Spotlight on Rohit, Pant as Mumbai Indians take on **Lucknow Super Giants**

India Thailand support free open inclusive rules-based order in Indo-Pacific: PM Modi

"Anupam Kher sir will always be my Guru...": Neil Nitin Mukesh



51,958 power outages over 5 hours in AAP tenure, claims Ashish Sood



Wagf board turned land mafia. but 'Mafiagiri' won't be tolerated in UP: CM Aditvanath

Wagf board turned land mafia, but 'Mafiagiri' won't be tolerated in UP: CM Aditvanath

9 BUSINESS

India, US Expedite Talks for **Bilateral Trade** Agreement

11 SPORTS

AFI makes it mandatory for athletes to take part in at least one event before Fed Cup

/ MA	RKET /
SENSEX	NIFTY
76024.51	23165.70
-1,390.41	-353.65
GOLD	SILVER
90,588.00	99,437.00
468.00	-628.00



Trump slaps 26% reciprocal tariffs on India, 34% on China

The proposed US policy of raising tariffs is the 'regulatory arbitrage' crutch that the US is offering its businesses. It is the laziest form of arbitrage.

India is already negotiating a bilateral trade agreement with the US. The two countries are aiming to finalise the first phase of the pact by fall (September-October) of this year.

Washington

S President Donald Trump announced a 26 per cent "discounted reciprocal tariff" on India, half of the 52 per cent levies imposed by India on American goods, as he described India as "verv. verv tough."

on American goods, as he described India as "very, very tough."

"This is Liberation Day, a day we've been waiting for a long time. 2nd April 2025 will forever be remembered as the day America's destiny was reclaimed, and the day we began to make a merica wealthy again, going to make it wealthy, good, and wealthy," Trump said on Wednesday in remarks from the Rose Garden at the White House as he announced the closely watched reciprocal tariffs on countries that impose levies on American goods.

In his nearly hourlong remarks on a cold Wednesday late afternoon in the Rose Garden, Trump listed various countries from around the world and the tarky and the countries from a round the world and the tarky and the countries from a round the world and the tarky and the support of the countries from around the world and the tarky and the support of the countries from around the world and the tarky we have the countries from around the world and the tarky and the support of the countries from around the world and the tarky and the countries from around the world and the tarky and the countries from around the world and the tarky and the countries from around the world and the tarky and the countries from around the world and the tarky and the countries from around the world and the tarky and the countries from around the world and the tarky and the countries from a countri



iffs they charge on US products, saying, "For decades, our country has been looted, pillaged, raped and plundered by nations near and far, both friend and foe alike. American steelworkers, auto workers, farmers, and skilled craftsmen.

They really suffered gravely. They watched in anguish as foreign leaders stole our jobs. Foreign cheaters ran-Foreign cheaters ran-sacked our factories, and foreign scavengers tore apart our once-beautiful

long remarks on a cold Wednesday late after-noon in the Rose Garden, Trump listed various countries from around the world and the tar-iffs they charge on US products, saying, "For decades our countries."

raped and plundered by nations near and far, both friend and foe alike. both friend and foe alike.
American steelworkers, auto workers, farmers, and skilled craftsmen.
They really suffered gravely. They watched in anguish as foreign leaders stole our jobs. Foreign cheaters ransacked our factories, and

sacked our factories, and foreign scavengers tore apart our once-beautiful American dream."
Joined by factory and automotive workers, as well as members of his Cabinet in the audience, Trump signed the "historic Executive Order" instituting reciprocal tarifis on countries throughout the world.
"Reciprocal." That

throughout the world.
"Reciprocal. That
means they do it to us
and we do it to them.
Very simple. Can't get
any simpler than that,"
Trump said to applause
from those gathered for
the event.
"Let me offer just a few
examples of the vicious
"stracks our workers have

attacks our workers have faced for so many years. The United States charges other countries only a CONTD ON PAGE-2

IKAS transfers: LG-Omar clash looms as CM calls meet



Srinagar showdown is looming between Jammu and Kasho-Sinha and the nearly six-month-old govern-ment over the transfer of bureaucrats and other issues, prompting Chief

of bureaucrats and other issues, prompting Chief Minister Omar Abdullah to convene on Friday an urgent meeting of MLAs belonging to the ruling National Conference and supporting parties. The agenda for the meeting to which legislators of the alliance partner Congress have also been invited remained a subject of speculation as Abdullah and NC spokespersons remained tightlipped. But the meeting is expected to discuss the reported interference by Raj Bhavan in administrative matters which

istrative matters which fall in the domain of the

The controve

crats belonging to the Jammu and Kashmir Administrative Service (JKAS) by the L-G two days ago led to the lat-est flashpoint between the Raj Bhavan and the Abdullah government which regards the trans-fers as violative of the legal and administrative framework under the Jammu and Kashmir Roorganisation Act. Sources in the know said the chief minister has written to Sinha saw them to Sinha saw

said the chief minister has written to Sinha asking him to review the unilateral decision, pointing out that the transfers and postings of officers outside the All India Services cadre was the prerogative of the elected government. Such orders undermine the functioning and authority of the elected government, Abdullah asserted in the letter.

Will empower Muslim women: Govt tables Waqf Bill in Rajya Sabha

New Delhi
Inion Minority
Affairs Minority
Affairs Minority
ter Kiren Rijiju
on Thursday rejected
the opposition's allegations that the rights
of Muslims were being
snatched away.
While tabling the
Waqf (Amendment) Bill,
2025 in the Rajiya Sabha,

2025 in the Rajya Sabha he also clarified that the "inclusive" legislation aims to empower Mus-lim women and protect the rights of all Muslim

the rights of all Muslim sects.
Some of the opposition MPs in the Upper House were wearing black as a mark of protest against the bill.

The Lok Sabha passed the bill with a 288-232 vote in the early hours of Thursday after over 12 hours of debate.

In the Rajva Sabha, Rijjiu emphasised that the bill alims to usher in transparency, accountability and efficiency in the management of Waqf properties, assert-



ing that only a Muslim can become a Waqif and said the question of the majority of memrs on the Central Wagf

bers on the Central Waqf Council being non-Mus-lims does not arise. Tabling the bill in the Upper House, which was examined and redrafted by a Joint Parliamentary Committee (JPC), Rijiju said the proposed legis-lation has nothing to do with religion, but deals only with properties.

the House that there were 4.9 lakh Waqf properties in 2004, which have now increased to 8.72 lakh. Seeking the opposition's support to pass the bill, Rijjiu said it aims to accomplish the unfuffilled tasks of the previous governments. He also said Waqf owns the largest chunk of properties in the country, leaving aside those owned by Defence and Railways. Agency

Blow for Mamata as SC cancels appointment of 25,753 teachers

New Delhi
I a a major blow to the
West Bengal government, the Supreme
Court on Thursday invalidated the appointment of 25,753 teachers
and staffers in the staterun and aided schools,
calling the entire selection process "vitiated
and tainted". tion process and tainted".

and tainted".

A bench comprising
Chief Justice of India
(CJI) Sanjiv Khanna and
Justice Sanjay Kumar
upheld a Calcutta High
Court verdict of April
22, 2024, annuling the
appointments and said
the tainted candidates
should refund their
"salaries/payments received".

ceived".

"This is a case wherein the entire selection
process has been vitiated and tainted beyond
resolution. Manipularesolution. Manipula-tions and frauds on a large scale, coupled with the attempted cover-up,



have dented the selection process beyond re-pair and partial redemp-tion. The credibility and legitimacy of the selec-tion are denuded," said

tion are denuded, said the 41-page judgement authored by the CJI. The verdict went on, "We find no valid ground

or reason to interfere with the direction of the high court that the ser-vices of tainted candi-dates, where appointed, must be terminated, and they should be required to refund any salaries/ payments received.

 The top court gave re lief to such employees who were not in the category of tainted candidates and had previously worked in other state depart-ments or with autonomous bodies.

mous bodies.
ments were the result of fraud, this amounts to cheating. Therefore, we see no justification to alter this direction."
For candidates, who were untainted, it said

were untainted, it said the selection process was rightly declared null and void due to the "egregious violations and illegalities" as it violated Articles 14 (equality before the law) and 16 (equality of opportunity in matters of public employment) of the Constitution

US tariffs: India not in a hurry, to follow wait and watch approach

New Delhi
India will wait and
watch the situation
emanating from the
imposition of additional import duties by the
US on the global trade
and not take any action
in a hurry as America
may itself face problems
from its domestic industry, government sources try, government sources

said.

US President Donald Trump on April 2 announced reciprocal tariffs ranging 11-49 percent on about 60 countries, including India and China. It will come into effect from April 9.

The official said there are both challenges and opportunities for India as many of its competitor countries in exports, such as China Vietnam, Bangladesh, Cambodia and Thailand, face higher duties.

"As a country we need to watch the situation and need not be in a hurry. This is something new that has happened. It is unprecedented. The US industry too would be angry from this move and challenges will also be there. We need to wait, observe, and and see because we should



not rush to conclusion that this is it for the fu-ture. We need to see what is there in store on their side," one of the

sources said.

The duties announced by the US are aimed at cutting down its trade deficit and boost manu-

facturing.

On the 27 percent duty
on India, they added
that only 6-7 sectors like
shrimp and carpet could
face challenges from the
steep taxes, but majority of other sectors like
pharma and electronics
would get opportunities
to increase shipments
as competitor nations
would face higher duties
than India.

than India.

As per rough calculations, about 25 per cent of India's exports have got exemptions from taxes and the rest have "mixed scenarios". than India.

Stalin to challenge Waqf Bill in SC, gets AIADMK support

Chennai Taking strong exception to the passage of the Waqf Bill in the Lok Sabha, Tamil Nadu Chief Minister and Dravida Munnetra Kazhagam president M K Stalin on Thursday said his party would file a case in the Supreme Court against the Bill. Following the announcement, the opposition All India Anna Dravida Munnetra Kazhagam expressed solidarity with 'all steps' taken by the DMK on the issue while the Bharatiya Janata Party members staged a walkout from the Assembly House in



The CM, who came the Assembly wearing a black badge to protest against the passing of the Bill, said adopting the amendment at 2 am 'at the behest of a few al-

the amendment at 2 am 'at the behes to fa few allies' despite the opposition of the majority parties in India, 'is an attack
on the structure of the
Constitution'.
"This is an act that disturbs religious harmony.
To highlight this, we are
participating in today's
Assembly proceedings
wearing black badges,"
the chief minister told
the House. 'I would like
to inform you that a case
will be filed in the Supreme Court on behalf
of the Dravida Munnetra Kazhagam (DMK)
against this controversial amendment.
Agency

Trump slaps 26% reciprocal tariffs on India, 34% on China

CONT FROM PAGE-1 CONT FROM PAGE-1
2.4 per cent tariff on
motorcycles. Meanwhile,
Thailand and others
charge much higher rates,
like 60 per cent. India
charges 70 per cent, Vietnam charges 75 per cent,
and others are even higher than that.

and others are even high-er than that.
"Likewise, until today, the United States has for decades charged a 2.5 per cent tariff. Think of that — 2.5 per cent 2.5 per cent tariff. Think of that - 2.5 per cent on foreign-made automobiles. The European Union charges us more than 10 per cent tariffs. India charges 70 per cent and perhaps worst of all are the non-monetary restrictions imposed by South Korea, Japan, and South Korea, Japan, and very many other nations," he said.

he said.

As he announced the tariffs, Trump held up a chart that showed the tariffs that countries such as India, China, the Europe India, China, the Europe-an Union, Japan, Taiwan, South Korea, Bangladesh, Sri Lanka, and Pakistan levy on US products, and the reciprocal levies these countries will now have

countries will now have to pay.

On India, the chart showed that the country charged 52 per cent tar-iffs on the US, "including currency manipulation and trade barriers", and America would now charge India "discounted reciprocal tariffs" of 26 per cent.

reciprocal tariffs" of 26 per cent.

"India, very, very tough. The Prime Minister just left. He's a great friend of mine, but 1 said, You're a friend of mine, but 1 said, You're a friend of mine, but you're not treating us right. They charge us 52 per cent. You have to understand, we charge them almost nothing, for years and years and decades, and it was only seven years ago, when I came in, we started with China and we took in hundreds of billions of dollars from China in tariffs," Trump said.

said.
Prime Minister Narendra Modi had visited
Washington, DC, in February, less than a month
after Trump took the oath
of office and began his
second term in the White
House as President.
In the past Trump has

House as President.

In the past, Trum' harif
king' and a "big abuser". During a joint press
conference with Modi in
the White House on 13th
February, Trump had
said that India has "been
very strong on tariffs,"
and "I don't blame them,
necessarily, but it's a different way of doing business. It's very hard to sell
into India because they
have trade barriers, very
strong tariffs,"

BJP demands Mamata's resignation after SC invalidates appointment of 26 000 teachers

he West Bengal
BJP on Thursday demanded
the resignation of Chief
Minister Mamata Banerjee for the "plight" of
around 26,000 teachers
whose jobs were invalidated by the Supreme
Court.

idated by the Supreme Court.

The apex court on Thursday invalidated the appointment of 25,753 teachers and other staff in state-run and state-aided schools in West Bengal, terming their selection process 'vitiated and tainted'.

"The sole responsibility for this massive corruption in teacher recruitment lies with the failed Chief Minister of the state, @Mamatofficial. The Supreme Court's verdict has made it clear how, under Mamata Banerjee's rule, the merit of educated unemployed youth in West Bengal was sold in exchange for money!" state BJP president and Union Minister of State for Education Sukanta Majumdar said in a post on X.

BJP MP and former

on X.

BJP MP and former BJP MP and Jorner Calcutta High Court judge Abhijit Ganguly blamed CM Banerjee for

Indian Navy's 1st Intl Ocean

Ship Sagar finished its harbour & sea training phase in Kochi



the situation, alleging that her administration's

ineptitude worsened the crisis and victimised deserving candidates.

He added that the TMC government would be voted out of power by the people in the coming days.

days.

He demanded that
Banerjee should take
full responsibility of this

"huge corruption" and resign from the post of the chief minister. In a video posted on X, BJP state president Ma-jumdar expressed em-pathy with the deserving

candidates who got their jobs "using their skills and merit but became sufferers due to corrupt mishandling of the en-tire recruitment process by the Mamata Baner-joeg government which is solely responsible for facilitating jobs to a large number of tainted teachers in an irregular manner".

manner".
"They could not be distinguished from the deserving candidates. The corrupt Mamata Banerjee government owes nerjee government owes an explanation to the people of the state, par-

ticularly the families of the deserving teachers," Majumdar added. Ganguly told reporters in Delhi, "Deserving and tainted candidates can be separated and marked if there is will. The Supreme Court has already unmasked the already unmasked the extent of corruption extent of corruption and irregularities of the and irregularities of the TMC-run government Had the Mamata Baner-jee government carried the exercise of differenti-ating deserving/incom-petent candidates, so many deserving young touchers won't have to

Thursday invalidated the appointment of 25,753 teachers and other staff in statein West Bengal, terming their "vitiated and tainted".

"vitated and tainted". lose their jobs."
Calling on the people of Bengal to oust the Mamata Banerjee government, Ganguly said, "Differentiating between deserving, tainted teaching job candidates is not an impossible task. Once we get the mandate un-

job candidates is not an impossible task. Once we get the mandate under Suvendu Adhikari's leadership in Bengal, we will complete the process in a perfect, fair and transparent manner."

Ganguly, during his tenure as the former judge of Calcutta High Court, had first taken up the SSC recruitment case leading to the investigation into the big scam by central agencies and arrest of several TMC and government heavyweights in connection with the scandal since 2022.

since 2022. TMC's Rajya Sabha

MP Dola Sen said the party respects the judgment and asserted that it has always been against corruption.

"We hope that the state government will examine the order and take appropriate steps after speaking to legal experts. The party will always stand with the deserving candidates," she added.

Hundreds of teachers, who had qualified the 2016 recruitment examinations conducted by the West Bengal School Service Commission (WBSSC), had been staging a siri-in in

been staging a sit-in in the heart of Kolkata for months, requesting that the merits of their cases be considered and val-idated by the judiciary while giving the judg-ment.

ment.

Many of them broke down in tears after hearing about the verdict.

ing about the verdict.
An apex court bench
comprising Chief Justice of India (CJI) Sanjiv Khanna and Justice
Sanjay Kumar upheld
a Calcutta High Court
verdict dated April 22,
2024, annulling the appointments.

Defamation case against Rahul Gandhi UP court defers hearing to April 15

Sultanpur (UP):
A special court on Thusday deferred to April 15 the hearing in a defamation case against Leader of Opposition in Lok Sabba Rahul Gandhi due to the complainant's failure to present a witness.

ness.
Advocate Kashi Prasad Shukla, representing the Rae Bareli MP, confirmed that the hearing could not take place due to absence of witness.

PUBLIC NOTICE

Delhi-110059 has disowned his son Rajeev Kumar, his wife Manisha Kumari and there grand son Divyanshu @Tuk Tuk from their all movable and annovable properties my elient had also worst control over-tilem due the disobodierice and any person deal with them in any manner

PUBLIC NOTICE

(Advocate)
OFFICE: Ch.No.59, Lawyers'
Chamber Western Wing, Tis
Hazari Courts, Delhi-110054
Mah. No.9582459601

"The respondent number 1 (Atishi) can number 1 (Atsn) can clearly be seen to have stated that INC was getting funds for cam-paign of its candidates and Dikshit was one of them," the judge said. The respondents even

them," the judge said.

The respondents even asked the INC to come clean on the funding of their candidates, including Dikshit, it added.

Victory for free speech: Atishi, Sanjay Singh walk free in defamation battle

आदमी

पार्टी

New Delhi:

A Delhi court on Thursday dismissed a criminal defamation complaint filed by Congress leader Sandeep Diskhit against former chief minister Arishi and AAP MP Sanjay Singh, underscoring their "legitimate exercise of fundamental right to freedom of speech and expression". Additional chief judicial magistrate Paras Board Search & Seize (VBSS) procedures. The crew received hands-on training with simulators, helping them tackle challenges in maritime operations. The training also allowed for the sharing of best practices among participants. Over the years, Indian Navy training institutions have educated over 20,000 officers and sailors from over 50 country. Board Search & Seize

expression: Additional chief judicial magistrate Paras Dalal refused to take cognisance of Dikshit's complaint and said the averments and contentions labelled defamatory by Dikshit were 'not imputation' but 'political aspirations and assertions'. The order said the statements of the AAP politicians urged the public to make a 'wise decision of their precious vote' and couldn't be termed as imputations 'worthy of scrutiny' under defamation laws.

laws.
"This court fails to find that the necessary ingredients of criminal defamation are prima facie not made out. The press conference and averments made by the



respondents is nothing more than political discourse amongst rival and competing parties, it said.

The statements were observed to have done "nothing but cast political aspirations" and "assertions on the complainant" and his party Indian National Congress (INC) without the mental element to cause harm to Dikshit's reputation, the judge said.

"Since no prima facie offence has been made out from the 'complaint of facts,' this court declines to take cognisance of the offence,' the judge said.

The court said the statement—"BJP is help-ing Congress in the Del-

unite to reclaim lost mobile phones

On track to recovery: RPF & DoT

hi election"—was neither aimed at Dikshit, nor was it defamatory. "The AAP stating in the elections that BJP and INC are acting in collusion with aim to defeat the AAP, would not be defamatory, rather would be very well-cowered within the fundamental freedom of speech and expression," the court added.

Dikshit, the court held, couldn't be defamed for a reference made to the INC.

On Dikshit's allega-

INC.
On Dikshit's allegation that the AAP leaders claimed he had accepted "crores of rupees" from the BJP, the judge said some bits and pieces of the averments made, or answers to the questions

PUBLIC NOTICE

MOHIT YADAV

ees from nine friendly countries participating in a program that in-cluded basic seaman-ship and advanced sim-ulator training empha-sized teamwork under the motto 'One Ocean One Mission," covering communication skills, firefighting, control drills, and spe-cific tactics like Visit Govt is eyeing Waqf land may turn to temple trust properties next: Uddhav

Abhishek Byahut
New Delhi:
The Indian Navy's first
International
Ocean
Ship Sagar (IOS Sagar)
recently finished its harbour and sea training
phase at Southern Naval Command in Kochi.
The ship and its crew
have now departed for
Karwar.
This training involved
44 international trainces from nine friendly
countries participating

Abhishek Byahut

Mumbai:
Shiv Sena (UBT) chief
Uddhav Thackeray on
Thursday claimed that
the Union government
has its eye on the land
of the Waqf boards, and
it may turn its attention to the land of temples, churches and gurudwarns next.
His party opposed the
BJP's fraudulent stand
on the Waqf (Amendment) Bill and "its ploy
to take away (Waqf)
land and give it to its
industrialist friends."
Thackeray said at a press
conference here, hours
after the bill was passed
by the Lok Sabha.
The Sena (UBT), a
The Sena (UBT), a

by the Lok Sabha.

