, where the silence of was captured in every gesture and step. The soft strains of the piano added an extra layer of

elegance, making it feel as though the audience was witnessing a dream come to life.

The evening was a reflection of the profound bond between Guruji and her disciples, a connection that was evident in every movement and gesture on stage. This wasn't just a series of performances; it was a living reflection of the relationships built

through years of passion, shared dedication, and mutual respect. As the presentation video featuring played, heartfelt birthday messages from her students, the in the emotion auditorium was overwhelming. These messages were more than just

ONE OF THE MOST MEMORABLE MOMENTS OF THE NIGHT WAS "MOONLIGHT IMPRESSIONISM," A PERFORMANCE THAT SEEMED TO SLOW TIME **ITSELF. THE DANCERS** MOVED WITH SUCH GRACE THAT THE STAGE BECAME A PEACEFUL SPACE, WHERE THE SILENCE OF MOONLIGHT WAS CAPTURED IN EVERY

Photo: Pankaj Kumar

admiration; they were living proof of the deep, enduring love and gratitude that have grown over the years - a love that extends far beyond the art of Kathak.

the art of Kathak. As the evening drew to a close with the powerful performance of "Dhwani-Pratidhwani," the energy in the auditorium reached its zenith. The audience's applause was more than just appreciation; it was a collective outpouring of respect, love, and admiration for a woman who has devoted her life to the pursuit of art and the nurturing of others others.

In the words of Guruji's first disciple, Shruti Gupta Chandra, "Sharanyam is a small tribute from all of us who have learned so much from Shovana Didi - dance in its purest form and, with it, many life lessons. And the learning continues...," Guruji herself reflected on the evening with emotion, saying, "The air rebounded with the pure love and sublime devotion of all the disciples that touched every heart and left everyone emotional. The programme was meticulously planned and executed."

As her disciples paid tribute through their performances, it was clear that Guru Shovana Narayan's influence extends far beyond the stage. She has touched lives, instilled values, and inspired a generation of dancers who carry For them, she is not just a guru; she is a mother, a confidante, and a guiding star. Guru Shovana Narayan represents both tradition and innovation. She embodies the continuity and innovation. She embodies the continuity of creativity, demonstrating that art is not just about preserving the past but about creating a future rooted in tradition yet open to new possibilities.

As we celebrate her 75th year, it's evident that Guru Shovana Narayan is much more than a dancer; she is a visionary whose life has been dedicated to Kathak. Her legacy extends beyond performances to the hearts of her and the countless lives touched. She is not just a mentor and guide but an inspiring figure whose dedication continues to elevate the art form and inspire those who learn from her.

From the moment the lights dimmed and the





GESTURE AND STEP.

# A CELEBRATION OF INDIA'S TIMELESS CRAFTSMANSHIP

Naayaab highlights India's rich craftsmanship through over 100 masterpieces by renowned artisans. This exhibition blends tradition with innovation, presenting a unique cultural celebration, writes SAKSHI PRIYA

aayaab, a groundbreaking exhibition platform, is set to become a beacon of India's rich heritage, showcasing over 100 masterpieces by the nation's most celebrated artisans. Spanning three major cities New Delhi, Hyderabad and Mumbai. This exhibition is more than just an exhibition, it is a profound celebration of India's artistic legacy, bringing together over 40 traditional art forms under one roof.

### A SHOWCASE OF INDIA'S ARTISTIC DIVERSITY

Naayaab's significance lies in its ability to bring together an extraordinary collection of art forms, each representing a unique aspect of India's cultural fabric. With works from over 70 master artisans, including several Padma Shri and Shilp Guru awards, this exhibition is a rare opportunity to witness the pinnacle of Indian craftsmanship.

The exhibition highlighted the exceptional craftsmanship of several renowned artisans. Sudarshan Sahoo captivated with his intricate stone carving while Jai Prakash Lakhiawal impressed with his detailed miniature paintings. Khaleel Ahmad showcased his exquisite kilim carpets and Bhuri Bai presented her vibrant Bhil art. Durga Bai Vyam contributed her intricate Gond paintings. The visionary leaders behind Naayaab were Ajay A Singh, Founder Director and Akansha Dixit, Founder & Chief Curator.

