



FREE PRESS

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Halo re Halo! It's Garba time at FP House

Dancin' the night away

Adorned in vibrant traditional attire, revelers sway and spin to the lively rhythms of music, embodying the spirit of Garba on the seventh day of Navratri. Their joyous movements fill the dance floor at Free Press House with a kaleidoscope of colour and energy, creating a mesmerising tapestry of culture and celebration. Each step is a brushstroke on the canvas of celebration, weaving together laughter, music, and the joyous spirit of tradition into a living masterpiece.

See Page 2



MIFFED | EVMs 'hacked,' says party as it petitions EC with complaints from 20 constituencies, where EVMs showed abnormally high charge of over 90% after day's counting:

Cong bahana for HARyana

Garav Vivek Bhatnagar

NEW DELHI

A delegation of the Congress party on Wednesday met the Election Commission and submitted a number of complaints about the functioning of the Electoral Voting Machines during the counting process.

The party claimed that it has received complaints from 20 constituencies where EVMs showed abnormally high charge of over 90 per cent after the day's counting; it has further claimed that in most such cases the BJP candidates were the beneficiaries; as against this, in those EVMs which showed normal 60 to 70% charge, the Congress candidates were found ahead.

Following the meeting, Congress's media and publicity department head Pawan Khera said a delegation comprising party general secretaries K.C. Venugopal, Ashok Gehlot, Jairam Ramesh, Ajay Maken and former CM Deepinder Singh Hooda apprised the Election Commission on the complaints from 20 Assembly segments, including written complaints with document from seven constituencies.

Khera said these complaints



Responding to Congress leader Rahul Gandhi's knee jerk response dubbing the Haryana outcome as "unexpected," the Election Commission has sent a strongly worded letter to party boss Mallikarjun Kharge saying the statements made by his party leaders were "far from a legitimate part of free speech and expression" and were rather "an undemocratic rejection of the will of the people".

stemmed from seven constituencies where the issue of batteries was acute. He said party leaders have demanded that all those machines regarding which complaints have been lodged should be "sealed and secured" till the investigation is over.

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SADDENED

Shri Ratan Tata Ji was a visionary business leader, a compassionate soul and an extraordinary human being. At the same time, his contribution went far beyond the boardroom. He endeared himself to several people thanks to his humility, kindness and an unwavering commitment to making our society better Narendra Modi, PM

The former Chairman of Tata Group had been a foremost leader of Indian industries and a public-spirited philanthropist. His demise will be an irreparable loss for Indian business world and society. Mamata Banerjee, CM, Bengal

Ratan Tata was a man with a vision. He has left a lasting mark on both business and philanthropy. Rahul Gandhi

India has lost a giant, a visionary who redefined modern India's path. Ratan Tata wasn't just a business leader - he embodied the spirit of India with integrity, compassion and an unwavering commitment to the greater good. Legends like him never fade away Gautam Adani

I am unable to accept the absence of Ratan Tata. India's economy stands on the cusp of a historic leap forward. And Ratan's life and work have had much to do with our being in this position. Hence, his mentorship and guidance at this point in time would have been invaluable Anand Mahindra

TITAN DEPARTS, LEGACY LIVES

By invitation

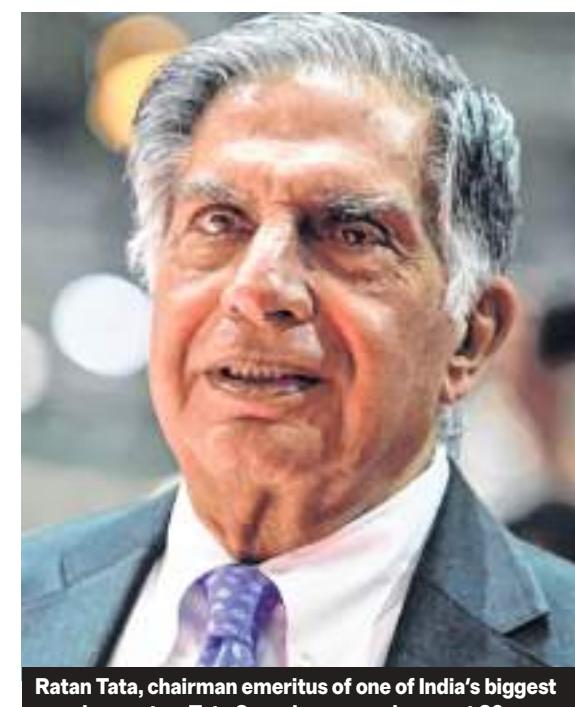
Sailesh Kottary

In his personal and professional life, Ratan Tata had very few friends. A shy person by nature, he was a great mimic and he went to great extents, including the courts, to zealously guard his privacy. So, when he was chosen by JRD Tata in 1991, there were not many who believed in his leadership capabilities. After all, his detractors claimed that there were stalwarts with proven track records within the group. Among them were the formidable Russi Mody of Tata Steel and Darbari Seth of Tata Chemicals. But when Ratan lay down the baton twenty odd years later, he had proven himself to be the most audacious, and far-thinking, of Indian industrialists by taking over Corus, Jagat Land Rover and Tetley's and establishing the Tata brand over

seas.

Given the insidious games that were being played out by his rivals within the group, people who were more senior and more powerful than him, a lot of his time during the early years was spent in covering his back from friendly fire. I recall sitting with him some evenings at his modest house in Colaba and discussing the potential threats that were likely to emanate from his top honchos. Undoubtedly the one that affected him the most was the time when the Assam government targeted Tata Tea and its CEO R K Krishna Kumar for 'helping' terrorists. It was this trying period which helped forge Tata's closest professional linkage within anyone in the group. For many years, until his passing away last year, Krishna Kumar was his closest friend and advisor on many matters.

► Continued on | P8



Ratan Tata, chairman emeritus of one of India's biggest conglomerates, Tata Sons, has passed away at 86.

Delhi CM's residence forcibly vacated, claims CMO

Agencies

NEW DELHI

"Delhi chief minister's residence" at 6, Flagstaff Road in Civil Lines was forcibly vacated at the behest of the BJP as Lt Governor V K Saxena wants to allot it to a saffron party leader, the CMO alleged in a statement on Wednesday.

The allegation has set a stage for another round of tussle between the AAP dispensation and the LG office.

Sources at the LG office claimed that the 6, Flagstaff Road bungalow is not the official residence of the chief minister and that it has not been allotted to CM Atishi so far.

Atishi kept her belongings there without allotment and later herself removed them



A worker carrying goods on a cart leaves from 6, Flagstaff Road in Civil Lines, the official residence of Chief Minister of Delhi, in New Delhi

from there, the sources said. The PWD owns the bungalow and takes possession after it is vacated. The bungalow's allotment is done by it after proper inventory of goods kept there.

The AAP should not be worried and this bungalow after preparation of inventory

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Raut's comment on Ladli Behna Yojna irks Yadav

Shiv Sena (UBT)

claimed that scheme had been scrapped in MP

OUR STAFF REPORTER

BHOPAL

Chief Minister Mohan Yadav is visibly angry with Shiv Sena (UBT) leader Sanjay Raut's recent claim that Ladli Behna Yojna had been discontinued in Madhya Pradesh.

Taking potshots at Raut, Yadav on Wednesday said, "He is trying to mislead Maharashtra voters." He further said that after Haryana and J&K elections, countdown

BJP MAHILA MORCHA LODGES FIR

BJP Mahila Morcha district vice-president Sushma Chouhan approached Bhopal crime branch and lodged a complaint against Raut, for

has begun for Maharashtra and Jharkhand elections. He added that Raut's statement should be taken in its context.

Leader of the Shiv Sena (UBT) of Uddhav Thackeray, Sanjay Raut had on Monday claimed that Ladli Behna Yojna had been stopped in Madhya Pradesh.

Taking a cue from Ladli Behna Scheme, Maharashtra CM Eknath Shinde too has launched a similar scheme in his state where in women are getting Rs 1,500 every month.

Chief Minister Mohan

misleading comments. She was accompanied by other members of the Mahila morcha. Following the complaint, a case was registered against Raut.

Yadav, who got angry with the remark, said Raut was trying to mislead the voters of Maharashtra.

Taking a cue from Ladli Behna Scheme, Maharashtra CM Eknath Shinde too has launched a similar scheme in his state where in women are getting Rs 1,500 every month.

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RBI HOLDS BACK ITS HORSES

FP News Service

MUMBAI

The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) kept its key interest rate unchanged on Wednesday, but changed its policy stance to "neutral" from "withdrawal of accommodation," thus opening the door for rate cuts as early as December. The Monetary Policy Committee, which consists of three RBI and three external members, voted unanimously to change the stance but said they will remain unambiguously focused on keeping inflation on a tight leash.

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early cancer detection

IIT-I develops low-cost device

Our Staff Reporter

INDORE

In a groundbreaking development, researchers at IIT Indore have created a compact and affordable cancer screening device using photoacoustic technology. This innovation is designed for early-stage cancer detection in India, especially for breast cancer. This cutting-edge technology developed by prof Sri

facilities are limited.

The device is based on the principle of Photoacoustic Spectral Response (PASR), which combines optical and acoustic signals to detect abnormal tissue changes. It is aimed at addressing the growing need for early cancer detection in India, especially for breast cancer.

This cutting-edge technology developed by prof Sri



The research team of IIT Indore

ing Department could be validated in a hospital care set-up through the collaborative research efforts of Dr Sriram Mukhopadhyay, lead investigator from AIIMS Bhopal, Department of Pathology and Lab Medicine along with faculty of Department of Radiation Oncology, Dr Saikat Das.

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CLICK ON THE SECTION YOU WISH TO READ

INDORE

BHOPAL

NATION

MONEY

GAMES

CINEMA



VIDEO

**THE WORLD OF PUZZLES IS
JUST A CLICK AWAY!**

**ENGAGE YOUR MIND WITH OUR NEW E-PUZZLES -
WHENEVER, WHEREVER**

JUST CLICK AND START SOLVING!

Indore grooves to Garba tunes at FP

On a dazzling Wednesday evening, the air shimmered with the vibrant spirit of Garba as Indoreans gathered at Free Press for an unforgettable celebration, beautifully organized by the newspaper. Sponsored by ISBA Group of Institutions, Vishisht School of Management, Jain Diwakar College, and Kasliwal Honda, the event transformed into a kaleidoscope of color and energy, inviting people of all ages to immerse themselves in this cherished traditional dance.

As the sun dipped below the horizon, the venue became a lively carnival, filled with participants twirling in resplendent attire, lost in the enchanting rhythms of Garba music. Families and friends joined hands, their laughter mingling with the beats, celebrating the region's rich cultural heritage. Local dance

groups mesmerized the audience with their skillful performances, igniting enthusiasm and inspiring everyone to join in. The spirited anchoring by Rupali Gupta further elevated the festivities, her infectious energy encouraging participation.

Delicious stalls offering an array of tempting snacks and refreshments added to the celebratory atmosphere. Sponsors and Free Press expressed delight at the enthusiastic turnout, emphasizing the importance of such gatherings in promoting cultural traditions and fostering community spirit.

With laughter, music, and spirited dance, the Garba celebration at Free Press was a resounding success, leaving everyone with cherished memories and a renewed sense of togetherness. To keep the energy high, awards were also presented, ensuring the dancing feet kept tapping long into the evening.



BEST PERFORMANCE

Women



Vanshika Sanver - ISBA

BEST DRESS



Archana Vishwakarma



Arti Chourey - Sun City



Ankita Sharma - Barfani Dham

BEST DRESSED COUPLE



Rahul Parmar and Deepika Parmar - Vishisht School



COUPLE WITH BEST DANCE



Amrita Rajput and Prakash Rajput

Srashti Sharma and Ronak Sharma



Priyanshi Yadav -- Shri Jain Diwakar College

Male



Rajat Jadhav - ISBA College



Raj Rathore - Shri Jain Diwakar College

REDUCING CARBON EMISSIONS | 100-day Indore Climate Mission to be launched on December 1

Indore to become world's first energy literate city

MoU signed between IMC and Solar Man of India, Dr Chetan Singh's Energy Swaraj Foundation

Our Staff Reporter

INDORE

In a bid to make Indore the world's first energy-literate city, the Indore Municipal Corporation, along with the Solar Man of India, Dr Chetan Singh, Professor at IIT Bombay and founder of the Energy Swaraj Foundation, has initiated a 100-day Indore Climate Mission (ICM).

To make this a reality, an MoU was signed between the IMC and the Energy Swaraj Foundation under the leadership of mayor Pushyamitra Bhargav. This will be the first time efforts are made to reduce carbon emissions on such a large scale.

Mayor Pushyamitra Bhargava said that Indore has established its identity in the world and will now also create its own identity in environmental protection. This 100-



day campaign will run from December 1 to March 10.

Mission aims to make 3-5 L people energy literate

Dr Chetan Singh said that the mission aims to provide energy literacy to 3 to 5 lakh people and achieve a 7-10 per cent reduction in electricity consumption in the city to promote efficient energy use. It is expected that this change will automatically lead to progress in waste reduction, water conservation, and sustainable behaviour change.

Save city from misuse, overuse, and inefficient use of energy

The mission will ensure that electricity consumption decreases while the city's growth increases. People will be educated on how to protect the

city from the misuse, overuse, and inefficient use of energy. For this, 500 volunteers will be engaged and the ICM will involve educational institutions, corporations, government entities, households and citizens. Additionally, information will be provided on the proper use of energy and resources and sustainable habits will be developed.

Climate change is an emergency

Dr Chetan Singh said that climate change is not a normal occurrence, it is an emergency. While we can control pollution, we cannot control climate change alone. For this reason, people across the world should unite to save the Earth from climate change and Indore will be the first to take a step toward reducing carbon emissions.

Affordability and accessibility of energy are key factors in achieving energy literacy.

2 held with 15 gram brown sugar

Indore: Two individuals were arrested by Azad Nagar police with 15 grams of brown sugar worth Rs 1.5 lakh, an official said on Wednesday.

Additional DCP Alok Kumar Sharma said that police installed security points at Nemawar Road late on Tuesday night when they suspected two individuals riding a two-wheeler. The cops asked them about their names and whereabouts but they seemed

afraid and could not give a proper reply. The police checked them and their two-wheeler when they found 15 grams of brown sugar hidden in a toolbox underneath the bike seat. The accused have been identified as Sumit and Vikash of Shivnagar, Musahedi. During the investigation, it came to light that the accused had also made videos with drugs and uploaded them on social media.

UCO Bank introduces new special deposit scheme UCO 333

Indore: UCO Bank has launched a special fixed deposit scheme 'UCO 333' for deposit period of 333 days for a limited period. The scheme is applicable on domestic retail term deposits below Rs 3 crore.

The scheme is offering higher interest rate @ 7.30% p.a for general customers and @ 7.55% p.a for senior citizen

depositors which will benefit the customers to earn higher rate of return in their investment.

The offered rate under 'UCO 333' is among the best rates offered by public sector banks (PSBs). The bank is aggressively promoting this scheme to its existing customers as well as new customers.

Woman kills self

Our Staff Reporter

INDORE

A 24-year-old woman allegedly died by suicide at her place in Malharganj area on Tuesday. The reason behind her extreme decision could not be established yet.

According to the police, the deceased was identified as Priyanka, wife of Sunil Vishwakarma, a resident of Mehta Colony. She was married around four years ago. She consumed some poisonous substance in the evening and her family members rushed her to hospital where she died during treatment.

State's first health ATM set up at Sanjeevani Clinic in city

Our Staff Reporter

INDORE

In a significant step towards enhancing public healthcare services, the first "Health ATM Machine" in the state was inaugurated at the newly constructed Sanjeevani Clinic at Kulkarni Nagar in the city. The event was attended by mayor Pushyamitra Bhargav and MLA Ramesh Mendola, with Mayor-in-Council member Jeetu Yadav sharing the news of the milestone feat.

The machine, equipped with state-of-the-art technol-

ogy, allows citizens to access over 60 different health tests, providing quicker and more efficient health services. Mayor Bhargav emphasised the importance of this development, noting that the new machine would allow for immediate testing of key health indicators like blood pressure, blood sugar, haemoglobin, cholesterol, oxygen levels, ECG, weight, height, and more. This initiative aims to reduce the long waiting times typically associated with these tests.

Mendola demonstrated his

support for the new service by undergoing a health checkup at the ATM immediately after the inauguration, boosting public confidence in the system.

In addition to the Health ATM Machine, the Sanjeevani Clinic will offer more than 208 essential medicines free of charge, specifically targeting the city's financially disadvantaged populations. This initiative is intended to ensure that quality healthcare, including critical medications, is accessible to all, especially the poor and needy.

AICTSL bags HUDCO award



Our Staff Reporter

INDORE

An eleven-year-old girl was allegedly molested by a youth in the Hira Nagar area when she was going to participate in a garba event.

Hira Nagar police station in-charge PL Sharma said the girl's mother informed the police that her daughter along with her friends was going to participate in a garba event in the colony. Her friend was walking ahead of her when a youth touched her with a bad intention. The girl was scared of the accused and she cried for help when some local residents gathered at the spot but the accused managed to flee.

A case was registered against an unidentified person under the relevant sections, including POCSO Act and a search for him was launched. Sharma said the accused was identified on Wednesday but he fled from his place so he could not be arrested till Wednesday night. A team has been constituted for the search of the accused.

The Atal Indore City Transport Service Limited (AICTSL) was awarded with the prestigious HUDCO (Housing And Urban Development Corporation Limited) Award 2024 by the Government of India for Best Practices in Improving Residential Environment, in a ceremony held on Wednesday at Vigyan Bhawan, New Delhi.

On the World Habitat Day, the Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs, Government of India, recognized the city of Indore for its innovative ef-

forts in transforming its solar-powered charging station at the BRTS (Bus Rapid Transit System) into a green mobility corridor. This innovation has significantly contributed to improving the residential environment.

The award was presented by Minister of State for Housing and Urban Affairs Tokhan Sahu and on behalf of AICTSL, the award was received by Managing Director of AICTSL and Commissioner of Indore Municipal Corporation S hivam Verma, CEO of AICTSL Divyank Singh and BRTS In-charge Abhinav Chauhan.

Man pushes teenager from first floor after altercation

Our Staff Reporter

INDORE

A man allegedly assaulted and pushed a teenager from the first floor of his house following a dispute under the Tilak Nagar police station jurisdiction, an official said on Wednesday.

According to the police, one Vishal Sharma lodged a complaint stating that his brother Abhishek, 19, had called one of his friends to their place.

They were talking on the balcony at 1 am on Monday when their neighbour Sanju Ingle came and got into an argument with them and asked why they were standing there at night.

Tilak Nagar police station in-charge Manish Lodha said an argument broke out between the victim and accused in an inebriated condition. Sanju pushed Abhishek from the first floor after assaulting him, resulting in injuries in his shoulder and his condition is said to be stable.

MINISTRY OF CORPORATE AFFAIRS GOVERNMENT OF INDIA

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TOP 500

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PEOPLE-CENTRIC INITIATIVE | Samapada 2.0 e-registry system launch today

Execution of registries to become fully digitalised, highly secure

Manish Upadhyay

INDORE

Enjoy the hassle-free, corruption-free, high-tech, highly secure, paperless and fully digitalised process of execution of documents from Thursday. MP is going to be the first state of the country,

■ MP is the first state to introduce such a state-of-the-art process for registration of documents

■ The process will be like filing of ITR

■ The link of registry to be sent on Aadhar linked mobile no, WhatsApp and on email

which is introducing such a unique and advanced e-registry system named 'Sampada 2.0' version of registration software and mobile App. The beautiful aspect of Sampada 2.0 is that there will be no



The new system is safe and easy. It will improve the transparency and revenue of the Govt. also. Initially, Sampada 1.0 and Sampada 2.0 will run parallel. Later Sampada 2.0 will be promoted and fully implemented.

-Deepak Sharma,
Senior Registrar of Indore District

need to visit the office of Sub-Registrar along with witnesses.

Chief Minister Dr Mohan Yadav will launch the new facility in Bhopal on Thursday. The whole process is linked with Aadhar no. to maintain the security of the documents and crucial information. The execution of the registration of the documents is coined like filing of Income Tax Return (ITR), which is driven by Aadhar No. Initially the current system of execution of the documents i.e. 'Sampada 1.0'

will also run along with 'Sampada 2.0'. It is being claimed that the new system will prove to be role-model for other states.

Unique features at a glance

1. The parties will be electronically identified through Aadhar number and PAN number. Signatures of the parties will not be required on any registry, but the document will be registered by doing OTP verification through Aadhar link.

2. At the time of registration of immovable property, the property will be identified through 'Geo tagging' of the guideline location on the map. After selection on the map, the valuation of the property and the stamp duty information will be automatically availed by the system.

3. The compulsion of visiting the office of the Sub-Registrar has been abolished. The party will have 03 options to get their document registered-

(A) Video KYC. A link will be sent to the parties through the software, through which they will be able to register their documents sitting at home as per their convenience.

(B) Through the service provider, the parties will be able to register their documents through the registered service provider.

(C) The parties will be able to get their documents registered by appearing in the office of the concerned Sub-Registrar.

4. Sampada 2.0 will be completely paperless. Print of the document will not be given to the parties, rather the document will be sent to the parties only by email

and WhatsApp in the form of a PDF file. So that the document will remain safe with the parties and they will be able to access the document as per their convenience.

5. Under the Sampada 2.0 system, witnesses will not be required for registration of documents.

6. Data and documents from various departments like Revenue, Town and Country Planning and Municipal Corporation will be fetched, so that all information of the property to be registered will be easily available.

7. All registries will be digitally sent to the concerned departments in real time for mutation (name change), which will make the process of mutation easy and convenient.

8. In the new system, an ID will be created for all the properties to be registered, which will be linked to Aadhar.

9. A chain of documents of all the properties to be registered will be created.

10. Due to Aadhar based registry, the identification of the parties will be correct and easy, due to which the common people will be protected from fraud.

Expert panel constituted for organ donation & transplant programme

Our Staff Reporter

INDORE

In a significant step towards improving organ donation and transplantation procedures, MGM Medical College, Indore, has constituted a local expert committee under the State Organ and Tissue Transplant Organisation (SOTTO). This new initiative aims to ensure the smooth functioning of organ donation and transplant programmes within the state.

According to an order issued by Dr Sanjay Dixit, Dean & Appropriate Authority of

experts from various medical disciplines.

This expert panel will provide critical advice and recommendations to the Appropriate Authority in

Members of the committee

1. Dr Apoorva Puranik - Neurologist
2. Dr. A. D. Bhatnagar - Cardiologist
3. Dr Archana Verma - Neurologist
4. Dr Pradeep Salgia - Nephrologist
5. Dr Ajay Jain - Gastroenterologist
6. Dr Sandeep Shrivastav - Cardiologist
7. Dr Nikhilesh Jain - Intensivist
8. Dr Ankur Gupta - Intensivist
9. Dr Amit Joshi - Deputy Medical Superintendent

Kanya pujan and Kanya bhoj of 2.5K girls held at Lasudia police station

Our Staff Reporter

INDORE

To foster a positive image of police, a special Kanya pujan and Kanya bhoj was organised in Lasudia police station premises on Wednesday to celebrate Navratri.

Senior police officers, including additional commissioner of police (CP) Amit Singh, additional CP Manoj Srivastava, DCP Abhinav Vishwakarma, additional DCP Amrendra Singh graced the occasion and commended the efforts of Lasudia Police for their community engagement.

The event organised by Lasudia Police Station in-charge Taresh Kumar Soni, was held as part of the Srijan initiative under community policing, saw the participation of 2,500 girls from 40 government and private schools, local neighbourhoods and garba groups.

During the programme, the girls were served a festive meal and given valuable ad-



vice on self-protection and vigilance. The police also distributed gifts to all the girls. The event enhanced the girls'

trust and confidence, while special teams were deployed to ensure the girls safe return to their homes after the event.

Shanti Exp to run with LHB coaches from February 1

Our Staff Reporter

INDORE

Train no. 19310/19309 Indore Gandhi Nagar-Indore Shanti Express will run with LHB coaches from February 1 and 2 next year.

Former Lok-Sabha Speaker Sumitra Mahajan had written a letter to Railway officials on September 10, highlighting the pety condition of currently used ICF coaches. Taking action on her letter, Railway issued a circular of this regard on Tuesday. LHB coach train will have one AC-I, Two AC-II, three AC-III, Seven sleeper class, four general coaches and one luggage van.

Nagesh Namjoshi, former member of Passenger Amenities Committee of Railway Board, said that LHB coaches are having unique safety features. In case of accident of the train, the coaches never over-lap, which minimise chances of casualties.

Tukoganj police station in charge Jitendra Singh Yadav said that a case has been registered against Madanlal, his son Gajendra and daughter Palak, the wife of the complainant under various sections of BNS. Raj Jatav, a resident of Rustom Ka Bagicha got married to Palak, the resident of the same area. She was staying with her parents for a few days. Raj had gone to bring her home at her place when her parents had an argument with Raj over some issue.

The situation turned intense and the accused thrashed him. One of the accused attacked him with a stick due to which Raj got critically injured and he is undergoing treatment in a city hospital. On the complaint of Raj's father, a case has been registered against the accused and a search is on for them. The police are trying to find out why they had an argument.

world mental health day

TELEMANAS Helpline receives over 4,000 calls every month

Our Staff Reporter

INDORE

Mental health concerns are on the rise across the country, with an increasing number of people battling issues like stress, anxiety, and depression. Despite the growing prevalence of these issues, awareness about prevention remains limited. Many individuals are experiencing sleep disorders, persistent sadness, and emotional stress, which can sometimes escalate to severe consequences, including suicide—an alarm-

Rising cases of sleeping disorder due to mental health a major concern

ing trend, particularly among the youth.

In response to this crisis, the government-run TELEMANAS Helpline has seen a surge in activity, with over 4,000 calls each month, translating to 70-80 calls per day. The majority of callers are young individ-

uals seeking support from districts across Madhya Pradesh, including Indore. Expert counsellors offer free guidance to help those struggling with mental health issues.

Psychiatrists are raising concerns about the excess-

use of mobile phones and internet media, which they say is contributing to mental health problems. Children and adults alike are increasingly absorbed in online content, with reels and other media often fostering negative thoughts.

Mental health experts are urging families to monitor what their children are watching on mobile devices to avoid exposure to harmful content.

Dr Krishna Mishra, a psychiatrist at the Government Mental Hospital, emphasises the importance of good sleep hygiene in managing insomnia, which is one of the most reported issues. He suggests maintaining a regular sleep schedule, avoiding quarrels or stress before bed, and limiting drug use to improve sleep quality.

Light showers bring respite to city after cloudy morning



City receives light showers on Wednesday

Our Staff Reporter

INDORE

City residents were greeted with a pleasant surprise on Wednesday as light showers drenched parts of the city. The day started with overcast skies, with brief appearances of sunshine. However, the weather took a sudden turn at noon, and rain poured down in several areas, including Vijay Nagar, Chhawani, Palasia, and Shivaji Vatika, soaking nearly half of the city.

This marks the first rainfall of the season in October for Indore, a relief amid the recent dry spell. Meteorologists attributed the rain to local cloud

formations caused by heat and moisture-laden winds from the Arabian Sea. According to Virendra Singh Yadav, a meteorologist from the Bhopal weather centre, a low-pressure system has developed over the southeastern Arabian Sea, pulling moisture toward the region and creating ideal conditions for scattered rainfall.

The weather centre has predicted more showers in southern Madhya Pradesh, including districts like Betul, Harda, and Khandwa, with thunderstorms and lightning expected through Thursday. Indore may see further rain on October 11 and 12 as the low-pressure area gradually moves

toward Gujarat.

Despite the rain, Indore is experiencing a weather pattern characterised by chilly mornings followed by intense daytime heat, which has impacted the health of many residents. The Meteorological Department forecasts that cooler temperatures will set in by the third week of October, marking the official start of the winter season.

The maximum temperature on Wednesday was 31.8 degrees Celsius which was one degree below normal while the minimum temperature was recorded at 23.2 degrees Celsius which was four degrees above normal.

Woman, two friends arrested for stealing 4 iPhones from locked house

Our Staff Reporter

INDORE

A woman and her two friends were arrested in connection with the theft at a locked house in the Vijay Nagar area on Wednesday. Four stolen iPhones were recovered from the accused. The woman informed the police that she had committed theft as she was told to do the same by her friends. The accused are being questioned further.

Vijay Nagar police station in charge Chandrakant Patel informed Free Press that theft occurred at the house of Shriram Rawat in Scheme Number 54 on October 7.

The almirah was opened and five iPhones were missing. Some cash was also stolen from there. A police team was constituted to arrest the ac-

cused. The police examined the CCTVs of the area and found the role of a woman in the crime. Somehow, police managed to identify the woman and arrested her from Scheme Number 78.

She allegedly informed the police that she had stolen the iPhone and some cash from a locked house as she was told to do so by her friends Kanha of Niranjpur and Anshul of Narsingpur.