The Sena (UBT), a former BJP ally now part of the Opposition's INDIA grouping, has opposed the bill. Maharashtra deputy Chief Minister Eknath Shinde, who heads the rival Shiv Sena, said by opposing the bill Thackeray com-



mitted a greater "crime" than joining hands with the Congress.
"The concern about the Muslim community shown by the BJP and its allies supporting the bill will put (Pakistan founder Muhammad Ali) Jinnah to shame," Thacker-

nah to shame," Thackeray told reporters.
His remarks came as the BJP and the Shive Sena led by Shinde sought to corner the Sena (UBT) for 'abandoning' Hindutva and the ideals of party founder Bal Thackeray founder Bal Thackeray in not supporting the

Waqf (Amendment) bill. Waqf (Amendment) bill.

"You are eyeing Waqf land, but temple trusts, churches, gurudwaras too have land. You may be eyeing us (lands of Hindu temples) as well. The bill was brought just for land. We have opposed this sham," said Thackeray, a former Maharashtra chief minister.

"If the Waqf bill is for the betterment of the Muslim community, who has abandoned Hindutva (by bringing it in)," he asked.

"What has the Waqf (Amendment) Bill to do with Hindutva? How will Hinduts benefit from this?" he further said.

ors from over 50 coun-

tries.

The international crew also trained at sea with Indian Navy personnel on INS Sunayna, preparing them to work effectively together during upcoming missions. IOS Sagar aims to enhance maritime cooper-

this?" he further said

this?" he further said.

Thackeray, however, admitted that the bill has some good elements, and said his party will not support negative politics. "There should be transparency," he added.

The RIB has year of the said that th

The BJP has won a

Staff Reporter
New Delhi:
The Railway Protection
Force (RPF) has partnered with the Department of Telecommunications to improve the
recovery of lost mobile
phones for railway passenences.

phones as sengers.
This initiative is part of operation 'Amanat', and follows a successful pilot program in the Northeast Frontier Rail-

The new system will be implemented across Indian Railways, help-ing millions of passen-gers.

gers.
At the launch event for the Central Equipment Identity Register (CEIR) portal, RPF Director General Manoj Yadava emphasized the importance of this collaboration in enhancing railway security.

He highlighted that



using digital technology will provide a more transparent way for passengers to recover their lost phones, strengthening trust in the railway system and improving passenger safety.

The CEIR portal is a key tool that helps recover mobile devices by blocking their IMEI numbers and allowing for tracking and management of stolen or lost phones. With this system, the RPF can make lost phones unusable, reducing illegal was to the control of th

resale and making it easier to recover devices through advanced tracking.

RPF has already been active in returning lost property to passengers, recovering items worth \$84.03 crores from January 2024 to February 2025. This new CEIR integration will enhance their efforts to return misplaced to return misplaced mobile phones to their owners, building on the successful achieve-ments of operation ments of 'Amanat'.

News in Brief

Direct bus service from Noida to

Noida
Bus service from Noida to Dehradun and Haridwar is going to be started from this month. The depot will get 50 new buses. Bus service can also be started from here for other places of Devbboomi as well as Purvanchal of UP. chal of IIP

chal of UP.

The depot management will release the timetable chart. The bus fare for those going to Debradun has been fixed at Rs 428 per person and for Haridwar, the bus fare will be Rs 381 per person. Buses for Devbhoomi will be available from Noida depot at an interval of three to four hours. Tests of 13 drivers have been conduct-

ed for recruitment. 167 more conductors will be recruited. New buses will also be run on the new route i.e. Haldwani, Dehradun and Rishikesh. A large number of passengers visit differof passengers visit differ-ent parts of Uttarakhand including pilgrimage sites like Haridwar and like Haridwar and Rishikesh with their families on holidays. Buses will be operated from the depot this month so that passen-gers can reach these pil-grimage sites directly from

Noida.

If the demand of passengers increases, buses can also be operated for Kainchidham, Neelkamth, Haridwar and Tapkeshwar. At present, 158 buses operate from Noida depot. With the availability of new buses, a total of 208 buses will

es, a total of 208 buses will be operated from here. ARM SN Pandey said that Bulandshahr route has the highest number of passen-gers. The depot also gets the maximum revenue from here. The number of pasengers for Agra, Etah sengers for Agra, Etan, Etawah, Saharanpur is also high. The number will be in-creased on these routes when new buses are avail-

GreNo Authority launches antencroachment drive

Noida The Greater Noida Authority (GreNo Authority) on ity (GreNo Authony) Thursday launched anti-en-croachment drive and freed about 4,000 square meters of land from encroachment at village Achheja. The colonisers were trying to do illegal construction on this

CEO of Greater Noida Au thority NG Ravi Kumar has given instructions to take strict action against those who encroach in the notified area, following which the team of the authority is con-tinuously taking action tinuously taking act

On Thursday, the team f the authority took action gainst encroachment at against encroachment at Achheja. Authority's ACEO Prerna Singh said that an il-Prema Singh said that an il-legal colony was being built by building villas in the name of Ramayanam on about 4000 square meters of land of Khasra number 1420 and 1421 of village Achheja in Greater Noida. The ille gal construction was stoppe gal construction was stopped by issuing a notice by the auvere trying to build secret

On Thursday, the Greater Noida Authority officials concerned demolished the illegal construction and freed ne land from encroach-ent. The value of the freed land is estimated to be more than Rs 8 crore

ACEO Singh has warned that Achheja is in the noti-fied area of Greater Noida Authority. Strict action will be taken against those who carry out illegal construction without the permission of the authority or without getting the map passed.

51,958 power outages over 5 hours Haridwar, Dehradun to be started soon in AAP tenure, claims Ashish Sood

Abhishek Byahut
New Delhi
Delhis Power Minister Ashish Sood
has accused former Power Minister Atishi Marlena of
spreading misinformation
regarding power cuts in the
city, claiming late such statements are aimed at creating
unnecessary panic among ments are aimed at creating unnecessary panic among the public. Addressing a press conference in New Delhi, Sood countered alle-gations made by Marlena and emphasized that the

gations made by Martena and emphasized that the current government, under the leadership of Chief Minister Rekha Gupta, is committed to ensuring a reliable 24-hour power supply. The Minister strongly condemned what he described as "false claims" by the opposition and even hinted at the possibility of legal action against those spreading misleading information. He assured that his government is taking all necessary steps to maintain and enhance the electricity infrastructure in the national capital. data that revealed 51,958 instances of power outages instances of power outages lasting more than five hours over the past ten years, averaging approximately 14 outages per day. He used these figures to challenge the narrative that the Aam Aadmi Party (AAP) government had ensured uninterported acceptance of the property of the prope rupted power supply during

s tenure. Sood criticized the oppo-

During the press confer-ence, Sood presented official data that revealed 51,958

ing a recent Assembly di ing a recent Assembly dis-cussion on power outages, calling it a sign of their un-willingness to engage in con-structive debate. He em-phasized that scheduled phasized that scheduled maintenance shutdown are a necessary aspect of any power grid's operation and camot be eateoproized as fail-ures in power supply. The Minister referred to reports from past govern-ment meetings where pow-er companies had them-selves acknowledged in-

stances of prolonged out-ages. He pointed out that Atishi Marlena had previ-ously collected data on such stages and called for their dict her past actions. Sood accused both Atishi

Marlena and AAP supremo Arvind Kejriwal of using the arvmd Kejriwal of using the power supply issue for po-litical gain. He dismissed claims that there were no outages during AAPs tenure, arguing that a lack of re-ported power cuts could in-dicate neglect in necessary maintenance work.

maintenance work.

To assure Delhiites, Sood stated that the government has implemented measures to notify residents about planned power cuts well in advance, ensuring minimal disruption. He detailed ondisruption. He detailed on-going efforts to upgrade the power infrastructure, in-cluding transformer re-placements, to enhance effi-ciency and reduce long-du-ration entrees.

ration outages.

Sood also acknowledged that occasional power dis-

PWD Minister Parvesh Verma inspects

ruptions are inevitable, par-ticularly due to waterlog-ging during the monsoon season, which necessitates season, which necessitates temporary shutdowns for safety reasons. However, he assured the public that the government is working to minimize such instances and that significant improvements would be evident within the next year. Highlighting future challenges, the Minister noted

lenges, the Minister noted that Delhi's peak power demand is projected to rise in the coming years. However, he reassured citizens that the government is fully prepared to meet this growing demand through systematic planning and infrastructural improvements. In conclusion, Sood reitersted his computation,

In conclusion, Sood reit-erated his commitment to providing an uninterrupted power supply and urged the opposition to engage in meaningful discussions rather than resorting to fearmeaningful discussions rather than resorting to fear-mongering for political mileage. With the state's power infrastructure under-going enhancements, Delhi's

coved reliability and trans-arency in the electricity apply system.

PUBLIC NOTICE

General public is hereby in-formed that Mrs. Kranti De W/o late Ishwar Chand Sha & Mr. Rajesh Kumar Sharm S/o late Ishwar Chand Shar both owners of Commercial Shop land area 14.65 sq.yds. Shop land area 14.65 sq.yds., & Residential House no. 90, area 65 sq.yds., at Mohalla Mahajan, in the village Sival Khas, Pargna, Tehsil & Dist. Meerut, U.P. by virtue of Sale Deed dt. 16.03.2009, doc. No

Deed at. 16.03.2009, doc. No. 2243 and Sale Deed dt. 21.05,2018, doc. No. 5397 & Gift Deed dt. 18.10.2024, doc. No. 13085, in SRO- Meerut, in No. 12085, in SRO- Meerut, in the property chain Original Sale Deed dt. 06.06.1994 doc. No. 2254 was lost and FIR already Lodged vide LR No: 2457225/2025 and said property to be financed by AU Small Finance Bank Ltd, if any body has any charge/interest/title/third Pat ty in the said property of any lived of disease, bindly information.

nd of dispute kindly inform the undersigned in writing an

SatvendraGautam Advocate Shop no. 3, Property no. 126, Lal Kauna Ghaziabad, U.P

Approx Cost :₹ 17639314-36 (₹ One crore three hundred fourteen and their

Lai age about 3 House No. 1-334, Mangol Pur North West, Delhi- 110083, (Aadhar Card No.: 9499 6822 6163) have severed all rela-tionship from her son namely Vinay Kumar S/o Late Sh. Ban shi Lali R/o House No. 1-334, Mangol Puri, North West, Del hi-110083, (Aadhar Card No.: 7704 2007 1323) from dis-owned him from all her move able and immovable proper-ties as he has become. disobe-fient and he is out of control. dient and he is out of control dient and he is out of control of my above clientess and my clientess has nothing to do with them. My clientess shall not be responsible for their acts, deeds and also legal liabal ities. If any person deads with them then they will be doing that at their own risk, cost and

PUBLIC NOTICE

Lal aged about 53 years R/o House No. 1-334, Mangol Puri

Delhi High Court CH. No. K-115, FIRST FLOOR, Tis Hazari Courts, Delhi-110054

PUBLIC NOTICE

KNOW all men by these pres ents that my client Kanta Dev W/O Ishwar Das and her hus R/O H-Block ,702, Mangol Pur R/O H-Block, 7/02, Mangol Pun IBlock, North West Delhi 110083 has severed all his rela-tions with his son Mahender and his wife Aruna in all re-spect due to their un-ethical behaviour and my client have divested/Dis-own them from all his moveable and immovable properties henceforth. Who-so- ever deals with her shall do so at his risk and re Kindly publish the same. SHARDA GARG

Advocate FF-25, 1st Floor, Pearls Omaxe Tower, Netaji Subhash Place, Pitampura, Delhi-110034

01 STP of 50 KLD capacit

Data contradicting Delhi minister's statement on power cuts: AAP

New Delhi
The Aam Aadmi Party
(AAP) on Thursday accused the BaP-led Delhi
government of failing to
manage the city's power
supply, alleging that residents have faced frequent and prolonged outages since the new adminis-tration took over.Addressing a press confer ence, AAP senior leade Jasmine Shah presented data from the Delhi State Load Dispatch Centre, claiming that the govern-ment's assertion of "planned shutdowns" was

"Since the BJP govern-

"Since the BJP govern-ment took charge in Feb-ruary, Delhi's power dis-tribution system has col-lapsed. The people of Del-hi are experiencing a cri-sis they haven't seen in the last 10 years, "he said. He also cited instances of unscheduled power cuts across the city, listing disruptions lasting from 30 minutes to over three hours in multiple areas, including Sadar Bazar, Nand Nagri, Yamuna Vi-har and Safdarjung En-clave. The party said out-ages also affected key lo-cations such as Indira cations such as Indira Gandhi Internatio nal Ai port and major residential

nd commercial zones. The party MLAs even

New Delhi
Delhi Police on Thursday
organised a drug destruction event as part of its ongoing campaign against
narcotics and destroyed
1,643 kg of seized drugs
worth Rs 2,622 crore in

the international market.

Waste Solutions Pvt. Ltd. on GT Karnal Road was

attended by Lieutenant Governor Vinai Kumar Saxena and Police Com-

added.

Large quantities of narcotics, including 529 kg of
cannabis, 27 kg of charas,
11 kg of heroin, 517 kg of
cocaine and smaller quantities of MDMA, ketamine

ed of during the event.

was part of a total recovery

sioner Sanjay Arora, he

an official said The event held at Biotic

added.



raised the issue in the re raised the issue in the re-cently concluded budget session and moved the calling attention motion to discuss the power cuts in the Assembly.

Energy Minister Ashish Sood had claimed there were no unscheduled power cuts in Delhi, statpower cuts in Delhi, stat-ing that all shutdowns were planned mainte-nance operations. How-ever, AAP challenged this, alleging that emergency breakdowns, transformer failures and line trips were

being misrepresented.
"The data shows the truth – this is a complete governance failure," the AAP leader said.

Shah also demanded an official response from the Delhi government and urged the BJP to take ac-countability for the "de-

of 1,289 kg from a multi-state drug bust following the registration of a case at the Special Cell on October

, 2024. Earlier in 2024, a total of 1,789 cases under the NDPS Act were registered, leading to the arrest of 2,290 drug traffickers. Ad-

ionally, financial inves-

tigations have resulted in the freezing of assets worth

Delhi Police conducts drug destruction

event aims for drug-free city by 2027

Wazirabad water treatment plant

New Delhi
Delhi Cabinet Minister
Parvesh Verma on Thursday inspected the Wazirabad
Water Treatment Plant
(WTP) and said that he has

iven directions to carry out esilting work that will dou-le up the storage capacity. Verma said that the de-Verma said that the de-silting process would be com-pleted within one to one-and-a-half months, after which the plant would be able to store water at double

its current capacity.

During the inspection,

Verma said that he drank the Verma said that he drank the treated water, checked its quality and assured that the completely safe and drinkable

"The Wazirabad Water "The Wazirabad Water Treatment Plant has a stor-age capacity of 220 MGD but due to silt accumulation along a one-kilometre stretch, it is currently holding only around 100 MGD," he said.

He also said that while He also said that while Delhi receives adequate wa-ter supply from neighbouring states, improvements are needed in storage infra-structure and leakage pre-vention.

He also announced that the Delhi government is preparing a master plan for water management for the next 50 years so that no situation like a water crisis aris-

Additionally, efforts are being made to regulate am-monia levels in the Yamuna

over Rs 4 crore, with an-other Rs 5 crore in assets

under investigation, an of-ficer said.

neer said.

Between 2022 and 2025,
approximately 41,395 kg
of drugs have been incinerated as part of the 'Nasha
Mukt Bharat Abhiyan'.

During the event, Saxena

praised the efforts of the Delhi Police and called for

greater cooperation among

River, he said.

The Water Minister said that the TDS level of water coming from Wazinabad Barnage was found to be 170, which is completely safe according to the World Health Organization (WHO) and Indian standards.

All water purification plants (WIP) and sewage

treatment plants (STP) are being strictly monitored and the government is develop-ing an IT dashboard so that real-time monitoring of wa-ter intake and discharge of every WTP and STP can be done, he added.

Verma further said that there are 30 Sewage Treat-ment Plants under the Del-hi Jal Board that require ılar monitoring. He said that strict steps

are also being taken to stop increasing pollution and il-legal encroachment in Yana and the DJB has reested the Territorial Ar of the Indian Army to er

ment in the Yamuna.

The minister added that he would personally inspect all water and sewage treatment plants in the city, one

He also questioned the policies of the Kejriwal gov-ernment and said, "I did not go to anyone's house and show off by keeping a 20-litre Bisleri bottle. I went to the WIP and drank the sa

all stakeholders to ach the goal of making Delhi rug-free by 2027. The initiative aligns with

the directives set at the oth

state-level NCORD meet-

state-level NCORD meet-ing, chaired by the lieu-tenant governor in No-vember 2024, where a three-year roadmap was outlined to tackle the drug

menace in a phased manne To encourage public par

menace in a phased manner. To encourage public participation in the fight against narcotics, the Union Home Ministry launched the MANAS portal in January 2025, enabling otizens to report drug-related offenses anonymously through the helpline 1933.

The lieutenant governor has also announced cast present a contract of the contract of

wards for those providing credible information on

drug trafficking networks, with assurances of confi-

dentiality.

mitted to providing clean water to the people of Delhi in a transparent manner." PUBLIC NOTICE

General public is hereby in-formed that Mrs. Asma Begum W/o Abdul Wahid owners of Plot land area 200 sq. yds., part of Khasra no. 191, willage Jalpu-ra, Pargna and Tehsil Dadri, Dist. Gautam Budh Nagar, U.P. by virtue of Sale Deed dt.

by virtue of Sale Deed dt. 07.07.2022, doc. No. 24171 ex-ecuted by Mr. Aslam Javed S/o Mr. Anis Ahmad self & as POA of Mrs. Taran Khanam W/o Mr. Aslam Javed in SR- Dadri, Gautam Budh Nagar, in the property chain Original regd. GPA dt. 25.06.2011 doc. No. 166, regd. GPA dt. 28.10.2021, doc. No. 169, regd. GPA dt. 28.10.2021,

2283, were lost and FIR already Lodged vide LR No: 2457480/2025 and said prop-

2457480/2025 and said property to be financed by AU Smal Finance Bank Ltd, if anybody has any charge/interest/httle/third Par-ty in the said property of any kind of dispute kindly inform the undersigned in writing and with proof on the below men-tioned address, failing which and I am sures that in case that in case and I am sures that in case in the and I am sures that in case that in case in and I am sures that in case in the sures of the and I am sures that in case in the latest that in case in the latest that in case in the latest that is the latest that the and I am aware that in case de fault with the mortgage prop erty that all borrower / Owne are responsible for the same

Shop no. 3, Property no. 126, Lal Kauna Ghaziabad, U.P.

PUBLIC NOTICE

ieneral public is hereby in-ormed that Mr. Harkesh Sing /o Mr. Jaydayal & Mrs. Sater Iri W/o Sachin both owners (Plot no. 97, area 114,44 sq.

Plot no. 97, area 114.44 sq. yds, & Plot no. 98, area 144.86 sq. meter., part of Khasra no. 114, village Chamri, Mohalla Kanhiya Endaev, Hapur, Pargna, Tehsil & Dist. Hapur, U.P. by virtue of Sale Deed dt. 16.03.2020, doc. No. 1905 and Sale Deed dt. 10.09.2020, doc. No. 4037, in SRO - Hapur, in the property chain Original Sale property chain Original Sale Deed dt. 28.03.2011 doc. No. 1682, Sale Deed dt.