Bai

One of the most captivating pieces is the Inlay Artistry Chest by



Rupan Matharu, a work that exemplifies the exhibition's ethos of blending tradition with modernity. Crafted from Indian rosewood using traditional Hoshiarpur inlay techniques, Matharu's chest replaces the historically used ivory or bone with acrylic, making it both environmentally conscious and a stunning piece of art. The intricate patterns and meticulous detailing make it a true testament to the mastery of Indian artisans. Another powerful piece is Durga

Bai Vyam's Gond Painting "Climate in Crisis", which uses symbolic imagery to address the resilience of nature in the face of human activity. This painting not only showcases the intricate detailing typical of Gond art but also delivers a poignant message about environmental conservation. Jai Prakash Lakhiawal's Shrinathji in Tanjore and Miniature Fusion

painting is another highlight, merging Tanjore and Pichwai styles

to create a resplendent depiction of the Hindu deity. The use of gold leaf and natural pigments elevates this piece to a new level of artistic brilliance. The Heritage Red Sozni Shawl by Bashir Ahmed Bhatt is a must-see for those interested in traditional Indian textiles. This exquisite shawl, with its intricate embroidery of 600 stitches per centimeter, took four years to complete and is a tribute to the time-honored skills of Kashmiri Sozni artisans.

#### **MASTERPIECES OF CRAFTSMANSHIP**

Among the many remarkable pieces, Shiva Kumar's Tri Panel Mythic Tales stands out as a masterpiece of wood inlay and carving. Spanning six years in the making, this wooden set depicts narratives from the lives of Lord Rama and Lord Krishna across three panels, showcasing scenes like Sri Rama Pattabhishekam,

Vishwaroopa and Krishna Leela. The craftsmanship is so intricate that concealed handles reveal a hidden third panel, an engineering feat in itself. The use of different woods and seashells for vibrant hues, along with hand-carved Yali motifs on the outer frame, make this artwork a true marvel.

Another notable piece is Mukesh Kumar Soni's Maharaja Brooch Pendant, a stunning example of Meenakari on gold. Inspired by the regal bearing of Rajput personages,

this pendant cum brooch combines uncut diamonds, baroque freshwater pearls, glass, spinels, and gold to create a

piece that is both opulent and refined. The intricate designs on both sides, along

with the use of vibrant enamel colors, reflect the rich tradition of Meenakari, an art form passed down through generations since the Mughal era.

#### **A PLATFORM FOR PRESERVATION** AND INNOVATION

Naayaab is more than just an exhibition; it is a movement aimed at preserving and reviving India's traditional art forms. The long-term vision of making Naayaab an annual event, both in India and globally, is commendable. By doing so, the organizers hope to inspire the next generation of artisans and ensure that these invaluable skills continue to thrive. As an art enthusiast, witnessing Naayaab is both a privilege and a profound reminder

the exceptional talent of Indian artisans but also serves as a platform to elevate these crafts to the global stage, ensuring they are celebrated for generations to come. Naayaab is not just an exhibition, it is a celebration of India's artistic heritage, a platform for master artisans and a beacon of hope for the future of traditional crafts. In an age where digital and massproduced art often takes center stage, Naayaab stands as a beautiful contradiction , a reminder of the beauty of handcrafted excellence and the importance of preserving cultural legacies. For collectors, connoisseurs and art lovers alike, Naayaab offers a rare opportunity to connect with the soul of Indian culture, to witness the legacy of its artistic heritage, and to support the artisans who dedicate their lives to preserving these traditions. It is an unmissable event that promises to of the richness of Indian heritage. leave a lasting impact on anyone

The exhibition not only showcases who values the intersection of history, culture and creativity. Naayaab is not just an exhibition but a profound celebration of India's rich artistic heritage. By bringing together over 100 masterpieces from acclaimed artisans across the country, it offers a unique platform that honors and revives traditional crafts. The intricate works displayed, from the innovative Inlay Artistry Chest to the evocative Gond Painting, illustrate the extraordinary skill and creativity of Indian artisans. This event is a tribute to the enduring significance of these art forms and serves as an inspiring reminder of the beauty that emerges when tradition meets innovation. Naayaab stands as a pivotal moment for both art lovers and cultural enthusiasts, marking a significant step in preserving and promoting India's invaluable artistic legacy.