Later, the police arrested Kanha and Anshul. All four phones have been recovered from them. They allegedly confessed their crime. The accused are being questioned for other such crimes.

Air connectivity with Varanasi to end on Oct 27

Indore: The air connection of the city with Varanasi, the country's major pilgrimage site, will end on Oct 27. The only flight on this route, operated by IndiGo Airlines, is being stopped from 27th October. The reason given by the airline is the frequent cancellation and delay of flights due to bad weather in Varanasi.

In the winter schedule which will be implemented from October 28 and will be applicable till 28 March 2025, airlines are starting many new flights as well as stopping many flights. In the same sequence, IndiGo is going to stop the direct flight from the city to Varanasi.

Currently, the flight departs from the city at 8.25 am and returns to the city at 10.15 pm. The airline operates this flight with an ATR aircraft. The flight company started it in the summer schedule implemented from March and is now going to stop it.

West Discom to do pre-Diwali maintenance work in 15 days

Our Staff Reporter

INDORE

To ensure uninterrupted power supply during the festive season, Madhya Pradesh West Zone Electricity Distribution Company managing director Rajni Singh has set a 15-day deadline for comprehensive maintenance efforts.

She also stated that the superintending engineers concerned will be responsible for any frequent tripping of 33 KV feeders.

"The malfunctioning of 33 KV feeders affects thousands of consumers across agricultural, industry, business, and domestic sectors, damaging the company's image," she said in meeting at Polaground headquarters on Wednesday, where officials from all 15 districts gathered

to discuss key operational challenges and plans.

Addressing the electricity department officials, Singh emphasised the need for urgent pre-Diwali and post-monsoon maintenance, particularly focusing on the 33 KV feeders, which have caused significant disruptions across various sectors.

In addition to technical concerns, Singh highlighted the issue of outstanding revenue. Farmers have an overdue payment of Rs 115 crore for irrigation connections, which needs to be addressed during the Rabi season. Similarly, high-tension and non-domestic consumers also owe significant amounts. Campaigns to recover these dues will be launched immediately, and performance on revenue collection will be reviewed in November's meeting.

Post-COVID screen time and mental health

Since the COVID-19

pandemic, life-

styles have dra-

stically changed, leading to increased screen time across all age groups. Dr Rahul Mathur, psychiatrist at MGM Medical College, notes that people from cities to villages are constantly connected to their phones, often even extending their work hours at home via mobile devices.

This has significantly

most of the calls are for these 10 problems

- Lack of sleep
- Feeling sad
- Lack of energy or tiredness
- Feeling stressed and anxious
- Loss of interest in work and daily activities
- Nervousness, rapid heartbeat, tremors etc.
- Exam stress
- Strange behaviour
- Feeling hopeless, helpless and not happy with oneself
- Symptoms of fear

heightened work-related stress and impacted mental health. Dr Mathur advises that

it is crucial to limit screen time to reduce stress and maintain concentration.



Mental health experts are urging families to monitor what their children are watching on mobile devices to avoid exposure to harmful content.

Dr Krishna Mishra, a psychiatrist at the Government Mental Hospital, emphasises the importance of good sleep hygiene in managing insomnia, which is one of the most reported issues. He suggests maintaining a regular sleep schedule, avoiding quarrels or stress before bed, and limiting drug use to improve sleep quality.



UJJAIN

Admin gears up for CM's visit

CM Mohan Yadav is scheduled to inaugurate various programmes and perform ground-breaking ceremonies in Ujjain on October 13. Collector Neeraj Kumar Singh and SP Pradeep Sharma inspected the event venues along with administrative officials. They inspected the Kartik Mela Ground event site, the newly-constructed Rajamata Vijaya-raje Scindia Multipurpose Sports Complex located in Sadawal and the programme venue of Pratibha Swaraj Pvt Ltd in Ninora on Indore Road.



NANAKHEDA

Illegal restaurant, gym demolished

The Ujjain Municipal Corporation team, on Wednesday, took action to demolish the illegal constructions made by Sonu Restaurant and Fit Flex Gym on the fourth floor of Harshdeep Tower, located near the Nanakneda petrol pump. The demolition was carried out by building officer Jagdish Malviya and building inspector Gayatri Prasad Dehariya from zone number 6. Sonu Restaurant and Fit Flex Gym were operating their restaurant and gym by making illegal constructions in the open area of Harshdeep Tower, which was demolished in the presence of the police administration.



SHRI RAMDEV BABA KATHA

Mayor extends invite to CM

Regarding Shri Ramdev Baba Katha scheduled to be held in Ujjain from October 14, Mayor Mukesh Tatwali met CM Yadav in Bhopal to invite him and briefed him on the preparations for the event. Tatwali stated that renowned saint Swami Mulyogi from Ramdevra will deliver sermons for five days. Mahraj. The event will also feature a series of devotional songs and presentations by Sadhvi Shashigautam from Ramdevra every day.



AKSHAT INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL

'Modern' Ravana burnt to ashes

Akshat International School organised the Ravana Dahan of a 31-foot tall 'modern' Ravana, symbolising the evils of society, to explain the importance of a healthy lifestyle to the students. The modern Ravana represented the negative influences of Instagram, YouTube, WhatsApp, Facebook and junk food, which misled the youth. In the end, it conveyed the message that if we do not gain control over these bad habits today, the outcome will be as painful as Ravana's. The chief guest of the programme was Snehalata Upadhyay, former member of the State Food Commission and the State Women Commission. The programme was presided over by the institution head, Anand Pandya. The educational director, Saroj Wagle, explained the significance of Dussehra. The vote of thanks was given by the vice-principal, Pallavi Diwakar.



NATIONAL RELIGIOUS SERVICE AWARD

Sudhir Bhai feted in Telangana

The Lata Raja Foundation, at the GM Convention in Nalgonda, Telangana, honoured Sudhir Bhai Goyal, the founder of Ankitgram and Sevadham Ashram, with the 17th National Religious Service Award, in recognition of his contributions to the field of social and humanitarian service. The chief guests included Auto Raja from the Newyork Mission of India, Karnataka, Dr Srinivas Rao from the Annam Seva Foundation, Telangana and Bandari Srinivas, founder of BS Group of Companies, among others.

CHAKRATIRTH

Tributes paid to Mamta Verma

Tributes were paid at Chakratirth to the late Mamta Verma, the wife of senior former Indian volleyball player Shrikant Verma. District Shooting Volleyball spokesperson Tushar Pawar

stated that the condolence meeting was attended by Vijay Jaiswal, Devki Silawat president of the Central India Hockey Association, International basketball players Virendra Joshi, Vinay Bhattacharya, Sunil Meena, Arjun Chandel, Luv Mehta, Vijay Bali, Manoj Shandilya, Sanjay Tomar, Surendra Paul, Rafiq Ansari, Ashok Rao, Rakesh Devda, Shiv Jadhav, along with several national and international athletes, players from Madhya Pradesh and other dignitaries and social workers.



VIKRAM UDYOGPURI PROJECT | Protest over acquisition of irrigated land

Farmers take out tractor rally, demonstrate at collectorate

FP News Service

UJJAIN

A massive protest was held here on Wednesday against the land acquisition of farmers of 7 villages in Vikram Udyogpuri Project on Dewas Road. About 2,500 farmers from Vikram Udyogpuri, riding on about 350 tractors and other vehicles, reached the collectorate in the form of a rally via Naghiri, Teen Batti Chauraha, Tower Chauraha and Dussehra Maidan, where all the affected farmers registered their objection to the scheme by handing over a memorandum.

The farmers alleged that earlier the land was acquired



Hundreds of farmers from Narwar reach collectorate in form of a tractor rally in Ujjain on Wednesday FP Photo

in the name of building an education hub there and developing IIM, medical college and residential buildings for students. The farmers were cheated and later this land was given to the MPIDC for industrial area development. To protest against it, hundreds of farmers from 7 villages reached the collectorate from Vikram Udyogpuri with a tractor rally. All the farmers were carrying placards in their hands and raising slogans about not giving land to the government. The agitators started a protest to give a memorandum to the collector and discuss it with him, but when he did not arrive, they sat on a dharna and raised slogans against the

government.

Farmer Dilip Chaudhary said that the land to be acquired for Vikram Udyogpuri includes 2,500 bighas of irrigated land of 700 farmers of Chainpur Hanskhedi, Kadcha, Narwar, Munjakhedi, Gaonwadi, Madhopur and Pipploda Dwarkadish and about 15,000 people are being rendered homeless. The administration had given 60 days to raise objections under Section 15 (I) on the basis of the date of notice dated September 3. According to that, out of all the 700 farmers, 680 farmers lodged objections in the land acquisition department of the collectorate on October 7, which is 96% of the total objections on the land.

'Suspicious woman' nabbed from Mahakal Lok, handed over to police

FP News Service

UJJAIN

Private security personnel at Mahakal Lok, on Wednesday morning, nabbed a woman after she was seen acting suspiciously and tried to escape seeing them. She was later handed over to the Mahakal police.

Recently, Lashkar-e-Taiba sent a letter to the Bikaner Hanumangarh railway station in-charge, threatening to blast the Mahakaleshwar temple. Since then, there have been widespread discussions about a possible attack by a suspicious individual.

On Wednesday, employees of the security agency deployed at Mahakal Lok found the woman's activities suspicious. Female security personnel were immediately called to catch her. Seeing the security personnel approaching, the woman began to run but was later caught. Upon searching her bag, some documents written in Urdu and five Aadhaar cards were recovered. The names on the Aadhaar cards were Muslim, which raised suspicion. The Mahakal police station is in-

terrogating the woman.

The woman arrested at Mahakal Lok is claiming her name to be Manju Parmar. However, based on the Aadhaar card found in her bag, it appears that her name might be Rukhsar. The Aadhaar card in the name of Manju Parmar does not match the appearance of the suspicious woman. Aadhaar cards recovered from her bag include the names Manju Parmar, Rukhsar, Shaifa Sheikh from Rajasthan, Farooq and one other name.

She mentioned that her parents passed away in her childhood and she was raised in an ashram with Shivnarayan being her guardian. A few days ago, she went to Mehsana, Gujarat, where she stayed at the Unawa Datar Baba Dargah for seven days. She claimed that she obtained the Urdu books, stickers and other materials from there only. During interrogation, the suspicious woman revealed that she boarded a train from Akodia and got off at Ujjain station. On the way, she met a man who took her to the gate of Mahakal Lok.

Peeved over potable water issue, citizens do 'Gandhigiri'



People along with corporators giving roses and memorandum to the PHED officer in Ujjain on Wednesday FP Photo

FP News Service

UJJAIN

Peeved citizens, led by Congress leader Rajendra Vashishta, on Wednesday, protested against the failed water supply system in the city. In a Gandhian manner, they reached the office of PHED with roses in their hands and presented flowers to the executive engineer NK Bhaskar urging for proper water supply.

The protesters demanded from the officer that the water tanks be filled to their full capacity. Areas such as Vikram

Nagar, Gandhi Nagar, Rajiv Gandhi Nagar and Damdama, which are located in Ward 52, are not receiving filled tanks. They urged that the issue be resolved so that these tanks are filled to their full capacity, ensuring that residents of Vikram Nagar and Gandhi Nagar get an adequate supply of drinking water.

They charged that the water tanks of the city are not being filled to their full capacity. As a result, during the festive season, people are facing significant difficulties in accessing drinking water. Vashishta pointed out that all these issues are due to the negligence and apathy of the PHED's officials and employees towards their duties. The executive engineer was urged to immediately take required steps, considering the suffering of the people struggling for water. Deputy Leader of the Opposition in Ujjain Municipal Corporation, Rajendra Kuval aka Gabbar, stated that the entire system has become chaotic and troublesome. He warned that if the administration does not meet their demands, they will launch massive agitation.

'November 1 auspicious day for Diwali'

FP News Service

UJJAIN

The Ujjaini Vidvat Parishad (UVP) members, on Wednesday, discussed the lunar day of Diwali and resolved that celebrating Diwali on November 1 is in accordance with the scriptures. UVP chief Dr Mohan Gupt said that usually the difference in dates is either due to difference in place due to which there is a lot of difference in sunrise or sunset, or due to difference in scriptures. The meaning of difference in scriptures is that at present there has been deviation in the calculation of many principles like Graha Laghava, Solar Principle, etc, due to which their mathematics does not match with the celestial position, that is, it is not according to the microscopic view mathematics. This year, according to microscopic calculations, Kartik Amavasya Tithi will start at 3:52 pm on October 31 and will continue till 6:17 pm on the next day that is November 1 after sunset.

BA final year student ends life

FP News Service

UJJAIN

A BA final year student committed suicide by consuming poison. The police have registered a case and conducted a post-mortem of the body. Paras (23), son of Shivnarayan Malviya, a resident of Tarana and a student of Madhav College, was admitted to a private hospital by his family in critical condition, where he passed away late on Tuesday. Paras' brother, Sonu, said that on Tuesday, the family had gone to attend a funeral at a relative's place in Dewas. Paras went to the field in the evening, consumed poison, and called his father.

When his father informed him that he was in Dewas, Paras told his uncle Mithun over the phone and said, 'Please save me'. His uncle and other family members took him to the hospital, where Paras succumbed. Sonu said they do not know the reasons behind the suicide.

mhow/dewas

Exhibition showcases toys made by students

FP News Service

MHOW

A workshop on making indigenous toys was organised at PM Shri Jawahar Navodaya Vidyalaya, Manpur last month. An exhibition of the toys made during the workshop was inaugurated by principal OP Sharma.

Vice-principal Sitin Nagariya, art teacher Nita Vishwakarma, Ragini Bhatt, Renoop Upadhyay, and parents were present on the occasion.

The exhibition showcased toys made by students based on Indian tradition and culture, including clay toys-horse, elephant, Ganesh idol, dolls, and houses; wooden toys-boat, bullock cart, tractor, masks, swings, and hand-carts.

Minister Tulsiram Silawat, on Wednesday, emphasised the significance of youth participation in the nation's development.

Addressing an employment fair held at Government College Sanwer, he highlighted ongoing efforts by both central and state governments to empower youth through self-reliance and employment opportunities, particularly via

employment fairs being organised in every district.

Silawat encouraged youth to seize the golden opportunities available at these fairs and expressed gratitude to various industrial organisations for their participation.

The fair was organised in collaboration with the National Rural Livelihood Mission, RSETI and local industrial units. District panchayat CEO Kusum Mandloi said that seven companies participated in the fair.

Shastra puja performed

FP News Service

DEWAS

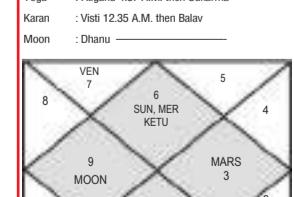
Under the aegis of Vishwa Hindu Parishad (VHP), Durga Vahini Matri Shaktis and Bajrang Dal performed weapon worship (shastra puja) at various pandals in the city.

The activists present took a pledge to protect Hindu religion and culture by chanting slogans of Jai Jai Shri Ram. Through the demonstration, a message was given to the daughters in the society to protect themselves and become self-reliant.

VHP district secretary Sandeep Choube, Bajrang Dal district coordinator Narayan Sharma, Durga Vahini district coordinator Babita Kaushal, Matri Shakti coordinator Premlata and others were present.

PANCHANG 10.10.2024 (DAKSHINAYAN)

Saka 1946 Month : Ashwin Shukla 7 Thursday 12:32 PM Nakshatra : Purvadasa 5:41 AM then Uttarada Yoga : Aligned 4:37 AM then Sukarma Karan : Visti 12:35 AM then Balav Moon : Dhruva



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Rly union elections gain momentum

FP News Service

MHOW

Elections to railway employee organisations are gaining momentum. Western Railway Employees Union leaders, including Narendra Solanki, Mahesh Barot, and Hridesh Pandey, campaigned and interacted with railway employees, urging them to support their candidates. Union secretary Dayal Singh

Bist and Sachin Verma appealed to voters to elect their panel's candidates with maximum votes.

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Addressing an employment fair held at Government College Sanwer, he highlighted ongoing efforts by both central and state governments to empower youth through self-reliance and employment opportunities, particularly via

an aarti performed by Solanki and the school staff. Awards were also presented for various categories, including best couple, best dandiya design and best hair design.

Municipal corporation chairman Ravi Jain and MLA Gayatri Raja Puar praised the successful organisation of the event. Attendees expressed wishes for the continuation of the event in the future, highlighting the joy and unity experienced throughout this memorable celebration.

Central India Academy hosts grand garba festival



garba singer Akanksha Jachak Shetty captivated the audience with lively performances, enhancing the festive atmosphere.

MP Mahendra Singh Solanki inaugurated the event by distributing academic awards to students and hon-

ouring Aditya Dubey for his outstanding contributions to environmental initiatives.

The celebration began with

HUMANITY SHAMED | When will we know actual meaning of Durga Puja?

Two-day-old girl dumped in sack on sixth day of Navratri

Hospitalised, condition stable

Our Staff Reporter

BHOPAL

At a time when the entire country is rejoicing in Navratri festivities and looking up to girls as Goddesses, atrocities against females don't seem to be ending.

A two-day-old girl was found draped in a sack in



Umrao Dulha area of Aishbagh on Wednesday morning, the police said. The police suspect that the girl might have been abandoned by her parents. Notably, the incident took place on the sixth day of Navratri.

Aishbagh police station TI Jitendra Garhwal told Free Press that the incident came to light on Wednesday morning, when the passersby inspected the sack, they were stunned to find an infant girl

voice was coming from a yellow sack placed on the roadside. When the passersby inspected the sack, they were stunned to find an infant girl

inside it. Her umbilical cord was attached to her body. A video of the incident has gone viral on social media.

After police were informed, Aishbagh police station personnel and deputy police commissioner (Zone-1) Priyanka Shukla rushed to the spot. The infant was taken to Kamla Nehru hospital where her condition is said to be stable.

The police said that the CCTV footages of the areas were being sifted and records

of all the women who delivered babies had been sought from all the hospitals in the area.

Surrounded by slums

According to Zone-1 DCP Priyanka Shukla, the area where the infant girl was discovered is surrounded by shanties and slums. She added people consider girl child as a liability and therefore may have dumped her.

Residents left poorer by Rs 13 lakh in 2 months

Fraud on pretext of updating of telecom services to 5G rampant

Our Staff Reporter

BHOPAL

Another cyber menace has gripped the city. The cyber crooks are hacking peoples' cell phones and wiping off money from their bank accounts on a new pretext. It is updating their telecom services to 5G.

The crooks have been posing as officials of a reputed telecom company and have been sending SMS pertaining to same to people. Moreover, they have also begun texting

people with APK files on several messaging applications.

According to city cyber cell, 113 complaints pertaining to same have been received in last two months, wherein crooks siphoned off Rs 13 lakh from the accounts of Bhopal residents. However, district cyber cell officials have been unable to identify the accused involved. However, the telecom companies have taken note in whose name frauds were committed. They have been spreading awareness among people in this regard. They have advised consumers not to download any APK files sent to them via messaging applications such as WhatsApp, Telegram or Instagram.

Don't click on links

Sources at the district cyber

cell told Free Press that if any person clicks on the link messaged to them, or downloads Android Package File (APK file) sent to them via messaging applications, the cyber crooks easily gain access to data stored by the person on their device. This includes banking details, pictures, audio and video, which might be sensitive in nature, and could cost person much more than their hard-earned money.

Issue advisory

Assistant police commissioner Sujeev Tiwari told Free Press that the city cyber cell should issue an advisory regarding the menace. He added that downloading APK files or clicking on unverified, malicious links could be detrimental to personal data of the people.

State Operation Committee formed for Panchayati Raj

Our Staff Reporter

BHOPAL

State governments has constituted operation committees to develop strategies and policies for implementing schemes from the Ministry of Panchayati Raj (MOPR) under the National Gram Swaraj Abhiyan (RGSA). The chief secretary-headed committee will also monitor the scheme im-

plementation and ensure transparency at all levels.

The other members of the committee include agriculture production commissioner, PS public health and medical education), Planning and Economic Statistics, Science and Technology, Sports and Youth Welfare. The PS for Social Justice, Women and Child Development Department, School

Education department, Finance, Director Panchayati Raj, Director General cum Director State Gramin Vikas Sansthan, Additional and Joint Director Panchayati Raj Directorate will also be members of the committee. Additional Chief Secretary and Principal Secretary, Panchayat and Rural Development Committee will be Member Secretary.

Autopsy of youth's body who shot self dead carried out after 26 hrs

Kin level allegations against police

FP News Service

CHATTARPUR

The post-mortem of the body of the man, who shot himself dead on Tuesday after killing one person and injuring two members of a family in Moraha area of Chattarpur on Tuesday, was carried out on Wednesday after 26 hours of his suicide.

The youth, accused of raping a minor girl, tried to force her family members to reach an agreement with him, sources said. When they refused to do so, he shot at three members of the girl's family, one of them

died in the incident.

A team of four doctors carried out the postmortem. According to sources, a bullet was found in the head of the youth whose family members made several allegations against the police.

According to reports, the youth Bhola Ahirwar was on the run after raping the girl three months ago.

On Tuesday morning, he shot at the girl's grandfather, uncle and the survivor.

Her grandfather died on the spot, and the girl and her uncle were sent to a hospital.

Bhola wrote a post on social media, informing the police about his location.

Meanwhile, the police declared a reward of Rs 20,000 for his arrest. As soon as the

police got information about his location, they swung into action and reached the location mentioned by Bhola.

No sooner had he seen the police, Bhola shot himself dead. There were several questions over his suicide.

Inspector general of police Sagar said there was an encounter between the police and Ahirwar who, out of fear of the police, shot himself dead. A relative of the accused, KL Ahirwar, said Bhola was so harassed that he had committed suicide.

There may have been someone else behind the incident, he said, adding that there were some disputes over a few objectionable photographs, but Bhola was falsely implicated in the case.

Sutarkar also took part in it and appealed to people to make Shail a model village.

The purpose of the rally was to tell the villagers to keep the area clean, stop using plastic and drug addiction.

Block coordinator of Ramkumar Gaur said that the campaign 'Swachhta Hi Sewa (cleanliness is service)' began from September 17 and continued till October 2.

Under the leadership of Sutarkar every Panchayat in Narmandapuram district is following up the programme to maintain the cleanliness for which the drive was launched.

FP News Service

SATNA

A female teacher of government primary school in Birsinghpur in Satna district has been suspended for coming late and left it early.

According to reports, district education officer (DEO) Neerav Dikshit suspended the teacher Veena Pandey posted in the girls' school, Birsinghpur. During the suspension period, she will be attached to the office of the block educa-

tion officer, Nagod. Pandey was also in-charge of the school.

Sources in the district education department said that Pandey came to school very late and left it early.

There were complaints against her in the office of the district education department, sources said.

The DEO also issued a show-case notice to her, seeking explanation for her late coming to school.

In reply to the notice, Pan-

Pontoon bridge over Chambal river in Veerpur soon, says CM

Our Staff Reporter

BHOPAL

Chief Minister Mohan Yadav said no stone would be left unturned for development of Veerpur in Sheopur district. A pontoon bridge will be constructed from Nandi village to Gayaghya over Chambal river. This will increase the transportation facility till Rajasthan's Karoli Mata temple and Sawai Madhopur.

He was addressing the joint Forest Management Committees training and awareness convention in Veerpur on Wednesday. He also dedicated and laid foundation stones of different public welfare works worth Rs 57 crore.

He stated that a college would be opened in Veerpur and community health centre would be upgraded. Likewise, hospital too will be upgraded. State government is com-



CM Mohan Yadav sitting with mother of state BJP president VD Sharma in Surjanpur, Morena district on Wednesday

mitted to developing forest areas as people living in forest areas maintain balance with nature.

He asked Sheopur collector to speed up the work of preparation and distribution of tribal certificates.

He distributed school bags to 13,700 children of Van Sa-

miti members. The overall cost of bags is Rs 80 lakh.

Assembly Speaker Narendra Singh Tomar said Sheopur would be made a leading district of the state. State BJP president VD Sharma said that state government was making tireless efforts for development.

Srijan exhibition held across CM Rise schools

Our Staff Reporter

BHOPAL

Exhibition, Srijan, was organised in CM Rise Schools by the school education department. On Wednesday, department

secretary Sanjay Goyal inspected the exhibition at Kamla Nehru CM Rise School in Bhopal.

Goyal said that it was essential to provide children with opportunities not only in aca-

One crushed to death, driver flees

Our Staff Reporter

BHOPAL

A 31-year-old Nariyalkheda resident was mowed down by a vehicle in Khajuri Sadak on Tuesday night, the police reported on Wednesday. The police said they have begun searching for driver, who hit the man and fled.

Khajuri Sadak police station TI Neeraj Verma told Free Press that the man who died was Vijay Sisodia. On Tuesday late night, the police received information about a man lying in a pool of blood in Khajuri Sadak area. They rushed to the spot and ascertained his identity on the basis of documents. His moped was found in a mangled state near his body, owing to which the police concluded that he was crushed by a four-wheeler.

Music series will be organised in MP through universities, colleges and non-governmental organisations of Madhya Pradesh dedicated to music under regional music series.

2 snake bite deaths in 1 day

Our Staff Reporter

BHOPAL

The city saw two deaths due to snake bite in last 24 hours. One of the incidents occurred in Berasia while the other in Khajuri Sadak area.

According to Berasia police, an 8-year-old girl Kajal Meena was bitten by snake on Tuesday and died on Wednesday morning.

Similarly, 45-year-old Rekha Singh Verma, a resident of Khajuri Sadak area, was cutting grass on her farm on Tuesday where a snake bit her. She was taken to hospital where she died during treatment on the wee hours of Wednesday.

from the last week of October and will continue till December. The formal inauguration of the festival will be held in New Delhi in the first week of November in which the Tansen Centenary Year logo and website will be launched.

Under the National Aagaz Series - Purvarang, music series will be organised in Lucknow, Nagpur, Jaipur, Mumbai, Ahmedabad, Raipur, Kolkata, Bengaluru, Fathepur Sikri from the last week of October to December.

Music series will be organised in MP through universities, colleges and non-governmental organisations of Madhya Pradesh dedicated to music under regional music series.

Besides, the festival will also be organised in other cities of the country including New Delhi and Bhopal under Purvarang which will start

district

Teacher suspended for coming late to school

FP News Service

SATNA

A female teacher of government primary school in Birsinghpur in Satna district has been suspended for coming late and left it early.

There were complaints against her in the office of the district education department, sources said.

The DEO also issued a show-case notice to her, seeking explanation for her late coming to school.

In reply to the notice, Pan-

dey said she was ill, but did not submit any medical certificate.

At an event of Jan Sikshak, she was not present. When the principal of the cluster inspected the school on Tuesday, the school was found locked, and the students were playing outside.

It happened because Pandey, a late comer, was keeping the keys of the school gate.

The principal sent a complaint to the DEO about her absence. As a result, she was suspended.

Navratri, Garba mahotsav draw crowds in Lateri

FP News Service

LATERI (VIDISHA)

Grand displays of Goddess Durga have been set up throughout Lateri, captivating devotees.

Alongside the beautiful statues, young children enthusiastically perform on stage, depicting various tableaux. These performances attract thousands of worshippers eager to witness the celebrations.

Block coordinator of Ramkumar Gaur said that the campaign 'Swachhta Hi Sewa (cleanliness is service)' began from September 17 and continued till October 2.

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Under the leadership of Sutarkar every Panchayat in Narmandapuram district is following up the programme to maintain the cleanliness for which the drive was launched.

ised by KG Events, the Garba festival, held on Madhusudan Garh Road, is now in its third year under the title Lateri Maza Garba 3.0. The festival takes place at Gulab Vatika Pandal. The event features enthusiastic participation from women and girls, who perform traditional Garba dances from 8:00 PM to 11:00 PM. Wearing Garba uniforms and swaying to the rhythmic clinking of dandiya sticks, participants dazzle the audience.

Four winners are awarded trophies each night, recognising the best dancers.

This initiative sought to engage the local community in understanding the importance of early education.

Collector Jaiswal visited the Beniganj Anganwadi Centre in Rajnagar Block to encourage the children.

He closely observed various learning stations set up by Anganwadi workers to support children's cognitive

and developmental growth.

He interacted with both parents and children to understand the activities carried out at the centre.

The parents shared insights about the CLAP programme, run

Regional Digest



MAHIDPUR

Ekta Samudayik Prashikshan Kendra inaugurated

Ekta Samudayik Prashikshan Kendra was inaugurated by Union minister Shivraj Singh Chouhan and Chief Minister Mohan Yadav through virtual medium. Janpad panchayat president Krishna Shivnarayan Suryavanshi participated as the chief guest, who inaugurated the centre by cutting the ribbon. Janpad CEO Meena Jha and district project manager (SRLM) Amit Brijwani were present. Women from various self-help groups shared their experiences and discussed the benefits of the training centre.