4682, Sale Deed dt. 28.03.2011, doc. No. 4683, Sale Deed dt. 18.08.2012, doc. No. 13770 and Sale Deed dt. 25.03.2013, doc. No. 3417 were lost and FIR already Lodged vide LR No: 2457455/2025 and said prop-

ice Bank Ltd, if anybody

charge/interest/title/third Pa with proof on the below men-tioned address, failing which and I am aware that in case de fault with the mortgage prop-erty that all borrower / Owners are responsible for the same SatvendraGautam

Advocate Shop no. 3, Property no. 126, Lal Kauna Ghaziabad, U.P

Website www.ireps.gov.in 55 [₹] North central railways @CPRONCR www.ncr.indianrailways INDIAN RAILWAYS

Date of Completion/period from issue acceptance letter: 12 Nor full details and submission of bid please see the India

NORTH CENTRAL RAILWAY E-Tender Notice

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA (BHARAT SARKAR)
MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (RAIL MANTRALAYA)
(RAILWAY BOARD)
New Delhi, Dated 01.0 al Tender No: 2025-TM-2 closing on 24.01.2025 for Desi by, Testing & Commissioning of 67 nos. of Ballast Clean ing with Training of Indian Railway personnel and 3 ye

EASTERN RAILWAY

Railway statistics over Malda Division: Auction Catalogue No.: Media 57r-25-1, Auction Start Date: 104.0025, 11.46 hrs. e-Auction for Medical Storowwar Hald division; 104.0025, 11.46 hrs. e-Auction to Medical Storowwar Hald division; 105.31 has Station; Nimal No. Catalogy and Station; 105.44 hrs. 105.44 hrs. e-Auction No. Catalogy and Station; 105.44 hrs. 105

Tender Notice is also available at websites : www.er.indianrall Follow us at : @@EasternRailway 1 @easte

NORTHERN RAILWAY

TENDER NOTICE

e Dy. Chief Electrical Engineer/Corist./Northern Railway, DRM Office by Delhi-110001 invites e-tender under One Packet System for the under

"Design, Supply, Erection, Testing and Commissionin Automatic Fault Locator (AFL) for 2x25 KV AC tra system based on autotransformer neutral current ratio for SP SSP and TSS on 1. NDLS-PWL Section (NDLS-BCT Route 2. New Delhi GZB (Howrah-New Delhi route) 3. NDLS-FDS Section (NDLS-BCT Route) 4. CNB-LKO Section of Northern Rty, LKO & DLI Divn for Raising of Speed to 160 kmph.

unt (to be deposited Online) Rs 4,44,700/-

The detailed e-tender notice is available on Nothern Railway web site is: www.str.indianrailways.gov.in Railway web site is: www.str.indianrailways.gov.in Above tender document will be available for Submission of offer on IREPS web site is: www.ireps.gov.in from 11.04 2025 to 25.04.2025.All other terms and conditions in reasons of

New Delhi

station stampede Shunted DRM

gets new posting in Patiala

New Delhi
Sukhwinder Singh, who was removed as the divisional railway manager from Delhi Division after a stampede at the New Delhi Railway Station, has been transferred to Patiala Locomotive Works.

Sukhwinder Singh "or

Sukhwinder Singh "on being relieved from the post of DRM/DLI, should be transferred to PLW (Patiala Locomotive Works) and posted in the cadre", ac-cording to an order of the Railway Board dated April 1. The Railway Ministry had shunted out five officials

Delhi Assembly to install 500 kVA solar capacity will save Rs 15 lakh per month: Speaker Gupta

New Delhi
elhi Assembly is
targeting to set
up 500 kVA capacity solar panels in 100 days to save a
monthly electricity bill of f8
15 lakh, Speaker Vijender
Gupta said on Thursday.
Addressing a press conference a day after the conchusion of the budget session, Gupta said that the
Assembly will promote solar energy to send a message to the people to adopt
it and ensure zero bills
against electricity consumption.

sumption.
"The Assembly needs around 600 KW of power and it has two solar plants with 100 KW capacity each. The installed solar power

DMRC to operate and maintain three corridors of Chennai metro

New Delhi The Delhi Metro Rail Cor-poration has been awarded a contract by Chennai Metro Rail Limited (CMRL) operate and mainta II project, a statement is-sued on Thursday said. The Delhi Metro Rail

Corporation (DMRC) will oversee day-to-day opera-tions across the three cortions across the three cor-ridors, which span 116.1 km and include 112 sta-

This includes the man agement of six double-decker stations, the Opera-tion Control Centre (OCC), depot control centres, st tion operations, train serv-ices and the maintenance of frastructure, the statement

The first section of Chenpected to become opera-tional by December 2025. with full completion sched-uled in phases by December 2028, it stated.

The contract covers Corridor-3 (Madhavaram Milk Colony to Siruseri SIPCOTII – Indigo Line), Corridor-4 (Lighthouse to Poonamallee Bypass – Orange Line) and Corridor-5 (Madhavaram Milk Colony to Sholinganallur – Red Line) along with maintenance depots at Madhavaram, Poonamallee and Semmancheri, it read. The agreement will remain in effect for 12 years. The contract covers Cor

Semmancheri, it read.

The agreement will remain in effect for 12 years, starting from the commercial operation date of the final stage of Phase II, the DMRC said in the state-

A formal 'kick-off' meeting was held earlier on Wednesday at the CMRL's headquarters in Chennai.

The meeting was attended by DMRC Managing Director Vikas Kumar, Director (Operations and Serv ices) Amit Kumar Jain and other senior officials, it added.



capacity will be increased to fulfil our energy needs ful-ly with solar power," Gup-

installed on the roof and vacant open spaces at the As-sembly, he said. He said the Assembly has

The solar panels will be also targeted to go paperles

sion under the National e-Vidhan Application (NeVA) project. A media desk will

before the monsoon ses-sion under the National e-

onnection, and printers. Gupta said that in the 40 ays of the formation of

connection, and printers. Gupta said that in the 40 days of the formation of the new government in Delhi, two sessions were held and properly concluded. The seven-day budget session was conducted for a record 27,56 hours. Gupta said that the budget tabled on March 25 was discussed for 7.13 minutes by 36 members, including those from Opposition AAP. The only calling attention motion accepted in the session was from the Opposition, he said. The motion was moved to discuss power cuts. "It's, however, supprising that despite being on the Assembly premises,

cussion on their motion. I want to ask the Opposition why (they) did not attend the discussion while lying that they were stopped from speaking on the issue of power cuts," the Speaker said.

He said the Opposition He said the Opposition will have to answer about this in the next session. Gupta asserted that "politically motivated" disruptions by the Opposition were "sternly" dealt with ast he last option during the budget session.

budget session.

In a first, one day of the session was fixed for private members resolutions. A record 78 matters were raised under the special mention rule, the Speaker

said.

Eight reports of the Comptroller and Auditor General (CAG) on the performance of the previous Delhi government were also tabled in the House, but the Opposition did not take part in the discussions, he said

Resolution under Rule Resolution under Rule 107 was also passed in the session, disposing of over 300 matters taken up by committees of the previ-ous Assembly that were car-ried forward to the newly constituted eighth Assem-bly, he said.

bly, he said.

Celebration of the Hindu
New Year for the first time
in the Assembly was yet

earlier on March 4 in four separate orders following the stampede on February 15 that killed 18 passengers that killed 18 passenger the New Delhi Railway auon. Four officials, including

Four officials, including Singh, have got fresh post-ings in different depart-ments and divisions in the Railways. Mways. Wallow was removed as the station di-rector, has been reassigned

rector, has been reassigned as the deputy chief opera-tion manager (Dy COM) for Freight Operations Infor-mation System (FOIS) at the Northern Railway Head-quarter in New Delix Anand Mohan, the sec-ond official shunted out from the position of senior divisional commercial man-

divisional commercial man-ager (Sr DCM) for passenger services (PS) in the Delli Di-vision, has been posted as the deputy chief operation manager of coaching (Dy COM Chg) at the Northern Railway Headquarter in New Delhi.

commissioner of Railway Protection Force at the New Delhi Railway Station, was sent to Kota soon after his

removal order.

Vikram Singh Rana, who
was removed from the post
of additional divisional rail-

of additional divisional rail-way manager (ADRM), is yet to get a fresh posting. The officials said these positions are considered "punishment postings" as they do not have any signif-

Healthy Liver, Healthy Life" session takes place at Adarsh Auditorium, Delhi police



Ajeet Kumar

Noida CEO Lokesh M. of the Noida Authority launched ten Truck Mounted Anti Gun Machines and

one HOMOSEP ROBOT Sewer Clean Machine. The machines were funded by the National Clean Air Program and provided by HCL Foun-dation through CSR funds. Each anti-smog truck

Each anti-smog truck can hold seven thousand liters of water and in-cludes sprinklers on the sides and front, with an anti-smog gun at the back for spraying up to thirm meters to

It attracted senior Delhi Police officers. PFWS team leaders, and police family members, with over 430 attendees pres ent and many joining remotely through social media.

Additionally, there are

The HOMOSEP ROBOT will clean sewer main holes safely, addressing clogged drains more efficiently. Each anti-sn

AHP Rolls Out the Red Carpet for Hospitality & Tourism Excellence

New Delhi
The Association of Hospitality Professionals (AHP)
hosted the curtain raiser
for its prestigious "AHP
Hospitality & Tourism
Awards," marking the beginning of an elevated version of this much-antici-

ginning of an elevated version of this much-anticipated celebration of excellence in the hospitality and tourism industry. Held at The Suryaa, Sampan Terrace, New Friends Colony, New Delhi, the event was an evening of finspiration, gratitude, and strategic industry advancements.

The distinguished gathering brought together leading figures from the hospitality and tourism sectors, including hoteliers, restaurateurs, travel professionals, and hospitality aspirants, reinforcing AHP's commitment to recognizing and celebrating outstanding achievements within the industry. A few notable attendees included Mr. Greesh Bindra, Vice President of The Suryaa Hotel, Mr. Rohit Aron, Vice President of The Park Hotel &



Food Importers; MI Naseer Abdullah, Indian Veteran Actor; and MI ran Actor; and Mr. nitra Chaturvedi, Gen-Saumitra Chaturvedi, Gen-erall Manager of Novotel City Centre, among others. The Suryaa, as the hospi-tality partner, played a key role in curating an excep-tional experience for the attendees. "The event highlighted

"The event highlighted the inspiring journey of AHP, tracing its evolution as a leading voice for hos-pitality professionals. It also witnessed the launch of the AHP Platinum Card in India, a landmark initiative designed to offer exclusive

privileges and benefits to AHP members, further strengthening professional networks and industry colns The laborations. The evening included a heartfelt grati-tude commemoration, ded-icated to honoring industry leaders, mentors, and pro-fessionals who have made ceptional contributions the field of hospitality

Ms. Devipshita Gautam, ounder and General Secretary of AHP, expressed her gratitude for this new chapter in AHP's journey. She said, 'This occasion marks a significant mile-stone for AHP as we take

forward our AHP Hospital-ity & Tourism Awards to new heights. This initiative not only recognizes the ded-ication and excellence of ication and excellence of hospitality professionals but also strengthens the indus-try's role in driving eco-nomic growth and employ-ment. The launch of the ment. The launch of the AHP Platinum Card is a testament to our commit-ment to offering unparal-leled opportunities to our members. We look forward to an exciting future filled with innovation, collaboration, and excellence in hos-pitality."

The Association of Hos-

The Association of Hos-pitality Professionals, a reg-istered nonprofit organiza-tion under the Act of 1860, continues to uphold its mis-sion of enhancing the hos-pitality sector's image and fostering industry-wide col-laboration. With a vast membership encompassing hotels, restaurants, airlines hospitality aspirants, surpliers, trainers, consultants and allied associations AHP remains at the fore-front of industry advocacy and professional growth.

AAP MP Meet Hayer raised concerns about NOIDA Fights Pollution & Sewer procurement of crops in the Parliament

New Delhi During the zero hour Parliament, Gurme Singh Meet Hayer, MP from the Aam Aadmi Party representing Sangrur, raised concerns about the procurement of crops

procurement of crops.

He called for the commission rate for Arhtiyas (Commission Agents) on wheat and paddy to be restored to two and a half percent of the Minimum Support Price (MSP), which was the rate before -20. He emph the need for this change due to rising inflation and the protests by Arhtiyas,



cials" for Punjab to help speed up the lifting of pad-dy from storage facilities. He highlighted that previ-ously, paddy was collected from Punjab by March or April, but now, six months later, the situation remains

later, the situation remains unresolved. This delay has worsened storage problems, causing significant financial losses for farmers. He pointed out that many sheller ownout that many sheller own-ers are struggling as a re-sult, with some forced to close their businesses.

He stressed the impornce of a quick solution to isure a smoother pro-



The machines were funded by the National Clean Air Program and provided Air Program and provided by HCL Foundation through CSR funds.

MOSEP ROBOT Sewer

Each anti-smog truck can hold seven thousand liters of water and includes sprin-klers on the sides and front,

Over 100 seized vehicles gutted in



The HOMOSEP ROBOT anti-smog truck costs forty will clean sewer main holes five lakhs.

are pressure gun pipes for safely, addressing clogged

PMO trying to remote control elected Rekha Gupta govt : Delhi Congress

Staff Reporter

New Delhi Delhi Pradesh Congr Committee president De-vender Yadav here or Thursday alleged that the PMO was trying to remote control the elected Rekha Gupta government through a high level committee.At the direction of the Prime Minister, a high level com-mittee has been formed to co-ordinate with various departments to monitor the functioning of the Gup-ta government, which shows that the BJP's Central leadership have little faith in the elected gov-ernment to run an efficient and development driven

Yadav said that the fact that deputy chief minister Parvesh Verma, who has been made the chairman of the apex committee con-stituted by the PMO, was an indirect attempt to weaken the authority of

CM Gupta. He said that the elevation of Parvesh Verma was an attempt to make him "Super CM" which will only create chaos and confucreate chaos
sion in the government to
make the BJP government lier, corrupt AAP govern-ment, which only indulged

Yaday said that when both in Delhi and at the Centre, the Central le ership never imposed its will on the Sheila Dikshit will on the Sheila Dikshit government, as it allowed the Delhi government to carry out unprecedented development works with full freedom by giving the necessary approvals in-cluding the Delhi metro, without needless restrictions, which enabled a seamless functioning of the Central and Delhi govern-ments with full coordina-

tion and cooperation

MCD to set up night market near Salimgarh Fort vendors to operate daily

New Delhi The Municipal The Municipal Corpora-tion of Delhi (MCD) plans to set up a night market near the Salimgarh Fort next month, allowing street vendors to sell food

street vendors to sell food daily from 6 pm to 10 pm. The market will not have any permanent struc-tures, ensuring that ven-dors bring their carts dur-ing designated hours and remove them afterward. "Vendors will bring their carts sell during reseife

carts, sell during specific hours, and take them back. There will be no perthe site," an MCD official

fire at Delhi Police' Nehru Place yard 50 vehicles including two

New Delhi
Over 100 vehicles seized
by the Delhi Traffic Police
were gutted in a fire that
broke out in a police
malkhana (yard) in Delhi's
Nehru Place on Thursday afternoon, police sources

An FIR has also been

registered in the matter to probe if there was any foul play involved, he said. A call was received at 2.02 pm regarding the fire in Nehru Place, an official of the Delhi Fire Services

Initially, the DFS had

wheelers, three wheelers and cars in malkhana in

open area. However, with the cool-However, with the cool-ing process still ongoing, sources in the police said that it has been estimated that over 100 vehicles were gutted in fire.

gutted in fire.
"Initially we had rushed six fire tenders to the spot and it has been reported that some case properties have also been burnt," he

The source further said that more than 100 vehicles were gutted in the fire that has now been doused.

"It took more than three completely. The matte was immediately informed to the police for further investigation. Though cooling operations are un-derway," said the official of the DFS.

Sources said that the yard belongs to Delhi Traf-fic Police and officials from the traffic headquarters soon rushed to the spot to check the number of af-fected vehicles.

Sources in the Delhi Traffic Police said that re-ports indicate that a large number of two-wheelers

and four-wheelers, in and four-wheelers, in-cluding accidental vehi-cles, that were seized by the traffic police were stored in this yard. As soon as the fire erupt-ed, thick plumes of smoke

spread across the area, vis-ible from a distance. The blaze was so intense that i rapidly engulfed several vehicles.

No compensation for damages will be provided in cases of burnt vehicles and only insurance mone can be claimed, if any,

senior police officer said. The cause of the fire is

Will rebuild farmers' agitation says SKM Non-Political leader Dallewal

Chandigarh:
Punjab farmer leader
Jagjit Singh Dallewal on
Thursday said farmers
will rebuild their agita-

min rebuild their agitation, accusing the AAP government in the state of "betraying" them by evicting the protesters from Shambhu and Kananuri border points in a police erackdown.

Dallewal is a senior leader of the joint forum of the Samyukt Kisan Morcha (SKM) (Non-Political) and the Kisan Mazdoor Morcha (KMM). He is on an indefinite hunger strike since November 26 last year to press the Centre to accept their demands including a legal guarantee to provide Minimum Support Price (MSP) for crops.

Dallewal a started taking medical aid at the Khanauri protest site after the Centre invited the farmer leaders for talks in January but he did not end his fast. He was discharged from a private hospital in Patiala on Thursday. He later went to his native village in the Faridkot district.

Speaking to reporters in Patiala, he said it has never happened that on one side, meetings are taking place with the government and on the other side, farmers were detained by the police after the poeting.

meeting.
"The government which betrayed us may uproot the agitation but not my heart. Our effort is to rebuild this agitation. The two forums will sit together and discuss how to take it across the country," said Dallewal.

On the Punjab police action against farmers,

"backstabbed" the agi tation but also "back stabbed" the people of Punjab as this fight was for saving the state's water.

Dallewal reiterated that his indefinite fast would continue till the farmers' demands in

would continue till the farmers' demands in-cluding a legal guarantee to MSP for crops were met.

The farmer leader said following the Punjab Police's action against farmers on March 19, he had refused to take water and medical aid till the detained farmers were released.

Punjab CM vows to restore Haryana to launch 200 new 'Atal Canteens' by August pristine glory of the state

Ludhiana:

Punjab Chief Minister Bhagwant Singh
Mann on Thursday
asserted that after three
years of clearing the mess
left by previous regimes,
his government is now
focused on restoring the
state's pristing ellow:

focused on restoring the state's pristine glory. Addressing a gather-ing at the inauguration of the World Skill Cam-pus of Excellence in Lu-dhiana, comprising the newly renovated Indus-trial Training Institute (TIT) and the Multi Skill Development Centre Development Centre (MSDC), Mann criticized (MSDC), Mann criticized past governments for their regressive policies that hindered the state's progress. He stated that his administration has prioritized holistic development and the prosperity of Punjab's people since assuming office.

The Chief Minister highlighted that his own.

since assuming office.
The Chief Minister highlighted that his government has fulfilled almost all guarantees made to the public, even exceeding some of them. He took a swipe at the BJP-led NDA government for frequently in-



creasing toll rates, where-as his government has shut down 17 toll plazas across Punjab,
Mann lamented that out of 153 blocks in Pun-jab, water levels in 117 had depleted to a critical level due to past negli-gence. However, he not-ed that his government has revived 15,947 water outses, ensuring wa-ter reaches even the re-

motest villages. He also emphasized that Punjab now provides free electricity to 90% of households and has acquired a power plant from a private firm to ensure surplus power. The plant has been named after Sri Guru Amar Dass Ji, the third Sikh Guru.

The Chief Minister stated that Punjab maintains communal harmony and

to steer youth away from drug abuse, with 55,000 government jobs already provided.

Mann asserted that the drug mafia, previously protected by past governments, is now facing a full-scale crackdown. His administration has seized properties of drug peddlers and encouraged public participation in the fight against drugs by launching a WhatsApp helpline (9779100200) for amonymous tip-offs.

Calling the youth of Punjab highly capable, Mann said the new Skill Campus of Excellence will serve as a launchpad for their success. Spanning 20 acres; the campus has a capacity to train and place over 3,000 students in high-tech courses such as Robotic Welding, 3D Printing, and CNC Machining, He acknowledged Raiya Sabha Member Dr. Vikramjit Singh Sahney's contribution of Rs 2 crore from MPIAD funds and Rs 70 lakh personally for upgradient III Ludiana.