### THE JNANI MUST KEEP EVER IN HIS MIND THE "OM TAT SAT", THAT IS, OM THE ONLY **REAL EXISTENCE**

—Swami Vivekananda

## tarot 12 September 1, 2024

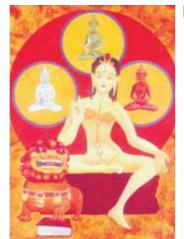




### ARIES March 21-April 19

This week, you'll experience a surge of emotional renewal and inspiration, leading to significant personal growth and the opportunity for meaningful connections. Embrace the new beginnings in your life with confidence and enthusiasm, allowing yourself to be open and vulnerable. This openness will deepen your relationships and enhance your sense of fulfillment. The current energies are encouraging you to explore your emotional needs and desires more deeply, guiding you toward a greater understanding of yourself. Engage in activities that truly resonate with your values and bring you joy. To maintain balance, take time for introspection, ensuring that your excitement and drive are rooted in authentic, meaningful connections.

Lucky number 8 | Lucky colour Sky Blue Lucky day Friday



### LEO July 23-Aug 22

This week, focus on maintaining fairness, balance, and accountability in your actions and decisions. It's an opportune time to resolve any disputes and strive for harmony in your relationships and projects. Be mindful of the importance of acting with integrity, as this will be crucial in your interactions and endeavors. You may encounter situations that require careful consideration of your options or addressing imbalances. Trust in your ability to advocate for what is right and true. Reflect on how your actions impact others and ensure that you proceed with honesty and clarity. By aligning your goals with a commitment to fairness, you'll navigate any challenges that arise with grace and effectiveness.

Lucky number 15 | Lucky colour lvory Lucky day Monday



### TAURUS April 20-May 20

This week, you're stepping into a role that demands leadership and ambitious endeavors, making it a perfect time to take charge of your goals with confidence and creativity. You'll find yourself exuding a magnetic energy that draws others to your ideas, giving you the opportunity to inspire and guide those around you. This is a time to harness your inner drive, pushing forward on important projects with a mix of passion and practicality. While your determination is strong, remember to balance your ambitions with a steady, grounded approach. Your natural perseverance will serve you well as you navigate this dynamic period, allowing you to lead with both vision and stability. This is your moment to shine in your pursuits with unwavering determination

Lucky number 4 | Lucky colour Brown Lucky day Wednesdav



### VIRGO Aug 23-Sep 22

This week highlights a period of recognizing and addressing personal barriers and unhealthy behaviors. You might find yourself grappling with issues of control or repetitive negative patterns that are limiting your growth. The influence of current cosmic energies encourages you to identify and confront these challenges, urging a break from the constraints of fear or excessive desire. This period is crucial for regaining your independence and strength. Reflect on any habits or situations that may be limiting you and make a concerted effort to release them. Though the process might be demanding, it provides a substantial opportunity for personal evolution and development Seize this moment to free yourself and cultivate a more wholesome and balanced life approach

Lucky number 9 | Lucky colour Emerald Lucky day Friday

### LIBRA Sep 23-Oct 22



This week promises a period of emotional satisfaction, harmony, and strengthened connections. You may find a profound sense of joy and completeness in your personal relationships and household. The current influences are conducive to fostering closer ties with those close to you. It's an ideal time to nurture vour family dynamics and cultivate a nurturing atmosphere. Enjoy the benefits of positive exchanges and collective joy. Additionally, this is a favorable moment to pav attention to your emotional health and explore methods to develop enduring happiness. Appreciate the splendor of these experiences and utilize them to enhance the love and delight in your life. These enriching experiences can be a foundation for future stability and joy.

Lucky number 14 | Lucky colour Mint Lucky day Tuesday

### SCORPIO Oct 23-Nov 21

This week may bring moments of conclusion and opportunities for significant breakthroughs. It's a time when you might encounter challenging situations or harsh truths. These experiences suggest a need to

### SAGITTARIUS Nov 22-Dec 21

This week invites you to balance multiple responsibilities effectively. Embrace the challenge of managing various tasks with flexibility and adaptability. It's a time to harness your enthusiasm and organizational abilities to keep everything moving smoothly. The current cosmic influences emphasize the importance of maintaining equilibrium in your busy schedule. By prioritizing and adjusting as needed, you can handle the demands of the week without becoming overwhelmed. Stay focused on your goals while remaining open to making necessary adjustments. Your resourcefulness and ability to adapt will be key in navigating through the week with efficiency and maintaining a sense of harmony among all your commitments. Keep a steady pace, and you'll find that your efforts align beautifully with your obiectives.