DHAR

Social worker Harsha honoured with 'Dhar Ratna' award

Social worker Harsha Devendra Runwal was honoured by Rotary Club with 'Dhar Ratna' award for her contribution in social services in the town. Club district governor Anees Malik graced the event as the chief guest.

Harsha is currently serving as a member judge in Consumer Forum, Dhar. She has also been the chairperson of the District Child Welfare Committee, Dhar. Well-wishers and family members wished her a bright future.

KHETIA

Devotees throng Maa Kochara temple

A large number of devotees are thronging the historical Maa Kochara Mataji temple to pay reverence to the deity during Navratri. Religious rituals are being performed every day in Gayatri Shaktipeeth and Santoshimata temple of the town. A kanya bhoj will be organised on the ninth day of Navratri by Sarvajaniik Sunderkand Mitra Mandal. The Navdurga Utsav Samiti is regularly organising Garba on the main road, Hanuman Chowk, Mata Mandir Chowk and other places.



KHANDWA

Urban Poverty Alleviation Cell meeting held

The meeting of Urban Poverty Alleviation Cell was held in the municipal corporation hall under the leadership of mayor Amrita Amar Yadav and chairman Anil Vishwakarma. The mayor directed the officials concerned to extend the benefits of the scheme to as many persons as possible. Emphasis was laid on ensuring the availability of documents and information related to the schemes to all the citizens. MIC member Anil Verma, Committee members, including Pawan, Sunil and others attended the meeting.



GAROTH

Civic body launches helpline number

The 'Nagrik Sahayata Table' (Help Desk) was inaugurated at the municipal council under the leadership of civic body president Rajesh Sethia on Tuesday. A helpline number '07425-238630' was issued, through which residents can get information related to cleanliness, drinking water, revenue, government schemes etc by calling the helpline number. The complaints will be registered between 10 am to 6 pm daily and concerned departments will be informed for redressal of the complaints.



SEETAMAU

Congress protests rising atrocities against women

Under the leadership of Congress, a public awareness rally was taken out in view of increased atrocities against women and girls. A memorandum, addressed to the chief minister, was submitted to tehsildar Manohar Lal Verma. The memorandum was read by block president Suresh Chandra Rawat. They alleged that the government only talks about women safety but has not taken any stringent action against the culprits. They cautioned that if stringent measures are not taken in future, then Congress will call for lockdown.

ACTION DEMANDED | Assistant sub-inspector Anand Tiwari allegedly abused revered tribal hero Tribals demand Khetia cop's suspension over derogatory remarks on Birsa Munda

FP News Service

KHETIA

Outraged tribal community, on Wednesday, demanded suspension of Khetia police station assistant sub-inspector Anand Tiwari for his alleged verbal abuse against revered tribal hero Birsa Munda.

Protesting against the incident, tribal organisations submitted a memorandum, addressed to Chief Minister Mohan Yadav, to Khetia tehsildar Sunil Sisodia, and urged action under the Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes (Prevention of Atrocities) Act, 1989.

The move comes after Ti-

wari allegedly used abusive language against Birsa Munda, sparking outrage among the tribal community.

The incident occurred when workers from the organisation, along with family members of a deceased person from Maharashtra, visited the Khetia police station to express their views on a murder case.

However, they were met with misbehavior and insults from Tiwari, who allegedly made derogatory remarks about Birsa Munda. The tribal community was annoyed and a large number of workers from various tribal organisations converged at the police station, raising slogans and demanding



Tribal community members protest outside police station FP Photo

justice. The memorandum demands that a case be registered against Tiwari under the Act

and that he be suspended immediately. Station in-charge inspector Surendra Kanesh

assured them that the memorandum would be sent to higher authorities for action.

However, the protesters remain unsatisfied, citing Tiwari's apology as insufficient and demanding stricter action against him. If their demands were not met, the organisations have threatened to launch a fierce agitation, holding the police administration responsible. Social worker Gajanan Brahmane condemned Tiwari's behaviour, stating that he used abusive language against Birsa Munda and should be taken to task under the Act. Maharashtra worker Sushil Pawar corroborated the allegations, stating that Tiwari had behaved indecently and used abusive language against Birsa Munda during the investigation of a murder case.

Clash erupts between two groups in Kholwa, 7 arrested

FP News Service

BHIKANGAON

A clash broke out between two groups in Kholwa village on Monday night following the water consumer committee elections. The police arrested seven accused in this connection.

The dispute began between two factions of the same community over the use of fireworks, which quickly escalated into a fight involving sticks and stones.

Police took swift action and registered a case against 22 people under rioting and other sections. Seven accused were arrested and sent to jail, while 15 accused are still absconding. The police are conducting a search operation to

arrest the remaining accused. Local station in-charge Rameshwar Thakur stated that the police took swift action to control the situation and that efforts are being made to arrest the remaining accused and maintain peace in the village. The situation in the village is under control, with

police monitoring the area. Despite the tense atmosphere, peace has been maintained due to the prompt response of the police. The police are working to ensure that the situation remains under control and that the village returns to normalcy soon.

GPS celebrates Navratri with great enthusiasm

FP News Service

MANAWAR

A joint team from the health and revenue departments conducted a raid in Sector Khandlai of the Manawar development block. The operation targeted private medical businesses operating without proper authorisation.

During the raid, allopathic medicines were seized from a private medical practitioner on Lunera Road, as well as from two other practitioners in Khandlai. The authorities were currently examining the documentation of these practitioners to ensure compliance



School family comes together with colourful garba costumes FP Photo

FP News Service

KHARGONE

Navratri festival was celebrated with great enthusiasm and fervour at Gokuldas Public School (GPS), where the school family came together to worship the mother goddess with colourful garba costumes and the rhythmic beats of dandiya.

The event saw the active participation of women from the city, along with the school's boys and girls, teachers, staff and parents, who played Raas Garba with devotion.

The school organised a garba festival, which showcased the cultural significance of the dance form and Dussehra.

The event featured a colourful presentation by the school family, which included district president of Vaishya Samaj Kirti Jain, division president of Vaishya Samaj and chairperson of

Sarita Mahajan, principal Mandala Vedvati and vice principal Jamila Mendis, among others.

The highlight of the event was a Shastra Garba presentation by the girls, who performed with swords in both hands, conveying the message of women empowerment and safety.

The school's chairperson, Sarita Mahajan, expressed her gratitude for the opportunity to worship the mother goddess together, while principal Mandala Vedvati emphasised the importance of such programmes in helping children understand and appreciate their culture.

The event also featured a display of diverse cultural costumes from across the country. The school family honoured the best garba dancer, best pair and best costume and the programme was conducted by Balwinder Kaur Bhatia, Kavita Gole and Vaishali Sohni.

The renovation of platform, foot overbridge for level crossing, ground parking space, boundary wall and other development works are done at the railway station for Rs 18.92 crore. During the inspection,

₹8.28 cr loan distributed among 202 SHGs in Dehri Sarai

FP News Service

DHAR

As a part of the MP Gramin Ajeevika Mission, a district-level programme was held at Dehri Sarai village for the distribution of loans to self-help group (SHG) members.

During the Gram Vikas Samelan, a total of Rs 8.28 crore was distributed among 202 self-help groups. The members of these groups shared their personal stories, detailing their conditions before joining the SHGs and how their participation in the livelihood mission has empowered them to become self-reliant and achieve their dreams. Many members proudly referred to themselves as Lakhpati Didi. The programme featured several notable guests, including Bank of India (BOI) district lead district manager Sanjay Soni, BOI zonal office credit manager Tejbhan Singh and managers from both Bank of India and MPGB Bank. Additionally, 65 members from various self-help groups were present, contributing to the vibrant discussions and celebrations of success. This loan distribution is part of a broader effort to enhance the livelihoods of rural women and promote sustainable economic growth through self-help groups, which are crucial in addressing poverty and improving living conditions in rural areas.

Move to regulate water usage for irrigation

Collector chairing district water utility committee meeting FP Photo

Get prior WRD approval for electricity connections from ponds and canals, collector tells West Discom officials

FP News Service

DHAR

Collector Priyank Mishra instructed officials of the Madhya Pradesh Electricity Distribution Company that electricity connections should be granted for irrigation purposes from pond and canal water with prior approval from the Water Resources Department (WRD).

The announcement came during the district water utility committee meeting held at the collectorate auditorium, where several officials, including district panchayat CEO Abhishek Chaudhary and additional collector Ashwini Kumar Rawat were present.

The meeting focused on reviewing the status of water bodies in the district, includ-

ing projects under the Narmada Valley Development Authority and the water resources division.

The collector emphasised the importance of preventing water theft and maintaining the integrity of irrigation canals. He urged a collaborative effort among various departments, including the police, to address any issues related to canal damage or unauthorised water theft.

In addition, the collector highlighted the need for accountability regarding reserved drinking water. He directed that even if the reserved water is not utilised, the revenue must still be deposited, as the water resources department lacks sufficient staff to monitor this effectively.

The meeting concluded with the unanimous approval of the Rabi irrigation targets for 2024-25, which include an ambitious goal of irrigating 1,80,524 hectares and ensuring a drinking water reservation of 32.191 million cubic metres.

Indian Air Force Day celebrated

FP news service

JAORA

Indian Air Force Day was celebrated in Bhagat Singh Government Postgraduate College on Tuesday. Principal Vidya Tiwari gave information about the importance of Air Force Day and significant contribution of the Indian Air Force in various wars. Students were given information about how they can join the Indian Air Force Academy and the training they need to undergo for selection. A documentary series named Indian Air Force Academy was shown to students by Swami Vivekananda Career Guidance Cell.

PANCHANG 10.10.2024 (DAKSHINAYAN)

Saka 1946 Samvat 2081

Month : Ashwin Shukla 7 Thursday 12.35 P.M.

Nakshatra : Purvadasa 5.41 A.M. then Uttaradasa

Yoga : Aligned 4.37 A.M. then Sakorma

Karan : Visti 12.35 A.M. then Balav

Moon : Dhruva



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shakti abhinandan abhiyan**Awareness raised on women's rights**

FP News Service

JHABUA

District legal services authority and district administration have initiated the 'Shakti Abhinandan Abhiyan' from October 2 to October 11, as part of the Beti Bachao Beti Padhao scheme.

The initiative is guided by collector Neha Meena and aims to promote awareness and empowerment for girls

in the district.

A significant campaign was held at the police community building in Jhabua. The event featured a one-day workshop focusing on the Protection of Children from Sexual Offences (POCSO) Act, cyber security and laws related to women.

This programme was organised collaboratively by the women and child development department, district legal services authority and the higher educa-

tion department. District programme officer of the women and child development department Radhu Singh Baghel emphasised the importance of the programme and encouraged participants to integrate its teachings into their lives.

District judge and secretary of the district legal services authority Hemant Singh highlighted legal

provisions and schemes related to women's empowerment. A short film on child marriage was also screened to enhance understanding of the issue.

The event was attended by several dignitaries, including SP Padma Vilochan Shukla, sub-divisional revenue officer Satyanarayan Darron and other officials from the women and child development department.

◆ INDORE ◆ BHOPAL ◆ UJJAIN ◆ MUMBAI ◆ PUNE

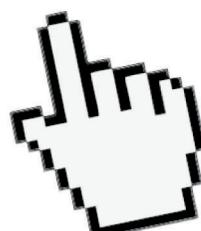
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fp **Briefs**

RAIPUR

OPD on Dussehra

The Outpatient Department (OPD) at Dr. Bhimrao Ambedkar Memorial Hospital, affiliated with Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru Memorial Medical College in Raipur, will remain open from 10:00 am to 12:00 noon on Saturday, October 12th, despite the Dussehra (Vijayadashami) holiday. Due to the local holiday for Mahanavami on October 11th, the Dussehra holiday on October 12th, and the regular Sunday closure on October 13th, the hospital has decided to operate the OPD on Dussehra to ensure medical services are available during the three consecutive days of holiday.

KHAIRAGARH Minister in Khairagarh today

Commerce, Industry, and Labour Minister Lakan Lal Dewangan, who also serves as the Minister in charge of Khairagarh district, will be visiting Khairagarh on October 10. He will depart from his residence in Shankar Nagar, Raipur, at 10 AM and is expected to reach Khairagarh by noon. He Dewangan will first attend the inauguration of the statue of Chhattisgarh Mahtari at the Khairagarh Collectorate complex at 12:15 PM. Following it, he will unveil the statue of former MP Devvrat Singh at Civil Line, Khairagarh, at 12:30 PM. Later in the day, the Minister will preside over a housing fair and district-level camp at Gram Panchayat Sighori in the Khairagarh development block at 2:00 PM. He is scheduled to return to Raipur by 5 PM.

RAIPUR Body reaches Tapkara

Chhattisgarh Chief Minister Vishnu Deo Sai has extended support to the family of Sanjay, a resident of Sundur village, Tapkara, who tragically lost his life in an accident in Mangaluru, Karnataka. After the incident, the family sought assistance from the Chief Minister's Camp Office, Bagiyan. Responding promptly, the district administration was asked to ensure that Sanjay's body was brought back to his home in Sundur. His remains were flown to Ranchi and then transported to his village using the '1099 Muktanjal' hearse service, arriving early on Wednesday morning. The family expressed their gratitude for the swift response and support of the CM and the district administration during the difficult time.

SMASHING PRESSURE | Event for journalists**DEDICATE AN HOUR FOR THEMSELVES: ARUN SAO****Staff Reporter**

RAIPUR

Chhattisgarh Deputy Chief Minister and Public Works Department Arun Sao on Wednesday emphasized the importance of personal time, stating that in today's hectic world, individuals—whether police officers or journalists—face unpredictable work hours and high stress. He highlighted the need for everyone to dedicate at least one hour daily for themselves, recommending sports as a way to maintain physical and mental well-being.

Arun Sao, participated as the chief guest at the 'Self Protection Initiative Championship-2024', a state-level shooting competition organized for journalists. Sao demonstrated his marksmanship with both air pistol and rifle, recalling his days as an NCC cadet, which he credited for his continued shooting accuracy.

He praised the event as a great initiative by the Raipur



Press Club, Raipur Police, and Public Relations Department, noting that it would bring fresh energy to the participants.

The competition, being held at the Eklavya Shooting Range in Police Lines, Raipur, runs from October 4 to 9. Around

220 journalists from across the state took part in the event, competing in eight different categories for both men and women. The competition, which has generated significant enthusiasm, was inaugurated by Sports and Youth Welfare Minister Tankaram

Verma on October 4.

Press Club General Secretary Dr. Vaibhav Shiv Pandey, Vice President Sandeep Shukla, senior journalist Uchit Sharma, IPS Ajay Kumar, and several journalists and police officers were present at the event.

HC orders govt to pay compensation**Staff Reporter**

BILASPUR

Holding the state employees responsible for the death of a prisoner in the jail, the High Court of Chhattisgarh has ordered the government to pay a compensation of Rs 1 lakh. The court said that if the order is not followed, 9% interest will



examination, he was sent to Bilaspur Central Jail on January 18. On January 21, due to ill health, he was admitted to CIMS from jail, where he died during treatment on the morning of January 22.

The police established a case and conducted a post-mortem the same day in the evening, in which it was said

Addressing a press conference here on Wednesday, Director of Postal Services Dinesh Kumar Mistry said that various activities are being conducted by the Postal Department at various places across the state as part of the National Postal Week.

Mail and Parcel Day was observed on October 7. An awareness programme was conducted on the occasion.

Philately Day was observed on October 8. World Post Day was observed on Wednesday.

"Fit Post, Fit India" programme was conducted today. Saplings were planted as part of the "Ek Ped Maa Ke Naam" campaign.

Chhattisgarh Postal Circle felicitated the winners of the international letter writing competition—namely Mahima

"Grahak Milan" programme in all divisions, the Department of Posts will also receive necessary suggestions for improving its facilities

Sinha, Sanskriti and Tanishka Yadav at the Main Post Office on Wednesday. Mahima Sinha, Sanskriti and Tanishka Yadav received prizes from Director Mistry.

Antoday Diwas will be celebrated on Thursday. Financial Empowerment Day will be observed on October 11, said Dinesh Kumar Mistry.

Through the celebration of National Postal Week, the Department of Posts is trying to take all its latest services to the public. By organizing the "Grahak Milan" programme in all divisions, the Department of Posts will also receive necessary suggestions for improving its facilities, he added.

Collector-SP takes stock of Gurudarshan Fair**Staff Reporter**

RAIPUR

Reaching village Telasi of Palari development block of Balodabazar district in Chhattisgarh on Wednesday, Collector Deepak Soni and SP Vijay Aggarwal took stock of the administrative preparations being made for the 'Gurudarshan Fair'. It is scheduled on October 12th at Telasibara, the birthplace of Baba Guru Ghasidas. Thousands of devotees from all over the country and state gather here for the fair.

The district administration

visited various places with the people associated with the fair management and discussed in detail the issues related to the arrangements. Mainly, he inspected the site of the temple complex, Bada, Jaitkham, parking area,

security, lighting, drinking water system.

He asked the concerned officials to further improve the cleanliness system. It was also asked to prepare the helipad in view of the VVIP movement.

Historical importance of Telasipuri

Village Telasi is situated on the Baisa to Arang road, about 40 kilometers away from the district headquarters Balodabazar, the birthplace of Baba Guru Ghasidas is situated. It is also called the penance land of Sant Amar Das of Satnam sect and Telasi Bada by the local people. It is an important religious place for the people of Satnam sect. Around 1840, Telasi Bada was built by Balak Das, the second son of Guru Ghasidas and he continued his life in Telasi Bada, which is still present as an ancient historical heritage.

offgrid

the COVID-19 pandemic and emphasized the benefits of 'Arjun Ksheerpak', a preparation made from the bark of the Arjun tree. This Ayurvedic remedy strengthens heart arteries and muscles, offering a natural solution for heart patients and those at risk of cardiac arrest.

Daily Life Applications of Ayurveda

District AYUSH Officer Dr. Gurudyal Sahu noted that during the 'Jal Jagar' festival, various medicinal plants, including 'Moringa' (Drumstick Tree), were showcased, along with methods to prepare their extracts for daily use. The Ras-shala and Butigargh

aim to educate the public on how Ayurvedic plants can combat seasonal ailments. The initiative also promotes the cultivation of medicinal herbs, contributing to both nature conservation and water preservation.

Ancient Ayurvedic Traditions Revived

The Ras-shala is inspired by the ancient Ayurvedic text Rasa Shastra, which details methods for preparing herbal remedies. Using traditional apparatus, the centre will create fresh juices, extracts, and decoctions to boost immunity and provide a range of health benefits.

'Arjun Ksheerpak' for Heart Health

Dr. Pachauri highlighted the growing concern over sudden heart attacks since

According to Ayurveda

awareness about Ayurveda. The Ras-shala, located in Singpur village, is designed to promote the use of local medicinal plants. A herbarium is also being developed in the region, allowing visitors to explore the health benefits of herbal beverages.

Water conservation is a key aspect of the project, with the ongoing 'Jal Jagar' campaign showcasing the connection between water and Ayurveda. Ayurvedic practitioners have emphasized how pure water and herbal nutrition can lead to healthier lifestyles for individuals and communities.

Chief Minister Vishnu Deo

Sai praised the initiative, emphasizing the importance of preserving the state's forest wealth and raising public

SCPC deliberates on child welfare initiatives**Staff Reporter**

RAIPUR

Legal Aid, Railways, and NIC attended the meeting. A comprehensive review of time-bound actions in important child protection cases, along with progress on child welfare initiatives, was conducted.

The Secretary of Women and Child Development emphasized the need for strict adherence to the Protection of Children from Sexual Offenses (POCSO) Act, 2012, and its subsequent amendments.



proved the operation of specialized adoption agencies in 20 districts where they were previously unavailable. Additionally, state and district-level inspection committees were formed to monitor child care institutions, with instructions for timely action on inspection reports.

Abidi also highlighted the state's efforts in preventing child marriages, noting that 161 child marriages were

stopped in 2023-24 and 167 in 2024-25. A strategy for the Child Marriage Free Chhattisgarh campaign, launched by Chief Minister Vishnu Deo Sai, is being implemented across departments and districts. The notification process for Child Marriage Prohibition Officers at the Gram Panchayat level is underway.

The meeting concluded with the approval of the 2023-24 audit report and discussions on improving coordination among supporting departments for the best interests of children in the state.

She directed the Home Department to ensure compliance with the Act across all districts and to allocate adequate funds for victim compensation under the Compensation Scheme.

To support the continuity of education for victims, the Education Department was tasked with ensuring necessary measures, while the Skill Development Authority was instructed to offer employment-oriented training in coordination with District Child Protection Units.

In line with government directives, the meeting also ap-

Chhattisgarh gets funds for 324 km of road development**Staff Reporter**

RAIPUR

In a tragic incident in Surguja district, Chhattisgarh, two individuals lost their lives when a mud wall collapse in Chhui Mines. The victims were identified as Hiraman Yadav and Shiva Yadav. As per reports, both the men were extracting special mud 'Chui soil' in the mines. The accident occurred approximately



The Union Ministry of Road Transport and Highways has approved a fund of 892.36 crore for the development of 324 km of roads across six districts of Chhattisgarh.

Deputy Chief Minister and Public Works Minister Arun Sao expressed gratitude on behalf of the state's 3 crore citizens to Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Union Road Transport Minister Nitin Gadkari for the approval.

The Public Works Department had submitted the proposal for these road stretches on September 9th, 2024, and the approval came after a meeting in New Delhi on September 30th with Chief Minister Vishnu Dev Sai and Deputy Chief Minister Arun Sao. The sanctioned funds will be used for road development projects in Bemetara, Mungeli, Rajnandgaon, Jashpur, Bilaspur, and Khairagarh districts.

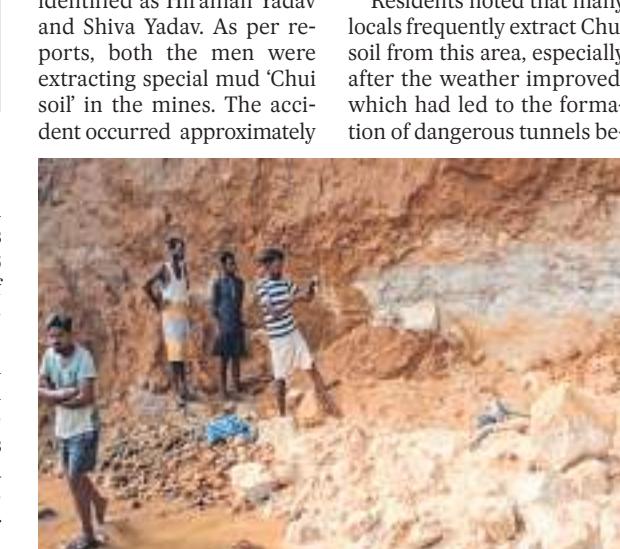
Gadkari announced the approval via his 'X' handle, stating that the funds are allocated from the Central Road Infrastructure Fund (CRIF) for the financial year 2024-25.

Despite the quick actions

2 DIE IN CHHUI MINE INCIDENT**Staff Reporter**

RAIPUR

In a tragic incident in Surguja district, Chhattisgarh, two individuals lost their lives when a mud wall collapse in Chhui Mines. The victims were identified as Hiraman Yadav and Shiva Yadav. As per reports, both the men were extracting special mud 'Chui soil' in the mines. The accident occurred approximately



one kilometer away from their village in the Jamdara area of the Lakhapur police station limits.

As per the information received, both the men entered a tunnel-like mine under a mound of soil to dig for Chui soil. While they were working, the upper section of the mine caved in. Both the men get trapped and got buried under a huge amount of debris.

Other men raised the alarm, prompting a rapid response from local residents who rushed to the scene to assist in the rescue efforts.

Despite the quick actions

neath the surface. This mine collapse follows a similar incident in Surajpur district last month, where two women and a young girl were trapped while extracting Chui soil; while two were rescued, the young girl tragically lost her life.

Chui soil, commonly used for plastering mud walls, serves as a crucial source of livelihood in tribal-dominated areas. Unfortunately, the conditions of many Chui mines in the division have been flagged as hazardous, leading to repeated incidents of fatalities.

**Butigargh emerges as an Ayurvedic Hub in Dhamtari district****Staff Reporter**

RAIPUR

A unique initiative combining water conservation and Ayurveda has been launched in Dhamtari, Chhattisgarh. This pioneering effort, led by the AYUSH Department and district administration, aims to integrate Ayurvedic practices into daily life. The establishment of an 'AYUSH Ras-shala' (Herbal Beverage Centre) in the forested Butigargh area marks a significant milestone in the state's efforts to promote natural medicine.

Chief Minister Vishnu Deo

Sai praised the initiative, emphasizing the importance of preserving the state's forest wealth and raising public

awareness about Ayurveda. The Ras-shala, located in Singpur village, is designed to promote the use of local medicinal plants. A herbarium is also being developed in the region, allowing visitors to explore the health benefits of herbal beverages.

Water conservation is a key aspect of the project, with the ongoing 'Jal Jagar' campaign showcasing the connection between water and Ayurveda. Ayurvedic practitioners have emphasized how pure water and herbal nutrition can lead to healthier lifestyles for individuals and communities.

Medical Officer Dr. Avadh Pachauri, 160 varieties of medicinal plants have been identified in Butigargh, with 25,000 plants already cultivated. Many of these herbs are being used for treatments, with the Ras-shala serving as a platform to increase awareness of their benefits. Decoctions made from these herbs are being provided to various groups, including pregnant women and adolescents, yielding significant improvements in both physical and mental health.

'Arjun Ksheerpak' for Heart Health

Dr. Pachauri highlighted the growing concern over sudden heart attacks since

According to Ayurveda

the COVID-19 pandemic and emphasized the benefits of 'Arjun Ksheerpak', a preparation made from the bark of the Arjun tree. This Ayurvedic remedy strengthens heart arteries and muscles, offering a natural solution for heart patients and those at risk of cardiac arrest.

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Briefs**

NEW DELHI

Over 34.84L IT audit reports filed on e-filing portal till Oct 7

The finance ministry on Wednesday said more than 34.84 lakh audit reports (TARs), have been filed for assessment year 2024-25 on the e-filing portal till October 7. The income tax department had extended the date for filing the audit report from September 30 to October 7. There is an increase in the filing of TARs for the AY 2024-25.

NEW DELHI

DigiLocker partners UMANG app

The Centre on Wednesday announced the integration of the UMANG app with nation's digital wallet DigiLocker, that will allow users to manage multiple services through a single platform. The collaboration aims to provide citizens with seamless access to a wide range of government services bringing greater convenience, according to National e-Governance Division (NeGD).

NEW DELHI

CIL to spend up to ₹2.5 bn on bonus

Coal India Ltd. has asked all its mining contractors to pay contractual workers engaged in mining operations a bonus in October which the company will reimburse the following month, a senior company official told Informist. The total bonus outgo on contractual workers is likely to be between INR 2 billion and INR 2.5 billion, the official added.

NEW DELHI

Saatvik Solar gets 213 MW PV module supply order

Saatvik Solar on Wednesday said it has got an order to supply 213 MW of solar PV modules from a private player. The modules will be supplied for a clean energy project in Bihar, the company said in a statement. The company has a 3.8 GW solar module manufacturing capacity, with an additional 2GW under construction.

NEW DELHI

NeoLiv buys 12-acre land at Alibaug

Realty firm NeoLiv has bought 12-acre land at Alibaug near Mumbai to develop a luxury housing project with a sales potential of around Rs 400 crore. The company did not disclose the land deal value and name of the seller. In a statement on Wednesday, NeoLiv announced the acquisition of 12 acres of prime land in Alibaug, marking the company's foray into the highly sought-after Mumbai Metropolitan Region (MMR) market.

NEW DELHI

Ola Electric unveils BOSS sale

Ola Electric, India's largest pure-play EV company, has launched its BOSS - Biggest Ola Season Sale - campaign for the festive season. Under the campaign, the company has announced entry into its S1 portfolio for as low as Rs 49,999. Additionally, the company has introduced festive benefits of up to Rs 37,000.

RBI keeps policy rate unchanged at 6.5% for 10th time in a row, changes stance to neutral to align inflation with growth

RBI MPC shifts gear to 'neutral'

PTI
MUMBAI

The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) kept its key interest rate unchanged on Wednesday for the tenth straight time, but took the first step towards a rate cut as it eased its relatively hawkish policy stance to 'neutral'.

The monetary policy committee, which included three RBI officials and an equal number of new external members, voted five-to-one to keep the benchmark repurchase or repo rate - which governs the interest rate of home, auto, corporate, and other loans - at 6.5 per cent.

The panel, however, unanimously decided to change the policy stance to 'neutral' - the first since June 2019 - from 'withdrawal of accommodation amid signs of a slowing economy.'

Interest rates were last changed in February 2023 when they were hiked to 6.5 per cent from 6.25 per cent.

RBI Governor Shaktikanta



Das said the committee changed the stance but will remain unambiguously focused on the durable alignment of inflation to target while supporting growth.

Food inflation, he said, may ease in coming months, while the core inflation, which excludes the volatile food and energy costs, appears to have bottomed out. India's economic growth outlook remained intact, with private consumption and investment growing in tandem.