Chandigarh:
The Haryana government will set up 200 new Atal Shramik Kisan Canteens by August, an official statement said on Thursday.
The BJP, in its manifesto for last year's Assembly polls, announced to establish 600 subsidised canteens in the state. At present, 175 such canteens are operational.
Chief Minister Nayab Singh Saini will inaugurate the new canteens on Independence Day, taking the total number to 375, it said.
In the Atal Canteens, farmers and labourers are provided fresh and hygienteens of the said of the said of the said of the said. The canteens are managed by members of Womenself Sides, thereby promoting women's empowerment.
Saini directed officials to identify locations for the canteens. He also asked the Haryana State Industrial and Infrastructure Development Corporation to Corporation to

establish subsidised food canteens in all its industrial estates across the state, en-suring that labourers

suring that labourers have access to nutri-tious food at afforda-ble rates.

The chief minister proposed that the in-frastructure for the canteens could be developed through the corporate social responsibility initia-

ves of companies. He also directed the He also directed the Haryana State Agri-cultural Marketing Board and the Labour Department to iden-tions in 'mandis' and construction sites for the establishment of such canteens while expanding their scope.

construction sites for the establishment of such canteens while expanding their scope. Saini sought the es-tablishment of a dedi-icated portal for the subsidised canteens operating in the state, ensuring that informa-tion about them is ac-cessible at the click of a button.

cessible at the click of a button.

He asked the Haryana State Rural Livelihood Mission to prepare a standardised menu that also includes food items made from millets for the canteens.

Haryana launches crackdown Police force being equipped with best on drug smugglers

Chandigarh:

Haryana Police has launched a crackdown on drug smugglers in one of its "most resolute" anti-drug operations till date, an official statement said here on Thursday.

A live, dynamic list of 860 notorious drug smugglers, each with three or more Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances Act cases in the past decade has been circulated to all field units across the state.

This action, led by

units across the state.
This action, led by
the Haryana State Narcotics Control Bureau
(HSNCB), reflects a
pivot from general enforcement to focused,
data-driven disruption
of drug traffickin networks, it said.
"The time for general
strategies is over," said
DGP, O P Singh, Head of
HSNCB.

HSNCB.

"We have identified the core of the problem — "repeat offenders who thrive on bail, trial delays, and inconsistent follow-up. This live list is a signal if you're on it, the state is watching." Singh said.

Of the 86o identified traffickers 270 are curve.

traffickers, 730 are cur-rently out of jail, and 381 are flagged as 'active',



ence peddling networks. An additional 130 are be-hind bars, and 468 have been marked 'inactive'. Eleven offenders have

Eleven offenders have died in the past 10 years. The live list, which is be-ing continuously updated by police headquarters, includes district-wise tracking of each smug-gler's legal status, activity level, and action history. Field officers have been ordered to treat it as an operational tool not a

ordered to treat it as an operational tool, not a static document.

Sirsa, Fatchabad, and Yamunanagar top the list in terms of smugglers concentration, with Sirsa alone accounting for 117 traffickers, including 106 outside jail.

These districts have long been vulnerable corridors, said a senior HSNCB official. "Now, they are ground zero for targeted enforcement."

The orders sent to field units are unambiguous and aggressive, the offi-cial said.

and aggressive, the official said.

To further streamline enforcement, all districts have been mandated to register on the e-tribunal portal's centralised digital platform for filing financial investigation and conviction reports. This step ensures legal time-lines are met under the NDPS Act and builds digital traceability for every confiscation case, he said.

Citizens have been urged to report any drug-related activity on the anti-drug helpline and other designated numbers. Weekly reviews at district and range levels are already underway, and officers have been advised that non-action will be treated as derelication of duty, the statement said.

infrastructure facilities: Punjab CM

Phillaur (Punjab): Punjab Chief Minis-ter Bhagwant Mann on Thursday said his government is equipping the state police force with the best infrastructural facili-ties and modernising it on

97,000 crore in the past three years. Major com-panies such as Tata Steel and Sanatan Textiles have chosen Punjab as their investment hub due to its robust infracture.

to its robust infrastruc-ture and skilled work-force. He stressed that his government aims to create job opportunities

ties and modernising it on scientific lines to enable it to tackle the law and or-der situation effectively. He was addressing a gathering in Phillaur in Jalandhar after flagging off 139 new vehicles for police stations across the state. Mann said this is con-trary, to earlier trends.

the state.

Mann said this is contrary to earlier trends when the new vehicles were given to the top officers instead of those at the grassroots level.

Mann said the station house officers (SHOs) are the real face of the police force as they are directly connected with people and have a huge responsibility of maintaining law and order.

Being a border state, a number of forces infinical to the state have been chalking out nefarious designs to disturb the hard-earmed peace of the state but the Punjab Police has always foiled such attempts, he noted.

To further overcome major challenges faced by the state, it was imperative that the police





force was updated ac-cording to advanced re-quirements in the field

quirements in the field of investigation, science and technology, he said. Mann expressed the hope that the Punjab Police would uphold the glorious legacy of serv-ing people with utmost professional commit-ment.

ment.
The chief minister said
70 per cent of the drugs
are smuggled from Paki-stan via drones and are
subsequently supplied

in the state.

The state government has joined hands with the Border Security has joined hands with
Border Security
Force (BSF) by launching anti-drone technology to check the movement of drones.
Due to concerted efforts of the state government, drug smuggling
has reduced drastically
as a report of BSF has a

as a report of BSF has indicated a decline in cross-border consign-ments due to strict en-forcement, he said.

Punjab Guv begins 'padyatra' calls

Mann said the state government has already decided to recruit 1,800 constables and 300 sub-inspectors every year in the Punjab Police to overcome shortage of

year in the Punjab Police to overcome shortage of cops.

As for these 2,00 posts every year, around 2,50 lakh candidates apply for these posts so all the aspirants will get involved in academics as well as in improving their physique for clearing the tests, he said.

Mann said this was helping in channelising their unbounded energy in a positive direction and helping them wean away from the menace of drugs.

The CM said the state government had launched a major crack-down against drugs in Punjab to break the backbone of the menace. The state government had already snapped the supply line of drugs and big fish involved in this heinous crime have been put behind the bars, he said.

Mann said for the first the convertige of the menace.

said.
Mann said for the first time, properties of drug smugglers acquired illegally are being de-stroyed or confiscated so that it acts as a deterrent for others

Chief Secretary Anand Bardhan reviews Rail development projects in the state

Pawan Lalchand
Dehradun:
Chief Secretary Anand
Bardhan held a high-level meeting to assess the
development of railway
facilities in the state.
During the meeting, he
directled the Transport
Department to provide a
comprehensive update on
the status of all proposed
railway projects and to
submit a detailed report
highlighting the obstacles
and challenges faced in
the ongoing rail projects.
Additionally, he instructed officials to present
the current satus of the
upgradation of railway

the current status of the upgradation of railway stations across the state, including the Dehradum railway station. Emphasizing the sig-nificance of railway in-firastructure in the state, Chief Secretary Bard-han underscored the necessity of effective co-



ordination between the state government, the Ministry of Railways, Rail Vikas Nigam Limited (RVNL), and other relevant institutions to ensure the seamless execution of proposed and operational railway projects. He stated that the expansion and enhancement of the railway network were critical for connecting

the state's remote and inaccessible hilly areas thereby fostering induseconomic, and sostrengthening railway infrastructure would ensure the smooth movement of devotees throughout the year to world-famous pilgrimage sites and strategic locations.

During the meeting, he Transport Depart-During the meeting, the Transport Department provided a detailed briefing on the status of the railway projects in the state. As per the department's report, there are a total of five railway projects under consideration, of which three are in the proposal stage, while two projects, including the Rishikesh-Karnprayag railway line, are currently in operation. Among the proposed projects, the Gan-gotri-Yamunotri Rail

projects, the Gangotri-Tamunotri Rail Project pans a total distance of 121.76 km and comprises ten stations. The survey work for this project has been completed, and the Detailed Project Report (DPR) has been submitted to the Railway Board, awaiting approval. Similarly, the Tanakpur-Bageshwar Rail Project, covering a distance of 170.70 km with twelve stations, has also completed its survey work, and its DPR has been forwarded to the Railway Board for approval. Meanwhile, the Dehradun-Saharanpur Rail Project, which spans 92.60 km and includes eight stations, is still in the survey stage.

on people to uproot out drug menace

Dera Baba Nanak (Pb):
Punjab Governor Gulab
Chand Kataria on Thursday gave a clarion call to
all people to come forward to uproot the drug
menace from the state,
saying drugs have no
place in the land of 'Guru
Sahiban', prophets and
warriors.
Kataria began his
six-day 'padyatra' (foot

Sahiban', prophets and warriors.
Kataria began his six-day 'padyatra' (foot march) against he drug menace. His 'padyatra' started from the Kartarpur Sahib corridor in Gurdaspur and it will culminate in Amritsar.
Addressing a gathering, the governor said the brave Punjabi people who always gave a beffitting reply to invasions, would also achieve victory against drugs.

yagainst drugs.

He said that drugs are a social evil and that support of every section of society would be solicited for its eradication.

Kataria said the land of Punjab is a symbol of



protecting the religion and the culture and it has made huge sacrifices against tyranny and op-

resision.

Recalling the message against the height of barbarism given by the two younger sons of tenth Sikh master Guru Gobind Singh-who were bricked alive in the wall at Sirhind,

alive in the wall at Sirhind, the Governor said that even today when a person goes to the place the eyes always turn moist. He also said the valiant Punjabis born on such a great land must oppose the conspiracy by the outside forces to weaken them physically and

extend all support in the fight initiated by the government to root out drugs from the sacred soil of

rom the sacred son of Punjab. Reminding the Punjabi people of their immense-ly great legacy, Kataria said apart from guard-ing the frontiers when the Americans refused to help with foodgrains, then it was Punjab that filled the granaries of the country.

Now when the state is facing the challenge posed by drugs, then we must once again rise up to end this scourge in the form of a people's movement, he said.

"New initiative to curb corruption and bring transparency"

· Wakf Amendment Bill 2024: A revolutionary step towards transparency and accountability



By Priyanka Saurabh

use, corruption, and ar-

trariness of Waqf Boards,

ensuring proper use of properties, and resolving

riving timental.

Disputes and allegations of corruption related to war properties in India liave long been a top-conference of discussion. Laking of acree of land in the Country come under the Warf Board, which aims to use the properties for religious and social welfare works. However, over time it has been observed that the management of Warf properties lias not been completely transparent, and alletransparent, and alle-gations of irregularities, corruption, and arbi-trariness have surfaced

The Waqf Amendment
Bill 2024, possed in the
Lok Sabha, aims to inrease transparency and
accountability in the
management of Waqf
properties; Likhs of acres
of land come under the
Waqf Bard in Inda, but
over the years there have

Disputes and prob-lems related to Waqf bitrariness. This bill will properties

In India, Warf properties are managed under the Warf Art 1995. Warf boards formed under this law were given encricus powent to centrel the properties under this law were given encricus powent to centrel the properties under their control. However, this management has led to many controversies due to lack of transputency and srbitrary decisions. The legal powers that Warf boards have have raised queetions about



many places. According to reports, in many cases, Waigt board officials have taken decisions and as a control of the control o The Waqf Amendment Bill 2004, passed in the courts for a long time. Lock Sabha, aimset make the management of Waqf proporties transparent and accountable.

The implementation

Under the amend-ment, old tenants will be given more legal protec-tion so that they do not have to face forced evic-tion. New monitoring and cusness stakenool: given more sign processors with the control of the same of face forced evictions. At the whole face forced evictions are will be crossed that selection and this many thing the crossed of the except within the crossed that selection are will be crossed that selections are selected as the selection and the control of the control

logal disputes. There was no clear logal process to resolve cases recording of all deals and though party to get justice.

Waqf Amendment Bill 2044: What are key changes?

The Waqf Amendment Bill 2044: What are key changes?

Possible impact of the amendment bill

The implementation of the Waqf Amendment. Bill 2024 will help reside disputes related to Waqf properties in India and increase transparency. This amendment will ensure that there is no rigging in the management of Waqf properties and all transactions are conducted. made public. Under the new law, old tenants will

scams related to Waqf properties. Disputes re-lated to Waqf properties can be resolved quickly through tribunals.

Potential Challeng-

However, there may be some challenges in the effective implementation of this bill; some Waqf boards may oppose this amendment, as it may impact their power and autonomy. If may take time to effectively malement the monitoring and auditing mechanism. and auditing mechanism. There is a possibility that

The Waqf Amendment Bill 2024 is a big step towards making the management of Waqf properties in India transparent and equitable. If this law is implemented effectively, it will not only ensure the right use of Waqf properties but will also curb corruption.

However, it will be im-However, it will be important to see how this law is implemented in practice and what kind of menitoring the government does on it. If all the provisions are implemented properly, then this bill will be able to give a new direction to the administration of Wasti moverties.

(Priyanka Saurabh, Research Scholar in Po-

Breaking Time Sudoku

Pill in the grid so that every row, every column, and every 3x3 box contains the digit 1 to 9. Every puzzle has only correct solution.

6					1			
	3			4			8	6
8	5					9		
	8				7			2
	1	3	2		4	8	6	
4			1				3	
		7					5	8
1	2			8			7	
			4					1

Solution, Sudoku

Į.	1	7	5	6	9	3	8	2
8	5	2	3	7	4	6	9	1
6	3	9	2	8	1	4	7	5
-	6	4	8.	1	2	7	3	9
0	9	1	7	4	5	8	2	6
-	2	8	9	3	6	5	1	4
0	8	6	4	2	3	1	5	7
0	4	3	1	5	7	9	6	8
15	7	5	6	9	8	2	4	3

THE WISDOM TREE BY SUVEEN KUMAR

REFELCTION

Everything dearly re-flects, it reflects when you are loved, it reflects when you are unloved, it reflects when you are ife is easy when you and your reflection are on the same page, life is difficult when you are your reflections don't really talk to each other and life is death when your own reflections your enemy, dean your own reflection is your enemy, dean your own reflection is your enemy, dean your own reflection is your enemy, dean your own reflection in the search of the result of the r relazed, it reflects when you are distribed, it reflects when you think of semeone and blush, it reflects when someone waits for you and your rush. A mere reflection of love sweeters everything around you, and a bar ereflection of love poisons everything around you, eye with landness, mouth with sweetness, skim with elaxed, it reflects when sweetness, skin with softness and thoughts sottness and thoughts with greatless stay desirable, don't let anything come in you that you don't want the world to see, because everything that is in there will reflect, everything throws some signals that are felt by sveryone around

one around you, reflection doubles your power when it brings you inside out and

with yourself everyday, as you change yourself everyday, hold yourself everyday, as you let fall yourself everyday, as you spand yourself everyday, as you spand yourself everyday, raise yourself everyday, raise yourself everyday, as you finall yourself every day, celebrate yourself everyday, as you finally yourself everyday. Moral: Re so clean in

your power feel pro when it brings you out- your reflection

Freedom of authorship versus editorial policy: New dimensions to the debate



By Dr Satyavan Saurabh

Editors usually want unique and original

works to maintain the

zine. On the other hand, writers should have the freedom to send their vorks to as many places as possible, especially since editors have the

line. In the world of literature and publishing, both

If transparency and balit will be beneficial for

both, and the purpose of

literature-the dissemi-

nation of ideas-will be

There has been a long-standing detate in the literary publishing world about whether an attor should have the freedom to send his works to more than one magazine. While editions are free to publish or not publish or not publish and a suther have the right to send his work to as many places as howants? This question have the right to send his work to as many places as howants? This question have the right to send his work to as many places as possible.

Delay in publication.

Most editors believe that the credibility and reportation of a magaine depend on the fact that the material published in it is criginal and unique. It is work has already been published in another magaine, then the readers would have already read it, which may differ the numer magazine. Believe that if the same work is published in many places, it can be since, then the readers may leave the new magazine base to so more and more readers in a different readers in the same work is published in many places, it can be since at the interval of the readers and the same work is published in many places, it can be since at the interval of the readers and the same work is published in many places, it can be senter as his work reaches the work reaches in a didition, another the new magazine base trust in the magazine. But so were readership. If the numer readers may be some reader may be some the work reaches the work reaches the magazine was the work reaches the work re

important argument from the additional properties of the subthors submit the same work to multiple places and it is accepted by multiple editors, it may create contain between journals. Therefore, many journals follow the policy that they

Sometimes editors believe that the credibility and reputation of a magaine depend on the feet work remains unpublished in it is original and unique. If a work has already been published in another magaine, then the readers would have already suffered to the feet of the control of the feet of t

the freedom to choose the best works for his magazine, similarly the writer should also have the freedom to send his work wherever he The solution to this The solution to this debate lies in estab-lishing a balance. Some possible solutions can be found by taking into account the concerns of both sides: wants. If the editor has the right to reject the work at any time, then the writer should also

have the right to get more opportunities by sending his work to dif-ferent platforms. Changing rules in the digital age

the digital age

In today's digital
age, where there are
plenty of blogs, online
mag zaines, and exchai
media platforms, this
debate has taken on a
new form. While earlier writers had to struggle to get published in
print magazines, now
they can publish their
wecks on various online platforms.

Many big media houses and digital publishing groups are now adopting the process of "content syndication," where the same content is republished on different platforms. This gives writers an opportunity to reach more viewership and readers.

one hand, editors have the responsibility to provide new and original content to their readers, and on the other hand, the rights of authors must also be protected. If a healthy and transparent system is developed, it will be beneficial for both parties. Ultimately, the purpose of literature is to spread literature is to spread literature is to spread literature more form of the company of the

If a journal wishes to publish only original works, it should clearly state this rule and also specify the time frame in which a decision will be made. This will give authors clarity on how long they should keep their work in reserve for a journal.

Allow shared pub-

Some journals may journale respect authors rights and authors rights and authors with the will accorpt works that have previously that have previously the workship but not a wider one. This may be a middle ground, protecting to make the publishing culture one created.

(Dr. Satyawan Sautah, Poet, freelance journalist and columnist, radio and TV pandist)

If a work has been published earlier, it should be allowed to be republished after elightly modifying and updating it. This will not celly maintain the exclusions of the not only maintain the exclusivity of the mag-azines but will also give the authors an oppor-tunity to present their works again.

In the world of liter-ature and publishing, the contribution of both authors and edi-tors is important. On

question is not easy, but this debate can en-courage transparency and dialogue in the literary community. If journals respect au-thors rights and au-thors understand and act in scordance with

Is a perfect bal-ance possible?

TOP STORY

partment, you may contact us on 24 hour (9582310372), for Noida (9818999989) Advertisement (9818799941), Circula-tion (08586925450)

TOP STORY

Congress made Muslim women second grade citizens during its rule: JP Nadda

day accused the women second-grade citi-zens during its rule at the Participating in a debate

on the Waqf (Amendment) Bill in the Upper House of Parliament, the BJP leader said the Narendra Modi gov-House of said the Narendra Modi government brought Muslim women into the mainstream by banning the practice of triple talaq.

"You made 19-Muslim IIII and 19-Muslim III an

"You made the Indian Muslim ladies second-grade citizens," Nadda said, refer-ring to the Congress party and added, "It was only India where Muslim we

dia where Muslim women were not brought into the mainstream." While triple talaq was banned in Muslim countries such as Egypt, Sudan, Bangladesh, and Syria several years ago, the Congressled UPA government did nothing for Muslim women while it was in power for a decade.

ecade. "We believe in real service, of Muslim sisters have the right to live with dignity.

Sabla Scurlenty discussing national scurlenty discussing it.

Nadda asserted that the Waqf (Amendment) Bill is in



Who did it? Isn't the decision has done it," Nadda said "I stand in support of

has done it, "Nadda said.
"I stand in support of the (Waqf) Bill as its sole purpose is to bring reforms in managing the Waqf properies," Nadda said emphasising that the current amendment in the Bill tries to fix accounts bill tries.

ountability.

The Lok Sabha passed the

the nation's interest and the opposition is trying to derail and divert the issue.