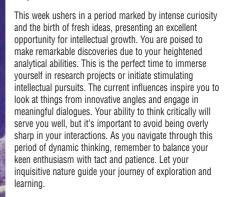
Lucky number 12 | Lucky colour Palm Lucky day Saturday

### **CAPRICORN** Dec 22-Jan 19

This week calls for a period of deep reflection and navigating through areas of uncertainty. It's a time when hidden aspects of your life or underlying emotions may surface, requiring careful exploration. The influences surrounding you are pushing towards relying on your inner instincts and looking beyond obvious appearances. You might face situations filled with ambiguity or even deceptive information, making it crucial to evaluate circumstances with a keen sense of awareness. This phase is ideal for delving into your deeper self, addressing any underlying anxieties or misconceptions. Embrace these moments for self-exploration and foster a connection with your own guiding voice. Although this time may feel unstable, it presents an opportunity to gain significant personal insights and growth. Let your internal compass lead you through less clear paths.

Lucky number 1 | Lucky colour Amber Lucky day Thursday

#### AQUARIUS Jan 20-Feb 18



Lucky number 6 | Lucky colour Turquoise Lucky day Monday

PISCES Feb 19-March 20

#### This week is ripe with opportunities for fresh beginnings and the pursuit of exciting ventures. You are encouraged to embrace your imaginative side and take bold steps toward your goals. You may find yourself inspired by new ideas or



### **GEMINI** May 21-June 20

This week, focus on establishing order and discipline in your life. You'll benefit from setting clear boundaries and creating a structured approach to your tasks. The current energies support your efforts to take control and make strategic decisions, allowing you to lead with confidence. This is an opportune time to take charge of projects or situations that require a strong and authoritative presence. Utilize this time to establish long-term objectives and apply practical approaches.By balancing your need for intellectual engagement with a disciplined approach, you can achieve greater stability and success. Trust in your ability to organize and guide others, and you'll find it easier to navigate any challenges that arise.

Lucky number 19 | Lucky colour Coral Lucky day Sunday



### **CANCER** June 21-July 22

This week brings a surge of mental clarity and a strong drive to take swift action. You may find yourself propelled into new ideas or projects with a sense of urgency, feeling a heightened determination to get things done. This is a time to approach tasks with a clear and assertive mindset making the most of the dynamic energy around you. However, it's important to remain mindful of the impact of your words and actions; avoid being overly reactive or impulsive. Strive to balance your focused determination with a sense of emotional awareness. By doing so, you'll be able to navigate this active period effectively, embracing the momentum while staying connected to your inner quidance

Lucky number 3 | Lucky colour Pink Lucky day Thursday



lives in a wider, richer, meaningful

ego and realizing one's true nature

(atman) or universal consciousness

consciousness, the ability to invest in

(aparigraha), to engage in virtuous

They are distinct concepts - but

inseparable by nature for any holistic

development or application. Only a

judicious combination of Intellectual

clarity + emotional maturity + spiritual

insight (SQ) can result in fulfilment. Our

scriptures emphasize the need to cultivate

and practise these through self-discipline

and self-inquiry (Jijñāsā) Ultimately, the

goal is defined by us -a comprehensive

embracing awakening to the Universe.

Krishna teaches us in The Bhagavad Gita

that both EQ and SQare integral aspects

of a balanced and meaningful life.

मा कर्मफलहेतुर्भूर्मा ते सङ्गोऽस्त्वकर्मणि।। 47।।

कर्मण्येवाधिकारस्ते मा फलेषु कदाचन।

heightened spiritual states of

everyday activities, events, and

(bhakti) and non-attachment

modesty, compassion).

context. mindfulness, self-awareness, and

connection to a higher purpose or reality.

towards and capacity for transcending the

(Parabrahman), the aptitude to enter into

relationships with a sense of the devotion

behavior (forgiveness, gratitude, humility,

Indian scriptures describe it as the work

address and let go of elements that no longer contribute positively to your life. While this period can be demanding, it offers a valuable chance for closure and rejuvenation. Take this opportunity to release any old grievances or burdensome circumstances. Confronting these issues directly allows for healing and transformation. Although the process may be intense, it is clearing the way for fresh starts and personal advancement. Use this period to reevaluate your direction and emerge more robust and adaptable