The change of stance signals a possible move to cut interest rates in forthcoming

MPC meetings, the next being due in early December.

RBI will join other central banks in a policy pivot that was led by the US Federal Reserve easing rates last month. Annual retail inflation eased below the central bank's target of 4 per cent for a second consecutive month in September and will, as per RBI expectation, rebound again this month, largely due to base effects.

RBI kept its inflation forecast unchanged at 4.5 per cent for the 2024-25 (April 2024 to March 2025) fiscal year. It also kept its GDP forecast

unchanged at 7.2 per cent in view of prospects of robust private consumption and investment growth.

Das said the prevailing and expected inflation-growth balance has created conditions for a shift in the monetary policy stance as there now is greater confidence on the last mile of disinflation.

RBI also highlighted concerns about the geo-political risks and the weather-related shocks along with its adverse impact on commodity prices particularly crude oil where India's import dependence is very high.

UPI Lite wallet limit enhanced to ₹5,000PTI
MUMBAI

The Reserve Bank on Wednesday announced the increase of the UPI Lite wallet limit to Rs 5,000 and per-transaction limit to Rs 1,000, in order to encourage wider adoption of the popular instant payment system through mobile phones.

A limit of Rs 500 per transaction and an overall limit of Rs 2,000 per UPI Lite wallet, is presently applicable, with the facility of auto-replenishment.

Unveiling the October bi-monthly monetary policy, Reserve Bank Governor Shaktikanta Das also said the per-transaction limit in UPI123Pay will be enhanced to Rs 10,000 from the current Rs 5,000.

UPI123 was launched in March 2022, with a view to enable feature-phone users to use UPI. This facility is now available in 12 languages.

FY25 growth forecast retained at 7.2%

PTI
MUMBAI

The Reserve Bank on Wednesday retained the growth projection for the current fiscal at 7.2% on the back of robust consumption and investment momentum.

It, however, lowered the GDP estimate for the second quarter to 7% from 7.2% earlier. Real gross domestic product (GDP) also grew slower at 6.7% in Q1:2024-25 from earlier projection of 7.1%.

Further, RBI revised upwards growth forecast for the third and fourth quarters from 7.3% and 7.2 per cent respectively, to 7.4 per cent.

In August policy also, RBI had projected the real GDP growth at 7.2% for the fiscal. RBI Governor Shaktikanta Das while announcing the bi-monthly monetary policy said India's growth story remains intact as its fundamental drivers - consumption and investment demand - are gaining momentum.

"Prospects of private consumption, the mainstay of aggregate demand, look bright on the back of improved agricultural outlook and rural demand. Sustained buoyancy in services would also support urban demand. Government expenditure of the Centre and states is expected to pick up pace in line with the Budget Estimates," he said.

'Closely monitoring data on stress in few sectors'

Informist
MUMBAI

The RBI is closely monitoring data on stress in unsecured segments such as loans for consumption purposes and microfinance and credit card outstanding of banks and non-bank lenders and will take steps as necessary, Governor Shaktikanta Das said on Wednesday.

"The Reserve Bank is closely monitoring the incoming information and will take measures, as may be considered necessary. Banks and NBFCs (non-banking finance companies), on their part, need to carefully assess their individual exposures in these areas, both in terms of size and quality," Das said.

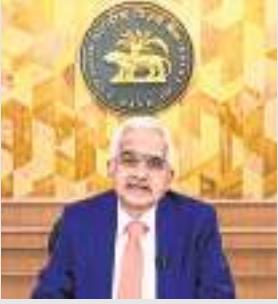
'Need to keep inflation horse under tight leash'

PTI
MUMBAI

The Reserve Bank on Wednesday retained the retail inflation projection at 4.5 per cent for fiscal 2024-25, with Governor Shaktikanta Das stressing that the central bank will have to closely monitor the price situation and keep the "inflation horse" under tight leash lest it bolt again.

Das on Wednesday used an analogy of a horse, shifting from the elephant, to describe the way the central bank is trying to contain inflation.

For the last few months, Das has been using the elephant analogy, underlining that a tusker needs to return to the forest and stay there, which was interpreted as a need to ensure that headline inflation reaches the 4 per



cent target and stays there durably.

"It is with a lot of effort that the inflation horse has been brought to the stable, i.e., closer to the target within the tolerance band compared to its heightened levels two years ago," he said. "We have to be very careful about opening the gate as the horse may simply bolt again. We must keep the horse under a tight leash so that we do not lose control," he added.

Elevated rates not impinging growth: Das

PTI
NEW DELHI

After opting for a status quo for the tenth consecutive policy review, Governor Shaktikanta Das on Wednesday said Reserve Bank's elevated rates are not impinging on growth.

He pointed to the strong economic activity over the last 18 months since the RBI has opted for the status quo to back up his claim.

"At the moment, we do not see any evidence of higher interest rates impinging on growth," the Governor said.

He added that growth continues to be "very robust" and investment intentions are "quite visible". "The growth is holding firm, holding steady. So, it would not be correct at this point of time to say that interest rates are impinging on growth," he added.

Das made it clear that the risk is not at a systemic level and it is only a few entities where the RBI has observed certain issues.

"...driven by the significant accretion to their capital from

Investors pushing some NBFCs to grow fast; unsustainable practices will invite action: RBI



both domestic and overseas sources, and sometimes under pressure from their investors, some NBFCs -- including microfinance institutions (MFIs) and housing finance companies (HFCs) -- are chasing excessive returns on their equity," he said.

Such tendencies are leading to practices such as unreasonably high processing fees and frivolous penalties, he said, adding that the same is further accentuated by what appears to be a 'push effect', wherein business targets are driving retail

credit growth rather than actual demand.

"The consequent high-cost and high indebtedness could pose financial stability risks, if not addressed by these NBFCs," Das said.

It is essential for entities to follow sustainable lending practices, a compliance first culture, strong risk management and be sincere on addressing customer grievances, he said.

"The Reserve Bank is closely monitoring these areas and will not hesitate to take appropriate action, if necessary," Das said.

RBI moots non-levy of foreclosure charges on micro, small cos loans

Informist
MUMBAI

Shaktikanta Das said.

Das said the central bank has taken several measures over the years to safeguard consumer's interest, and as part of these measures, banks and NBFCs are not permitted to levy foreclosure charges or pre-payment penalties on floating rate term loan sanctioned to individual borrowers for purposes, other than business.

'RBI misses opportunity to spur hsg demand'

PTI
NEW DELHI

The RBI should have cut key interest rates to boost growth in the real estate sector and the overall economy as any reduction in mortgage rates would have further accelerated housing demand in the current festive quarter, according to industry players.

policy stance to 'neutral' from its earlier 'withdrawal of accommodation' stance.

The RBI maintained the status quo despite the US Federal Reserve lowering the benchmark rates by 50 basis points last month. The central banks of some developed nations have also reduced their interest rates.

The central bank took the first step towards a rate cut as it eased its relatively hawkish



next MPC meeting. "This will further stimulate economic growth, increase housing demand, and boost investment in the real estate sector."

"The RBI move will give a much needed relief to the realty sector as the relatively affordable home loan interest rate regime will continue," said Rajiv Agrawal, Co-Founder, Saarathi Realtors.

cal strategy before moving on rates. We continue to see the possibility of a rate cut in Q4 2024".

According to Ajay Kumar Srivastava, MD and CEO, Indian Overseas Bank, the RBI's decision to keep the repo rate unchanged at 6.5 per cent is a balanced approach towards fostering growth while managing inflationary pressures.

Sensex reverses gains on fag-end selling

PTI
MUMBAI

Benchmark Sensex reversed its gains and closed lower by 167 points on Wednesday due to profit-taking in select blue-chips.

The NSE Nifty dropped 31.20 points or 0.12 per cent to end at 24,981.95.

"An upward revision in Q3FY25 inflation reiterates that the sticky inflation continues to remain a concern for the RBI and led investors to book profit towards the close.

The volatility in input prices and the impact on margin

CBAM are tariffs that will apply on energy-intensive goods imported into the European Union (EU). The EU has decided to impose carbon tax CBAM from January 1, 2026, on seven carbon-intensive sectors, including steel, cement, and fertiliser.

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The volatility in input prices and the impact on margin

Carbon tax proposed by EU unilateral, arbitrary to hurt India's export: FM

PTI
NEW DELHI

Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman on Wednesday said the Carbon Border Adjustment Mechanism or CBAM is unilateral and arbitrary and will hurt India's exports after its implementation by the European Union.

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The volatility in input prices and the impact on margin

times to the EU, and the government is also looking at ways to reduce the cost of transactions.

The decision by the EU may affect the profitability of Indian exporters, as Europe is among the top export destinations for the country. India's total trade with the EU was USD 137.41 billion in 2023-24, with imports at USD 61.48 billion and exports at USD 75.93 billion.

She, however, said it was unlikely that India's opposition to the CBAM would be a barrier to finalising the Free Trade Agreement (FTA) with the EU.

Against this, she said, India has voiced its concern several

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times to the EU, and the government is also looking at ways to reduce the cost

mp Briefs

NEW DELHI

Welspun Ent gets ₹1,989 cr contract

Welspun Enterprises has secured a design and build contract to construct a tunnel worth Rs 1,989 crore from the BMC. The work order is for designing and constructing a tertiary treated water conveyance tunnel from Dharavi Wastewater Treatment Facility (WWTF) to Ghatkopar WWTF, the company said.

NEW DELHI

NCLT bench OKs ICICI Sec's delisting plans

After the approval from the Mumbai bench, the Ahmedabad bench of the National Company Law Tribunal on Wednesday approved ICICI Securities Ltd's delisting plans and rejected objections by certain minority shareholders who had opposed it. The tribunal led by judicial member Shammi Khan pronounced an oral order. A detailed order is awaited.

NEW DELHI

Kalpataru Proj to sell stake in VindhyaChal

Kalpataru Projects International Ltd (KPIL) on Wednesday signed definitive agreements with Actis Atlantic Holdings to sell its 100 per cent stake in VindhyaChal Expressway for Rs 775 crore. The completion of sale is subject to necessary approvals and is expected to be completed within 15 months from the date of signing the pact.

NEW DELHI

Insolvency proceedings against Syska LED Lights

The NCLT has directed to initiate insolvency proceedings against Syska LED Lights, admitting the plea filed by its operational creditor -- Sunstar Industries. Syska LED Lights, part of Pune-based SSK Group, operates in segments such as LED lights, personal care appliances etc.

NEW DELHI

SpiceJet settles dispute with BBAM

Budget carrier SpiceJet on Wednesday said it has amicably settled a USD 132-million dispute with aircraft leasing firm Babcock & Brown Aircraft Management (BBAM). The dispute, valued at USD 131.85 million (Rs 1,107 crore) with the lessors -- Horizon Aviation 1 Ltd, Horizon II Aviation 3 Ltd, and Horizon III Aviation 2 Ltd -- has been resolved for USD 22.5 million, SpiceJet said in a statement.

NEW DELHI

Mercedes-Benz car sales grew over 13%

German luxury car manufacturer Mercedes-Benz on Wednesday said its car sales in India grew over 13 per cent year-on-year to 14,379 units in the first nine months of 2024, registering the best-ever performance in January-September period.

NEW DELHI

Indo-US partnership crucial

With electronics manufacturing set to grow extensively globally, a healthy partnership with the US is crucial for India to become a global manufacturing hub, MeitY secretary S Krishnan said on Wednesday.

Telcos monthly avg revenue per user climbs 8% to ₹157.45 in Jun qtr: Trai

PTI

NEW DELHI

In signs of improving financial metrics of telecom firms, the monthly average revenue for mobile services rose over 8 per cent year-on-year to Rs 157.45 per user in the quarter ended June 2024, according to a Trai report.

The monthly average revenue per user (ARPU) for wireless service stood at Rs 153.54 in the January-March period, thus translating into a 2.55 per cent sequential increase.

In its quarterly performance indicator report, the



Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (Trai) said the Adjusted Gross Revenue (AGR) of the telecom service sector for the reporting quarter increased by 0.13 per cent on a quarterly basis to Rs

70,555 crore.

70,555

crore.

crore.

On a year-on-year basis, AGR grew by 7.51 per cent.

The number of telephone subscribers in India increased to 1,205.64 million against 1,199.28 million in the previous

quarter, registering a growth of 0.53 per cent.

Wireline subscriptions came in at 35.11 million, an uptick of 15.81 per cent on an annual basis.

With a net rise of 5.04 million subscribers during the quarter, the total wireless subscriber base increased 0.43 per cent quarter-on-quarter to 1,170.53 million at the end of June 2024 from 1,165.49 million at the end of March 2024. The wireless subscriptions grew 2.36 per cent year-on-year. Wireline teledensity increased from 2.41 per cent at the end of March 2024 to 2.50 per cent at the end of

June 2024.

Wireless Tele-density rose 0.21 per cent quarter-on-quarter to 83.45 per cent at the end of June 2024 compared to 83.27 per cent.

The overall teledensity in India increased to 85.95 per cent quarter-on-quarter from 85.69 per cent.

While rural teledensity advanced to 59.65 per cent in June against 59.19 per cent in March, urban teledensity declined from 133.72 per cent to 133.46 per cent.

The total number of internet subscribers grew 1.59 per cent quarter-on-quarter to 969.60 million as of June 2024.

HDFC Life Insurance to raise ₹1,000 cr via NCDs

PTI

NEW DELHI

HDFC Life Insurance on Wednesday said the insurer plans to raise Rs 1,000 crore through non convertible debentures to fund business growth.

The decision to this effect was taken by the Capital Raising Committee (CRC) of the HDFC Life Insurance Board, the insurer said in a regulatory filing.

The fund would be raised through unsecured, rated, listed, subordinated, redeemable, fully paid up, non cumulative, non convertible deben-

tures (NCDs) for an aggregate nominal value of Rs 1,000 crore on a private placement basis, it said. The debenture of tenure 10 years would carry a coupon rate of 8.05 per cent per annum, it said.

"The debentures proposed to be issued shall neither be

secured nor covered by a guarantee of the company or other arrangements that legally or

economically enhance the seniority of the claims as against the claims of the company's

policyholders and all other creditors," it said.

The debentures shall be

listed on the WDM segment of the NSE of India Ltd.

Fortis Healthcare board approves raising of up to ₹1,500 cr via NCDs

PTI

NEW DELHI

Fortis Healthcare Ltd on Wednesday said its board has approved raising of up to Rs 1,500 crore through issue of non-convertible debentures on a private placement basis.

The company's board of directors at its meeting held on October 9, 2024, considered and approved issue of non-convertible debentures (NCDs) on a private placement basis to eligible investors

through QIP route to fund business growth.

In the filing, the healthcare

company said that the eligible



investors include but are not limited to identified anchor

investors DBS Bank Ltd (DBS), The Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation Ltd (HSBC), Citicorp Investment Bank (Singapore) Ltd, Mizuho Bank, Singapore and other foreign portfolio investors qualified during the bidding process.

The sum is planned to be

raised through three series with DBS Bank Ltd as anchor investor for Series 1 for up to Rs 500 crore; HSBC through its GIFT FPI as anchor investor for Series 2 of up to Rs 500 crore; and Citicorp Investment Bank (Singapore) Ltd, Mizuho Bank, Singapore as anchor investors of Series 3 of Rs 500 crore.

The NCDs will have a tenure of 5 years from the date of allotment and are proposed to be listed on BSE, the company said.

Shares of Fortis Healthcare settled 1.73 per cent higher at Rs 607.40 per piece on the BSE.

Hyundai Motor India to float ₹27,870-cr IPO on October 15

PTI

MUMBAI / NEW DELHI

Hyundai Motor India Ltd (HMIL), the Indian arm of South Korean automaker Hyundai, on Wednesday said it has fixed a price band of Rs 1,865-1,960 per share for its Rs 27,870 crore initial public offering (IPO) that opens for subscription on October 15.

The company held a roadshow for its IPO which would be the largest in India, surpassing LIC's initial share sale of Rs 21,000 crore.

Speaking to PTI, HMIL Chief Operating Officer Tarun Garg said the company expects a very good traction in demand of cars during the ongoing festival season and is not worried about the global

headwinds faced by the automobile industry. "We are not worried and we are seeing a very good traction because after a long time not just the Navaroor, Dussehra as well as Dhanteras are in the month of October. So it's a great sign for the auto industry," Garg said.

He said India is a very strong growth market which has consistently been growing.

Meanwhile, Hyundai Motor



HYUNDAI

India has planned an investment of Rs 32,000 crore in the country over the next 10 years, between 2023 to 2032, said Unsoo Kim of Hyundai Motor India. The company added that Hyundai India is investing Rs 6,000 crore in its Pune unit. The company is adding its capacity in the electric vehicle segments and continue to target the strategies of premiumization.

Gilts sharply up as change in MPC stance sparks rate cut hope

Informist

MUMBAI

Government bond prices ended sharply higher after the Monetary Policy Committee softened its stance to neutral, ending an over two-year spell of 'withdrawal of accommodation' which began with the onset of rate hikes. The change in policy stance signalled that the bond market's long wait for rate cuts could be over soon, dealers said.

The 10-year benchmark 7.10%, 2034 gilt ended at INR 102.30 or 6.77% yield. Trading hours on Wednesday were extended by 30 minutes till 1730 IST due to a delay in allotment of treasury bills after the auction.

ELA sees crude prices falling till 2025-end

Informist

MUMBAI

early this month, the agency said. "We now expect Brent will average \$78 per barrel in 2025, \$7 per barrel less than our forecast from last month," the agency said. Prices fell in September as concerns over growth in global oil demand outweighed declines in oil inventories and the OPEC's decision to delay production increases until December 2024.

Peak power demand to touch 270 GW next fiscal

PTI

NEW DELHI

The peak power demand is expected to touch the 270 GW mark next fiscal and reach a level of 446 GW by 2035, Central Electricity Authority Chairperson Ghanshyam Prasad said on Wednesday.

The proceeds from this fundraising would be utilised in "making investments in subsidiaries, joint ventures or associates" or to "fund the growth of existing businesses including expanding product portfolio, entering into new territories and making strategic acquisitions".

IRB Infra to raise \$200 mn in debt

PTI

NEW DELHI

IRB Infrastructure Developers on Wednesday said its board has approved a proposal to raise up to \$200 mn by issuing foreign currency-denominated notes, including US dollar-denominated bonds or other debt securities. The company said it intends to avail term loans from various sources, including financial institutions,

to meet its financial requirements to create security, as deemed necessary by the board, to secure the debt securities and enter into hedging contracts when required, as permitted by the RBI.

VRF has repaid USD 869 million to bondholders during the 13.875 per cent bonds due

Vedanta Resources repays \$869 mn in Oct to redeem bonds due in 2027 & 2028

PTI

NEW DELHI

Vedanta Resources Ltd has said it paid USD 869 million to bondholders in October to redeem bonds three to four years ahead of maturity.

The repayments are part of a larger liquidity management exercise under which Vedanta Resources Finance II PLC (VRF) -- a wholly-owned subsidiary of Vedanta Resources Ltd -- is repaying bonds with a higher interest rate to save on interest costs.

VRF has repaid USD 869 million to bondholders during the 13.875 per cent bonds due

cent bonds due in 2027, the company repaid USD 470 million, as per filings on October 4 and October 9.

As per VRF's exchange filing, with the repayment on October 4, the 2027 bonds have been fully redeemed and are no longer outstanding.

Similarly, the company has repaid USD 399 million to those holding its 13.875 per cent bonds due in 2028.

As per a September 11 filing, redemption of bonds due in 2027 and 2028 and refinancing them with new bonds due in 2029 will result in an interest saving of three per cent per annum for VRF.

Digital awareness meeting held at Bank of India's Mazgaon Branch

A s part of Vigilance Awareness Week (VAW)

2024, the Bank of India, Mazgaon branch held a customer meeting on digital awareness.

Mr. Amit Kumar Gupta, Chief Manager, Vigilance Department, Mumbai

South Zone, and Mr.

Sandeep Kodgire, Branch Chief Manager, was present at the event.

The session focused on educating customers about

secure digital banking practices, vigilance in

transactions, and fraud prevention. An interactive Q&A session was also conducted, addressing customer concerns related to online banking.

The event successfully promoted the VAW 2024 theme of transparency, integrity, and digital safety.



Azim Premji Foundation to support CMC Vellore with ₹500 crore grant

PTI

NEW DELHI

Christian Medical College Vellore on Wednesday said it plans to set up a new medical college and a teaching hospital at Chittoor in Andhra Pradesh, for which the Azim Premji Foundation will support it with a Rs 500 crore grant.

As part of the agreement, the Foundation will extend a Rs 500 crore grant to CMC Vellore to set up the medical college and upgrade the existing 120-bed hospital into a teaching hospital with 422 beds, it said.

The grant will also enable

model of relevant medical education, healthcare delivery, research, and outreach, sensitive to the financial, societal and resource constraints of our nation. We are immensely grateful to the Azim Premji Foundation for partnering with us on this journey as CMC Vellore steps into its 125th anniversary in 2025," CMC Vellore Director Dr. Vikram Mathews said.

Principal of CMC Vellore, Dr. Solomon Sathishkumar said education at the Chittoor campus began with allied health science courses and a college of nursing five years ago.

| | BUY VALUE | SELL VALUE | NET VALUE |
|-----------|-----------|------------|-----------|
| DII | XIXIX | XIXXI | XIXIX |
| FII / FPI | XIXIX | XIXXI | XIXIX |

It's better to hang out with people better than you.
Pick out associates whose behaviour is better than yours and you'll drift in that direction.

Warren Buffett



Mkts faces selling pressure at higher levels



Motilal Oswal Team

MUMBAI

Nifty Index opened positive and while it moved up in the first couple of hours, it sank for the rest of the session. It took a breather at 24950 levels and managed to close near 25k marks. It formed a small bodied candle on daily frame with longer upper shadow indicating selling pressure at higher zones. Recovery can be seen from lower levels but follow up is required for this pullback move to sustain. Now till it holds below 25150 zones, weakness could be seen towards 24850 then 24750 zones whereas hurdles are placed at 25150 then 25350 zones.

On option front, Maximum Call OI is at 25500 then 26000 strike while Maximum Put OI is at 24000 then 24500 strike. Call writing is seen at 25500 then 25200 strike while Put writing is seen at 24400 then 24800 strike. Option data suggests a broader trading range in between 24600 to 25500 zones while an immediate range between 24800 to 25300 levels.

Bank Nifty Index opened on a positive note and strong up move was seen post the RBI outcome and it headed towards 51700 zones in the first half of the session. However it failed to hold at higher zones and again drifted lower towards 50900 zones in the latter part of

the day. It formed a small bodied candle on daily scale with long upper shadow as selling pressure is seen at higher zones. Now till it holds below 51250 zones weakness could be seen towards 50500 then 50250 levels while on the upside hurdle is seen at 51500 then 51750 zones.

Fin Nifty Index opened on a flattish note but witnessed sharp uptick in the opening hour of the trade and surged towards 23800 zone. However it failed to sustain at higher levels and gave away most of its intraday gains to close near its opening levels. It formed a small bodied candle on the daily scale with longer upper shadow which is indicating selling pressure at higher levels. The index took resistance at its 50 DEMA but is holding above the 100 DEMA. Now till it holds below 23650 zones some weakness could be seen towards 23400 then 23200 levels while on the upside hurdle is seen at 23650 then 23750 zones.

Nifty future closed negative with losses of 0.05% at 25119 levels. Positive setup in Divislab, Exideind, Ipcalab, Siemens, HDFC AMC, Oberoirly, OFSS, Pageind, Glenmark, Lupin, MFSL, Cipla, Trent, BoschLd, ICICI Pru, Cholafin, Polycab, MCX, Naukri, Tech M and Dixon while weakness in ITC, Idea, Shreecem, JK Cement, CUB, Aarti Ind, Hindunilvr, Indusind Bank, Sail and M&M Fin.

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DATA SOURCE: CAPITALINE



GR Infra:

- The company has received Letter of Acceptance dated 9th October 2024 from Maharashtra Metro Rail Corporation Limited (Nagpur Metro Rail Project) under EPC mode valued at Rs 903 crore. The timeline for construction of the said metro project is 30 months.

Rain Industries:

- Northern Graphite Corporation and Rain Carbon Inc. announced a Joint Development Agreement ("JDA") to develop and commercialize advanced battery anode material ("BAM") used in lithium-ion batteries for electric vehicles.
- Under the terms of the JDA, Northern and RAIN will jointly develop and commercialize natural graphite BAM products designed to extend cycle life, enhance charging speed and reduce electrode swelling in lithium-ion battery cells.
- This innovation addresses the stability gap between natural and synthetic graphite, enabling increased use of natural graphite in Electric Vehicle ("EV") battery cells.

Britannia:

- The company has invested a sum of Rs 87.50 lakh towards acquisition of 8.75 lakh Equity Shares of Rs. 10/- each, equivalent to 6.04% stake in the Equity Share Capital of Surya One Private Limited.
- The acquisition would enable Britannia to procure renewable energy for its factory located at Bidadi, Karnataka and comply with the regulatory requirements for being a captive user under the Electricity laws.

- Britannia Industries and French dairy major Bel Group on Wednesday announced the inauguration of its Cheese factory in India at an investment of Rs 220 crore. Britannia Bel Foods, the joint venture between both firms, has opened a new factory near Pune, which will produce 10,000 tonnes of high-quality Britannia The Laughing Cow cheese products to meet the demands of Indian consumers, according to a statement.