Drawing a comparison een the Joint Parliam tween the Joint Parliamentary Committees constituted to suggest amendments, Nadda said the current government formed a 31-member committee while the UPA had al 33-member JPC. Similarly, he said, 284 stakeholders participated in the debate this time, while only 18 debated during the UPA's dispensation. This shows that Modi is moving the country forward on the

e country forward on the sis of democratic princi-

According to Nadda, Mus-lim countries like Turkiye, Malaysia, and Saudi Arabia Maiaysia, and Saudi Arabia laws to bring Waqf proper-ties under state control so that they could be utilised for the welfare and develop-

the welfare and develop-ment of the community. He said digitisation and geo-mapping of Waqf prop-erties were started years ago in some of these countries to

digitising Waqf properties and making them account-able, then what is the problem if it is being done in In-dia?" Nadda asked the Opda said several govern properties including lakes and temple lands were de-clared as Waqf properties. "In 2006, there were 4.9

He said the government has tried to ensure with the amendment that the Waqf properties should be in the properties should be in the right hands and used for the benefit of Muslims.

"From 1913 to 2013, Waqf had 81 kink hectares of land and from 2013 to 2025, 21 lakh hectares of land were added to the Waqf properties," Nadda said, adding that the government has no intention to take over these properties but wants to stop their misuse.

He referred to several pro-"In 2006, there were 4.9 lakh Waqf properties and they have increased to 8.7 lakh, however, the total income, which was Rs 163 crore in 2013, has only increased to Rs 166 crore after 2013," Naddh said, adding that even the CAG report raised serious questions on the misuse of Waqf properties. Before Nadda, Congr

MP Sarfaraj Ahmed and Shiv Sena (UBT) MP Sanjay Raut spoke against the Bill and questioned the govern-

Ahmed said the govern-ent has been in power for years but instead of talking about education and jobs for Muslims, it is amending

for Muslims, it is amending the Waqf Act.
"Why is the government so worried about poor Mus-lims? Even Muhammad Ali Jinnah did not show so Jinnah did not show so much concern for poor Mus-lims," Raut said, accusing the NDA of diverting attention from US President Trump's announcement of 26 per cent reciprocal tariffs on In-dia.

"The Bill transfers the power from the Waqf to a collector to ascertain whether a particular piece of land should be given to Waqf or not. The basic aim of the Bill is to bring transparency and accountability and ensure both with strict regulation." Nadda said. Highlighting the misuse of the current Waqf Act, Nad-

He referred to several pro

He referred to several pro-visions of the Wakt (Amend-ment) Act, 2013 to highlight how it violates various con-stitutional provisions such as equality before the law, and the right to fair trial among others and said that the cur-rent amendment removes these anomalies.

"The Bill transfers the

Nithari killings: No sanctity to word 'peremptorily' says anguished SC



New Delhi
There is no sanctity to the
word 'peremptorily', an anguished Supreme Court said
on Thursday after the CBI
and the Uttar Pradesh govermment sought time to argue their appeals challenging the acquital of Surendra
Koli in the 2006 Nithari
words Littlines

ing me acquirtan or surentra Kohi in the 2006 Nithari serial killings case. A bench of Justices B R Gavai and Augustine George Masih noted that in its last order passed on March 25, the apex court had said, "Peremptorily, list these matters on April 3 (high up on the board)." As the matter came up for hearing, the counsel ap-pearing for one of the vic-tims' father, who has chal-lenged Koli's acquittal, said they needed some time to argue the case.

"You should have made that request on the earlier

You should have made that request on the earlier date when the matter was fixed. It is causing incon-venience to counsel coming from outstation," Justice Gavai said.

Koli's counsel said the only evidence against him was a confessional statewas a confessional state-ment made after 60 days of police custody in which he was tortured.

He said the Allahahad

He said the Allahabad High Court's decision ac-quitting Koli on October 16, 2023 referred to a system-atic organ trade. The bench expressed its displeasure and said though nine senior lawyers had ap-peared in the matter on the peared in the matter on use last date for the petitioners, not even one was ready to

not even one was ready to argue today. "It cuts a very sorry pic-ture on the CBI," it said. Justice Gavai said, "There is no sanctity to the word peremptorily." The bench posted the matter for hearing on April 29.

The apex court had last year agreed to examine sep-arate pleas, including those filed by the CBI and the Uttar Pradesh government, challenging the high court's decision acquitting Koli. One of the pleas in the top

court was filed by the father of one of the victims challenging the high court's ver dict.

ner and its domestic help Koli were accused of rape and murder of people, mostly children from their neighbourhood in Nithari in Uttar Pradesh

Utar Pradesh
Koli was awarded death
penally on September 28,
2010 by the trial court.
The high court acquitted
Pandher and Koli in the
death penally case and said
the prosecution had failed to
prove their guilt "beyond
reasonable doubt" and
called it a "botched up" investigation.

called it a "botched up" investigation.

Reversing the death sentence given to Koli in 12 cases and Pandher in two cases, the high court said the probe was "nothing short of a betrayal of public trust by responsible agencies".

The high court allowed The high court allowed multiple appeals filed by Koli and Pandher, who chal-lenged the death sentence awarded by a CBI court in Ghaziabad.

Ghaziabad.

A total of 19 cases were lodged against the duo in 2007, and the CBf filed closure reports in three cases due to lack of evidence.

Koli was acquitted in three of the 16 remaining cases and his death sen-

tence in one case was com muted to life.

muted to life.

The killings came to light with the discovery of the skeletal remains of eight children from a drain behind Pandher's house at Nithari in Noida, bordering the national capital, on December 29, 2006.

Further digging and searches of drains in the area around the house led to more skeletal remains. Most

more skeletal remains. Mos more skeletal remains. Most of these remains were those of children and young women who went missing in the area.

The CBI took over the

case within 10 days of the crime and its search result-ed in the recovery of more human remains.

Oppn walks out, demands justice for

Christian priests in MP

New Delhi Opposition members, led by the Congress, staged a walkout from the Lok Sabha on Thursday in protest against an alleged attack on Catholic priests in Mad-hya Pradesh's Jabalpur dis-

on after the House met for the day, the opposition members sought to raise the issue. Some of them the issue. Some of them came to the aisle raising slogans and demanded a discussion on the issue. Speaker Om Birla did not allow a discussion over the

matter and after raising slo gans, the opposition mem-bers walked out of the

held a protest in the Parli ment complex against the reported attack on two priests, demanding justice for the victims and safety for

"Two Christian priests are brutally attacked by

the VHP (activists) in Ja-balpur on Tuesday," Con-gress MP K C Venugopal

gress MP K C Venugopal told reporters. "The way the government and the BJP-Sangh Pari-var are attacking minori-ties, this is just another exties, this is just another ex-ample (of that)," he charged, adding, "Wherever they are getting a chance, they are at-tacking churches." Venugopal claimed that similar incidents took place

earlier in Chhattisgarh and Jharkhand.

Jharkhand.
In a post on X, the Congress leader slammed the BJP-led Centre and alleged that the "attack" on the Christian priests in Jabalpur was a reflection of the "ruling regime's agenda" of spreading hatred and di-viding people on religious

"It's just another day in odified India," the All In-

SC raps WB school service commission says intentionally covered up lapses

New Delhi
The Supreme Court on
Thursday pulled up the West
Bengal School Service Commission (WBSSC) saying it
"intentionally" covered up ntentionally" covered up the lapses and illegalities in the appointment of 25,753 teachers and staffers in state-run and staffers.

run and state-aided schools. The seathing remarks came from a bench of Chief Justice Sanjiv Khanna and Justice Sanjiv Khanna and Justice Sanjiv Khanna in its judgement by which it annulled the appointment of 25/3/58 teachers and staffers. Authoring the judgement, the CJI said despite the factual background and the credible evidence indicating ir regularities the "WBSSC initially did it yr and cover up the

tially did try and cover up the

lapses and illegalities".

The CJI went on, "The cover up itself has made the verification and ascertainment more difficult or rather imssible given the scale of mouflage and dressing up done at each stage. We are convinced that the entire se-lection process was inten-

Jal Shakti minister launches new digital platforms



tionally compromised due to the illegalities involved."

The top court upheld the Calcutta High Court's findings on illegalities in the selec-The high court said OMR sheets were destroyed without the scanned mirror imges being preserved on the ommission's server.

commission's server.

Appointments higher than
the declared vacancies were
given with respect to all four
categories and to persons
who were not even in the
appeal it added.

panel, it added. The high court said candi-dates who submitted blank

However, it said, there

discrepancy in both the num-ber of candidates and their corresponding percentages where such irregularities were identified. The bench said as the re

The bench said as the re-cruitment process was ongo-ing even after the one-year va-lidity period of the panel, there was no justification for the destruction of the OMR elastic.

sheets.

"It is apparent that the time period specified in Rule 21 was coinciding with the time period specified for the validity of the panel. Further, WRSSC did not maintain the mirror copies of the OMR sheets in their computer/records. Thus, the destruction of the physical OMR sheets and the failure to maintain scanned/mirror images of the OMR sheets and the failure to maintain scanned/mirror images of the OMR sheets and the side of the construction of the physical OMR sheets and the failure to maintain scanned/mirror images of the OMR sheets and the side of the construction of the sheet and the same sheet and the sheet a es of the OMR sheets are gnificant factors which w

Centre working to restore peace in Manipur at the earliest: Amit Shah

New Delhi
Union Home Minister Amit
Shah on Thursday moved a
statutory resolution in the
Lok Sabha for the approval
of the imposition of President's rule in Manipur stating that the Centre is working to restore peace in the northeastern state at the ear-

Introducing the resolu-tion in the lower house, the Minister said that ethnic violence in the state broke due to a decision by the Ma our High Court re a reservation-related dis-pute. He said the violence is a result of the interpreta-tion of the high court's deci-sion.

Shah informed the house that there has been no vio lence in Manipur for nearly four months, from Decem-berto March, and the provisions for food, medic and medical facilities have been ensured in the camps He also said that online

arrangements for technical and medical education have been made and for primary education, classes have been set up inside the camps, where arrangements for their studies have been



The Minister said there and no violence should be

linked to any political party
Attacking the Congressled Opposition for crticising the BJP, he said it is trying to portray a picture as if this is the first violence in Manipur and our gover-nance has failed.

Mentioning three major instances of violence spanning – 10 years, three years and six months – which had curred during the rule of the previous government, he claimed that after these incidents of violence, no on from the then government, including the home minister,

visited the region. Countering the Opposi-

tion's allegation that the g ernment ignored the vio-lence in Manipur, Shah in-formed the house that on the very day the high court's or was issued, companies urity forces were d patched to the region via Air

force planes.

He emphasised that everyone shares the same concern

one shares the same concern on this matter.

Shah also appealed to all members not to politicise the issue as the government was making every possible effort to restore peace in

He said the governmen wants peace to be restored in Manipur as soon as possible, along with rehabilitation ef-forts and healing the wounds of the affected people

for water management and transparency New Delhi Union Jal Shakti Minister

Union Jal Shakti Minister C.R. Paatil on Thursday launched three key digital initiatives aimed at im-proving water resource management, accessibility and transparency. The initiatives include a revamped website for the Department of Water Re-sources, a Web-based Reservoir Storage Monisources, a Web-based Reservoir Storage Moni-toring System (RSMS) portal and a Water Resource Census application and por-

Speaking at the launch vent, Paatil emphasized he government's committhe government's commi ment to digital transfo

nance.
"These platforms will enhance efficiency, trans-parency and accessibility, aligning with the Prime nonized digital identity for overnment services," he

The ministry's newly redesigned website has been developed using the Digital Brand Identity Manual g it one of the first gov-



ernment platforms to fully comply with the latest Guidelines for Indian Comrnment Websites (GIGW)

The upgrade ensures a uniform user experienc across government web sites, enhanced accessibil ity for people with disabil-ities, and improved security features, the Jal Shakti Ministry said in a state-

Other key features include faster load time centralized content r agement system and a mo-bile-friendly design, making it easier for citizens to ac-

To streamline water storage monitoring, the minis-ter also launched the RSMS portal, which will automate portal, which will automa-data analysis for 161 major reservoirs across India.

The Central Water Com-mission (CWC), which monitors reservoir storage, will now generate its weekly storage bulletins digital-ly, eliminating the need for manual data processing, the statement said.

The RSMS portal will al-low citizens to check reser-voir storage levels at the

The RSMS portal will allow citizens to check reservoir storage levels at the national reservoir levels, prothat can be downloaded, according to the statement.

ual reservoir levels, pro-viding real-time data that can be downloaded, ac-

cording to the statement.

This information is crucial for decision-makers in agriculture, power genera-tion, disaster management and drinking water supply

"Live storage data is vital for ensuring water security. This system will help pri-oritize water use and mitigate the impact of extreme weather conditions, which are becoming more frequent due to climate change," Paatil said.

The Water Resource Cen-

sus application and portal will facilitate data collection will facilitate data collection for multiple national-level water resource surveys, in-cluding the 7th Minor Irri-gation Census, 2nd Census of Water Bodies, 1st Census of Springs, and the 1st Census of Major and Medium Irrigation Projects, the ministry For the first time, a 100%

ter the expiry of the panel of candidates through SLST-

noted that the WBSSC was candid enough to admit "(i) rank jumping, that is, to say candidates having lower rank

candidates having lower rank were preferred over those having higher rank, (ii) out of panel appointments, that is, candidates who are not in

didates have been recom-mended and appointed, (iii)

candidat

For the first time, a 100% digital, paperless system will be used to collect data via nobile applications, with ge-otagging and satellite-based validation ensuring accura-7. The reference period for ne census will be the 2023-24 agricultural year, the ent said.

he census aims to build a prehensive database for comprehensive database tor irrigation planning, water budgeting and policy-mak-ing. By integrating reverse GIS technology and pre-pop-ulated past census data, the process is expected to be faster and more reliable.

These digital initiatives re-flect the ministry's broader push toward modernizing push toward modernizing India's water governance system, ensuring efficient water resource planning, bet-ter crisis management and increased public access to critical data, the statement said.

poised for a new era of development under CM Yogi's leadership

Lucknow:
Renowned for its valiant history, Bundelkhand is now on the path to creating a new legacy of development under the visionary leadership of Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath. Once infamous for recurring droughts. yanath. Once infamous for recurring droughts, the region is transforming into a symbol of greenery, thanks to numerous irrigation projects and the Khet Talab Yojana, which has facilitated the construction of farm ponds to enhance water conservation. Beyond agriculture, Bundelkhand is also making rapid strides

Beyond agriculture, Bundelkhand is also making rapid strides in industrial progress, setting new bench-marks for economic growth. With a strong focus on infrastructure and sustainable devel-opment, the region is poised to emerge as a hub of prosperity in the coming years.

hub of prospectioning years.

It includes seven districts—Chitrakoot, Banda, Jhansi, Jalaun, Hamirour, Mahoba, Banda, Jhansi, Jalaun, Hamirpur, Mahoba, and Lalitpur-covering around 60 Jooo square kilometers and making up 10% of Uttar Pradesh's total area. The region has great potential for growing pulses and oilseeds, which is why the government has launched the Dalhan Gram Yojana to promote their cultivation. Additionally, the government is focusing on natural farming across Bundelkhand as part of its farming across Bun-delkhand as part of its Mission Mode initia-

tive.
Faced with frequent droughts, Bundelkhand currently contributes only 5.5% to the state's agricultural output. To bridge this gap, the government is expanding irrigation facilities to improve water avail.

ing irrigation facilities to improve water avail-ability for farming. Further, under the Uttar Pradesh Growth and Rural Enterprise Ecosystem Strength-ening (UP-AGREES) project, supported by the World Page ening (UP-AGRES) project, supported by the World Bank, all dis-tricts of Bundelkhand will benefit from a Rs 4,000 crore investment over six years

Internatio The International Rice Research Institute (IRRI) in Varansi, a branch of the Manila-based IRRI, Philippines, is also partnering in this initiative. The project aims to promote cluster farming, strengthen digital and financial infrastructure, and profrastructure, and pro vide intensive training to farmers.

Waqf board turned land mafia, but 'Mafiagiri' UP Govt to enhance won't be tolerated in UP: CM Adityanath

TOP STORY, DELHI, FRIDAY 04, APRIL 2025

TSN/Pravagraj:

hief Minister Yogi
Adityanath on
by criticized the Waqf
Board, accusing it of
turning into a mafia-like
organization. He alleged
that during the preparations for Mahakumbh,
the Waqf Board had
claimed ownership of
land meant for the event.
However, he assured

claimed ownership of land meant for the event. However, he assured that Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Home Minister Anni Shah had intervened to put an end to such arbitrary actions. CM Yogi made these remarks while addressing a gathering at Shringverpur in Prayagraj on the occasion of the birth anniversary of Lord Nishadraj Guha, a close friend of Lord Shri Ram. He stated that a significant law related to the Waqf Board had already been passed in the Los Sabha and would soon be approved by the Raiya Sabha, ensuring that the board remained focused on welfare activities. He relierated that mafia activities would not be tolerated in Ultar Pradesh, emphasizing that the state had already been freed from them.

During his visit, the Chief Minister inautivations.

During his visit, the Chief Minister inau-



gurated an exhibition highlighting stories related to Lord Ram and King Nishad under the 'One District-One Product' (ODOP) scheme. He also inaugurated and laid the foundation stone for 181 development projects worth Rs 579 crore in Prayargai, Paying homage to Lord Ram and Nishad Raj, CM Yogi visited Nishad Raj Park, calling it a grand symbol of their legendary friendship. He recounted how Lord Ram had once set foot on the sacred land, emphasizing the historical significance of the site.

The Chief Minister also announced plans gurated an exhibition highlighting stories re-

to develop Shringver-pur as a spiritual and tourism hub. He re-vealed that river ghats would be constructed and beautified at the spot where Lord Ram had rested. Addition-ally, he announced the renovation of the Maha-rishi Shringi and Mata Shanita temples, along with the establishment of a Sanskrit school and an electricity research of a Sanskrit school and an electricity research center. He instructed of-ficials to ensure proper maintenance of Nishad Raj Park and enhance facilities for devotees. As part of the state's welfare initiatives, CM Yogi introduced multi-ple schemes for the up-

the 'double-engine gov-ernment' led by the BJP. A heartwarming mo-ment during the event was when a young boy dressed as Lord Ram re-

CM Yogi Adityanath reiterated that mafia activities would not be tolerated in Uttar Pradesh, emphasizing that the state had already been freed from them.

cited a Shiva Stuti. CM Yogi, visibly impressed, gifted him chocolates and praised his talent, stating that such bril-liance would help carry forward the country's horitage.

forward the country's heritage. Highlighting the success of Mahakumbh 2025, CM Yogi remarked that Prayagraj had gained a new global identity. He pointed out that over 66 crore devotees had participated in the grand event, solidifying the city's spiritual and cultural significance. He noted that Prayagraj no longer needed an introduction as a city near Varanasi but had established itself as a major spiritual destination. He further described Prayagraj as a place of great confluence, from the sacred rivers Ganga, Yamuna, and Saraswati to the historic friendship between Lord Ram and Nishad Raj.

facilities in Old Age homes

Lucknow, April 3: The Uttar Pradesh

The Uttar Pradesh government, under Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath, is set to enhance facilities in old age homes across all 75 districts, ensuring a dignified and secure life for senior citizens. These homes will now offer improved free accommodation, meals, medical care, and entertainment for elderly residents. Under the Ayushman Bharat scheme, elderly residents will receive top-tier healthcare services. Additionally, a new initiative aims to tap into their professional and business experience, offering financial incentives in return. Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath believes this approach will foster self-reliance and add value to their lives.

Each government-run old age home accommodates up to 150 residents and operates under a Public-Prieses and the self-reliance and the self-reliance and the self-reliance and add value to their lives.

ates under a Public-Pri-vate Partnership (PPP) model in collaboration with NGOs. This model with NGOs. This modes has proven effective in improving the quality of life for elderly cit-zens who lack family support or caregivers. To ensure transpar-ency and accountabil-ity, a face-recognition

attendance system has been implemented, guaranteeing that every resident receives the services they are entitled to. In addition, the elderly are provided with old-age pensions to support their financial independence. The government has also introduced religious pilgrimage trips to offer mental peace and spiritual fulfillment. In a notable effort

spiritual fulfillment.