Lucky number 5 | Lucky colour Silver Lucky day Wednesday



projects that ignite your passion. This is an excellent period for launching new endeavors or diving into creative interests. However, it's important to balance your enthusiasm with practical considerations to ensure your plans are well-founded. Embrace this time of exploration and allow your curiosity and creativity to guide you. Trust in your capabilities and remain open to the possibilities that unfold. This approach will help you harness the energy of the moment and channel it into productive and fulfilling activities

Lucky number 11 | Lucky colour Saffron ucky day Sunday

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### **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

he one constant from my School, to my Corporate, to my family has been-hearing'You are not thinking' | 'You are not applying yourself' | 'You are not invested enough in what you are doing' phrases we have all grown up listening to and perhaps continue to. Manasa Budhi Chitta Ahankara. - embodied in the quotients - IQ | EQ | SQ. IQ (Intelligence Quotient): A relative measure of the Intelligence of the person expressed in number. Can be seen as the ability to understand complex conceptsand apply it effectively. Aligns with the concept of 'Buddhi' the higher intellect or discrimination (Viveka). It includes intellectual discernment, wisdom (Prajña) through practise EQ (Emotional Quotient): Relative measure of Emotional intelligence having a heightened sense of emotional and social awareness, including skills like

ability to understand, use, manage your own emotions in positive ways, communicate empathetically, selfregulation. Indian ancient texts see it as qualities like emotional balance, compassion (karuna), non-attachment (vairagya), and equanimity (samata). SQ (Spiritual Quotient): Relative measure of Spiritual intelligence. Encompasses placing our actions and our

# EQ and SQ

karmany-evādhikāras te mā phaleshu kadāchana

mā karma-phala-hetur bhārmā te saņgo 'stvakarmani (2.47)

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

योगस्थः कुरु कर्माणि सङ्गं त्यक्त्वा धनञ्जय। सिद्धयसिद्धयोः समो भूत्वा समत्वं योग उच्यते।। yoga-sthah kuru karmāni sangam tyaktvā

dhanañjaya siddhy-asiddhyoh samo bhūtvā samatvam yoga uchyate (2.48)Be steadfast in the performance of your duty. Abandon attachment to success and failure. Such equanimity is called Yoga. These2 shlokas are an example of EQ. Applying our emotional balance to our actions and duties with a sense of equanimity

प्रजहाति यदा कामान्सर्वान्पार्थ मनोगतान। आत्मन्येवात्मना तुष्टरू स्थितप्रज्ञस्तदोच्यते।। prajahāti yadā kāmān sarvān pārtha mano-gatān ātmany-evātmanā tushtah sthita-prajñas tadochyate (2.55)

When one discards all selfish desires and cravings of the senses that torment the mind, and becomes satisfied in the realization of the self, such a person is said to be transcendentally situated.

दूरेण ह्यवरं कर्म बुद्धियोगाद्धनञ्जय। बुद्धौ शरणमन्विच्छ कृपणाः फलहेतवः।। dūreņa hy-avaram karma buddhi-yogād dhanañjaya

buddhau śharanam anvichchha kripanāh phala-hetavah (2.49)

The recourse is divine knowledge and insight. Discard reward-seeking actions that are certainly inferior to works performed with the spiritual intellect established in divine knowledge. Miserly are those who seek to enjoy the fruits of their works.

These 2 Shlokas are examples of SQ. When we tune in and nurture our SQ, we move towards happiness, peace and a tranquil state of mind because we do everything in s ate of gratitude and devotion.

None of the 3 - IQ EQ or SQ can be underestimated and under rated. They compliment each other. We need to farm their working together in coherence and balance. IQ helps rational and logical thinking. Emotional stability and maturity help individuals maintain

equanimity amidst life's apparent contradictions or dualities, facilitating focused spiritual practice. The Spiritual quotient is the provides the overarching context and purpose for life. Understanding one's true nature as a spiritual being (atman) and cultivating faith and devotion (shradhha), sensitivity and detachment helps us transcend to lasting inner tranquillity, gratitudeandcontentment. Emotional stability supports spiritual practice by reducing distractions and mental turbulence, while spiritual understanding provides a higher perspective that enriches emotional experiences with depth and meaning. As someone said 'The world is a contradiction and the Universe is Paradox.' To understand, navigate and rise above - Deep Breathe, Soak in, Experience Life!

- The writer is a versatile professional with 3 decades in corporate experience & leadership roles, exceling in several areas as a ICF Certified Mentor Life Co ach, Corporate Coach, Spiritual Intelligenc

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