Hot stocks

| Company Name | 10/8/2024 | 7 DSMA | 21 DSMA | 50DSMA | 250 DSMA | BSE 1 Year High Price | Pulse |
|------------------|-----------|--------|---------|--------|----------|-----------------------|-------|
| Swan Energy | 547.15 | 557.76 | 585.76 | 643.50 | 582.89 | 782.55 | 100 |
| Prince Pipes | 547.65 | 554.62 | 567.42 | 587.19 | 641.42 | 775.75 | 100 |
| Sumitomo Chemi. | 548.65 | 550.07 | 568.69 | 541.79 | 438.69 | 628.00 | 100 |
| Eureka Forbes | 556.00 | 563.57 | 541.92 | 510.56 | 488.18 | 599.95 | 100 |
| Granules India | 556.45 | 566.19 | 574.71 | 628.53 | 464.18 | 724.55 | 100 |
| Graphite India | 557.50 | 575.49 | 560.40 | 583.13 | 555.94 | 709.45 | 100 |
| Sunteck Realty | 560.80 | 569.63 | 574.16 | 580.45 | 493.93 | 698.35 | 100 |
| Minda Corp | 561.95 | 591.60 | 570.39 | 553.02 | 435.16 | 652.90 | 100 |
| Oil India | 565.55 | 565.52 | 581.78 | 626.36 | 402.98 | 767.30 | 100 |
| Dabur India | 567.15 | 595.22 | 636.20 | 635.16 | 567.49 | 672.00 | 100 |
| Star Health Insu | 570.50 | 591.12 | 605.88 | 603.74 | 565.48 | 647.65 | 100 |
| Varroc Engineer | 570.50 | 578.31 | 570.75 | 574.19 | 551.56 | 717.00 | 100 |
| Birlasoft Ltd | 571.05 | 587.22 | 617.83 | 623.39 | 676.94 | 861.60 | 100 |
| Berger Paints | 572.85 | 596.56 | 609.91 | 580.93 | 554.38 | 629.60 | 100 |
| UPL | 576.95 | 600.93 | 603.57 | 583.68 | 545.10 | 635.00 | 100 |
| Sonata Software | 577.15 | 611.18 | 642.34 | 645.07 | 669.49 | 867.10 | 100 |
| Varun Beverages | 589.90 | 589.51 | 621.32 | 615.04 | 547.98 | 682.84 | 100 |
| RHI Magnesita | 590.25 | 604.99 | 598.49 | 604.10 | 657.76 | 829.95 | 100 |
| Fortis Health. | 597.05 | 597.56 | 590.67 | 552.16 | 445.91 | 628.00 | 100 |
| Avanti Feeds | 598.85 | 609.83 | 652.31 | 673.20 | 535.25 | 791.10 | 100 |
| Gujarat Gas | 603.40 | 610.00 | 620.84 | 625.55 | 548.44 | 689.45 | 100 |
| Ambuja Cements | 606.50 | 617.26 | 620.72 | 629.08 | 577.56 | 706.85 | 100 |
| Jubilant Food. | 615.50 | 646.58 | 669.73 | 646.82 | 538.07 | 715.15 | 100 |
| LIC Housing Fin. | 615.70 | 640.18 | 668.08 | 678.52 | 621.28 | 827.00 | 100 |
| Nippon Life Ind. | 634.50 | 654.14 | 666.37 | 669.15 | 543.40 | 740.35 | 100 |
| G N F C | 639.75 | 663.53 | 661.06 | 669.36 | 683.52 | 814.85 | 100 |
| Adani Power | 640.65 | 645.31 | 651.45 | 669.18 | 583.40 | 896.75 | 100 |
| Elgi Equipments | 641.80 | 666.41 | 700.77 | 683.56 | 617.23 | 799.00 | 100 |
| Balrampur Chini | 652.15 | 656.11 | 604.97 | 563.40 | 434.69 | 692.85 | 100 |
| Medplus Health | 655.45 | 657.29 | 680.96 | 672.18 | 709.28 | 849.30 | 100 |

Upwardly mobile companies

| Company Name | 10/1/2024 | 10/9/2024 | Days | Gain/Loss % | Per Day Average |
|------------------|-----------|-----------|------|-------------|-----------------|
| Aurobindo Pharma | 1438.55 | 1511.10 | 5 | 5.04 | 14.51 |
| KPIT Technologi. | 1671.50 | 1741.00 | 5 | 4.16 | 13.90 |
| M & M Fin. Serv. | 330.70 | 286.00 | 5 | -13.52 | -8.94 |
| Dabur India | 618.90 | 564.80 | 5 | -8.74 | -10.82 |
| Caplin Point Lab | 2080.30 | 1901.75 | 5 | -8.58 | -17.51 |
| Sona BLW Precis. | 731.40 | 672.60 | 5 | -8.04 | -11.76 |
| Titan Company | 3774.55 | 3494.05 | 5 | -7.43 | -56.10 |
| NMDC Steel | 54.11 | 50.71 | 5 | -6.28 | -0.68 |
| Gland Pharma | 1799.90 | 1699.25 | 5 | -5.59 | -20.13 |
| HLE Glascoat | 403.10 | 380.80 | 5 | -5.53 | -4.46 |

Top percentage gainers

| Company Name | 10/8/2024 | 10/9/2024 | % chg |
|------------------|-----------|-----------|-------|
| Akzo Nobel | 3915.70 | 4353.90 | 11.19 |
| Guj Ambuja Exp | 130.45 | 142.45 | 9.20 |
| Rites | 300.60 | 324.60 | 7.98 |
| Divi's Lab. | 5547.00 | 5987.25 | 7.94 |
| Symphony | 1686.95 | 1796.80 | 6.51 |
| Torrent Power | 1817.15 | 1935.20 | 6.50 |
| Radico Khaitan | 1992.80 | 2121.40 | 6.45 |
| Gujarat Fluoroch | 4123.05 | 4387.25 | 6.41 |
| KIOC | 350.80 | 371.55 | 5.92 |
| Lloyds Metals | 929.80 | 983.20 | 5.74 |
| Affle India | 1524.20 | 1609.60 | 5.60 |
| General Insuranc | 363.30 | 389.35 | 5.43 |
| Exide Inds. | 493.65 | 519.05 | 5.15 |
| Blue Star | 1911.10 | 2008.00 | 5.07 |
| Welspun Living | 163.50 | 171.65 | 4.98 |
| Elgi Equipments | 641.80 | 673.65 | 4.96 |
| Escorts Kubota | 3854.20 | 4044.35 | 4.93 |
| Apar Inds. | 9554.10 | 10022.85 | 4.91 |
| Lemon Tree Hotel | 115.35 | 120.95 | 4.85 |
| Ipcalabs | 1536.90 | 1611.15 | 4.8 |

corporate gallery

History of Territorial Army



Territorial Army was raised in 1948 on the concept of 'Citizen Soldier's Army'. Besides augmenting the organizational requirements, it also provides an opportunity to able bodied volunteer citizens of India, especially those who are over age for enrolment in Regular Army, to serve the Nation in Uniform. In apt recognition of its Nation building efforts and contribution during war/conflicts, numerous individuals have been honoured with Gallantry as well as Distinguished Service Awards. Territorial Army is fully integrated with the Regular Army and has distinguished itself by remaining notably committed towards making sterling contribution towards Nation building. *Operational commitments* of TA are varied and in alignment with Nation Building. In addition to the security related duties, the units are actively involved in perception management towards winning hearts and minds of local populace. Certain units are also deployed in conjunction with Border Roads & Min of Railways for protection of under construction road/rail alignments in remote and sensitive areas. Besides their operational role/ tasks, these units are also playing an important role of integrating the local populace by enrolling them on 'Sons of Soil' concept and contributing towards National Integration efforts.

F-TAM celebrates Bathukamma



The Bathukamma celebration by the Telugu community of Telangana, organized by the Federation of Telugu Associations of Maharashtra (F-TAM), was held in a grand manner on Sunday in Sion Pratikshana Nagar. The event was led by F-TAM President Jagannabu Ganji and General Secretary Ashok Kante, with over 2,000 Telugu women and their families participating. The program was supported by the Government of Telangana through the Department of Language & Culture and Telangana Tourism, as well as the Able Educational & Cultural Society and various community members. Prasad Lad was the Guest of Honor, joined by other notable guests including model and fashion expert Anjali Macha, actress Jyothi Vallakati, film producer Geeta Shah, and Laxmi Madari, Raju Rao, Savita Manche, Shridhar Maddi, Dontula Panchakshari, Ganesh Vallakati, Pooja Alli, Sujata Jakkula, Rakesh Mandala, and Rahul Koli, all of whom played significant roles in making the event a grand success.

CR organizes "Nav Durga" Special Ladies Ticket checking drive at CSMT on occasion of Navratri



Central Railway's Mumbai Division organized a special ticket checking drive titled "Nav Durga" on the occasion of Navratri, on October 7, 2024, at Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj Terminus (CSMT). "Nav Durga" was carried out by Mumbai Division's All Women Special Ticket Checking Batch-Tejaswini. The initiative was aimed at strengthening ticket-checking efforts and raising awareness about regularizing travel, especially during festive occasions. A total of 51 ticket checking personnel were deputed along with 9 RPF staff for the check at CSMT and nearby stations. The teams worked actively from 08:00 hrs.

to 16:00 hrs, rigorously checking tickets and ensuring compliance among passengers. During the drive, the teams apprehended a total of *765* cases of irregular or ticketless travel and successfully recovered penalties amounting to *Rs. 2,06,550/-*. This initiative highlighted the commitment of the Railway Administration in enforcing travel regulations while maintaining a passenger-friendly environment. This special ticket-checking drive was conducted in the spirit of Navratri, symbolizing the power of Shakti, with the ladies staff embodying the strength and dedication of the Goddess.

Adani Electricity Shines at CCQC-2024 in Mumbai & Thane



Adani Electricity excelled at the 38th Annual Convention on Quality Concepts (CCQC 2024) and the 2nd Annual Chapter Convention on Quality Concepts CCQC 2024, organized by the Quality Circle Forum of India, Mumbai and Thane Chapter. During the conventions, all 21 teams from Adani Electricity were awarded the prestigious 'GOLD' Trophy and received two commendations for their efforts in promoting '5S at Home,' showcasing the strength and quality of their continuous improvement initiatives. Adani Electricity was also honoured with the "Corporate Patronage Excellence Award" in recognition of its unwavering commitment to fostering a culture of quality and business excellence. The company champions various quality initiatives, driven by a strong belief in the Quality Control (QC) methodology, to enhance people development, operational efficiency, and overall business performance.

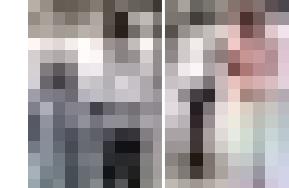
The award was presented by K.B. Bharti, Chairman of the Quality Circle Forum of India (QCFI) Mumbai Chapter, to Kapil Sharma, CEO of Adani Electricity.

Anil Jain Awarded Doctorate by D.Y. Patil Agriculture and Technical University-Kolhapur



For his continuous and significant contributions to Agriculture and sustainable development, Anil Jain, Vice Chairman and Managing Director of Jain Irrigation Systems Ltd and Chairman of Jain Farm Fresh Foods Ltd., was today awarded the honorary degree of Doctor of Science (D.Sc.) by Dr. D.Y. Patil Agriculture and Technical University in a grand ceremony. The degree was convoked at the university's inaugural convocation ceremony in the presence of the State's Industries Minister Uday Samant, University Chancellor Sanjay Patil, Trustee Prithviraj Patil, Vice Chancellor Prof. Dr. K. Prathapan, Registrar Dr. Khot, and other dignitaries. During the same ceremony, Agrown's Editor, Adinath Chavan, was also awarded a Doctor of Letters (D.Litt.) for his significant contributions to journalism.

WR Collects ₹68 cr As Fine During Ticket Checking Drives



In order to ensure hassle-free, comfortable travel & better services to all bona fide passengers over Western Railway, intensive ticket checking drives are being carried out continuously over Mumbai suburban local services, Mail/Express as well as passenger trains & holiday special trains. The ticket checking team under the supervision of senior commercial officers of Western Railway organized several ticket checking drives during the months of April to September 2024, thereby recovering Rs. 68.45 Crore, which also includes Rs. 22.70 Crore from Mumbai Suburban section. According to Vineet Abhishek - Chief Public Relations Officer of Western Railway, during the month of September 2024, an amount of Rs. 6.14 crore was recovered through detection of 1.38 lakh ticketless/irregular passengers, including unbooked luggage cases.

whispersinthecorridors

Dr Suresh Mehrotra



► Manoj Kumar Dubey appointed as CMD, IRFC

Manoj Kumar Dubey, Director (Finance), CONCOR, has been appointed as CMD, Indian Railways Finance Corporation (IRFC). The Appointment Committee of Cabinet has approved his appointment to the post.



► Sanjay Kumar Jha selected as Director (Tech), Mahanadi Coalfields Ltd

Sanjay Kumar Jha, GM, MCL, has been selected for the post of Director (Technical), Mahanadi Coalfields Limited (MCL) at a Public Enterprises Selection Board (PESB) meeting held on October 8, 2024. As many as 11 persons were interviewed for the same.



► New Haryana Chief Minister will settle issue of 6 IAS officers of 1990 batch

The issue of the tussle over the seniority of six IAS officers from the 1990 batch will now be decided by the Chief of the new government. The issue is important as it would give clear picture on the selection of next Chief Secretary and Finance Commissioner. Chief Secretary TVSN Prasad is retiring on October 31, and any change in the seniority list could impact the selection of the next Chief Secretary. The post of Financial Commissioner Revenue (FCR) in Haryana, which usually goes to the senior-most IAS officer after the Chief Secretary, has been kept vacant. The entire issue has arisen because three IAS officers from the 1990 batch Ankur Gupta, Anurag Rastogi and Raja Sekhar Vundru have challenged the current gradation list.

► Another Vinai Kumar Saxena to be LG of J&K?

Under the changed circumstances any bureaucrat is now unlikely to be appointed any LG. It is believed that there will be another Vinai Kumar Saxena going to be next LG. Top source however, said that only a seasoned bureaucrat well acquainted with Kashmir affairs will be appointed.



► Sunil Udasi gets extension as OSD to CMD & CPRO, MRVC

Sunil G Udasi, formerly Chief Public Relations Officer (CPO), Central Railway, has been granted an extension in his deputation tenure with Mumbai Railway Vikas Corporation (MRVC) as Officer on Special Duty (OSD) to Chairman and Managing Director (CMD) and Chief Public Relations Officer (CPO) up to his superannuation, which is May 31, 2026. He is an Indian Railway Personnel Service (IRPS) officer.

► SK Ahirwar appointed ED, Traffic Commercial (Rates), Railway Board

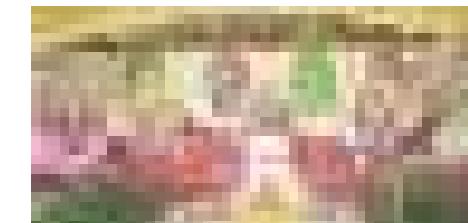
Surendra Kumar Ahirwar, who is returning from deputation to the Ministry of Commerce, Department for Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade, has been transferred to the Railway Board and posted as Executive Director, Traffic Commercial (Rates), Railway Board. He is an Indian Railway Traffic Service (IRTS) officer.

► Harish Mishra quits India Revenue Service-IT

Harish Chandra Mishra, ACIT, New Delhi, has resigned from the Indian Revenue Service of Income Tax cadre.

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Brahma Kumaris Yog Bhavan, Ghatkopar, Mumbai organise "Chaitanya NavDurga Tableau" on occasion of Navratri



Chaitanya Navdurga Jhanki has been organized by Brahma Kumaris Yog Bhavan, Ghatkopar, Mumbai at Brahma Kumaris Peace Park from 3rd October to 12th October, every day from 7 PM to 9 PM, on the occasion of Shardiya Navratri Utsav. Many dignitaries came to Peace Park to have a glimpse of the pleasing Chaitanya tableau and to seek blessings from the Devi's, including Pravin Chheda Ji (Mumbai BJP Secretary), Bindu Trivedi Ji (Former BJP Corporator), Ramesh Morabia Ji (President of Jain Jagruti Sangh), Bhalchandra Shirsat Ji (Former BJP Corporator), Paresh Bhai Thakkar and Heena Thakkar (Director of Rajesh Cable). It is a wonderful sight to see the ascetic sisters of the Brahma Kumaris sitting in the form of Goddesses, in the remembrance of the Almighty and spreading vibrations of happiness and peace. All the devotees were overwhelmed after seeing the Navdurga's and receiving blessings from them. Various competitions are also being organized on this occasion like Garba competition, Fancy dress competition for children, Dandiya Raas, etc.

Modi, Shah to attend oath post Dussehra

Rajesh Moudgil

CHANDIGARH

The swearing in of the new BJP government in Haryana is likely to be held after Dussehra, October 12, which would be attended by prime minister Narendra Modi, home minister Amit Shah, besides Union ministers and chief ministers of BJP states.

State BJP president Mohan Lal Badoli told newscasters Saini and he, besides others, came to Delhi to pay a courtesy visit to the central leadership. About the date and venue of the swearing-in ceremony of the new Haryana BJP council of ministers, he said it would be finalised after the discussion with the top leaders, media reports said.

Meanwhile, the party sources said Modi closely monitored the party strategy and remained in constant touch with the party workers throughout the election and exhorted them not to be bogged down by the lies of the opposition's about the issues of farmers, soldiers and wrestlers (kisan, jawan and pehawar).

np Briefs

Ker guv turns heat on CM

Kerala Governor Arif Mohammed Khan on Wednesday threatened to take action against CM Pinarayi Vijayan for keeping him in the dark over gold smuggling and hawala inflow into Malappuram being used for 'anti-state and anti-national' activities. "Such activities come under the purview of national investigation authorities and I have a duty to report the matter to the president. But the CM has deliberately kept me in the dark," he said and added that the matter will not stop here.

—Shankar Raj

Dalit youth assaulted

A Dalit labourer was brutally assaulted, urinated upon and spat on the face by a group of men for seeking wages for work at the poultry farm in Bihar's Muzaffarpur on Oct 4. The victim, who is undergoing treatment in a hospital, lodged a complaint against the offenders on Wednesday. The police swung into action after a video of the incident went viral on social media. The police registered a case against three persons—Ramesh Patel, brother Arun Patel and his son Gaurav Patel—and launched raids to arrest them.

—Dheeraj Kumar

Venu speaks to CM on meet

Congress leader KC Venugopal spoke to CM Siddaramiah and his deputy DK Shivakumar expressing concern about ministers meeting in groups leading to discussion on the next CM candidate. Sources said the Congress high command sent a stern message to the ministers not to involve in any such group meetings and talks on the CM. —Rajashekha

Stolen phone recovered

Thanks to technology, GRP and RPF have located the accused and are set to recover the stolen phone of Russian tourist Nina Nikonorova, who was travelling on Gaya-Kamakhya Express in Aug. Following Nina's complaint, GRP and RPF launched a search operation and arrested two persons. During the probe, the mobile was in the possession of Sahil Paswan from Bihar.

—FP News Service

HARYANA ELECTION AUTOPSY | INLD got only 4.14% votes, just 2 candidates managed to win

'Laal' sees red, JJP stubbed too

Rajesh Moudgil

CHANDIGARH



PM Modi meets Haryana chief minister Nayab Singh Saini in New Delhi on Wednesday

—PTI

Even as ruling BJP bagged 48 seats in the Haryana assembly poll on Tuesday registering its third consecutive win and its main rival Congress finished at 37 seats of the 90 seats, two regional players — Janayak Janta Party (JJP) and Aam Aadmi Party (AAP) — faced a crushing defeat.

However, another opposition party Indian National Lok Dal (INLD), managed to bag just two seats, even though its top leader Abhay Chautala was trounced. Three independent candidates also made it to the state assembly.

In 2019 when the BJP won 40 seats and failed to secure a majority, the Dushyant Chautala-led JJP — a splinter outfit of INLD — had 10 MLAs and stitched a post-poll alliance with BJP; Dushyant was made deputy chief minister in the Manohar Lal Khattar-led BJP government.

WORST EVER

With just 0.9% vote share, JJP's performance was its worst ever. Its vote share in 2019 was 14.84% when its 10 members made it to the assembly. This time, it was such a humiliating drubbing for Dushyant Chautala, he finished fifth from Uchana Kalan and muster just 7,950 votes.

SOME SOLACE

The INLD received 4.14% votes and only two of its candidates could win — Abhay Chautala's

son Arjun from Rania and Aditya, also from Chautala clan, from Dabwali. The vote share of INLD in 2019 was 2.44% when Abhay was the only INLD candidate to win. In 2014, INLD won 19 seats and 31 in 2009.

Pertinently, eight members of the Chautala clan contested the recent election though six of them faced embarrassing defeat; they were Ranjit Chautala, Abhay Chautala, Dushyant Chautala, Digvijay Chautala, Naina Chautala and Sunaina Chautala.

Saini for his part credited the BJP's win to Modi's leadership, policies and schemes over the last 10 years to benefit the poor, farmers, youth and women. The Haryana CM dubbed Congress's open expression of distrust in the outcome as it ended up with 37 seats while BJP crossed 45 and bagged 48, to tarnish the institutions. "Be it the EC, the police or the judiciary, the Congress wants to

tarnish every institution. They created a ruckus before the Lok Sabha election and after the results had, along with their urban Naxal allies, gone to the Supreme Court to tarnish the EC's image. They have done it again shamelessly."

MODI 3.0 NOT WEAK: NIRMALA

Finance minister Nirmala Sitharaman said the result has "dispelled" the myth the Modi 3.0 government is weaker than in the previous two terms. Against the dominant narrative of a Congress comeback, BJP has pulled off a historic third term, a feat that will reinvigorate party cadres and could deal a debilitating blow to the Congress.

Modi hails Saini for 'historic win'

Gaurav Vivek Bhatnagar

NEW DELHI

Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Wednesday met Haryana chief minister Nayab Singh Saini and congratulated him for the third consecutive win of the BJP in the state assembly election.

Following the meeting with Saini, Modi said on X: "I met Haryana chief minister Nayab Singh Saini and congratulated and wished him for the historic victory of BJP in the assembly election. I am confident that Haryana's role is going to become more important in the resolution of developed India."

The meeting was also aimed at scotching

all speculation on the next CM of the state. Saini also met his predecessor and union minister Manohar Lal Khattar during the day. Khattar cleared the air around the next Haryana CM by saying, "the next CM had been decided beforehand and there is no change in that".

Saini for his part credited the BJP's win to Modi's leadership, policies and schemes over the last 10 years to benefit the poor, farmers, youth and women.

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Want to minimise differences: Farooq

FP News Service

SRINAGAR

between the two regions of the union territory and to build confidence among the Hindus.

"We have to minimise the differences that they have created between Jammu and Kashmir. Our endeavour should be that the Hindus

there have this confidence in us that we will think about them in the same manner as about Kashmir," Abdulla told reporters in Srinagar.

"We will not differentiate between the two. So they did not vote. It is our duty to solve

their problems," he added.

The NC chief said there were many challenges before the new government. "The biggest challenges are inflation and unemployment. We have to create opportunities for our youth," he said.

कार्यालय नगर पालिका निगम बुरहानपुर

निविदा सूचना क्र/राजस्व/2024-25/178

निविदा सूचना 2024-25

बुरहानपुर दिनांक- 09-10-2024

| निविदा सूचना क्र/राजस्व/2024-25/178 | | | |
|--|-------------------|--|-------------------------------------|
| नगर पालिका निगम बुरहानपुर द्वारा अन्तर्राष्ट्रीय लोगों के लिए उपलब्ध है। | | | |
| निविदा सूचना क्र/राजस्व/2024-25/178 | | | |
| क्र | टेंडर आई.डी.नं. | कार्य का नाम व स्थान | अर्थविद्या शास्त्रीय एवं EMD |
| 1 | 2024_UAD_374640_1 | इंदिरा कालोनी में राजस्थानी भवन के पीछे दुकान क्रमांक 01 | 560000/- 2000/- 20000/- 28-10-2024 |
| 2 | 2024_UAD_374650_1 | इंदिरा कालोनी में राजस्थानी भवन के पीछे दुकान क्रमांक 02 | 560000/- 2000/- 20000/- 28-10-2024 |
| 3 | 2024_UAD_374968_1 | इंदिरा कालोनी में राजस्थानी भवन के पीछे दुकान क्रमांक 03 | 560000/- 2000/- 20000/- 28-10-2024 |
| 4 | 2024_UAD_375040_1 | इंदिरा कालोनी में राजस्थानी भवन के पीछे दुकान क्रमांक 04 | 560000/- 2000/- 20000/- 28-10-2024 |
| 5 | 2024_UAD_375057_1 | इंदिरा कालोनी में राजस्थानी भवन के पीछे दुकान क्रमांक 05 | 560000/- 2000/- 20000/- 28-10-2024 |
| 6 | 2024_UAD_375063_1 | इंदिरा कालोनी में राजस्थानी भवन के पीछे दुकान क्रमांक 06 | 560000/- 2000/- 20000/- 28-10-2024 |
| 7 | 2024_UAD_375073_1 | इंदिरा कालोनी में राजस्थानी भवन के पीछे दुकान क्रमांक 07 | 560000/- 2000/- 20000/- 28-10-2024 |
| 8 | 2024_UAD_375103_1 | मंडी बाजार नवरंग होटल के पीछे दुकान क्रमांक 01 तल मंजिल | 875000/- 2000/- 20000/- 28-10-2024 |
| 9 | 2024_UAD_375104_1 | मंडी बाजार नवरंग होटल के पीछे दुकान क्रमांक 02 तल मंजिल | 875000/- 2000/- 20000/- 28-10-2024 |
| 10 | 2024_UAD_375108_1 | मंडी बाजार नवरंग होटल के पीछे दुकान क्रमांक 05 प्रथम मंजिल | 700000/- 2000/- 20000/- 28-10-2024 |
| 11 | 2024_UAD_375112_1 | मंडी बाजार नवरंग होटल के पीछे दुकान क्रमांक 06 प्रथम मंजिल | 700000/- 2000/- 20000/- 28-10-2024 |
| 12 | 2024_UAD_375115_1 | मंडी बाजार नवरंग होटल के पीछे दुकान क्रमांक 07 प्रथम मंजिल | 700000/- 2000/- 20000/- 28-10-2024 |
| 13 | 2024_UAD_375120_1 | मंडी बाजार नवरंग होटल के पीछे दुकान क्रमांक 08 प्रथम मंजिल | 700000/- 2000/- 20000/- 28-10-2024 |
| 14 | 2024_UAD_375098_1 | कुन्दन स्टोर्डेस के बाजू में दुकान क्रमांक 04 | 600000/- 10000/- 45000/- 13-11-2024 |
| 15 | 2024_UAD_375102_1 | डाकवाली रेसैन बसेस के बाजू में दुकान क्रमांक 04 | 600000/- 2000/- 20000/- 28-10-2024 |

ऑफलाइन क्रय एवं प्रस्तुत करने की अंतिम तिथि As per key Date, कार्य का विस्तृत विवरण वेबसाइट <https://mptenders.gov.in> पर देखा जा सकता है। उपरोक्त निविदा में किसी भी प्रकार का संशोधन किया जाता है, तो वेबसाइट पर ही दिखाई देता है।

प्र राजस्व अधिकारी

वारसे आयुक्त

नगर पालिका निगम बुरहानपुर

Ind trio extend support to BJP

Tally reaches 50

Rajesh Moudgil

CHANDIGARH

All the three Independent candidates who won the Haryana assembly election, extended their support to the ruling BJP, which scored a victory for the third time in the state.

Savitri Jindal, the richest woman of the country and mother of Kurukshtetra BJP parliamentarian Naveen Jindal, had rebelled against the saffron party after she was denied ticket from Hisar; she fought as an independent and won. However, she extended her support to the saffron camp on Wednesday.

The other two independents are Devender Kadiani and Rajesh Joon. While the former fought from the Ganaur seat, Joon contested the election from the Bahadurgarh seat. They extended their support to the saffron party after meeting senior leaders state in-charge Dharmendra Pradhan and co-incharge Biplob Dev in New Delhi on Wednesday.

The Congress was heavily banking on the Dalit and Jat votes to make a comeback after a decade of being out of power. Not only this, the BJP also managed to retain seats in the Ahirwal region and the GT Road belt to shatter the Congress's comeback plans in Haryana, which went to polls on Saturday and results for which were declared on Tuesday.

Among several steps to woo the Dalits, the Nayab Singh Saini government accepted the report of the Haryana Scheduled Caste Commission after the Supreme Court held that states were constitutionally empowered to make sub-classifications within the SCs.

The sub-classification of SCs into the 'deprived SCs' category comprising Dhankars, Bazigars, Kabirpanthis, Valmikis, Mazahabis and Mazhab Sikhs, and other SCs including Chamars, Rahgars, Raigars, Ravidassia, Ramdasias and Mochis for reservation in government jobs also

Congress is a factory to 'spread hatred', says Modi

FPJ News Service

NAGPUR

The BJP's victory in Haryana shows the mood in the country and the people have shown they will not fall prey to the conspiracies of the Congress and "urban Naxals", Prime Minister Narendra Modi said on Wednesday.

"Never in the history of Maharashtra has development taken place at such a fast pace, on such a large scale, in different sectors. During the Congress rule, such speed and scale was seen in different sectors in corruption," the prime minister said.

The Congress wanted to induce fear among Muslims in the country and convert them into vote bank, he said and also accused the opposition

Aghadi (MVA) wants to weaken Maharashtra to gain power, but the ruling Mahayuti (comprising BJP, Shiv Sena and NCP) is determined to strengthen the state, he said.

"The Congress is an irresponsible party and a factory to "spread hatred", which wants to divide Hindus and pit one community against another, Modi said after virtually launching development projects of more than Rs7,600 crore in the Maharashtra.

The opposition Maha Vikas



Victory in Haryana shows mood in the country; people will not fall prey to conspiracies, Prime Minister says

party of indulging in caste politics. The PM expressed confidence that the people of Maharashtra would reject efforts to break the society.

The BJP has won the Haryana assembly election, he said, adding that "in Maharashtra we have to get a bigger victory".

Modi said that the Marathis and the people of

misleading the people. But all the conspiracies of Congress have been destroyed," said Modi.

The Congress used all tactics to provoke the people of Haryana, but they have shown that they will not fall prey to the hateful conspiracies of Congress and "urban Naxals", he said.

Modi said the Congress tried to spread lies among Dalits, but the community understood its dangerous intentions of snatching their reservations and to distribute it to its vote bank.

"Today, Dalits of Haryana have given record support to the BJP and the OBCs of

Haryana are with BJP looking at its development works. The Congress provoked farmers, but they know who gave them MSP [minimum support price] on their produce," he said. The cultivators of Haryana are happy with the BJP's farmer welfare policies, he added.

The Congress is still creating new narratives to divide the country. From time to time, it brings a formula to divide the society. Congress is not stopping itself from misleading voters of the country. Its formula is very clear: To instill fear in Muslims and convert them into vote bank," he said.

Joined Mahayuti with my uncle's permission: Ajit

Kalpesh Mhamunkar

MUMBAI



Deputy Chief Minister Ajit Pawar on Wednesday claimed that the decision to break away from the NCP and join the Mahayuti government was taken with the permission of NCP founder and his uncle, Sharad Pawar.

The NCP (Ajit Pawar) leader was speaking a day after his party's national working president, Praful Patel, announced that he (Ajit Pawar) would fight the assembly election from Baramati.

Addressing a doctors' meeting in Baramati, Ajit Pawar said: "My political stand was not to hurt anyone but whatever political step I took... it was with the permission of Sharad Pawar."

Sharad Pawar later changed his stand and expressed disagreement with his decision, NCP leader claims

to join hands with Mahayuti, but those decisions were later changed. Ajit Pawar is telling the truth," he said.

Moreover, he said, "since the beginning there has been no unanimity among the MVA partners. That was one reason we decided to move out of the MVA". Sena UBT leader Uddhav Thackeray's demand to announce CM face from Mahayuti shows that things are not well among the MVA allies, he added.

Patel claimed that seat-sharing talks among the Mahayuti allies is going smoothly. "As of today, we have come to a conclusion on almost 235 seats. Talks on the remaining seats will end in the next few days and you will get a clear picture soon."