In a notable effort during the recent Mahakumbh, the government facilitated the participation of over 1,500 elderly citizens by setting up temporary old age homes at the event site. A medical camp, Shravan Kumbh, was also organized, ensuring comprehensive

was also organized, en-suring comprehensive health check-ups for senior citizens. Acknowledging the legal and family dis-putes many elderly face, the Yogi government has appointed 216 rec-onciliation officers at the tehsil level to ad-dress orievances and dress grievances and ensure justice, Furtherensure justice. Further-more, an implementa-tion committee, led by the District Magistrate, has been established in each district to oversee the efficient manage-ment of old-age homes and ensure continuous service improvements.

Law is necessary to protect Waqf lands, must be implemented strictly: Ghulam Nabi Azad



Avnish Tyagi Bulandshahr: Former Chief Minister of Jammu and Kashmir, Ghulam Nabi Azad, has underscored the ne-nestation of the Wagf law to safeguard Wagf lands. During his visit to the town of Bugrasi in Bulandshahr on Thurs-day, Azad stressed the importance of enforcing importance of enforcing the Waqf Bill, which has

the Waqf Bill, which has already been passed, to ensure that these lands are protected and used in accordance with their intended purpose.

Azad's visit to Bugrasi was to extend his condelences to the family of former chairman Arif Saeed Khan. The family recently suffered a tragie loss when Arif Saeed Khan's brother,

Shadab Khan, passed away while undergo-ing medical treatment in Delhi. Azad spent nearly an hour with the grieving family, offer-ing his sympathies and support during their time of mourning. Sev-eral family members, including Shuaib Khan, Subail Khan, Sha-hab Khan, Hillal Khan, Shekhu Khan, and Moon Khan, were pres-Shadab Khan, passed away while undergo-

hab Khan, Hilal Khan, Shekhu Khan, and Moon Khan, were pres-ent during the visit. While addressing journalists, Azad em-phasized that the im-plementation of the Waqf law is essential to protect properties dedicated to religious and charitable caus-es. He pointed out that dedicated to religious and charitable caus-es. He pointed out that the law is particularly significant for the wel-fare of underprivileged

Muslims, as it ensures that Wagf properties are utilized for their rightful beneficiaries. When questioned about the issue of offering Namaz on roads, Azad provided a candid response. He acknowledged that the population is steadily increasing, which sometimes leads to a shortage of space for religious gatherings. However, he maintained that roads are meant for public transportation and should not be used for prayers. He noted that while Namaz takes only about half an hour, it is important to consider the convenience of all citizens. His remarks were aimed at promoting a balanced approach that respects

Jairam Thakur criticizes Himachal govt at Mandi Rally

Nishad Raj Boat Sub-sidy Scheme, Rs 3,20 crore was distributed to 1,100 boatmen, while Rs 20 crore was allocat-ed to 1,400 fish farm-ers through the Matsya Sampada Yojana. Ad-ditionally, loans worth ditionally, loans worth Rs 138 crore were dis-bursed under the Kisan Credit Card scheme. He assured that financial aid was reaching bene-ficiaries directly, bypass-ing middlemen, under the "double-engine gov-errment" led by the BJP.

Rajan Punchhi
Mandi:
Leader of Opposition
Jairam Thakur launched
a seathing attack on the
Sukhu government, accusing it of systematically shutting down institutions and obstructing
development projects
across the state. Addressing a public meeting at Thachi in Saraj
Assembly constituency.
Thakur alleged that the
present government is
focused solely on closing
institutions and halting their budgets rather
than fulfilling its promises:

He criticized the state.

Hear tuming its proniises.

He criticized the state
government for failing
to deliver on its guarantees and misleading
the public. "The government keeps claiming
that all guarantees are
being fulfilled, but in
reality, not a single one
has been implemented
effectively across the
state. When questioned,
the government has no
answers and resorts to
making false allegations
and irrelevant stateand irrelevant state-ments," he remarked. Highlighting the



ed.

He also slammed the Chief Minister for labeling welfare schemes as freebies. "We provided 125 units of free electricity and water, and implemented schemes like Ayushman, Sahara, Shagun, Ujiwala, Kanyadaan, Beti Hai Anmol, Swavalamban, Jan Manch, and Social Security Pension. These were not handouts but essential welfare measures aimed at improving people's lives. Providing medical care and MP Chabart urgas. videspread factio faction among the peo-ple, Thakur stated that everywhere he visits, he encounters stories of the government's failures. The government has not only shut down various institutions but also feels no hesitation in closing schools and hospitals, directly impacting the lives of common people. The government that came to power promising jobs is now taking pride in snatching employment everywhere he visits, he encounters stories of

social security is the re-sponsibility of any wel-fare government," he asserted.

fare government," he asserted.
Accusing the current administration of misplaced priorities, Thakur claimed that the Sukhu government is more focused on minor matters like monitoring food stalls instead of addressing public concerns. "This government is continuously locking institutions meant for development and public welfare. It is time to teach them a lesson, and for that, we need the support of the people," he urged.

During his visit to the region, Thakur also met local residents and party workers at Balishacki. Additionally.

party workers at Bal-ichowki. Additionally, he visited village Guran to offer condolences to the family of Anjana Thakur, who recently

Thakur, who recently passed away.
The event witnessed the presence of party officials, workers, and local residents, all expressing their discontent with the current government's policies.

MP Chahar urges renaming of Delhi Roads named after Mughal rulers

for 450 Crores business in footwear components

Shoes-Technology exhibition in Agra sets foundation

Rajesh Tomar & Akash

Jain
Agra:
The 58th edition of the
Shoe-Tech Agra' exhibition concluded with
remarkable success, setting the stage for a business worth approximately 450 crore INR in the
footwear components ly 450 crore INR in the footwear components sector. Over the course of two days, a total of 5247 visitors, including 2470 trade visitors, actively participated in the exhibition, highlighting the growing interest and importance of technological advancements in

importance of technological advancements in the footwear industry. The event, which focused on creativity in footwear components, technological development, and innovative research, showcased In-dia's significant progress in the sector. Speaking at the exhibition, Purun



Dawar, President of the Agra Footwear Manu facturers & Exporters facturers & Exporters Chamber (AFMEC), em-Chamber (AFMÉC), em-phasized how the Indian market, once heavily de-pendent on imports, is now rapidly becoming self-sufficient. He state-de, "Today, the changes happening in the Indian footwear industry with technological develop-ment and creativity are not only changing the

Indian market's dynam ics, but they are also a big step towards our self-reliance. All compo self-reliance. All components used in shoes are now available in India. Events like Shoe-Tech are becoming the champions of this industrial revolution."

Deepak Manchanda, General Secretary of the Indian Footwear Components Manufacturers Association (IFCOMA),

shared exhibition statistics with the media and underlined the economic in the state of the event. In this two-day exhibition, the foundation for a business worth 450 crore in footwear components has been laid, which is certainly an indicator of India's progress in this trade," he said.

Throughout the event,

Throughout the event, visitors continued to ar-

rive from morning till late evening, demon-strating the keen inter-est of industry profes-sionals, factory owners, and aspiring entrepre-neurs. The exhibition became a hub for in-dustry networking, with business representadustry networking, with business representa-tives and emerging en-trepreneurs seizing the opportunity to engage with the latest trends and innovations. Sharad Kant Verma, Executive Director of IFCOMA, expressed ex-citement over the busi-ness opportunities cre-

citement over the business opportunities created during the event. He remarked, "Events like this do not directly lead to purchases, but business agreements are certainly bringing forth big figures. We are excited that in two days, the foundation for a business worth approx-

imately 450 crore was laid at Shoe-Tech Agra, which is undoubtedly an indicator of the growing speed of the footwear components sector in India."

components sector in India."
Opinder Singh Lovely, President of the Agra Shoe Manufacturers Association (ASMA), also lauded the event's role in fostering industrial growth. "Such events give a new boom to the business. Shoe-Tech Agra has provided an opportunity to update oneself with the latest footwear components and techwith the latest footwear components and tech-nologies under one roof. This event provides an opportunity to meet one another. Events like this should be regular-ly held for the footwear industry as they play a key role in giving new dimensions to the busi-ness," he stated.



Rajesh Taumar / Akash Jain Agra:

In a significant move advocating for the recognition of India's historical warriors, Fatehpur Sikri MP and National President of BJP Kisan Morcha, Rajkumar Chabar, raised an issue of public importance in the Lok Sabha. He urged the Speaker and the government to rename roads in Delhi's Lutyens' Zone, which are currently named after Mughal rulers, and instead honor India's brave historical figures. MP Chabar pointed out that prominent roads in the capital, including those named after Babur, Tughlaq, Akbar, Humayun, and Dara Shikoh, were designated during the Congress era. He argued that these names do not reflect India's indigenous history and suggested that the government take steps to rename them after legendary In-



dian warriors who played a pivotal role in the coun-try's history. Among the historical figures MP Chahar pro-posed as replacements were Maharana Sanga, Prithviraj Chauhan, Guru Gobind Singh, Maha-raja Sturajmal, Gokula Jat, Chhatrapati Shiva-ji Maharaj, and Hemu Vikramaditya. According ji Maharaj, and Hemu Vikramaditya. According to Chahar, these leaders symbolized courage, re-silience, and the struggle against foreign invaders, making their recognition essential for future gen-erations.

Myanmar's military government visits Thailand in rare overseas

Bangkok:
The head of Myanmar's
military government
arrived in Thailand on
Thursday for a regional
summit, making a rare
international trip as his country recovers from a

sountry recovers from a devastating earthquake that killed thousands. Senior General Min Aung Haining has been shunned by much of the West for overthrowing the democratically elected government of Aung Saan Suu Kyi and subsequent brutal repression. He has not been allowed to participate in meetings of another regional organisation, the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN), since the army seized of power in February 2021 and began violently suppressing oppositions.

pool began violently sup-pressing opposition. He is one of several regional leaders visiting Bangkok for a three-day summit of nations in the Bay of Bengal region. It was Min Aung Hlaing's first visit to a country other than his government's main sup-porters and backers — China, Russia and Rus-sian ally Belarus — since he attended a regional meeting in Indonesia in 2021.

For Advit Contact: 9818-799941

BUSINESS

Bangkok:
India and Thailand on
Thursday decided to
the level of a strategic
partnership with Prime
Minister Narendra Modi
asserting that both the
countries support a free,
open, inclusive, and
rules-based order in Indo do-Pacific, and believe in a policy of developent, not expansionism. Modi made the re-

marks at a joint press event with his Thai counterpart Paetongtarn Shinawatra after holding delegation-level talks during which they held extensive discussions on various areas of bilateral

various areas of bilateral cooperation.

"We have emphasized cooperation in the fields of fourism, culture, and education between India's northeastern states and Thailand. We discussed enhancing mutual trade, investment, and exchanges between businesses," Modi said about his talks with Shinawatra.

nawatra. Agreements have also



between security agen-cies," Modi said.

He said India fully

India Thailand support free open inclusive

been made for cooper-ation in MSME, handloom, and handicraft, he

moted.

Modi asserted that
Thailand holds a special
place in India's 'Act East'
Policy and the Indo-Pacific vision.

"Today, we have decided to elevate our relations to the level of a
Strategic Partnership.
Discussions were also

Discussions were also held on establishing a 'Strategic Dialogue'

He said India fully supports ASEAN unity and ASEAN Centrality. "In the Indo-Pacific, we both support a free, open, inclusive, and rules-based order. We believe in the policy of vikaasvaad, not vistaar-vaad (development-ism, not expansionism)," Modi said. "I am grateful to the Modi said.
"I am grateful to the Thai government for

issuing a special post-age stamp based on the 18th-century 'Ramaya-na' mural paintings on the occasion of my visit,"

the occasion of my visit," he said.
Modi said Prime Minister Shinawatra presented him with the Tripitaka.
"On behalf of the Buddha-land India, I accepted it with folded hands," he added.
The centuries-old re-

he added. The centuries-old re-lationship between In-

'Dark clouds' on Pakistan will 'soon evaporate': Imran Khan

Lahore:
Pakistan's jailed former prime minister Inran Khan has expressed optimism about his release saying he will spend next Eid with the masses as he asserted that the "dark clouds" overshadowing the country will "soon evaporate". The Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) supremo has been incarcerated since

supremo has been incarcerated since

supremo has been incarcerated since August 2023 and is currently held in Rawalpindi's high-security Adiala jail.

A post on the 72-year-old Khan's X account on Wednesday said, "I have complete faith in Allah Almighty that the dark clouds overshadowing Pakistan will soon evaporate and our struggle will bear fruit."

"I am certain that God will grant me success and I will celebrate the next Eid with my people," Khan said.

Khan said the "neon" ia and Thailand is tied their deep cultural nd spiritual threads, he and spiritual threats, its said.

The spread of Buddhism has connected our people at every level, Modi said.

"There has been an exchange of scholars from Ayutthaya to Nalanda. The tale of the Ramayana is deeply woven into Thai folk life;" he said.

"And, the influence of Sankrit-Pali is still reflected in the languages and traditions today," he said.

Khan said the "peon government" was de-termined to keep him

imprisoned as they were obsessed with clinging to power.
"They (military-backed Shehbaz Sharif-led government) know that the day I walk out of prison, their illegitimate rule will crumble. That is why they are relentlessly trying to break me," he said.
Khan said that he was denied political meetings, suggest-

meetings, suggesting that the country's powerful military establishment fears that his party will announce its plan of action, which would threaten their grip on power.

threaten their grip on power.

The former prime minister said he wasn't allowed to speak to his children in England by phone on Eid, claiming that he has only talked to them twice in the past seven months. "...now, once again, I am being denied contact with them for several weeks. I was supposed to speak to my children on Eid, but even that was not allowed," he added.

Israeli strikes on Gaza overnight leaves more than 50 Palestinians dead

Deir al-Balah (Gaza Strip): Overnight strikes by Israel killed at least 55 Israel killed at least 55 people across the Gaza Strip, hospital officials said Thursday, a day after senior government officials said Israel would seize large areas of Gaza and establish a new security corridor across the Palestinian territory.

across the Palestiman territory. Israel has vowed to escalate the nearly 18-month war with Ha-mas until the militant group returns dozens of



remaining hostages, dis arms and leaves the ter ritory. Israel has imposed a month-long halt on all imports of food, fuel and humanitarian aid that has left civilians facing

plies dwindle.
Officials in Khan You-

ies of 14 people had been taken to Nasser Hospital
nine of them from the
same family. The dead included five children and
four women. The bodies
of another 19 people, including five children aged
between 1 and 7 years and
a pregnant woman, were
taken 10 the European
hospital near khan Younis, hospital officials said.
In Gaza City, 21 bodies
were taken to Ahli hospital, including those of
seven children.

independent body would investigate a March 23 operation in which its forces opened fire on am-bulances in Gaza. It said it bulances in Gaza. It said it investigates allegations of wrongdoing by its forces and holds them accountable. Rights groups say such investigations are often lacking and that soldiers are rarely punished. The military said the probe would be led by an expert fact-finding body "responsible for examining exceptional incidents" during the war.

Separately, the military

of culture, and education

and Thailand. We

said about his talks with Shinawatra.

trade

ordered the residents of several areas - Shujaiya, Jadida, Turkomen and eastern Zeytoun - to evacuate on Thursday, adding that the army "will work with extreme force in your area". It said people should move to shelters west of Gaza City. On Wednesday, Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu announced Israel was establishing a new security corridor across was establishing a new security corridor across the Gaza Strip to pres-

Israel has ordered evacuated, from the rest of the
Palestinian territory.
Netanyahu referred to
the new axis as the Morag
corridor, using the name
of a Jewish settlement
that once stood between
Rafah and Khan Younis,
suggesting it would run
between the two southern
cities. He said it would
be "a second Philadelphi
corridor" referring to the
Gaza side of the border
with Egypt further south,
which has been under
Israeli control since last
May.

Poonam Gupta Appointed **RBI** Deputy Governor

Mumbai:
The government has appointed Poonam Gupta, Director General of NCAER, as Deputy Governor of RBI, the central bank said in a statement on Thursday. The appointment is for a period of three years from the date of joining the post or until further orders, whichever is earlier, it said.

The post of the Deputy Governor of RBI fell vacant after M D Patra demitted office in January. He was member of the Monetary Policy Committee (MPC). With appointment of Gupta, now all four notes of deputs, or deputs of deputs, now all four notes of deputs, or deputs of deputs of the Monetary Policy Committee (MPC).

With appointment of Gupta, now all four posts of deputy governors have been filled.

The first bi-month-ly MPC meeting of the current financial year is scheduled for

April 7-9. Currently, Gupta is the Director General of National Council of Applied Economic Research (NCAER),

tank.
She is also a member of the Economic Advisory Council to the Prime Minister and Convener of the Advisory Council to the 16th Finance Commission. She joined NCAER in 2021 after working at senior positions for

She joined NCAER in 2021 after working at senior positions for nearly two decades at the IMF and World Bank in Washington DC.
Gupta taught at the Delhi School of Economics, University of Maryland (USA) and as a visiting faculty at ISI, Delhi. She has also been the RBI Chair Professor at AIPFP and a Professors at ICRIER.
Gupta holds a Master's degree and PhD in Economics from University of Maryland, USA, and a Master's degree in Economics from Delhi School of Economics, University of Delhi.
She won the 1908

India, US Expedite Talks for Bilateral Trade Agreement

New Delhi:

By the India and the US want to expedite the negotiations for the proposed bilateral trade agreement (BTA) as the two countries are looking

ment (BTA) as the two countries are looking at promoting two-way commerce, an offi-cial statement said on Thursday. Both the countries have decided to hold sector-specific talks from this month to final-ise the structure of the ise the structure of the

ise the structure of the agreement.

The keenness to expedite the talks came in the backdrop of the USA's decision to impose additional 27 per cent import duty on Indian goods from April 9 this year.

"Discussions are ongo-

ing between Indian and US trade teams for the expeditious conclusion of a mutually beneficial,



and expect to take them forward in the coming

forward in the coming days," the commerce days," the commerce ministry said.

Through the agreement, the two countries are looking to increase market access for their goods, cut tariff and non-tariff barriers and deepen supply chain integration.

A team of US officials, headed by Assistant US Trade Representative for South and Central Asia Brendan Lynch,

was here last month to finalise the contours and terms of references of the proposed pact, aimed at more than doubling the bilateral trade to USD 500 billion by 2030 from the current USD 191 billion.

Though the two sides have set a deadline to conclude the first phase of the agreement by fall (September-October) of this year, the complex nature of negotiations for a trade pact may

extend the process for

extend the process for years.

A government official said India was the only country where the Trump-administration had sent its team for trade talks.

The official expressed hope that India would be able to navigate the additional 27 per cent import duty amounced by the US from April 9.

"With the BTA in the pipeline, we are in a

When asked if issues like rules of origin are to like rules of origin are to be part of the pact, the official said the BTA will

have elements like any other trade agreement. "We have been pro-gressing well," the offi-cial added.

cial added.

In a trade pact, two
countries either significantly reduce or eliminate customs duties on nate customs duties on the maximum number of goods traded between them. They also ease norms to promote trade in services and boost in-vestments. While the US has demanded duty con-cessions in sectors like certain industrial goods, automobiles wines net

automobiles, wines, pet-rochemical products, dairy, agriculture items such as apples, tree nuts, and alfalfa hay; India may look at duty cuts for labour-intensive sectors like textiles.

FPI Investment Limits in G-Sec Unchanged for FY26: RBI

Mumbai:
The RBI on Thursday said the limits for FPI investment in government securities (g-sec), state government securities (gSss) and corporate bonds will remain unchanged at 6 per cent, and 15 per cent, respectively, of the outstanding stocks of securities for 2025-26.

15 per cent, respectively, of the outstanding stocks of securities for 2025-26. As hitherto, all investments by eligible investors in the "specified securities" will be reckoned under the Fully Accessible Route (FAR), said an RBI circular on 'Limits for investment in debt and sale of Credit Default Swaps by Foreign Portfolio Investors (FPIs'). The allocation of incremental changes in the g-see limit (in absolute terms) over the two sub-categories—"General and 'Long-term'—will be retained at 50-50 for 2025-26, it

at 50:50 for 2025-26, it

Advt Contact:

No Funds Released for Battery Storage in FY25: Govt

New Delhi:

No amount was released under the Viability Gap Funding (VGF) Scheme for Battery Energy Storage Systems in F725 as none of the projects achieved financial closure, Parliament was information of Thursdoor, Parliament Company (1998). formed on Thursday

formed on Thursday.