Patel also clarified that the BJP is the biggest party in Mahayuti and will get more seats.

VBA to field 10 Muslim candidates in assembly polls

FPJ Political Bureau

MUMBAI

The Vanchit Bahujan Aghadi (VBA) on Wednesday announced its second list for the assembly election, due next month.

The Prakash Ambedkar-led political front has surprised its erstwhile political ally AIMIM as they have parted their ways. The list also has something for the Congress to worry about as a few names are known Congress faces.

The list contains the names of Ayaz Gulzar Molvi (Kalyan West-Thane), Mohammed Jawed Ishaq (Aurangabad Central), Alauddin Hyatchang Kazi (Sangli), Syed Sami Sahebjani (Parbhani) and Arif M Patel (Shiroi in Kolhapur), Mohammed Afroz Mulla (Hadapsar-Pune), Shahejad Salim Khan (Malkapur-Buldhana), Khatib S Natiquddin (Balapur-Akola), Sayyad G Nabi Sayyad (Gangapur-Chhatrapati Samjhainagar), and Imtiyaz Jafar Nadaf (Man-Satara).

The case was registered by the Bhopal crime branch after a complaint was lodged by the BJP's Mahila Morcha district unit president Vandana Jachak and its vice president Sushma Chouhan, an official said. Raut had claimed that the MP scheme had been shut as it was only a political game, while referring to a similar scheme in Maharashtra.

"We are more disappointed that the Congress embraced the Hindutva ideology and betrayed Muslims even after taking their votes in the past. Rahul Gandhi visited Kolhapur [on October 5], but didn't utter a word on the Vishalgad Fort riots in mid-July, nor did he bother to meet the victims of that incident," said Natiquddin.

The list has something for the Congress to worry about as a few names are known Congress faces

the Congress for generations, some of the recent developments forced a rethink of the political stances. The response by MPCC chief Nana Patole was disappointing, he said.

It appears that the Congress has embraced the Hindutva political strategy in which there is no possibility of participation or equality for Muslims even in the 2024 assembly polls. The reason behind the Maha Vikas (MVA) not including Muslims in the electoral mainstream was Shiv Sena (UBT) president Uddhav Thackeray and his keenness to propagate the ideology of Vedic Hinduism to safeguard his vote-bank, alleged the leader from Akola.

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The VBA announced its first list of 11 nominees on September 21.

The decision by Natiquddin Khatib, a former MLC, to quit the Congress along with a few others has come as a surprise for the party. According to him, while they were loyal to

POLL PLAN | Saffron party working overtime to engineer social change in Maharashtra, just like it did in northern state in the recent polls

Social engineering key for Maha BJP

Ravikiran Deshmukh

MUMBAI



After it became clear that the party might face opposition from Marathas, the BJP began to consolidate other communities

Last year, the state government announced corporations for Lingayats, Vadar, Gurav, Kumbhar and Ramoshni communities.

The ruling alliance in general and the BJP in particular is leaving no stone unturned to consolidate its position among the smaller caste groups.

Last but not the least,

Higher and Technical Education Minister Chandrakant Patil, who also heads the Cabinet subcommittee on Maratha reservation, recently announced a separate corporation for Maratha youths from Marathwada region.

Jarange-Patil is from the same region

and has a huge following among the youths.

sources said.

The BJP is also trying hard

to project itself as a saviour of OBCs and smaller caste groups.

Had Haryana polls con-

tested by INDIA bloc and seats allocated to Samajwadi Party, Aam Aadmi Party, NCP (SP) and Shiv Sena (UBT), such a scenario would have helped the alliance, but Congress thought the battle would be one-sided and it would win on its own," Raut said.

State Congress chief Nana Patole rejected this assertion.

"We don't give much importance to the statement of Sanjay Raut," he said.

Describing the Haryana polls results "unfortunate", Raut pointed out that the Jammu and Kashmir election was won by the INDIA bloc.

"Wherever Congress is weak it takes help from regional parties, but where it thinks it is strong, the Congress assigns no importance to regional parties," Raut told reporters.

During a visit to Bhandara district on Wednesday, Praful Patel agreed with Ajit Pawar's statement and claimed that in the past the undivided NCP had made several attempts to join the BJP alliance.

"Several attempts were made by the undivided NCP

to join hands with Mahayuti, but those decisions were later changed. Ajit Pawar is telling the truth," he said.

Raut booked for remark on MP scheme

FPJ Political Bureau

MUMBAI

Madhya Pradesh Police on Wednesday registered an FIR against Shiv Sena (UBT) MP Sanjay Raut for allegedly making misleading remarks about the state government's flagship Ladli Behna Yojana.

The case was registered by the Bhopal crime branch after a complaint was lodged by the BJP's Mahila Morcha district unit president Vandana Jachak and its vice president Sushma Chouhan, an official said. Raut had claimed that the MP scheme had been shut as it was only a political game, while referring to a similar scheme in Maharashtra.

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BOPDEV GHAT GANG RAPE CASE**Cops release 3 suspects' descriptions****Staff Reporter****PUNE**

Based on the information provided by the 21-year-old woman victim and her male friend, the Pune Police has released descriptions of the three suspects involved in the Bopdev Ghat gang rape case.

According to the descriptions, the first suspect is approximately 25 years of age, has a wheatish complexion, is of medium build, has medium-length hair, was wearing jeans and a shirt, black-coloured slippers, a black-coloured jacket, and speaks Marathi. The second suspect is approximately 30 years of age, has a wheatish complexion, is of medium build, was wearing jeans and a full-sleeved shirt, a grey-coloured sweater, has a beard and moustache and speaks Hindi. The third suspect is approximately 25 years of age, has a wheatish complexion, is of medium build, has a moustache, was wearing jeans and a skin-coloured leather jacket with a cap, and speaks Marathi. The Pune Police have already announced a reward of Rs10 lakh for anyone who provides information about the suspects. They have also released sketches of two of the suspects earlier.

Meanwhile, NCP (SP) chief Sharad Pawar and his MP daughter Supriya Sule visited Bopdev Ghat on Tuesday. They were apprised of the status of the investigation by Deputy Commissioner of Police (DCP) S Raja.

Sule said that despite the investigation being conducted by the Pune Police and their rural counterparts, the accused persons were yet to be arrested, which was a "serious matter". The Baramati MP suggested that criminals are emboldened by the absence of police personnel on the ground and accused the state government of not recruiting.

CR's Pune Division earns ₹184.90cr in September**Staff Reporter****PUNE**

Central Railway's Pune Division earned a whopping ₹184.90 crore in revenue in September, a 23.90% increase compared to September 2023.

Passenger revenue amounted to ₹124.26 crore, goods revenue was Rs48.02 crore, sundry revenue stood at ₹2.45 crore, parcel revenue was ₹2.54 crore and luggage revenue totalled ₹0.15 crore.

Besides, originating passenger traffic reached Rs5.63 crore, a 21.30% increase from last year.

Meanwhile, during ticket checks in Pune Division in September, 20,569 passengers were found travelling without tickets, resulting in a fine of ₹80.81 lakh. Additionally, 2,986 passengers were fined ₹11.50 lakh for travelling irregularly or without proper tickets. A fine of ₹49,575 was collected from 387 passengers for carrying unbooked luggage.

From April to September, the Pune Division earned a total of ₹10.73 crore from various types of penalties.

GARBAGE WOES | Commuters allege that passers-by dump garbage, and the PMC has not been seen taking any action to prevent or control the situation

Wakad-Chandani Chowk service road turns into garbage dump

Indu Bhagat**PUNE**

The entire stretch of the service road of NH-48 (Mumbai-Bengaluru Highway) from Wakad to Chandani Chowk in Pune has become a garbage dumping spot. It is an eyesore with all kinds of garbage like torn pillows, dirty and stained mattresses, stale food items, broken TV sets, vehicles, mirrors and furniture being dumped along the roadside. Citizens using the highway expect the civic body to strengthen security and find methods to monitor and catch those dumping waste along the highway.

Chaitanya Ket, a Kothrud resident who commutes to Hinjawadi daily, complained that there are several spots between these two where garbage is dumped. He claimed that there's a spot opposite Orchid Hotel, Baner, which has turned into "a waste handling site". Ket told The Free Press Journal (FPJ) that though earlier, there was a designated shaded space where sanitary



workers would manually segregate the waste, now the garbage dumping has spread in a 500m radius.

"I have seen private workers taking away waste in small trucks that is useful, and the remaining waste gets piled up there, and nobody takes responsibility for it. We don't even know whether that spot is designated by PMC (Pune Municipal Corporation) or if it is illegal," Ket told the FPJ.

"I have also seen the remains of burnt garbage there. I have not seen who burns it or when, but the residue of burns can be seen. Another spot one can see is when you cross Bawdhan; garbage is being dumped there on the left side. The garbage dumping and burning is a big issue, and it needs to be addressed by the civic authorities; someone has to take ownership of it," Ket added.

"A few days ago, I saw a private worker near Tip-Top International Hotel burning waste, and when I asked him, he said, 'This waste has not been taken by anyone, so I'm burning it. I tried dumping it in another location, but I couldn't.' This remark made by a worker stunned me," alleged Ket.

Another resident, Amar Lungare, took to X (formerly known as Twitter) and wrote, "Same story on all the service roads along Dehu-Katrav bypass. The stretch near

Sutarwadi is on the verge of becoming a real dumpster."

Yuvraj Singh Chauhan, also a resident, said it was mostly the commuters who dumped the waste on the highway while passing by. "I commute from Bawdhan LMD Chowk towards Wakad on the service road, and there is a huge dump yard. People throw every possible thing and drive away, and the garbage keeps piling up. The stench is not the only problem. The garbage also attracts cattle and stray animals to the trash heaps. It's not only an environmental hazard, but it can also lead to accidents. Many stray animals stay inside the underpasses, which also causes hindrance to traffic," he said.

Meanwhile, speaking to the FPJ, Sandeep Kadam, Head of PMC's Solid Waste Management Department, said, "I'll send my team to identify such spots. Recently, we have spotted many chronic spots and cleared the space. We are taking strict actions against the violators, and we will look into it and take action."

Collector advocates voter awareness through SVEEP

Staff Reporter**PUNE**

Pune Collector Suhas Diwase on Tuesday said that voter awareness should be conducted through the Systematic Voters' Education and Electoral Participation program (SVEEP) to increase voters' turnout in all assembly constituencies in the Pune district. He emphasised that to specifically enhance voting percentages in urban constituencies there should be a focus on voter awareness in cooperative housing societies.

He was speaking at the SVEEP review meeting held at the collector's office.

Chief Executive Officer of Zila Parishad Santosh Patil, Deputy Commissioner of the Election Department of Pune Municipal

Corporation (PMC) Mahesh Patil, Deputy Commissioner of the Divisional Commissioner Office Nilima Dhaygude, Deputy Collector of SVEEP Management Archana Tambe and Deputy District Election Officer Meenal Kalskar were present at the meeting.

In the last Lok Sabha elections, the district performed well in increasing voter registration and voting percentages. Diwase credited it to the effective voter awareness efforts that contributed to a rise in voting percentages in urban constituencies during the Lok Sabha elections and said that there was a need to continue these initiatives to ensure even higher voter turnout in the upcoming assembly elections.

He further highlighted that awareness-raising at the level of voter registration officers has resulted in a positive response to voter registration, increasing the total number of voters in the district to 8,647,000.

Consequently, Pune district has become the district with the highest number of voters in the state.

Similar to the Lok Sabha elections, polling stations have been established in large housing societies this time as well. Diwase indicated that measures have been taken to ensure that each polling station accommodates around 1,200 voters to avoid queues. Additionally, efforts have been made to ensure that voters' names appear at the nearest polling stations, allowing family members to vote together.

He also said that voter registration can be completed up to 10 days after the commencement of nomination filing. Housing societies should inform their members, and

gp Briefs

NAVARI

3 women officers held in water works scam

CID Crime Police has arrested three women employees of the Water Supply & Sewerage Board in connection with a drinking water works scam that came to light in July. The CID Crime has apprehended Asha Patel, an Executive Engineer; Archana Patel, an Additional Assistant Engineer; and Divya Patel, a Deputy Engineer, for their alleged involvement in the scam. Earlier this year, Surat CID (Crime) uncovered a scam involving drinking water projects, arresting 13 individuals, including government officials, for allegedly embezzling state funds without executing the projects, according to police reports. The investigation revealed that 90 projects were never carried out, yet approximately ₹9 crore was disbursed for them.

SURAT

VNSGU gets ₹9cr GST notice

After 7 years of implementation of the Goods & Services Tax (GST), Veer Narmad South Gujarat University has received a notice for unpaid GST amounting to ₹9 crores. The university had created a fee structure for various programs, which affiliated private colleges were required to follow. In this fee structure, an affiliation fee was included in the tuition fee. When GST was implemented, policy rules mandated the collection of 18% GST on affiliation fees. However, GST was not collected on affiliation fees by private colleges per student, as the university was a government institution and there was also no clarity on the rule. Later, in 2023, the Finance Ministry removed GST from affiliation fees after realizing that GST had not been collected on services like education.

SURAT

Ukai dam generates 24 cr power units

The total volume of water that arrived in Ukai dam this year was 12,040 MCM, against which 7,644 mcm water was released to sea via river Tapi which passes through the city of Surat. Ukai is Gujarat's second largest dam. With release of water, 27.49 crore power units were generated worth Rs. 220 crore in around two months span of monsoon this year. Ukai achieved full level for sixth continuous year in 2024.

Mahatma Mandir bags 'Best Exhibition & Convention Centre'

FPJ NEWS SERVICE

GANDHINAGAR

The Mahatma Mandir Convention and Exhibition Centre, managed by The Leela Gandhinagar, has been recognised as the "Best Exhibition and Convention Centre of India" at the prestigious India MICE Awards.

The India MICE Awards is a premier national event that brings together the best in hospitality, travel and event management. With participation from over 10,000 five-star hotels, resorts, restaurants, tour operators, travel agents, destination management companies, event management companies, and more, the awards recognise excellence across various categories in the MICE (Meetings, Incentives, Conferences, and Exhibitions) industry.

The much-coveted "Best Exhibition and Convention Centre of India" award was presented to The Leela Gandhinagar and Mahatma

WITNESS ACCOUNT | Three unidentified culprits were Hindi-speaking, says victim's friend; forced him to flee

17-year-old girl gang-raped

FPJ NEWS SERVICE

SURAT

While the event of gang rape in Bhayali, Vadodara, is still fresh in the memories of Gujarat residents, another incident of gangrape has been reported from Gujarat Home Minister Harsh Sanghavi's home district, causing uproar.

On late Tuesday night, three rapists gang-raped a 17-year-old girl in Mota Borsaran hamlet near Kosamba in Surat district. The victim was sitting with a friend in the agricultural field when the incident occurred between 10:45 and 11:15 p.m. Three unidentified Hindi-speaking suspects approached the two seated on the farm. The assailants assaulted the youngster and forced him to flee the scene. They (accused) stole the girl's and boy's cell phones.

The accused raped the victim. However, the youth promptly told the locals of the occurrence, and when they arrived at the scene, they discovered the girl was half naked.

Surat rural police chief Hitesh Joysar, speaking about



Police search crime scene

the gang rape case, stated that between 10:45 and 11:15 p.m. last night, a 17-year-old and 4-month-old were sitting with a friend in a field on the outskirts of Mota Borsaran village in the Kosamba police station area. As soon as it was reported that three people had entered the field and raped the girl, the police team from Kosamba, Surat Rural DySP, LCB, SOG, and Parole rushed to the scene.

More than 10 teams have been formed to investigate the occurrence. The police

brought the youth present with the child to the scene and gathered the necessary proof. In addition, the FSL team is now inspecting the area.

Because the situation was so sensitive, all of the teams have been working since late at night, and the police are conducting an intensive investigation.

The victim's friend was not injured in this incident; however, the normal two-three slaps were delivered. The victim has also undergone a medical examination, and in accordance with

the new BNS and BNSS laws, the police are responding to this event in a sensitive and timely manner in order to solve the crime and rigorously punish the three perpetrators.

The Kosamba police have filed a case under sections 70(2), 115(2), 54, and 309(4) of the BNS, which include robbery because the three accused stole the victim's and his friend's cell phones. The accused have been charged under sections 352, 351(3) of the BNS, and sections 4 and 6 of the POCSO Act.

'Suspected witch' shot dead by kin

FPJ NEWS SERVICE

AHMEDABAD

In a tragic incident during the Navratri festival, a time when Gujarat celebrates the feminine divine, a woman was shot dead in Arvall's Rampuri village after being branded a 'witch'. The horrific crime has shocked the local community and sparked widespread condemnation.

The incident took place when a 45-year-old mother of two was shot dead by her relative, Rajesh alias Rajendra Tabiyar, who suspected her of practicing witchcraft on Tuesday night. The victim was asleep with her children when Tabiyar entered her home and opened fire, fatally wounding her. The gunshot noise alerted neighbors, who rushed the woman to Cottage Hospital in Bhiloda. Unfortunately, she was declared dead on arrival by the on-duty doctors.

Following the murder, police teams from the local station, along with the Deputy Superintendent of Police (DySP), Special Operations Group (SOG), and Local Crime Branch (LCB), arrived at the crime scene. Investigations are ongoing.

Vadnagar tourism workers unpaid for two months



FPJ NEWS SERVICE

AHMEDABAD

Amid the festivities, outsourced Gujarat Tourism employees working at Vadnagar tourism site alleged no payment of salary for the past two months. The tourism department has neglected frequent complaints about unpaid salaries of employees.

200 employees face difficulties

Outsourced employees like supervisors, guards, guides, sweepers, and hotel staff working at historical sites such as the theme park, Sharmishtha Lake, walkway, Buddhist Monastery, Kirti Toran, Lateri Vav, and Tanariri Garden in Vadnagar have not been paid since August 2024.

According to sources, the outsourcing agency has not received a grant for five months, which is why salaries have not been paid for August and September.

Employees claim that not paying salaries through outsourcing agencies is an ongoing issue. When they raised this issue with the Tourism Department of Gujarat, they were told the matter was not their responsibility and that they should contact the agency.

However, the Tourism Department hasn't issued a show-cause notice to the agency or demanded an explanation about the unpaid wages. This comes ahead of Diwali, when all the tourist attractions will be bustling with travellers and visitors at PM Modi's birthplace.

Suresh John David takes over as GM, NTPC Kawas Stn

FPJ NEWS SERVICE

SURAT

Suresh John David has officially assumed the position of General Manager and Head of Project (HOP) at NTPC Kawas Station, effective October 5, 2024. Prior to this appointment, he served as General Manager in the Operation & Maintenance Department at NTPC Simhadri.

With a BTech in Mechanical Engineering from Kerala University, Trivandrum, David began his career at NTPC on August 31, 1998, as an Executive Trainee. Over his distinguished 36-year career, he has held key positions across multiple NTPC sites, including Ramagundam, Kayamkulam, Korba, and Simhadri. He also contributed to the Indian Railway Electricity Company Limited.

NTPC Kawas is located at Aditya Nagar, Hazira in Surat district in Gujarat. The power plant is the gas-based combined cycle power plants of NTPC.

The gas for the power plant is sourced from GAIL HBJ Pipeline – South Basin Gas field. Source of water for the power plant is Hazira Branch Canal Singapur Weir.

Lab-grown diamonds beat recession

FPJ NEWS SERVICE

SURAT

The Surat diamond industry, famous for cutting and polishing 90% of the world's diamonds, is currently grappling with a severe recession in the natural diamond market. As the demand for natural diamonds dwindles, impacting thousands of artisans who rely on this trade, lab-grown diamonds have emerged as a saving grace. These synthetic diamonds, manufactured in controlled environments, are gaining substantial traction in the global market, offering a ray of hope for the city's struggling diamond workers.

While the global market for natural diamonds has shrunk, leading to significant financial losses in Surat's traditional diamond segment, the lab-grown diamond industry remains unaffected by the economic downturn. According to industry insiders, this robust performance has prompted a major shift, with nearly 80% of artisans previously engaged in natural diamond polishing now transitioning to lab-grown diamonds.



Babu Vaghani, head of the Lab-Grown Diamond Association (LGDA), emphasized the growing success of lab-grown diamonds. "The demand for lab-grown diamonds is surging globally, and India, particularly Surat, is benefiting immensely. The recession has not impacted this segment, and business is booming," said Vaghani. He further added that much of this success stems from China, where lab-grown diamonds are sourced and then processed in India, contributing significantly to Surat's economy.

The global demand for lab-grown diamonds has been steadily rising, especially in key markets such as the United States, Canada, Italy, Europe, Mexico, Germany, the United Kingdom, France, and Russia. Additionally, the Asia-

Pacific region, which includes China, Japan, India, Australia, and other Southeast Asian nations, has also shown a growing appetite for lab-grown diamonds. As a result, Surat's diamond workers are increasingly switching to this alternative, attracted by the growing demand and financial stability it offers.

One of the primary reasons for this surge in demand is the affordability of lab-grown diamonds compared to natural ones. Lab-grown diamonds are created in laboratories under high-pressure and high-temperature conditions, mimicking the natural process that takes millions of years. Despite being chemically identical to natural diamonds, they are available at a fraction of the cost, making them an attractive choice for consumers worldwide.

Another factor driving the popularity of lab-grown diamonds is the growing awareness among environmentally conscious consumers. The production of lab-grown diamonds has a significantly lower environmental impact compared to mining natural diamonds, which involves land excavation and other ecological disruptions. This eco-friendly appeal is particularly attractive to younger generations who prioritize sustainability in their purchasing decisions.

As the lab-grown diamond market continues to grow, it is not just a lifeline for Surat's artisans but also a beacon for the future of the global diamond industry. The shift from natural to synthetic diamonds is likely to accelerate, with more workers and businesses transitioning to capitalize on this lucrative opportunity. For Surat, the hub of the world's diamond trade, lab-grown diamonds may very well redefine the industry's future, offering resilience against economic downturns and ensuring steady growth in the years to come.

48 escalators at bullet train stations

FPJ NEWS SERVICE

AHMEDABAD

In an effort to enhance passenger comfort and convenience, the National High-Speed Rail Corporation Limited (NHSRCL) announced that Bullet Train corridor stations will be outfitted with state-of-the-art amenities and advanced information systems. Each station will feature modern ticketing areas, comfortable waiting rooms, business-class lounges, nurseries, restrooms, information booths, and retail centers, ensuring a premium travel experience for all passengers.

The first escalators, part of a comprehensive installation plan, are being set up at the Anand Bullet Train station,



where two energy-efficient escalators are being installed from the ground to the concourse level. This marks a significant milestone in the development of the Bullet Train project, which is designed to connect major cities across Gujarat and Maharashtra. Across the 12 stations on

the corridor, a total of 90 energy-efficient escalators will be installed, with 48 escalators designated for eight stations in Gujarat and 42 for four stations in Maharashtra. These escalators have been carefully designed to prioritize passenger safety and security. Each escalator will be equipped with emergency stop buttons, handrail finger guard safety devices to prevent accidental entrapment, and brush-type dress guards to ensure that clothing and accessories don't get caught.

At the Anand station, a total of six escalators will be installed: two from the ground to the concourse level and four from the concourse to the platform level. Similarly,

at the Sabarmati station, a total of 12 escalators will be installed, with eight running from the platform to the concourse and four from the concourse to the first floor. Other major stations, such as Ahmedabad, Vadodara, Bharuch, Surat, Bilmora, and Vapi, will also receive escalators to facilitate smooth passenger movement.

77-yr-old's organ donation saves four lives

FPJ NEWS SERVICE

SURAT

Mandir Convention and Exhibition Centre at a grand gala in New Delhi on Monday in the presence of the best in the travel, tourism, lifestyle and hospitality industry from across India and the world.

Commenting on the award, Vikas Sood, General Manager of The Leela Gandhinagar and Mahatma Mandir Convention and Exhibition Centre, said, "We are thrilled to receive the Best Exhibition and Convention Centre of India award. The Mahatma Mandir is truly a unique venue, designed to host landmark MICE events and deliver world-class experiences. This

award showcases our commitment to creating memorable events for our guests."

Owned by the Gandhinagar Railway and Urban Development Corporation (GARUD) and managed by The Leela Gandhinagar, the Mahatma Mandir Convention and Exhibition Centre is inspired by the life and philosophy of Mahatma Gandhi. Spanning over 34 acres, it is one of the biggest convention centres in the country. The Centre hosts the biennial Vibrant Gujarat Summit and other national and international events, expos and conventions.

October 5, Gandhi sustained serious head injuries due to the mishap and he was rushed to the Mahavir hospital where the CT scan reports suggested serious head injuries and blood clot.

On October 7, the doctors at the Mahavir hospital declared Gandhi as brain dead. The city-based Donate Life NGO's Nilesh Mandewala was contacted by the doctors to convince his family members for cadaver donation.

Mandewala and his team of volunteers reached the Mahavir hospital and counselled the

family members of the brain dead patients on the importance of cadaver donation to save the lives of others in need of vital organs.

After the consent of the family members, Donate Life NGO contacted SOTTO. Two kidneys and corneas were collected from the brain dead patient. While one kidney was transplanted in a 61-year-old woman, the other kidney was transplanted

in a 24-year-old man in Mumbai.

A green corridor was created from Mahavir Trauma Hospital in Surat to Sterling Hospital in Vadodara to ensure the kidney reaches on time. The Surat city police, police of various cities of the state and village police coordinated for the green corridor.

It is worth mentioning that 126 Green Corridors have been constructed by Surat City Police so far to deliver important organs like heart, lung, hand, small intestine, liver and kidney to different cities of the country on time.

AP CM Naidu appraises PM on Swarna Andhra Pradesh 2047

The chief minister said he appraised the PM of "Swarna Andhra Pradesh 2047" vision document which is under preparation, aiming to make the state a USD 2.5 trillion economy with USD 40,000 per capita income

FPJ I AMARAVATHI

The Andhra Pradesh Chief Minister Chandrababu Naidu on Tuesday apprised the Prime Minister Narendra Modi of "Swarna Andhra Pradesh 2047" vision document. He added that the aim was to make the state a USD 2.5 trillion economy with USD 40,000 per capita income.

After becoming the Chief Minister, Mr Naidu has concentrated on making Amaravati the capital city. Addressing a press conference, Naidu said that the World Bank has agreed to extend Rs 15,000 crore loan to the state government for the construction of the capital Amaravati and its work will start from December.

Earlier on Monday he thanked the Prime Minister Narendra Modi whom he met for agreeing

to release Rs 12,500 crore towards the construction works of Polavaram project.

He further said oil and gas major Bharat Petroleum Corporation Ltd will be setting up a refinery with an investment outlay of Rs 85,000 crore in the state and the company is currently conducting a feasibility study into selecting the location.

The chief minister said he apprised the PM of "Swarna Andhra Pradesh 2047" vision document which is under preparation, aiming to make the state a USD 2.5 trillion economy with USD 40,000 per capita income.

"The World Bank has agreed to give Rs 15,000 crore for the construction of Amaravati capital phase-I. The work will start in December. We will work in a time-bound manner," Naidu said.

Replies to a query, he said both Telangana and Andhra Pradesh are engaged in talks to resolve pending issues.

He said the upcoming Visakhapatnam International Airport at Bhogapuram will be ready by December next year and the GMR group which is executing the project was asked to set up a "Civil Aviation University" in the vicinity.

"I have explained to the Prime Minister about the financial destruction that took place during the last five years. At the same time, I have informed him that the state is facing financial difficulties," he said.

The CM alleged that the previous YSRCP government failed to utilise the Central sponsored schemes and the funds given by the union government were diverted for other purposes. They have not given the utilisation certificates for the Central funds, resulting in a stoppage of fund flow, he said.

Naidu said due to laxity of the previous government as much as 85 lakh tons of garbage was piled up across the state, which the present regime started disposing of.

The Andhra CM said the Centre was requested to construct Greenfield Expressway between Vijayawada and Hyderabad and also a 185 km-long Outer Ring road at Amaravati. He said the union government is currently mulling various options for the survival of Visakhapatnam Steel Plant. Naidu is currently in the national capital and met PM Modi and some of his Cabinet colleagues, including Nitin Gadkari and Hardeep Singh Puri.

SRI DURGADEVI



Government has taken all the measures to support Brahmins'

FPJ I AMARAVATHI

Andhra Pradesh's Minister for BC, EWS Welfare, Handloom and Textiles, S Savita, on Wednesday said that the government led by Chief Minister N Chandrababu Naidu is giving great importance to the welfare of Brahmins and has taken all the measures to support them financially.

On Wednesday, Minister Savita inspected the office of Brahmin Corporation at Gollapudi in Vijayawada and held a review meeting with the officials of Brahmin Corporation.

The minister asked the officials what schemes are being implemented so far and how many people will benefit from them. She inquired the officials about the measures being taken to protect the lands and properties under the corporation across the state.

Speaking on the occasion, Minister Savita said that since the beginning, CM Chandrababu Naidu has been giving

importance to the welfare of Brahmins. Brahmin Corporation was started by CM Naidu in 2014 to eradicate poverty among Brahmins.

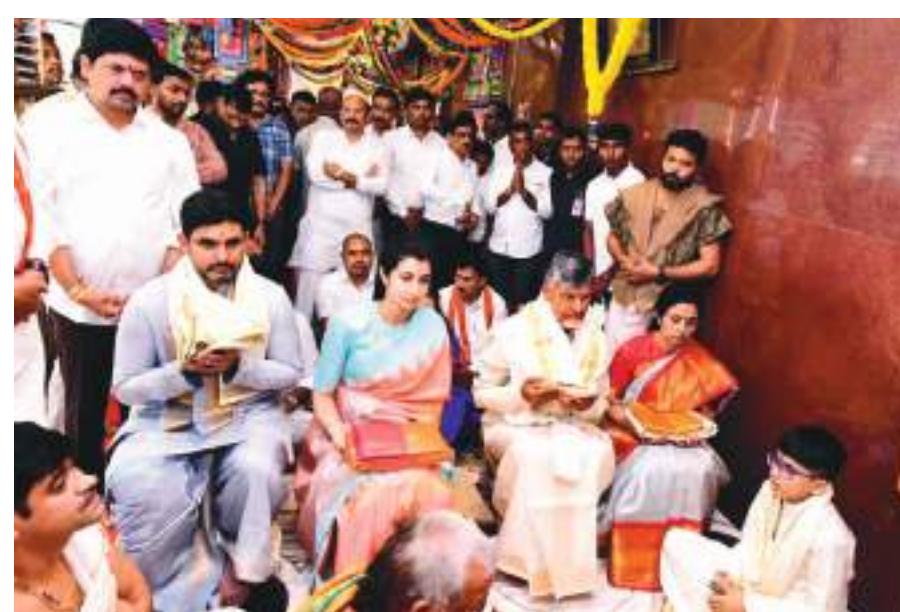
She said that many schemes were implemented under that corporation and efforts were made to provide financial security to Brahmins. In 2014-19, CM Chandrababu Naidu implemented ten schemes like Bharti, Bharti Videshi Vidya, Gayatri, Vedavyasa, Vasistha, Dronacharya, Chanakya, Kalyanamastu, Kasyapa and Garuda.

She said that after Jagan came to power, all the schemes implemented by Chandrababu Naidu were stopped. Once again CM Chandrababu Naidu came to power and good days have started for Brahmins. He said that he will take the plight of Brahmins to the attention of CM Chandrababu Naidu and work hard to implement the schemes of 2014-19 once again, Minister said.



Durga temple allotted more time to devotees

FPJ I AMARAVATHI



Andhra Pradesh Chief Minister N Chandrababu Naidu on Wednesday said that the Seva Committee of Kanakadurga temple allotted more time to common devotees rather than VIPs. This year, we have appointed Seva Committee members to provide services to the devotees. If every person who comes to temples comes with faith, life will be meaningful, CM said. Due to the grace of Goddess Durgamma, there has been plenty of rain this year in the state. Naidu visited Kanakadurga temple along with his family on the auspicious day of Moola Nakshatram during the Dasara celebrations here.

Everyone has the responsibility to protect the sanctity and spiritual spirit in the temples. Congratulating the Seva Committee, CM said around 5,85,651 devotees have visited since the beginning of Nava Ratri started. On Wednesday,

67,936 devotees visited Goddess Durgamma. Around 6,96,396 laddus were prepared for the devotees during the week. Annaprasad was distributed to 1.07 lakh people, 12.55 lakh water packets, 75 thousand milk packets and 1.23 lakh buttermilk packets were provided to the devotees. This time the arrangements were better than last time. People are also expressing satisfaction with the arrangements made by the government, said CM.

CM said that "We will have rain in coming days also and the work of Amaravati and Polavaram will be done quickly. On the occasion of Moola Nakshatram, free darshan and one laddoo were provided to the devotees for free.

"In the coming days, the decisions of the governing body will be in accordance with the sentiments of the devotees, and not target the poor. We respect the traditions, laws and customs of the temples. We will restore the glory of every temple," said CM. The CM said, "I was lucky enough to visit Goddess Kanakadurga temple on the day of Moola Nakshatra, the birth star of the most distinguished Goddess. Lakhs of devotees come and visit Durgamma daily with devotion and faith."

He said, "It is customary to present silk clothes on behalf of the government during Dussehra Sharana Navaratri. Vijayadasami festival is celebrated to mark the victory of good over evil. Chief Minister said, "I have prayed to the Goddess to bless the state to advance in all fields in the coming days."

Jagan should avoid false campaigns against govt : Lokesh

FPJ I AMARAVATHI



Andhra Pradesh Minister Nara Lokesh on Wednesday said that former Chief Minister YS Jagan should avoid false campaigns. Taking to his 'X' Account, he mocked that Jagan had not given even a single rupee of the flood victims although he promised to donate ₹1 crores. "Jagan has not distributed even one packet of water and one packet of biscuits. He is poisoning the flood relief efforts. He is spreading fake propaganda saying that Rs. 23 crores was spent for candles and match boxes in the flood areas. The cost of these is not even ₹23 lakhs. These are the dark figures of the government. We have posted about this in 'X,'" he said.

Collective & effective team-work key in Garuda Seva

FPJ I TIRUMALA



While complimenting the work force of TTD deployed for Garuda Seva for making the mega event a grand success with a team spirit, the TTD EO J. Shyamala Rao asked the officers to continue the same and ensure the success of the annual Brahmotsavams.

Addressing the officers in Brahmotsavam Cell at Tirumala on Wednesday, the EO said the holiest event of Srivari Brahmotsavam, the Garuda Vahana Seva was a huge success with the coordinated work of TTD officials and also congratulated the staff and Srivari sevaks. Speaking on the occasion, he said for next annual Brahmotsavam Garuda Seva, all the minor problems which were identified should be rectified and is the most important event of Brahmotsavam, and better measures particularly regarding increasing the number

of toilets, sanitation shall be implemented.

Later, the Additional EO said that with collective efforts and mutual cooperation among the employees helped in making Garuda Seva a massive success

and every Vahana Seva should be treated on par with Garuda Seva and asked the officials to work with same commitment.

He said that for the convenience of the devotees, there is a dire need for better master plan

for the four mada streets that would suffice the needs of devotees for another hundred years. TTD JEOs Gauthami, Veerabrahmam, CVRSO Sridhar, CE Satyanarayana and other officials were also present.

'Environment protection is the responsibility of industries'

FPJ I VIJAYAWADA

Deputy Chief Minister and Minister for Forests, Environment, Science and Technology of the state Pawan Kalyan today said that the industries which are a part of the development should also recognize that it was their responsibility to provide a good environment to the future generations and added that Environmental interest should be the responsibility of all industries. He said that In today's time when development is required, there was a need to encourage industries and added that At the same time, plans should be made to promote pollution-free industries as much as possible.

Pawan Kalyan inaugurated a workshop organized by the state Pollution Control Board with NGOs, experts and officials of other departments at a hotel in Vijayawada on Wednesday.

Speaking on the occasion, Pawan Kalyan said that It was not right to develop without a future for future generations. "The notion that the Pollution Control Board is against industries is not correct. In the present situation, both protecting the environment and moving forward on the path of development are crucial. There is a need to find suitable avenues for this. Experts should pay attention to this. There is a need to come up with a permanent solution and a policy that is acceptable to all in the case of



Deputy CM Pawan Kalyan visits Durga temple

FPJ I VIJAYAWADA

goddess were handed over to him. Along with State Home Minister Anitha and MP Kesineni Sivanath also visited the temple.

Earlier, another state minister Nimmal Ramanaidu had a darshan of Durgamma. Wednesday, being the Moola star, Goddess Saraswati appears in the adoration of the Goddess. There was a huge rush of devotees at Indrakeeladri on the occasion.

not disturbed. For future generations, We all have to think from now on. Everyone should be involved in controlling water and air pollution. At a time when the government is yearning for rapid development, experts and intellectuals should provide valuable suggestions for formulating pollution-free industries and their modalities.

Quick Trail

MYSURU

CM supporters warn of black flag demonstration against Governor

State Backward Classes Awareness Forum chief K S Shivaramu, who is a staunch supporter of CM Siddaramaiah, on Wednesday warned of a black flag demonstration against the governor if he attends the Dasara festivities and the conclusion of the nine-day Dasara event on October 12 in the city.

Speaking to reporters, Shivaramu said a postcard campaign will be launched against the governor from Thursday accusing him of destabilising the Siddaramaiah government by misusing his constitutional powers. Postcards appealing to the President of India to initiate action against the governor will be posted from Ramaswamy Circle post box 12 in the city.

Shivaramu accused Governor Gehlot of working like a 'political agent' of the BJP-JDS combine instead of delivering his constitutional responsibilities in the state.

The governor has given permission for prosecuting Siddaramaiah in the Muda case. DSS convener Devagalli Somashekhar appealed to the state government to announce the findings of the caste census.

MYSURU

Company to book cases over drone show filming



Chamundeshwari Electricity Supply Corporation (CESC) has warned of cases against individuals and agencies found involved in capturing visuals of its drone shows on display at the Dasara Torch-Light Parade ground as part of Dasara festivities.

A decision to this effect was taken by CESC, as several individuals have circulated the videos of its drone shows following its huge success on October 6 on social media.

The CESC has introduced this drone show as a latest addition to the Dasara festivities.

The CESC officials have noticed that some individuals and private agencies are also flying their drones without taking any valid permission. The company asked people who have captured the drone shows to delete their postings on social media sites.

They have also prohibited the capturing of images of the drone shows scheduled for October 11 and 12.

Attack on driver highlights risks faced by BMTC staff

NT Correspondent

NEW DELHI

A tragic event occurred on the BMTC-operated route from ITPL to Banashankari when Yogesh, a driver and co-conductor, was violently attacked while driving the bus KA57 F-0015 last Tuesday, October 1.

The assailant, identified as 25-year-old Harsha Sinha, suddenly stabbed Yogesh with a knife in an unprovoked outburst of anger after being asked not to stand near the door of the bus.

This shocking incident has drawn attention to the daily dangers and challenges faced by public transportation staff, leaving the entire community deeply affected.

In response to this un-

fortunate event and as a show of solidarity, BMTC organised a ceremony to recognise the dedication and bravery of its staff. The Minister of Transport and Muzrai, Ramalinga Reddy, along with Dr N V Prasad, IAS, Secretary of the Transport Department, Government of Karnataka; Ramachandran R, IAS, Managing Director of BMTC; and Sadashiva Prabhu B, IAS, Director (S&V) of BMTC, led the event. The ceremony saw several BMTC employees being honoured for their exceptional service and commitment to ensuring the safety and comfort of commuters.

Harsha Sinha, a native of Jharkhand, was arrested by the Whitefield police last Tuesday.



NT

Correspondent

NEW DELHI

Karnataka Congress MLA B Nagendra is the "mastermind" behind the multi-crore Valmiki Corporation alleged scam and the funds diverted from this state government entity were also used for a candidate who contested the Lok Sabha polls earlier this year, the ED claimed Wednesday.

The federal agency said it has filed a prosecution complaint or charge sheet in this case sometime ago before a special Prevention of Money Laundering Act (PMLA) court in Bengaluru. The court has taken cognisance of the charge sheet, it said.

"B Nagendra, MLA and former Minister for Scheduled Tribal Affairs, has been named as the primary accused and mastermind behind the scam, allegedly orchestrating it with the help of 24 others, including key associates like Satyanarayana Varma, Etakari Satyanarayana, JG Padmanabha, Nageshwar Rao, Nekkenti Nagaraj, and Vijay Kumar Gowda," the Enforcement Directorate said in a statement.

Nagendra was arrested by the ED in this case.

The agency claimed its probe found that "under the

influence of B Nagendra, the account of the Corporation (Karnataka Maharsi Valmiki ST Development Corporation) was moved to the MG Road Branch without any proper authorisation, where Rs 187 crore, including Rs. 43.33 crore from the state treasury under the Ganga Kalyana Scheme, were deposited without following proper procedures and in violation of government guidelines.

"These funds were subsequently siphoned off through multiple shell accounts and converted into cash and bullion," the ED alleged.

An amount of Rs 20.19 crore of the "diverted" funds

were used to support a candidate contesting the 2024 Lok Sabha election from the Belalur constituency, as well as for the personal expenses of B Nagendra, it added.

The ED said "evidence" of these expenditures was found by it during search operations conducted by it and "corroborated" by financial analysis and statements.

"Details of these election expenses were retrieved from the mobile phone of Vijay Kumar Gowda, who handled the cash on Nagendra's

instructions," it claimed.

The money laundering case stems from an FIR from the Karnataka Police and the CBI where it was alleged that around Rs 89.62 crore were diverted from the accounts of the Corporation's (Valmiki)

accounts into "fake accounts" across Andhra Pradesh and Telangana and later laundered through shell entities.

The alleged irregularities came to fore after accounts superintendents of the Corporation, Chandrasekharan P was found dead on May 21.

He wrote a suicide note alleging illegal transfer of money from the Corporation to various bank accounts.

In the suicide note, Chandrasekharan alleged that there was an unauthorised transfer of Rs 187 crore belonging to the state-run Corporation from its bank account.

Additionally, Rs 88.62 crore was illegally deposited into various accounts of some Information Technology (IT) companies and a Hyderabad-based cooperative bank.



Free Press
FOR FREE FLOW OF TRUTH

Challenges for Abdullah, Saini govts

The Assembly election results hold lessons both for the winners and the losers. How the losers introspect and draw lessons from the verdict, if at all they do, will eventually reflect on their performance in the next round of elections. But it is the winners whose conduct will immediately weigh on the quality of governance they would provide in their respective jurisdictions. So, let us begin with Jammu and Kashmir first. Undoubtedly, the Abdullah dynasty has bounced back in style, carrying with it the deadweight of its Congress partner. The latter faltered even with the National Conference support in the Hindu-majority Jammu region, winning a lone seat of the 29 it contested. In all, the Congress won six seats thanks to the transfer of Muslim votes owing to its NC alliance. The Congress Party barely pulled its weight behind its senior partner whereas the latter helped it win 6 seats, a face-saver of sorts. We emphasize the point only to assert that for the success of the Omar Abdullah government its Congress link ought not to come in the way as it seeks to establish a healthy working relationship with the BJP-led government at the Centre. Given the security sensitive situation in J&K, the next Abdullah government will necessarily have to rely on the Centre for ensuring normalcy in the Union Territory. Besides, a fairly long and successful run as chief minister of the UT government alone

can persuade the Centre to deliver on its commitment to restore statehood to J&K. It will be in the mutual interest of both the J&K and central governments to create conducive conditions for the UT's return to its pre-2019 status of a full-fledged State of the Indian Union. Once the popularly elected regime in Srinagar helps in strengthening that bond with the Union, restoring J&K's statehood should not pose any problem. Omar Abdullah is experienced enough to appreciate the intricacies of running a security-sensitive UT. He should cooperate with the Modi government to achieve the common goal of integrating the troubled region into the larger mainstream. The Abdullahs are known to get along famously with the Centre while in power, though they tend to take a contrary line while in the Opposition. Also, unlike the AAP supremo Arvind Kejriwal, who has a habit of picking fights with anyone and everyone as part of a crafty strategy to shift blame for his own acts of omission and commission, Omar suffers from no such malady. He is expected to bat straight, and the Centre, on its part, especially given the vital security interests at stake in J&K, will refrain from bowling googlies and underarm deliveries. To begin with, one of the first acts which may test the new chief minister's ability to cooperate with the Centre pertains to the nomination of five members to the Assembly as provided in the amendment which made Article 370 inoperative. Instead of harping on the restoration of Article 370, which will immediately set the new J&K government on a collision course with the Centre, the newly-elected chief minister would do well to work with and cooperate with the Centre in the larger interest of the people in J&K and in the rest of the country. As an election plank it was okay for the Abdullah to promise to restore Article 370, but it will be an affront to the Centre were he to as chief minister of J&K make that an issue of contention with New Delhi. As far as the Centre is concerned Article 370 is dead as a dodo and it would never countenance its restoration, though restoring the statehood of J&K would remain on the cards as so doing would redound to the credit of the Centre as well as the Abdullah government. For that to happen, the J&K government will need to prove itself competent to enforce peace and order in J&K. The onus is on Abdullah, though he should be assured of the unstinted support and cooperation of the Centre.

As for Haryana, the BJP needs must avoid any temptation to replace the outgoing chief minister under whom it won a spectacular victory against all odds. Nayab Singh Saini in a short period has earned his spurs and needs to head the next government. Though delivering on a huge bouquet of promises will not be easy. As it is, in recent years the State's finances have not been all that healthy what with the fiscal deficit rising and the capital outlay declining. The share of agriculture in its economy though still substantial is slowly yielding place to manufacturing and services. Gurugram, abutting the national capital, which birthed the automotive revolution in the country with the Maruti-Suzuki plant in the 80s, cries for a functioning civic body. Youth joblessness is another burning issue. Immediately, of course, the voters will expect the new BJP government to make good its promise to provide a monthly assistance of Rs 2,100 to women, scooties to women college students, and highly subsidised LPG cylinders to poor families. To rustle up funds for these freebies while pressing ahead with urgent development works could prove challenging for the new government unless it finds ways to boost revenue from higher productivity in industrial and service sectors. In a way, it can be tough to govern than to oppose since all that the latter entails is chanting "caste survey, no Agniveer, jalebi factory" and other such inanities.

How the losers introspect and draw lessons from the verdict will reflect in their performance in the next round of elections. But the winners' conduct will immediately weigh on the quality of governance they will provide



Insight

BHAVDEEP KANG

The Congress leadership made the cardinal error of buying into its own manufactured narrative of revival. Post the Lok Sabha polls, the grand old party had managed to spin its improved seatshare into a sign that it had the BJP on the run. Now the boot is on the other foot, and its showing in the first round of Assembly polls is seen as an abject defeat, whereas the BJP achieved its highest-ever tally in Haryana and Jammu & Kashmir.

The optics of the Congress defeat in Haryana are far worse than its actual numbers, because it managed a higher tally and voteshare. But the triumphalism of containing the BJP in the general elections had led both Congress 'netas' and 'Karyakartas' to treat victory in the Assembly polls as a foregone conclusion. By launching premature celebrations — distributing sweets, bursting firecrackers, hiring horses and wagons for victory parades and raising slogans — the grand old party set itself up for humiliation.

The chest-thumping arrogance of party leaders is wholly to blame for the party's loss of face vis-a-vis its allies and voters across the country. In Haryana, the Congress secured six more seats than it did in 2019 and made a quantum leap in terms of voteshare, from 28% to 39% — just a hair's breadth less than the BJP. But these gains were obscured by the fact that it had projected a sweeping victory in the state as a done deal.

Compounding the bad optics is the Congress leadership's refusal to graciously accept the voters' verdict. The sour grapes attitude and falling back on the tired EVM-conspiracy theory just makes the party's detractors laugh harder.

Part of that arrogance was the sidelining of Kumari Selja: a woman, a Dalit and a credible candidate for chief minister. The rout of the Congress in the Ahirwal region of the state, which accounts for 28 of 90 seats, can be largely attributed to this factor. For all its prating about caste and social justice, the party leadership ran an entirely Jat-centric campaign. It also tactically ignored the fact

that its CM face Bhupinder Singh Hooda, arguably the tallest Jat leader in the state, was also the subject of investigation in numerous cases of land grab and in one case of questionable drug purchases — all related to his tenure as CM. In 2021, he had been charge-sheeted by the CBI in the Manesar land scam case. So much so for the party's anti-corruption plank.

As for Jammu & Kashmir, while the party's supporters continue to dub it as an 'INDIA alliance' or 'Congress-National Conference' victory, the fact remains that the party won just six of the 38 seats where it fielded candidates. This translates to a hit rate of 15 per cent, or less than one in five of every seat it contested. By contrast, the BJP won one of every two!

As per the seat-sharing arrangement between the INDIA allies, the NC was to secure the Kashmir region, while the Congress was to wrest Jammu from the BJP. The NC did its part, by winning 42 of the 51 seats it contested. But the Congress, which had been allocated 32 seats, most of them in Jammu, was able to win just one

seat in the region, proving that it is no match for the BJP. It only managed to win against a BJP nominee in 3 seats in all of J&K, even with the support of the NC.

Prima facie, it appears that it is the regional parties, and not the Congress, which can effectively contain the BJP. In most instances of a pre-electoral alliance, the grand old party has typically achieved a hit rate inferior to that of its allies. In the 2020 Assembly elections in Bihar, for example, it demanded 70 seats but won only 19, thereby impacting the Mahagathbandhan's total tally. In Uttar Pradesh in the 2024 general elections, it was allocated 17 seats, but won only 6, whereas the senior alliance partner, the Samajwadi Party, romped home in 37 of 62 seats. In Jharkhand, it won 2 of 7 seats, whereas the Jharkhand Mukti Morcha won 3 of 5.

From its electoral history, it's obvious that the Congress is now heavily dependent on allies. The question is, what's in it for the regional parties? Trinamool Congress leader Mamata Bannerjee saw no advantage in tying up with

the Congress in West Bengal for the general elections, and managed to give the BJP a solid drubbing all on her own.

Maharashtra, of course, is a notable exception. But with its loss of momentum, and apparent inability to tackle the BJP independently, will the Congress be able to negotiate a good deal in the forthcoming Assembly elections? Allies are bound to question whether the Congress vote is at all transferable. What accounts for the Shiv Sena-UBT's poor showing in the general elections, vis-a-vis the success of the Congress and NCP?

All the Congress planks — guaranteed MSP for farmers, scrapping of Agniveer, an end to unemployment and caste census — failed to clinch the election. The party must accept that anti-incumbency and tall promises alone will not unseat the BJP. For all its flaws and missteps, the ruling party has managed to keep voters engaged.

Bhavdeep Kang is a senior journalist with 35 years of experience in working with major newspapers and magazines. She is now an independent writer and author



Mind Matters

DR SHAILESH UMATE

Neela, a patient, was not her usual self. She was suffering from depression and I had noted that she was better with medication. But today she appeared overwhelmed, restless and anxious. I asked her what happened. Neela replied, "Doctor, life is so uncertain. What will happen? Who will do what, we don't know." Her anxiety has definitely increased and I needed to find out the reason behind it. It was the recent rape and murder of the Kolkata doctor that was playing in her mind.

Any life-threatening event, either man-made or natural, does have an impact on human psychology. Anyone who witnesses tragedy feels its impact in terms of acute stress disorder and post-traumatic stress disorder. But there are people who also witness such traumatic incidents by hearing the news or seeing it on TV. These people are very sensitive by nature. Another category is people already suffering from mental health ailments. They are very vulnerable during such events, as Neela was. She was anxious thinking whether such an episode could happen with her; what could she do? Such numerous anxieties appear in the minds of vulnerable people and it exacerbates the previous symptoms of mental illness. The nature of trauma may be exposure to ac-

tual or threatened death, serious injury or sexual violence. It may be exposure to such events through news channels or reading in newspapers about these happening with other individuals. Or the person with mental illness might be exposed to physical assault or sexual violence, domestic violence or sexual trafficking. This can have a major psychological impact on their vulnerable minds. Emotional neglect and humiliation may also have a similar impact on these people. Trauma and mental illness have the following relationship:

- 1. Mental illness may increase an individual's vulnerability to experiencing traumatic events.
- 2. Traumatic events may exacerbate mental illness.
- 3. Traumatic events may cause mental illness.

Let us explore how traumatic events cause mental illness. Any of the above-mentioned traumas, either witnessed in person or heard about, may cause acute reaction and chronic reaction, both of which can precipitate mental illness.

In acute stage there is shock and denial, numbness and feeling of detachment. After initial shock, the following responses occur:

* repeated memories of the event or flashbacks

* nightmares

* intense fear that the traumatic event will recur

* withdrawal and isolation from day-to-day activities



* continued avoidance of reminders of the event

* irritability, anxiety and nervousness, anger, depression

* denial

* difficulty concentrating

* altered sleeping or insomnia

* physical symptoms of stress, such as headaches and nausea

* worsening of an existing medical condition or psychological illness.

This is post-traumatic stress disorder. It leads to anxiety, depression and psychosis in the future.

In a similar way, these traumatic events exacerbate existing mental

illness. It's very important to reduce the impact of trauma. Following are the ways to restore the emotional impact of traumatic events:

* Notice if you feel a pull to avoid things in your life and try to stay engaged in routines like work and social life.

* Spend time with others to avoid becoming withdrawn, even if you do not feel up to it.

* Pursue hobbies or other interests.

* Communicate the experience with family or close friends or in a diary or online journal.

* Give yourself time and recognise

that you can't control everything. * Ask for support from people who care about you or attend a local or online support group for people who have had a similar experience.

* Try to eat a well-balanced diet, exercise, get adequate rest, and avoid alcohol and drugs.

* Maintain a daily routine with structured activities.

* Avoid major life decisions, such as changing careers or moving, soon after the event.

Person with mental illness are very vulnerable to trauma. These people are very sensitive, already worried and stressed. They tend to have lower self-esteem, cognitive and emotional immaturity, and deficits in communication. Hence they are neglected by society and families. It leads to loneliness and family conflict, unemployment and work stress causing financial difficulties. Ultimately all this leads to lack of confidence and extreme vulnerability to minor traumas.

Hence, it's better to avoid traumatic incidents in the news and on TV. Family members need to be extra supportive to patients, should not ignore their reaction and sensitivity and should not mock them. Patients should avoid watching such news and events, and should meet their therapist.

Dr Shailesh Umate is a consultant psychiatrist, sexologist and addiction specialist, whose mission is spreading awareness about mental health and well-being

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Not a good green signal

Images of some regions of Antarctica's icy landscape turning green rings an alarm bell and sends a grim message to humankind. Scientists and environmentalists say that this

"greening" of the Antarctic Peninsula highlights the urgent consequences of a warming period and the tenfold rise underscores the significant impact of climate change. A study between 1986 and 2021 has revealed that an increase in vegetation cover

across the Antarctic has soared from less than 1 sq km to nearly 12 sq km in 35 years which according to the global clock is a short period. The global community must chalk out urgent measures to check this.

M Pradyu

MIKA'S MATRIX



Evolve methods to save crops

This refers to 'Relief and rehabilitation' (Oct 8). The Maharashtra government compensates farmers for crops damaged by heavy rains, hailstorms, floods etc. Such crop damages occur almost every year and in many parts of the country. Compensating the farmers financially will not prevent loss of crops which reduces foodgrains output. Methods need to be implemented to save crops from such effects of nature. For example, flooding of crops can be tackled by implementing flood control measures and harvested crop can be saved from rains by covering with water proof covers. Use of fabric coverings in the form of protective tubes that will slowdown fury of rain drops on crops. Similar suitable methods can be evolved by the agricultural scientists to protect crops from untimely and heavy rains and hailstorms etc.

Dr O Prasada Rao



Hollow numbers

According to a Bihar government official, there were "160 illicit liquor deaths in the state" since April 2016, the year prohibition was imposed by the Nitish Kumar government. However, going by the number provided by the same officer, there were "156 confirmed hooch deaths and 266 suspected hooch deaths" in the same period in the state. People will, obviously, not fall for the "official figure" as Bihar has reported

deaths in plenty due to illicit and spurious liquor even after prohibition that set in eight years ago, because many liquor-related deaths have gone unreported. Only a few are highlighted and the rest are swept under the carpet. Especially, Saran, Gaya, Bhojpur, Muzaffarpur, Buxar and Gopalganj districts are known for liquor-related deaths but nothing precious has been done to reverse the trend in these places.

Dr Ganapathi Bhat

CLAIMS AND COUNTER-CLAIMS | Militants say they have pushed enemy back, IDF says four divisions on ground zero

Hezb targets Israeli troops on Lebanese border

Agencies

JERUSALEM/BEIRUT/CAIRO

Hezbollah militants targeted Israeli soldiers near the Lebanese border village of Labbounah with artillery shells and rockets on Wednesday, the group said, a day after Israel said it had killed two successors to its slain leader, Hassan Nasrallah.

The Iran-backed militants, which has been launching rockets against Israel for a year in parallel with the Gaza war and is now fighting it in ground clashes, said it had pushed the troops back.

The escalation in Lebanon, after a year of war between Israel and Hamas in Gaza, has raised fears of a wider Middle East conflict that could suck in Iran and Israel's superpower ally the United States.

The Israeli military said three of its soldiers were

severely injured on Tuesday and Wednesday during combat in southern Lebanon. Sirens sounded in northern Israel on Wednesday morning after Israel renewed bombing of Beirut's southern suburbs, a Hezbollah stronghold, overnight.

The conflict in Lebanon has escalated dramatically in recent weeks as Israel has carried out a string of assassinations of top Hezbollah leaders and launched ground operations into southern Lebanon that expanded further this week.