In September 2023,
the Union Cabinet approved the Viability
Gap Funding (VGF)
Scheme for Battery
Energy Storage Systems (BESS) to support the development
of BESS.

"As per scheme

"As per scheme guidelines, 10 per cent



of VGF is to be dis-bursed after financial

closure. Since none of the projects could

achieve financial clo-sure, no expenditure

was incurred under the scheme during 2024-25," Minister of State for Power Shri-pad Naik said in a re-ply to Lok Sabha. He also said a budg-etary provision of Rs 96 crore was made for 1,000 MWh (mega watt hour) BESS in 2024-25, assuming

2024-25, assuming 10 per cent disburse-ment upon financial

closure.

However, with falling BESS costs, the VGF amount reduced from Rs 96 lakh per MWh (estimated in 2023-24) to Rs 46 lakh

per MWh or 30 per cent of capital cost, whichever is lower.
As a result, the budgetary allocation was revised from Rs 9c crore to Rs 46 crore.
Fund disbursement under the VGF scheme occurs in five tranches

-- 10 per cent upon fi-nancial closure of the project, 45 per cent upon achieving the commercial operation commercial operation date (COD), and 15 per cent per year over the next three years from the COD.

With the decline in battery prices, the

scheme capacity has been increased from 4,000 MWh to 13,200 MWh while staying within the approved budgetary allocation of R8 3,760 crore.

Central Electricity Authority (CEA) is responsible for monitoring the scheme, while the Ministry of Power oversees the scheme, to ensure timely completion and efficient fund utilisation.

The National Electricity Plan 2023 estimates that 236 GWh BESS would be required by 2031-32.



Spotlight on Rohit, Pant as Mumbai Indians take on Lucknow Super Giants

Lucknow

wo stalwarts of Indian cricket — Rohit Sharma and
Rishabh Pant — will be hopating to overcome their lean
patch when Mumbai Indians face
Lucknow Super Giants in a clash between two struggling teams in the Indian Premier League here on Friday.
Five-time champions Mumbai Indians have not really dicked so far
this season, with just two points from
three games.

Inis season, with just two points from three games. India captain Rohit's form with the bat has put the MI team man-agement in a tight spot. The same is for LSG skipper Pant whose extend-ed dry run is not helping matters for the home side.

With both the teams almost iden

the home side. With both the teams almost identically placed with a solitary win each in three games, the contest could boil down to who exploits the conditions better on the day.

Given that the curators haven't been providing tailor-made pitches to the home sides — something that has caused frustration of the coaches and players in some franchies—the team that gets a head-start with the bat or ball in the power playours could call the shots.

The prolonged absence of MI paovers could call the shots.

The prolonged absence of MI paovers could call the shots.

The prolonged absence of MI paovers could call the shots.

MI proposed in the management maintaining a stoic silence on his return is only adding to the frustration of the Hardilk Pandya-led side.

MI, though, found success in the handy pace of young left-armer Ashwani Kumar, who single-handedly

Sai Kishore's innovative streak turns him a formidable foe to batters

Bengaluru R Sai Kishore bowled just three balls R Sai Kishore bowled just three balls to Krunal Pandya but that small pas-sage spread across 13th and 15th over of Royal Challengers Bengaluru's in-nings revealed the big strides the Gu-jarat Titans spinner has taken as a T20 bowler.

In the second ball of the 15th over. In the second ball of the 15th over. Sai Kishore bowled a back-of-the-length delivery that elicited a tame re-turn catch from a cheeless Krunal. It required a second viewing to re-alise that Sai Kishore had delivered a carrom ball — an unusual entity in a

ual entity in a left-arm spinner's world. But not really for Sai Kishore as he

chases something novel to ead of the curve.

stay ahead of the curve.

His bowling is an extension of his
life where he is a seeker — of his spirtual inner self, new places and people
and fresh experiences.

True to that trait, the 28-year-old
has been practicing the carrorn ball
over the last few seasons but it was the

first time he unleashed it in a real "To be relevant in T20 cricket, you

have to keep evolving. I have been practicing it for the last 3-4 years, but have not bowled it anywhere. "I was confident to bowl it in the IPL

and went with my instinct. It is like a carrom ball, so I get more dip on it," he told the host broadcaster.

Former India opener Akash Chopra validated that point while speaking to ESPNCricinfo. "Off-spinners tend to do that ver

often, because they are turning the ball into the right-handers, so they need that carrom ball. Very few left-arm spinners do that. Sai Kishore is one of se guys.

There are many captains who are

averse to the idea of a left-arm spin-ner bowling to a left-hander. If you have that carrom ball, then they might just be a bit more encouraged," said Sai Kishore's GT and Tamil Nadu

Sat Risinote's Of and Tamarasan have seen from close quarters the effort the left-arm spinner has put in to improve his craft even when he had to sit in the shadows of Rashid Khan and Noor Ahmad in the previous IPL seasons. "Off the field, I can tell you the

amount of effort he puts, the amount of preparation he does in terms of tactical advantages. I feel that is making him a bit ahead of other bowlers.



demolished defending champions Kolkata Knight Riders with excel-lent figures of 4/24 in three oversi their win at home on March 31. It would be premature to pass a judgement about his pedigree but in the 23-year-old Punjab pacer, MI have got a gimmer of hope. Making his IPL debut for MI after playing only four T20 matches on the do-mestic circuit, he dismissed estab-lished names like Alinkya Rahane. hished names like Ajinkya Rahane, Manish Pandey, Rinku Singh and Andre Russell to become the first In-dian to take four wickets on IPL de-

IPL has, time and again platform for young players to exce but few have been able to do that con sistently. Mayank Yaday, after be dazzling everyone with his searing pace, just faded away. MI would be hoping Ashwani is not a one-match

wonder. With MI finally giving a com-With MI thanly giving a com-manding performance against KKR a the Wankhede, it was South Africat keeper-batter Ryan Rickelton, who guided them to victory in the chase o a sub-par total. Rohit and 'Mr 360 de

rees' Suryakumar Yadav will have big roles to play in a side that does n't really bat deep but has an array o slow and fast bowlers who can deliv

er.
Lucknow Super Giants, placed sixth
behind MI, have not really hit their
strides following their demoralising
one-wicket defact to Delli Capitals in
the IPL opener at Visakhapatnam.
While West Indies' Nicholas Pooran
has been in sublime form and is leading the scoring charts with 189 runs
from three games, including two halfcenturies, his exploits have not rubbed

n other LSG batters n Mitchell Marsh, wh

off on other LSG batters, except Australian Mitchell Marsh, who too has two half-tons so far in this edition. Much of their woes are due to their bowding, led by Shardul Thakur and Ravi Bishnoi, and the poor form of their charismatic exptain Pant with the bat. After not being in the playing eleven during India's Champions Trophy campaign, with KI. Rahul wielding the big glowes, Pant's form would be a cause for concern in the busy season ahead. With scores of 0, 15 and 2 in the three games so far, the LSG skipper is clearly struggling. But one innings can hange all that. The Teams (From): Lucknow Super Giantiz: Rishabh Pant (£ 8wk), Ab-

The Teams (From): Lucknow Super Giants; Rishabh Pant (e &vek), Abdul Samad, Akash Deep, Akash Singh, Avesh Khan, Ayush Badom, Matthew Bretzke, Yurayi Chaudhary, Raiyardhan Hangargekar, Himmat Singh, Shamar Joseph, Aryan Juyal, Arshin Kulkarni, Aiden Markaram, Mitchell Marsh, David Miller, Nicholas Pooran, Prince Yadav, Digwesh Rathi, Ravi Bishnoi, Shabaz Ahmed, Mamimaran Siddharth, Shardul Thakur, Mayank Yadav.

Mumbai Indians: Hardik Pandya (c), Ashwani Kumar, Raj Bawa, Corbin Bosch, Trent Boult, Jasprit Bumrah, Deepak Chahar, Will Jacks, Bevon Ja-cobs, Robin Minz, Mujeeb Ur Rahman, cobs, Robin Minz, Mujeeb Ur Rahman, Naman Dhir, Vignesh Puthur, Satya-narayana Raju, Ryan Rickelton, Mitchell Santner, Karn Sharma, Ro-hit Sharma, Krishnan Shrijith, Arjun Tendulkar, Tilak Varma, Recce Top-ley, Suryakumar Yadav. Match starts

Suryakumar is not going anywhere from Mumbai: MCA

Mumbai
The Mumbai Cricket Association
(MCA) on Thursday refuted reports that Suryakumar Yadav was
planning a switch to Goa for the
upcoming Ranji Trophy season
along with some of his teanmates,
saying that India's Tao skipper
was committed to representing the
state.

state.
Young Mumbai opener Yashaswi Jaiswal has already announced his switch to Goa from Mumbai due alleged differences with senior players of the Ranji side.
However the official transfer will only happen when BCCI opens its inter-state transfer window.
A media report had claimed on Wednesday that Suryakumar could leave the Mumbai Ranji side, led by Ajinkya Rahane.

handle.

"The Mumbai Cricket Association (MCA) is aware of rumours circulating on social media regarding Surya Kumar Yadav's alleged decision to move players to Goa instead of playing for Mumbai," MCA secretary Abhay Hadap said in a statement.

"MCA officials have spoken with Surya this morning, and can confirm that these rumours are completely baseless and untrue. Surya Kumar Yadav remains committed for Mumbai and takes immense pride in playing for Mumbai.
"We urge everyone to refrain from spreading misinformation and to support our players as they continue to contribute to Mumbai Cricket Association," Hadap said. "The Mumbai Cricket Association

PCB chairman Mohsin Nagvi appointed as ACC president

Dubai Pakistan Cricket Board (PCB) chairmai Pakistan Cricket Board (PCB) chairman Mohsin Naqvi has been appointed as the president of the Asian Cricket Council (ACC), announced the gov-erning body of cricket in the continent on Thursday. ACC on Thursday issued a statement

anouncing the same that he will be as-ming the role with an immediate ef-

feet.

"Mr. Mohsin Naqvi has assumed have seen the new President of the Asian Cricket Council (ACC). Naqvi, who has served as the Pakistan Cricket Board (PCB) Chairman since February 2024 will assume this prestigious role on 3rd April, 2025. His appointment ushers in a new chapter of leadership for Asian cricket," said the ACC's statement. Speaking on being appointed as ACC president, Nagvi referred to Asia as the "heartheat of world cricket." "If an deeby bonoured to assume the

"I am deeply honoured to assume the presidency of the Asian Cricket Coun-cil. Asia remains the heartbeat of world cricket, and I am committed to work-ing with all member boards to accelerate the game's growth and global in-fluence. Together, we will unlock new opportunities, foster greater collabo-ration and take Asian cricket to unation, and take Asian cricket to un-recedented heights. I also extend my sincere thanks to the outgoing ACC President for his leadership and con-



tributions to the ACC during his

ident of Sri Lanka Cricket (SLC). Re flecting on thetransition, Silva shared his appreciation for the ACC commuity: "It has been a privilege to serve resident of the Asian Cricket Counc

It has been a privilege to serve a President of the Asian Cricket Council. The steadfast commitment of our mem-ber boards working together has been pivotal in elevating ACCs statureacross the region. I extend my gratitude to my predecessor, Jay Shah, Chairman of the ICC_under whose leadership the ACC reached significant milestones — in-cluding securing thehighest-ever value for the ACC Asia Cup commercial rights, introducing a new pathway eventsstructure, and paving the way for the continued development of cricket in Asia. AsI step down, lhave full con-indence that under Naqvi's capable leadership, the ACC will continue its-resemarkable journey and thrive, "said Silva.

Pretty embarrassed at dropping Salt, so was determined to score some runs, says Buttler

Gujarat Tituns senior batter Jos Buttler admitted that he was "embarrassed" at tropping Royal Challengers Bengaluru opener Phil Salt while keeping in their IPI, match here, but he was able to make amends, using the long handle to help his side to an eight-wicket win. Buttler struck and imperious 73 not out off just 39 balls, with his innings marked by creativity and sustained aggression, as GT chased down the target of 170 in 17.5 overs on Wednesday. "I don't know, pretly embarrassed. We know Salt is a dangerous player, I havely got a glove on it and it hit me in the chest, so was determined to score some runs," said the England stalwart after the match.

Buttler drowad a regulation catch off.

after the match.
Buttler dropped a regulation catch offthe bowling of Mohammed Siraj in the
first over after RCB were sent in to bat.
Salt charged down the track, looking to
slap the ball through the off-side but it
took the edge and went through to Buttler who, however, barely got a glove to
it.

GT captain Shubman Gill and Sirai were celebrating even before the ball had reached the keeper, only for Buttler to spill it

"As a team, we did not field well... fielded poorly. Had we fielded better myself included, we would have chased less. Nice win and well deserved. But re

ally enjoyed it. Felt the bowlers did a fantastic job," said the 34-year-old England great.

The Englishman was slightly jittery to begin with but once he found the

tht gears, he was unstoppable, fetch-g those thunderous shots off the

Buttler, who gave up the England white-ball captaincy after their Cham-pions Trophy exit, said he was moti-vated by "a few months of pretty un-

enjoyable cricket". "Tried to play with freedom and in tent — had a few months of unenjoyabl cricket, trying to give my best and ex-cited to be here.

"There was a bit in the wicket, so the There was a bit in the wheet, so the or openers played sensibly to take the ing out of that and set up the chase. "We have got a lot of bases covered fantastic seam-bowling unit, the

stic seam-bowling unit, the

Exposure to difficult conditions helped evolution of my T20 batting: Sai Sudharsan

Bengaluru Opener B Sai Sudharsan felt exposur to "difficult conditions" during his cur rent stint with IPL side Gujarat Titans has contributed immensely to him evolving as a T20 batter.

Sudharsan played a fine innings of 49 against Royal Challengers Bengaluru in GT's eight-wicket win here on Wednes-

day night.

"It's my fourth year (in the IPL), so
Ifeel it has given me a lot of experience.
I got exposed to a few difficult conditions. I got exposed to a lot of fast bowling in the nets with GT, 'Sudharsan said in the post-match press meet.

"I feel the most important thing which has helped my evolution or the way I've improved my Tzo batting is the game-time I get here and the practice time I get here with the Titans, with the bowlers. all quality international

bowlers, all quality international bowlers," he added.

Sudharsan now sits on the second runs. The left-hander has made the



uns at an average of 62 and at a strike

"So. I feel that has helped me even rom the nets, I would say. I got exposes o a lot of things, a lot of difficult con

"I've learnt a lot in these three years I feel it has helped me understand the game better and the basics of the game as well," he said.

RCB head coach Andy Flower said losing four wickets in the first seven overs made it tough for his side. "We played very aggressively in the power play and lost some wickets, lost three wickets in the power play. Four wickets in power play. "So, that was obviously a big swing in

"So, that was obviously a big swing in the game — if you lose power play, you're in trouble," he said.
Flower identified Siraj's outstanding spell (3/19) as one of the reasons for RCB's defeat, but stopped short of blaming a slower than usual Chinnaswamy deck for the result.
"It definitely wasn't a typical Chinnaswamy wicket, where you'd expect the ball to come on a little bit quicker than that. In the first innings, the ball did rjo off the seam with the drier ball. So, I think that was fairly important in So, I think that was fairly important in context of the game

the context of the game.
"But it's also important to acknowledge that, that's not the reason for the result. Siraj bowled very well, didn't he? He bowled an outstanding spell with the new ball. His lines were really tight, lengths were good, and he threate the stumps a lot," he said.

GT pacer Kagiso Rabada returns home due to personal reasons

Ahmedabad Gujarat Titans (GT) pacer Kagiso Rabada has returned home to South Africa from the ongoing Indian Premier League (IPL) due to personal rea-GT issued a statement about Raba-

da's return back home on Thursday. The Proteas pace veteran was a part of GT's first two IPL 2025 matches against Punjab Kings (PBKS) and Mumbai Indians (MI), taking one wicket each in expensive four-over spells of 1/41 and 1/42 respectively.

"Gujarat Titans pacer Kagiso Raba-da has returned to South Africa from the ongoing season of the TATA IPL the ongoing season of the TATA IPL
due to some personal reasons. The
South Africa international was a part
of Gujarat Titans first two matches of
the TATA IPL 2025. Kagiso Rabada
has returned to South Africa to deal with an important personal matter, the statement said.

Kagiso formed a fiery pace attack for GT alongside compatriot Gerald Co-etzee, Mohammed Siraj, Prasidh Kr-

ishna and veteran Ishant Sharma. In ishna and veteran ishant sharma. In 222 T20s, Rabada has taken 278 wick-ets at an average of 23.33 with best fig-ures of 4/21 and an economy rate of 8.02. With 566 wickets in 241 inter-national matches, he is an all-format veteran for South Africa

In their previous IPL clash, GT de-feated Royal Challengers Bengaluru (RCB) at M Chinnaswammy Stadium in Bengaluru (RCB) on Wednesday. Siraj (3/19) and Sai Kishore (2/22) were top bowlers as fine contribu-tions from Liam Livingstone (54), Jitesh Sharma (33) and Tim David (32) powered RCB to 169/8 after being reduced to 42/4. GT chased down the total comfortably as Sai Sudharshan (49), Jos Buttler (73*) and Sherfane Rutherford (30*) played explosive knocks, winning the match with eight wickets in hand.

With two wins in three matches, GT is now at the fourth spot in the points table, Their next clash will be against Sunrisers Hyderabad (SRH) on April 6 at Hyderabad.

their powerplay was game changing

AFI makes it mandatory for athletes to take part in at least one event before Fed Cup

New Delhi thletics Federation of India (AFI) has made it mandatory for athletes to compete in at least one regional competition or country-wide one-day event like the Grand Prix to be eligible for particaction in the Federation Cup, the first ational championship of the season

This is being done to ensure that athletes come prepared or show consistant changing as the Indian term for the Asian Changionships to be held in Korea from May 27-34 will be picked on the basis of performance at the Federation Cup, which will be organised in Kochi, Kerala from April 21-24.

However, the athletes who are sent abroad by AFI for training, like double Olympic medallist javelin thrower Neeral Chopra, will be exempted from this regulation. This is being done to ensure that ath-

regulation.
To participate in this competition (Federation Cup), athletes must achieve the qualification entry standards in events directly organised by the AFI in e year 2025," the AFI said in a circ

"It is mandatory for athletes to par-"It is mandatory for athletes to participate in a least one regional competition (Indian Open Athletics Meet Punjab, Gujarat, Jharkhand, Tamil Nadh) or4th Indian Open Throws/4th Indian Open Jumps/6th Indian Open Jumps/6th Indian Open doom/Indian Grand Prix in 2025.
"Please note that only performances achieved in the year 2025 will be considered and no old performances will be

17-year old Kriish Tyagi gears up for **Junior Grand Slams**

Bengaluru Kriish Tyagi is on the brink of a defining year in his young career. In-dia's number one ranked junior ten-nis star has been steadily making strides across both junior and senior circuits.

Tyagi, 17, is now preparing for a rucial stretch of tournaments, in-

Tyagi, 17, is now preparing for a crucial stretch of tournaments, including the Junior Grand Slams, that could shape his future in the sport. Most recently, he was in action at the ongoing SM Krishna Memorial Open in his hometown of Bengahuru, where he lost to SD Prajwal Dev in the opening round. However, the teenage is far from disheartened. Reflecting on the match, he highlighted the adjustment to conditions as a challenge. "It's always nice to play at home but I'm coming from Ahmedabad, where the conditions were different. When I played today, I'fell like the balls were flying out even when I was timing them. In Ahmedabad, it wasn't the same, and I think the altitude change had an effect." He also admitted that he struggled to find his rhythm early on. "I felt like

to find his rhythm early on. "I felt like he started very well, and I wasn't into the game as much as he was. I didn't start that well, I was very rough in the

beginning." Before the SM Krishna Memorial Open, Tyagi made an impressive at the ITF M25 Ahmedabad Op where he progressed to the semifinals but lost to eventual champion Arvan Shah. His deep run at the tournament reaffirmed his ability to compete at a higher level.

higher level.

Discussing the transition between junior and senior circuits, he noted the key difference, "In the important moments, senior players perform much better. They serve better, return better, and know what to play when. I feel that in a match, the crucial points make the difference. If you can consent them to ware risk the match. convert them to your side, the match

Looking ahead, Tyagi has a packed schedule featuring some of the biggest junior tournaments. "I go to Malaysia for a few junior tournaments, spending two weeks there. Then, I have one week in Thailand for JB1, and after that, I head to the French Open Jun-ior Grand Slam. Then I'll play Wim-

ior Grand Slam. Then I'll play Wim-bledon and the US Open." Having already played at the Aus-tralian Open this year, he feels pre-pared for the challenge of competing in the Junior Grand Slams. "It was very hard, but I feel that playing a Junior Grand Slam and competing in other top-grade junior tournaments is the same. Let's say you play a guy in a tournament in Malaysia, and then you face him again in a Grand Slam. You already know his game and what he does."



epted," the circular issued on Tues-radded.

accepted," the circular issued on Tuesday added.
It's, though, not new for AFT to set entry standards for major events like the Federation Cup, National Inter-State Championships and National Open Championships.
In the domestic calendar, the AFT has

In the domestic calendar, the AFI has introduced eight Indian Open Meetings this season in different parts of the country to give more exposure to alter nearly letes near their native places.

One such one-day event was held on April in Sanguri, Punjah, while three more will take place before the Federation Cup — at Nadiad in Gujarat on April 5, in Ranchi on April 10 and in Chemai on April 15.

nennai on April 15. "All units and athletes were informed

AFI official said.

show consistency," an AFI official said. Whether Neeni will compete in domestic event not yet known. Chopra, who is currently training in Turkey, supprisingly competed in the Federation Cup last year in Bhubanesh-war but it is still not yet known whether hewill take part in a domestic event this year. When he wan the men's javelin gold

When he won the men's javelin gold in the 2024 Federation Cup, he was taking part in a domestic competition for the first time since the 2021 edition.

"Whether Neeraj will compete in a domestic event this year is not yet confirmed," the AFI official said.

firmed," the AFI official said. It was announced in January that India will host a star-studded global javelin competition in May with Chopra in the tournament's organising team. The event has received endorsement from World Athletics president Sebastian Coe, but since then there is no update on the date and venue of the event. If the javelin event in India is not held in the first part of next month, the 27-year-old Chopra is likely to begin his season at the Doba Diamond Leasue on

n at the Doha Diamond Leagu

1ay 16. He is unlikely to take part in the Asian

He is unlikely to take part in the Asian Championships as his main goal this year will be to defend his title at the World Championships to be held in Tokyo from September 13-21. The National Inter-State Championships to be held in Chemai from Au-gust 20-24 will be the last qualifying event for the Indian athletes to qualify for the World Championships.

World Boxing Cup: Manish, Hitesh, Abhinash cruise into semifinals



New Delhi India's Manish Rathore, Hitesh and Abhinash Jamwal re and Abhinash Jamwal registered commanding victories to storm into the semi-finals of their respective weight categories in the World Boxing Cup Brazil 2025 on Wednesday.

In the 65 kg category, Jamwal tamed Germany's Denis Bril with a unanimous decision while Hitesh defeated Harly's Gabriele Guidi Rontani in a similar manner in the 70ke category.

the 70kg category. over In the 55kg category, Rathore Italy

was up against Australia's Paris Olympian Yusuf Chothia and the Indian national champion was up for the challenge. Both the boxers kept things tight in all three rounds with Rathore emerging victorious as three judges ruled in his favour while two gave equal points.

equal points.
In the semifinals, Rathore will face Nursultan Altynbek of Kaza-khstan, Hitesh will take on Makan Traore while Jamwal will look to ercome Gianluigi Malanga of

Pfeiffer, Raman to make coaching debuts in Ultimate Table Tennis



New Delhi cialist Chris Pfeiffer, who German specialist Chris Ptenter has coached Achanta Sharath Ka has coached Achanta Sharath Kamal, along with S Raman are the prominent names set to make their coaching debuts in season 6 of the Ultimate Table Tennis (UTT) scheduled in Ahmedabad from May 29 to June 15. Along with the duo, veteran train-ers Pavel Rehorek and Julien Girard, former India No. J Jubin Kumar will also the present as coaches in the duo-

also be present as coaches in the dug-out of various franchises.

Pfeiffer is the head coach of Sharath

Kamal Academy since 2022 and will mentor the Ahmedabad SG Pipers. Subramanian will join fellow debutant Girard in Dabang Delhi TTC set-up and comes in with extensive experime of coaching Indian team during the

O22 Commonwealth Games.
Teams & Coaches Ahmedabad SG-ripers: Somnath Ghosh; Chris Pfeiffer (Germany) Jaipur Patriots: Sachin Shetty: Pavel Rehorek (Czech ReAlong with the duo, veteran trainers Pavel Rehorek and Julien Girard, former India No. 1 Jubin Kumar will also be present as coaches in the dug-out of various franchises.

same is on the website since last thre months. This was only a reminder cir cular," AFI spokesperson and forme president Adille Sumariwalla said. "Athletes are asking for more com

on many occasions in the past, ath-letes would just turn up for major events like the Federation Cup or Na-tional Inter-State Championships as

tional Inter-State Championships as they serve as qualifying events for Asian Championships or World Champi-onships or Olympies, and later they fall to perform at these international events. "We want to stop this kind of things. The athletes should show that they have come prepared and they should

Athletes are asking for more com-tion and then shying away," he

public) PBG Pune Jaguars: Subhajit Saha; Vesna Ojstersek (Slovenia) Goa Sana; vesna Ojstersek (Stovenia) Goa Challengers: Parag Agrawal; Elena Timina (Netherlands) Dabang Delhi TTC: Raman Subramanian; Julien Girard (France) U Mumba TT: Jay Modak; John Murphy (Ireland) Kolkata ThunderBlades: Jubin Kuar, Tobias Bergman (Sweden) Chenyadeep Roy; Jorg Bitzigeio (Germany)

Hockey India Senior Men National Championship under new format begins on Apr 4 in Jhansi

Jhansi Thirty teams will compete in three divisions in the 15th Hockey India Senior Men National Champi-onship to be held here from April 4-

This will be the first time the This will be the first time the men's tournament, to be held at the Major Dhyan Chand Hockey Sta-dium, is being played in the new three-division format. The Senior Women National Championship was played in the same new format in March.

The domestic competition, which will now also feature promotion and relegation battles, has been divided into three divisions — A, B

The Division A will be the high est one as the teams in it will fight for the championship title. Division B will have teams competing for promotion to Division A next seafrom their to Division A next sea-son while in Division C, the teams will fight for a spot in Division B for the next edition.

The Division B and C matches are

The Division B and C matches are scheduled to begin on April 4, while the Division A matches will com-mence on April 8. Division A has the top-12 teams in India, including defending cham-pions Odisha and runners-up Haryana, based on their overall performances in the tournament over the vears.

performances in the tournament over the years. Other teams in Division A, which will have four pools, are Punjab, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Jharkhand, Uttar Pradesh, Tamil Nadu, Bengal, Hockey, Karnataka and Puducherry. Each team will play every oppo-

nent once in their respective pools. This will be the only division fea-turing a knockout stage as the top-



two teams from each pool will ad-vance to the quarterfinals, sched-

uled for April 12.

The semifinals will be played on The semifinals will be played on April 13, and the final and 3rd/4th place match on April 15. The bot-tom two teams from Division A will be relegated to Division B for the next edition.

In Division B, 10 teams will com-pete for promotion to Division A. The teams are divided into two pools. Pool A has Chandigarh, Goa, Telangana, Andhra Pradesh, Ut-tarakhand, while Delhi, Mizoram, Dadra & Nagar Haveli and Damar & Diu, Kerala, Assam are in Pool B

The top two teams from Division B will earn promotion to Division A for the next season, while the bot-tom two will be relegated to Divi-

In Division C. the eight teams will compete for promotion to Division B. The teams are divided into two pools. Rajasthan, Arunachal, Jammu & Kashmir, Tripura are in Pool A while Pool B comprises Chhat tisgarh, Himachal, Bihar and Gu-The top two teams in Division C

will secure promotion to Division B, The points system in all three di-visions is the same. Each team will be awarded three points for a win, one point for a draw, and no points

for a loss.

In Division A, the league stage will be followed by the knockout rounds, while Divisions B and C will conclude with final standings de termined by points won in the pool matches

Commenting on the tournament, Hockey India president Dilip Tirkey said, "The new format worked out said, "The new format worked out really well during the senior woman national championship and we are looking forward to see how it unfolds this time as well.

"With promotion and relegation at stake, I expect to see teams give it their all on the pitch and play some exceptional hockey."

Olympic medallist PR Sreejesh leads Player Development Workshop for Pro Kabaddi Stars

New Delhi

Mashal Sports, the organisation behind
the Pro Kabaddi League, successfully
conducted the PKL Level Up' Player
Development Workshop designed to
elevate kabaddi players beyond their
performances on the mat.
This initiative represented a significant milestone in professional kabaddi, bringing together industry experts
to provide players with key life skills,
personal branding, and professional
growth opportunities. The workshop
was a testament to the league's commitment to nurturing its athletes and
ensuring that they excel both professionally and personally.
The event featured an exceptional
lineup of speakers including Olympic

lineup of speakers including Olympic bronze medallist PR Sreejesh, Alpi Chaudhari from Meta India, prominent content creator Deepak Pareek, Neha



Mathur Rastogi, CEO and founder of WordsWork Communications Consulting, a leading company for Sports media relations in India, and Dr. Chaitanya Sridhar, a renowned Sports and Depth Psychologist from the Inspire Institute of Sport (IIS-JSW Sports).

The program aimed to equip players with insights and tools for holistic de-

The workshop included special se sions to help players navigate socia media effectively and prepare for me dia interviews and press conferences Sharing his thoughts on becoming better athletes, PR Sreejesh said, "When you win, people remember you, but the real growth comes from matches we don't win. That's where we matches we don't vin. That's where we learn what to do differently next time. The ultimate truth in sports is simple never give up. After every failure comes regret, but whoever persists more, whoever works harder on improvement, is the one who ultimately suc-

"But life isn't just about what hap pens during matches -- your activities off the field matter too. How you conduct yourself with family, how you present yourself on social media, and what values you demonstrate in ev day life -- all of this builds your id tity as an athlete.," he added during his

The Indian hockey legend also

stressed the importance of teamwork, saving, "Teamwork is essential — one person's mistake impacts the entire team, which is why mutual under-standing becomes crucial. What happens on the ground stays there; after the match ends, we're friends again because respect forms the foundation of sportsmanship."

Chaitanya Sridhar, who has over

Chaitanya Sridhar, who has over 20 years of experience mentoring elite athletes including Olympic medallists, made history as the first woman Sports Psychologist in the IPL with Royal Challengers Bengaluru. She empha-sised the importance of mental fitness for athletes. "With sports careers being relatively short, maintaining mental fit-ness and dealing with high-pressure situations is crucial. It was valuable to hear the players reflect during our in-teractive sessions.

Shah Rukh Khan's 'Darr'

'Family Guy', 'Bob's Burgers' get fourseason renewals at Fox re-releasing this Friday



Washington
Fox has decided to keep its most popular animated shows on air for the rest of the decade ported The Hollywood Re-The network has renewed

'The Simpsons', 'Family Guy', and 'Bob's Burgers for four more seasons. It also confirmed that American Dad! will return to Fox in 2025-26 with a four-season renewal.

As per the publication.

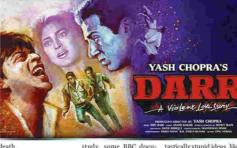
which is already the longest-running scripted TV show, will reach its 40th season. It could even get close to 900 episodes by the end of this new deal. Family Guy will go up to its 27th season, while Bob's Burgers will continue until its 19th season. Amer-ican Dad! will now have seasons 20 to 23 under Fox's banner.

American Dad! originally aired on Fox for nine seasons before moving to TBS in 2014. After running for another decade there, the show is now returning to

n negative roles? There's great news for SRK's fans as one of his remarkable films, 'Darr', is re-releasing in theatres this Sharing the update, pro-duction banner Yash Raj Films (YRF) took to Insta-

gram and wrote, "Experiace this iconic tale on the big screen again! #Darr re releasing in cinemas to morrow. Book your tickets now! (Link in bio) @pvrcin emas_official @inox @cinepolisindia." SRK played the role of a

ous stalker in 'Darr' which also starred Juhi Chawla and Sunny Deol. The film's story revolved around Rahul (SRK) who is obsessively in love with his classmate Kiran (Juhi Chawla) and stalks her to her doorstep. And what follows is a cycle of distress, heartbreak, and fights, which lead to Rahul's



decades and the film is re membered to date. Nobody can ever forget SRK's "I ove You K.K.K... Kiran

In Netflix's docu-series 'The Romantics', SRK took a stroll down memory lane and shared how he perfected his stammering dialogue 'K k k. Kiran'.

SRK said, "I had a class-mate who had a stammer and then we did some little

mentary where they talked about that people's minds become aware to one sound, and it's like a sharp current. So, you can't say the word because you become aware of a sound. Let's make him aware of the woman he loves the most, her name. So, I only stammer on the word Kiran. It was just for that one word

her."
"I had some really fan-

tastically stupid ideas, like Adi and saying, can I make this phone call hanging upside down? Adi said 'Dad won't allow that.' Some-times he would come and tell me that listen I think dad is not going to take a close up of this. I think you did very well. So, you sug-gest, if I do it, he'll turn me down. So, we were like the filters who kind of help each other with Yash Ji," he



Noemie Merlant recalls working in 'Emanuelle'

'Panchayat' makers announce Season 4 as series clocks 5 years

Mumbai he much-loved web series 'Panchayat' turns 5 to-day. The show, which first premiered on Prime Video on April 3. 2020, has won the hearts of

Now, as the series marks its 5th anniversary, fans have received the news they were eagerly waiting for: 'Panchayat Season 4', which is set to release on July 2 of

Prime Video, on Thurs day, took to its Instagram account to share a promo tional video featuring ac-tors Jitendra Kumar, Jia Manek, and internet sen sation Darshan Magdum.

"Anupam Kher sir will always be my Guru...": Neil Nitin Mukesh

has come a long has come a long way in his career. In a journey spanning over 18 years, he has proved his mettle time and again with his acting prowess, especially in projects such as 'Johnny Gaddaar', 'New York', and 'Jail' among others. Credits also go to his "Guru" and veteran actor Anupam Kher for making Neil learn valuable aspects o acting. His training at Kher's acting school, 'Actor Pre pares', gave him a solid foun-dation in acting techniques. On Thursday, Neil, son of

renowned playback singer Nitin Mukesh and grandson of legendary singer Mukesh, recherished his memories spent at 'Actor Prepares', where he was enrolled as a student alongside Hrithik Roshan, Abhishek Bachchan, Uday Chopra, and Jugal



The Viral Fever (TVF), is created by Deepak Kumai Mishra, written by Chan-dan Kumar, and directed by Deepak Kumar Mishra

and Akshat Vijaywargiya.

mble cast including Raghubir Yadav, Neen Gupta, Sanvikaa, Chandan Roy, Faisal Malik, Durgesh Kumar, Sunita Rajwar, and Pankaj Jha in pivotal roles. In Panchayat Season 3, the story delves deeper into village politics and corrup tion, focusing on elections and the struggles of the vil-lagers, particularly the lack of a proper road. The seas

"Doing Surya Namaskar, walking a little…": Kareena Kapoor Khan

hile many have gone under the knife to enhance their looks, Bollywood star Kareena Kapoor Khan prefers to stay away from o

tritionist Rutuja Diwekar's book 'The Commonsense Diet', in Mumbai, Kareen emphasised ageing grace-fully and naturally rather than relying on skin treat-

ents such as botox. 'Age is just a number My only thing is I always want to be fit to take or whatever old age brings. I want to be able to do what I have to do whether it has to go to sets at 70, 75. I want to keep working until 85, all my life. I want be able to bend to pick up my grandchildren. I want be able to do things and not be



dependent on someone or a stick." Kareena said.

"For that, I have to eat right, and have mobility to work out. It's not about the way I look, it's about the av I feel and that's what for me, aging and life is. I am embracing it but I'm taking all these particular things, like eating ghee, eating khichdi, doing a lit-tle bit of weight training for muscle strength, walking a little, my Surya Namaskars

doing my little work on my own rather than skin treat ments and botox," she added. Meanwhile, on the pro-

ssional front, Kareena re cently captivated the audience with her appearance at the gala celebrating 25 years of Lakme Fashion Week. Reflecting on her fashion

rney, she recalled walking the ramp at different stages of her life, from her sizezero days to her pregnancy

Vir Das announces his book 'The Outsider- A Memoir for Misfits'

INTER

ctor-comedian Vir Das has aned that he is coming out with his memoir, 'The Outsider-A Memoir for Misfits'.

He took to social media to unveil the cover of his up-coming book, which he said has been in the works over

"I WROTE A BOOK!!!!!
For ALL The Outsiders! I
hope you'll Preorder and share. For some reason, I have seen more of the world, and been let into more worlds, than anyone I know. Laughter has truly saved my life. I hope to show you how funny and beautiful this world is It hits shelves soon, but you can order it NOW in my profile. @simonand-schuster @_simonelement @harpercollinsin This amaz ing music is Meraki by @du stinquiry," Vir sha stagram.

The memoir, according to his publishers, "is set to take a deep dive into his many phases of life highlighting that the comedy world isn't the only place where he's

always felt like an outsider."

In the book, amongst many incidents highlighted Vir recounts a memorable ment when, stranded on a pier in Cozumel, Mexi with his cruise ship sailing realized that being an ou sider isn't just something he eriences-"it's who he is." Reflecting on his globe otting life, Vir said, "I'v had a strange life that took me across the world more than anyone I know. I don't know how one ends up being the Indian kid in Nigeria, the African kid in boarding

Illinois, the Chicago guy in Alabama, the America-re turn in Mumbai, the Bolly ood guy in comedy, stand-up comedy guy in Bol lywood, the Bollywood guy in Indie Music and the Ir dian in American comedy. All I know is, when you are blessed enough to step into all those worlds, you write a school, the boarding school book about it. I hope to take kid in Delhi Public School, the Delhi kid in Galesburg, the eyes of a fortunate fool."



VARII

fter its theatrical out on OTT.

The film, which stars Noemie Merlant, Naomi Watts and Will Sharpe, will premiere on April 11 exclu-

sively on Lionsgate Play.

Ahead of the digital pre-miere, Noemie took a stroll down memory lane and re-

called working in the film.
"I didn't know Em-manuelle at all, neither the book nor the film. All I knew was the buzz that had surounded the film when it was released. I only learned two days before meeting Audrey that she was looking for her Emmanuelle and that she had thought of me. I was very flattered. When I read the script. I was caught up in this intimate journey," she said, as per a press note. "I had the feeling of going

on an inner journey since it resembled my own some-what, that's to say the journey of a woman who tries to connect to her body, to reconnect, period, as if ultimately she'd never really been able to

Reese Witherspoon announces 'Legally Blonde' prequel 'Elle', check out first look

Washington ans of 'Legally Blonde' have excit-Blonde' have excit-ing news to cele-brate! Reese With-erspoon has shared the first look at Lexi Minetree as Elle Woods in Elle, a new preque series coming to Amazon Prime Video.

Witherspoon, who played Elle Woods in the original films, took to Instagram to series, Elle, is now in promake the announcement. "Harvard was hard. High duction! Couldn't be more school was harder. Our new excited to introduce you all to

According to Variety, the

show will take viewers back to Elle Woods' high school days, giving fans a glimpse of the experiences that shaped her into the confident and determined woman fans loved in Legally Blonde. Mean while, shooting for the serie has just begun, reported Va

Lexi Minetree, who is often seen in small roles such as in

@leximinetree as Elle 'Law & Order: SVU' and 'The Woods,' read her Instagram Murdaugh Murders', is set to take on her first lead role as young Elle Woods. The cast also includes Tom Everett Scott as Elle's father and June Diane Raphael as her

Laura Kittrell and Caroline Dries serve as co-showrunners, with Witherspoon also involved as an executive pro-ducer. The series is produced by Amazon MGM and Witherspoon's company, Hello shine.