Two Israeli officials confirmed that Israel had also struck near the Iranian Embassy in Syria's capital. The Iranian-backed Hezbollah forces launched their own aerial attack toward Israel, firing what the Israeli military said were 180 "projectiles," most of which were intercepted. Hezbollah says it has clashed with Israeli troops on Lebanese soil, including with artillery fire and rockets, but has managed to push the troops back and prevent them from holding territory in Lebanon.



Smoke rises from the site of an Israeli air strike in the southern Lebanese village of Khammam, on Wednesday – AFP

ATTACK IN SYRIA

A report from Cairo quoting sources in Damascus, Syria's capital, said an Israeli airstrike targeted a residential building in the Mezzah suburb, killing seven civilians and injuring 11. Preliminary reports said the seven civilians included women and children, state media reported citing a military source, adding it also caused "grave" material damage on private properties in surrounding areas. As per the cited source, the airstrike was conducted through three missiles coming from the direction of the Golan heights, said Reuters. The target of the alleged Israeli airstrike in

Damascus on Thursday evening was a top Hezbollah official in the terror group's Unit 4400, the Saudi news outlet Al-Hadath reported. Unit 4400 is tasked with delivering weapons from Iran and its proxies to Hezbollah in Lebanon. The strike was carried out against an apartment building, a few hundred meters from the Iranian embassy. Multiple reports have said the targeted building is linked to Iran's Islamic Revolutionary Guard Corps. State media earlier reported that Syria's air defences had intercepted "hostile" targets in the vicinity of Damascus.

wp Briefs

NEPAL**Teen sherpa youngest to scale 14 peaks**

Nepal's teenage Sherpa climber, Nima Rinji Sherpa, 18, on Wednesday created a world record as the youngest person to summit all 14 peaks above 8,000 meters. Expedition organizer, Seven Summit Treks, took to Instagram to announce the feat by a teenage climber after he reached the summit of Mount Shishapangma. "Nima Rinji Sherpa, at the remarkable age of 18 years and 5 months, has made history by becoming the youngest person to summit all 14 of the world's highest peaks over 8000m. Accompanied by his climbing partners Pasang Nuru Sherpa, who also completed the 14x8000ers, Nima reached the summit of Mount Shishapangma (8,027m) early Wednesday morning," Seven Summit announced in a post on Instagram

DHAKA
Hasina's son, 18 others booked

A case has been filed against 19 people, including former prime minister Sheikh Hasina's son and her ICT advisor Sajeeb Wazed Joy, and former state minister for ICT Zunaid Ahmed Palak for allegedly leaking and selling citizens' National ID (NID) information (NID). Taleb Rahman, deputy commissioner (media) of Dhaka Metropolitan Police said one Enamul Haque filed complaint at Kafrel Police Station under the Cyber Security Act, alleging embezzlement of around Tk 20,000 crore through the sale of data. He accused Joy and others of abusing their power.

DR CONGO
Nearly 1 mn people displaced: UN

Around 940,000 people have been displaced this year in the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC). That has brought the total number of internally displaced people to more than 6.4 million, UN High Commissioner for Human Rights Volker Turk said in a briefing with reporters. With 23.4 million people being food insecure, the DRC is the country most affected by food insecurity in the world, he added. The illegal exploitation and illicit trade of natural resources have fueled conflicts in eastern DRC, he warned. "This is also pushing the population further into poverty. The DRC is one of the five poorest nations in the world, with around one in six people living in extreme poverty," he said.

BIDEN, BIBI TO DISCUSS PLANS TO STRIKE IRAN

**Agencies**

WASHINGTON/TEL AVIV/JERUSALEM

US president Joe Biden is set to speak with Benjamin Netanyahu about Israel's plans to strike Iran in response to a massive missile barrage launched at Israel by Tehran last week.

Biden is said to want to "shape the limitations" of Israel's retaliation to ensure targets hit across Iran are "significant" without being disproportionate, White House officials said.

Netanyahu has repeatedly vowed to respond to Iran's attack last Tuesday, which saw almost 200 ballistic missiles fired at Israel.

The move comes after both Netanyahu and his Defence Minister Yoav Gallant suggested that Hashem Safieddine, the man expected to replace former Hezbollah leader Hassan Nasrallah, was killed in an Israeli airstrike on Beirut.

"We took out thousands of terrorists, including Nasrallah himself and Nasrallah's replacement, and the replacement of the replacement," Netanyahu said.

The conflict in Lebanon has

escalated dramatically in recent weeks after Israel launched ground operations into southern Lebanon on 1 October that expanded further this week.

Israel's options range from symbolic strikes on military targets to crippling attacks on Iran's vital oil industry or its secretive and heavily fortified nuclear programme.

The intensity and timing of any retaliatory strike was expected to top the agenda of a planned meeting this week at the Pentagon between Israel's Defense Minister and his US counterpart. But late Tuesday, the Pentagon said the meeting was abruptly postponed.

In a sign of possible disagreement over the right approach, President Joe Biden has already urged Israel not to hit Iran's nuclear programme and discouraged it from hitting the oil industry.

The Associated Press spoke to two former Israeli prime ministers and other experts to explore Israel's options. There is broad consensus that Israel must strike back, but deep disagreement over the best way to do so.

In a first, Harris fumbles in interview

FPJ News Service

WASHINGTON

Democratic Party nominee Kamala Harris was, for the first time in the heated US presidential campaign, left fumbling and searching for an answer on Tuesday when asked if she would have done something differently than Biden during his presidency.

After a moment of silence and looking around for an answer, she said: "There is not a thing that comes to mind ... and I've been part of most of the decisions that have had impact."

But as a face-saver, she revisited the question toward the end of the interview saying that the one big difference would have been that she

would have appointed a Republican in her cabinet. She maintained that she would do so, if elected.

Harris made the comment during an interview on "The View".

The Vice-President's answer drew instant criticism from Republicans. "There you have it, folks," Trump campaign spokeswoman Karoline Leavitt said on X. "Kamala wouldn't change a thing that's happened over the four years. If you elect her, you can expect four more years of the same:

Inflation. Border crisis. Crime. War. Chaos. Division. Only President Trump will bring CHANGE!"

Harris's comment on his Truth Social network.

Trump's running mate, JD Vance, first disparaged her intelligence, saying he is "not sure that she can think of anything off the top of her head, whether about Joe Biden's policies or anything else".



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the sitting vice president," Vance said. "The big difference is that Donald Trump has a record to be proud of, and Kamala Harris has a record to be ashamed of."

Trump 'Visits' Gaza

Known for making unsubstantiated claims, former president Donald Trump claimed in a radio interview that he has been to Gaza even though no record of such a visit exists.

The comment, which Trump made in an interview came in response to a question about whether the occupied territory, which Israel has largely razed to the ground over the last year, could be developed to "be Monaco, if it was rebuilt the right way?"

Tampa residents flee 'Hurricane Milton'

FPJ News Service

WASHINGTON

With the destruction caused by Hurricane Helene still fresh in their minds, thousands have started fleeing the Tampa region in Florida as Hurricane Milton, which re-strengthened to a Category 5 hurricane on Tuesday afternoon, is taking aim at Florida's west coast. Landfall is expected late Wednesday night.

The weather forecast



can and could be one of the most destructive storms on record. Though it is forecast to weaken before it makes landfall, it will grow in size — meaning its disastrous impacts will be felt over a larger area — the weather office said.

Regardless of where exactly Milton barrels into,

cane and could be one of the most destructive storms on record. Though it is forecast to weaken before it makes landfall, it will grow in size — meaning its disastrous impacts will be felt over a larger area — the weather office said.

much of Florida's Gulf Coast is at significant risk of catastrophic hurricane-force winds and flooding rain, the forecasters said.

Cities and counties are implementing curfews for people who have opted to stay put, disregarding the warning. Milton is expected to grow into a large storm as it

approaches landfall, and much of the Florida Peninsula will experience the wrath of the storm.

The Tampa area is bracing for a potentially record-breaking storm surge up to 15 feet. This would shatter the record-breaking storm surge set just two weeks ago from Hurricane Helene.

Afghan arrested for poll day attack plot

Agencies

WASHINGTON

The US Department of Justice has arrested a man who allegedly planned an attack on Election Day in the name of the Islamic State group.

The suspect, Nasir Ahmad Tawhedi, 27, is a citizen of Afghanistan residing in Oklahoma City, Oklahoma, according to prosecutors.

"This defendant, motivated by ISIS, allegedly conspired to commit a violent attack, on Election Day, here on our homeland," said FBI Director Christopher Wray in a statement on Tuesday.

The FBI said he was attempting to stockpile firearms, and had taken steps to liquidate his family's assets and relocate members overseas. Tawhedi is charged with providing, attempting to provide, and conspiracy to provide support or resources to a foreign terrorist organization; and with trying to procure firearms and ammunition to use to commit a felony or act of terrorism.

The FBI said Tawhedi worked with an unnamed co-conspirator, who is a juvenile relative and also a citizen of Afghanistan. It accused him of consuming Islamic State propaganda via the internet, based on Google records obtained by law enforcement, and donating to a charity used as a front for IS. "We will continue to combat the ongoing threat that ISIS and its supporters pose to America's national security, and we will identify, investigate, and prosecute the individuals who seek to terrorize the American people," said Attorney General Merrick Garland.

Tawhedi sought AK-47 assault rifles to use in the attack, authorities claim. On 7 October, he and the co-conspirator met with individuals who actually worked undercover for the FBI to purchase the weapons and ammunition. After the purchase, Tawhedi and his co-conspirator were arrested.

N-Korea to block border with South

AP

SEOUL

North Korea said Wednesday that it will permanently block its border with South Korea and build frontline defence structures to cope with "confrontational hysteria" by South Korean and US forces, while not announcing an expected constitutional revision to formally designate South Korea as its principal enemy and

codify new national borders.

While the moves were likely a pressure tactic, it's unclear how they will affect ties with South Korea since cross-border travel and exchanges have been halted for years.

North Korea's military said it will "completely cut off roads and railways" linked to South Korea and "fortify the relevant areas of our side with strong defense structures", according to the North's official Korean

Emergency in Russia region declared

Agencies

MOSCOW

Authorities declared a state of emergency on Wednesday in a western region of Russia, where Ukraine said it had struck a weapons arsenal overnight.

The local branch of the Emergencies Ministry said an emergency had been declared in one district of the Bryansk region following "detonations

of explosive objects".

Ukraine's military said it had struck an arsenal storing ammunition for missiles and artillery weapons, including those delivered from North Korea, as well as guided aerial bombs. Russia and North Korea have denied weapons transfers between the two countries but vowed to boost military ties.

The Bryansk emergencies ministry said the situation was

Chemistry Nobel for trio's work on proteins

AP

STOCKHOLM

The Nobel Prize in chemistry was awarded Wednesday to David Baker, Demis Hassabis and John Jumper for their work with proteins, the building blocks of life.

Baker works at the University of Washington in Seattle, while Hassabis and Jumper both work at Google Deepmind in London.

Baker designed a new protein in 2003 and his research group has since produced

one imaginative protein creation after another, including proteins that can be used as pharmaceuticals, vaccines, nanomaterials and tiny sensors, the Nobel committee said.

Hassabis and Jumper created an artificial intelligence model that has been able to predict the structure of virtually all the 200 million proteins that researchers have identified, the committee added.

Heiner Linke, Chair of the Nobel Committee for

Chemistry, said scientists had long dreamt of predicting the three-dimensional structure of proteins. They made it possible to predict the complex structure of essentially any known protein in nature. Linke added, "He developed computational tools that now enable scientists to design spectacular new proteins with entirely novel shapes and functions, opening endless possibilities for the greatest benefit to humankind."

Last year, the chemistry award went to three scientists for their work on quantum

tum dots — tiny particles just a few nanometers in diameter that can release very bright colored light and whose applications in everyday life include electronics and medical imaging.

Six days of Nobel announcements opened Monday with Americans Victor Ambros and Gary Ruvkun winning the medicine prize. Two founding fathers of machine learning — John Hopfield and Geoffrey Hinton — won the physics prize.



David Baker



Demis Hassabis

John Jumper

the code with skillful use of artificial intelligence. They made it possible to predict the complex structure of essentially any known protein in nature. Linke said, "Another dream of sci-

sp Briefs

KATHMANDU

Nima becomes youngest to summit all 14 tallest peaks



Nepal's 18-year-old Nima Rinji Sherpa has set a record by becoming the youngest climber to scale all 14 tallest mountains (over 8,000 meters) with his summit of Mt Shishapangma in China. He reached the peak at 8,027 meters on October 9, dedicating his achievement to his #SherpaPower project, which aims to showcase Sherpas as pioneers rather than mere guides. Nima began climbing at 16 and achieved significant summits, including Mt Everest and Mt Lhotse in just 10 hours.

LIVANTAA

Sindhu exits Arctic Open



Indian badminton player PV Sindhu was eliminated from the Arctic Open 2024 after losing to Canada's Michelle Li in the first round, with scores of 21-16, 21-10. This match marked Sindhu's first competitive appearance since the Paris Olympics. Despite facing challenges during the bout, Sindhu's performance was followed by notable victories from other Indian players, including Aakarshi Kashyap and Malvika Bansod, who advanced to the next round.



victory on wheels

Union minister Kiren Rijiju with sportspersons Vaidehi Sarode and Shruti Sarode, who recently won bronze medal at the World Skate Games 2024 in Italy, in Pune PTI

SHANGHAI

Frances Tiafoe's umpire tirade

American tennis player Frances Tiafoe faced backlash after directing a series of expletives at umpire Jimmy Pinoagote following his loss in the Shanghai Masters. Tiafoe's frustrations stemmed from a time violation during a pivotal moment in the match. He could face fines for his outburst as the ATP investigates the incident.

NEW DELHI

Delhi Half Marathon: Valarie named ambassador



Two-time Olympic gold medallist Valarie Allman has been appointed as the international event ambassador for the Vedanta Delhi Half Marathon scheduled for October 20. Allman's achievements in athletics, including breaking the American record, will be highlighted during the event, which also features top competitors like Joshua Cheptegei.



ARSHDEEP CLIMBS TO NEW HEIGHTS

PTI

DUBAI

In a splendid showcase of talent, Indian seamer Arshdeep Singh has made his mark by entering the top 10 among bowlers, securing

the eighth position in the latest ICC T20I rankings released today. Riding high on a string of impressive performances, Arshdeep's leap comes after his stellar figures of 3 wickets for just 14 runs against Bangladesh in the recent opening T20I held in Gwalior.

This remarkable ascent has seen Arshdeep advance eight spots, now boasting a total of 642 rating points, and he proudly holds the distinction of being the only Indian bowler in the

top 10. The ICC highlighted this significant achievement, noting that Arshdeep's performance against Bangladesh played a crucial role in reaching this career-high ranking.

While England's Adil Rashid retains his stature

as the top-ranked bowler in T20I cricket, Arshdeep's rise reflects the increasing prowess of Indian talent on the global stage. Other notable movements include all-rounder Hardik Pandya, who made an impressive jump to 60th among

batters and climbed to third among all-rounders, bolstering India's position in the rankings.

With Arshdeep Singh's continued growth, cricket fans eagerly anticipate more heroic performances from this burgeoning star.

SPIN SENSATION: U-19 India complete series sweep with dominant performance

BOWLING BRILLIANCE

PTI

CHENNAI

In an impressive display of spin bowling, debutant off-spinner Anmoljeet Singh and leg-spinner Mohammed Enaan combined to take 16 out of the 20 Australian wickets, leading India U-19 to a comfortable victory by an innings and 120 runs in the second Youth Test held here on Wednesday. This win not only sealed a 2-0 series sweep but also showcased the immense talent within India's youth cricket ranks.

6

Pangalia has broken the record for most sixes in an innings (6) in YTESTS for IND19, going past Vinayak Mane's 4



India U-19 team players poses with the trophy after winning the second Test against Australia U-19, at the MA Chidambaram Stadium, in Chennai on Wednesday PTI

Starting the third day at an overnight score of 142 for 3, Australia's under-19 team crumbled under pressure, losing 17 wickets to be all out for 277 in their first innings, responding to India's formidable total of 492. Captain Oliver Peake was the standout performer for Australia, scoring a resilient 117 runs off 143 balls. He, along with wicket-keeper Alex Lee Young, who contributed 66 runs, shared a significant partnership of 166

runs for the fourth wicket. However, after Lee Young's dismissal, Australia rapidly lost their footing, with the last six wickets collapsing for just 59 runs.

Kerala's Enaan, who previously attended a clinic led by cricketing legend Saqlain Mushtaq, recorded impressive bowling figures of 4 wickets for 60 runs in 22.2 overs. Meanwhile, Ludhiana's Anmoljeet, who idolizes

Harbhajan Singh, shone brightly with 4 for 72 in 24 overs. Their collective efforts restricted Australia and paved the way for an imposing first innings lead.

The follow-on rule in four-day cricket permitted India to enforce it, as Australia was trailing by 115 runs after their first innings. Yet again, Anmoljeet proved to be the wrecking ball; upon return, he skittled Aus-

tralia out for a mere 95 runs in their second innings, achieving remarkable figures of 5 for 32 in just 13.3 overs. This second innings collapse saw eight Australian players fail to reach double digits, with four of them not managing to score at all.

Overall, Anmoljeet finished with match figures of 9 wickets for 104 runs, while Enaan's remarkable performance saw him close with 7 for

97. Their contributions were pivotal in securing a historic series win, reflecting India's depth in spin bowling talent and their strong dominance in youth cricket on the international stage.

As the dust settles on this remarkable achievement, Indian cricket fans can look forward to an exciting future with such promising young talents rising through the ranks.

In the men's quarterfinal, World No. 60 Manav Thakkar

set the tone, delivering a stunning upset by dismantling Kazakhstan's top-ranked player, World No. 41 Kirill Gerassimenko, in a dominant 3-0 (11-9, 11-7, 11-6) sweep.

Gerassimenco, normally a

formidable opponent,

struggled to contain Thakkar's aggressive style, handing India an early lead.

Kazakhstan's Alan Kurmangaliyev (No. 183) struck back swiftly,

defeating Harmeet Desai 3-0

(11-6, 11-5, 11-8) with a relentless attacking display, levelling the tie at 1-1. Desai, visibly out of rhythm, was overwhelmed by Alan's pace and aggression.

Veteran Sharath Kamal, India's table tennis icon, led 3-2-1.

stepped up in the third

match, easing past Aidos Kenzhigulov 3-0 (11-4, 11-7,

12-10) with characteristic poise and precision. Despite Kenzhigulov's brave efforts, Sharath's experience proved too much, restoring India's

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match, easing past Aidos Kenzhigulov 3-0 (11-4, 11-7,

12-10) with characteristic poise and precision. Despite Kenzhigulov's brave efforts, Sharath's experience proved too much, restoring India's

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ICC EYES NEW HORIZONS:
As cricket's fate hangs in balance, the world watches for a grand showdown in 2025

Will Pak host CT?

ANI
NEW DELHI

The International Cricket Council (ICC) is actively exploring several options for hosting the much-anticipated 2025 ICC Champions Trophy, originally scheduled to be held in Pakistan. Sources reveal that while Pakistan retains the official hosting rights, the ICC is considering multiple alternatives to ensure smooth proceedings for the tournament slated for February 2025.

Host in Pakistan or Hybrid Model

The ICC is examining three primary possibilities. The first is to go ahead with the tournament in Pakistan as planned, marking the country's return to hosting a major ICC event since the 1996 ODI World Cup, co-hosted with India and Sri Lanka.

The second option is a hybrid model, in which the matches involving India, as well as the crucial knockout games, would be played in the United Arab Emirates (UAE), specifically Dubai. This model aims to address the geopolitical sensitivities between India and Pakistan.

Lastly, the third option would see the entire tournament shifted outside Pakistan, with potential hosts being Dubai, Sri Lanka, or

South Africa. This scenario echoes past decisions, such as Pakistan losing its co-hosting rights for the 2011 ODI World Cup after the 2009 terror attack on the Sri Lankan cricket team.

History in the Making

Pakistan's hopes of hosting this global event are high, as they seek to showcase their ability to hold major international cricket tournaments. The country last hosted an ICC event nearly three decades ago, and the 2025 Champions Trophy offers a monumental opportunity to revive Pakistan's standing as a premier cricketing destination.

India-Pakistan Rivalry Looms

The India-Pakistan cricketing rivalry adds yet another layer of intrigue to the decision-making process. India has not toured Pakistan since the 2008 Asia Cup, but Pakistan has played in India in subsequent years, including the 2023 ICC ODI World Cup. Fans on both sides of the border are eagerly anticipating a high-stakes showdown, regardless of where it's held.

With the ICC weighing these options, the cricketing world waits in anticipation to see where the Champions Trophy's next chapter will unfold.

Agency

DELHI

A dominant India claimed the three-match T20I series against Bangladesh with an 86-run hammering of the visitors in the second game here on Wednesday.

Asked to bat first, India scored an imposing 221 for nine and then stopped their opponents at 135 for nine for the home team's biggest win against Bangladesh.

Veteran Mahmudullah, who is retiring after the final match of the series, waged a lone battle with a 39-ball 41.

Sanju Samson started the India innings with a couple of boundaries but failed to carry

on for long, while Abhishek Sharma and skipper Suryakumar Yadav too did not last long enough as the hosts slipped to 41 for three in the sixth over.

Nitish Reddy (76 off 34 balls) and Rinku Singh (53 off 29 balls) led India's recovery with a superb partnership of 108 runs for the fourth wicket.

Hardik Pandya then smashed a 19-ball 32 to consolidate India's innings.

Earlier, Reddy (74 off 34 balls) and Rinku (53 off 29) put up a crucial 108-run stand for the fourth wicket to pull India out of a precarious position.

Put into bat, the Indian top-order was outfoxed by the



Rinku Singh and Nitish Kumar Reddy (L) run between the wickets during the second Twenty20 against Bangladesh AFP

pace trio of Tanzim Hasan, Mustafizur Rehman and Tasmin Ahmed. They varied their pace to get the desired

Stats Alert

7

Seven Indian bowlers to take a wicket in this innings - the most ever for them in a T20I.

95.23

India's win % of 95.23 is the best ever for a team that played at least 12 T20Is in a calendar year.

86

Runs - the biggest margin of win by runs for India against Bangladesh in a T20I bettering the 50-run win in North Sound in the recent T20 World Cup.

356

This is the highest match aggregate (356) involving India & Bangladesh in T20Is

results.

Bangladesh started the inning with some spin in the form of Mehidy Hasan Miraz and Sanju Samson punished the off-spinner with back-to-back boundaries to plunder 15 runs from the first over.

Brief scores

India: 221/9 in 20 overs (Nitish Reddy 76, Rinku Singh 53, Hardik Pandya 32) b Bangladesh 135/9 in 20 overs (Varun Chakaravarthy 2/19, Nitish Reddy 2/23) by 86 runs

India outplay Lanka

Agency

DUBAI

India recorded the highest margin of victory in Women's T20 World Cups, triumphing over Sri Lanka by 82 runs in a match held on October 9, 2024. This emphatic win could not have come at a more crucial time as it validates India's performance amidst earlier setbacks in the tournament.

Dominant batting performance

The Indian batting lineup showcased remarkable synergy, particularly from the top three. Their strong performance set the tone for a substantial total, ultimately propelling India to a dominant position in the match. Captain Harmanpreet Kaur, though not on the field, witnessed her team execute the strategy flawlessly, led adeptly by Smriti Mandhana.

Early breakthroughs in bowling



Smriti Mandhana bats during the ICC Women's T20 World Cup 2024 match against Sri Lanka at Dubai International Stadium, United Arab Emirates on Wednesday AP/PTI

India's bowlers wasted no time asserting their dominance, with Shreyanka taking the lead in the second over to dismiss the dangerous Chamari Athapaththu. Radha Yadav, stepping in as a substitute, initiated the explosive start with a stunning catch to dismiss Vishmi during the opening over. As a result, Sri Lanka found themselves reeling at a dismal score of 6 for 3 early in the innings and struggled to recover from such an onslaught.

Sri Lanka's struggles and India's bowling brilliance

While Sri Lanka aimed to minimize their net run rate after the early loss of wickets, their innings eventually ended at a mere 90 runs, succumbing to India's relentless bowling attack. Kavisha and Anushka briefly ignited hope with a small partnership, yet India's bowlers—particularly Arundhati Reddy and Asha Sobhana—continued to dismantle the batting lineup,

each taking three wickets and ensuring every Indian bowler left with at least one wicket to their name.

0.560

With NRR of 0.560, they go past New Zealand to occupy the second position in Group A

BIGGEST VICTORY MARGINS FOR IND-W IN WOMEN'S T20 WC

- 82 runs vs SL-W, Dubai, 2024
- 79 runs vs BAN-W, Sylhet, 2014
- 72 runs vs BAN-W, Bengaluru, 2016
- 71 runs vs SL-W, Basseterre, 2010
- 52 runs vs IRE-W, Guyana, 2018

BRIEF SCORES

India: 172/3 in 20 overs (Smriti Mandhana 50, Shafali Verma 43, Harmanpreet Kaur 52 not out) b Sri Lanka: 90 all out in 19.5 overs (Asha Sobhana 3/19, Arundhati Reddy 3/19) by 82 runs

All-round SA get huge NRR boost with 80-run win over Scotland

IANS

DUBAI

South Africa showed their all-round prowess to get a huge net run rate boost after thrashing Scotland by 80 runs to jump to the top of Group B in the ICC Women's T20 World Cup 2024 at the Dubai International Stadium here on Wednesday.

Tazmin Brits (43), Player of the Match Marizanne Kapp (43) and captain Laura Wolvaardt (40) led the way with the bat as South Africa posted 166/5, the highest score of the competition so far. Left-arm spinner Nonkululeko Mlaba took three wickets as Scotland were dismissed for 86, their third straight defeat which now confirms their exit from the competition. Electing to bat first, Laura survived on two when she miscued a Kathryn Bryce full toss to Katherine Fraser, who put down an easy chance at mid-off. She and Tazmin shared a

BRIEF SCORES

South Africa 166/5 in 20 overs (Marizanne Kapp 43, Tazmin Brits 43; Katherine Fraser 1-15, Darcey Carter 1-17) beat Scotland 86 all out in 17.5 overs (Katherine Fraser 14, Ailsa Lister 12; Nonkululeko Mlaba 3-12, Nadine de Klerk 2/15) by 80 runs

dominating 64-run opening stand before Katherine made amends for her dropped catch by having Laura caught by Olivia Bell midway through the eighth over. Though Anneke Bosch fell for 11, Tazmin and Marizanne joined forces for a 30-run stand. After Tazmin fell for a 35-ball 43, Marizanne was sparkling in hitting six boundaries in her 24-ball 43 before falling in the 18th over. Sune Luus chipped in with an unbeaten 18 off 13 deliveries as South Africa crossed the 160-run mark.

In reply, the Proteas were right on the money as they reduced Scotland to 34/3 at the end of the Power-play.

Our Mission - Ease of Living

(Transparent, Efficient & Citizen Centric Services)

New System of E-Registration & E-Stamping

Sampada 2.0

By

Dr. Mohan Yadav

Chief Minister, Madhya Pradesh

10th October 2024 | 1:00 PM

Kushabhau Thakre International Convention Centre, Bhopal

First time in our country Faceless, Paperless Registration Facility

Multiple options for Registration

- Online registration facility of specific documents without office visit.
- Online registration facility of specific documents on 24x7 basis without interaction with registering officer (faceless registration).
- Book slots and visit sub-registrar office at a date and time of choice for registration.

Paperless Registration

- No need for submission of physical documents since information is directly obtained from Aadhaar, Land Records and Local Body Portals.
- Delivery of document through email, WhatsApp and digilocker immediately after registration.

Ease of Living for Citizens

- Sampada portal and mobile app assists citizens in preparing documents from model deeds, calculation of stamp duty, paying stamp duty/e-Stamp purchase and booking slots.
- No need of witness as identification of citizens through consent based Aadhaar facility.
- Collector guideline rates, stamp duty on instruments, search facility available in public domain.

ALPHA TRIANGLE

Beginning at the top move towards the bottom seven letter word by adding a letter at each step and rearranging. A correct and different word must be made at each step answering to the clue given.

1 1000

2 Machine gun ___ 47

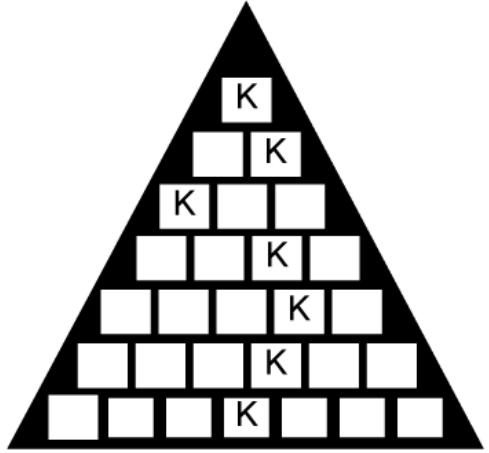
3 New Zealand parrot

4 Seize

5 Vampire slayer

6 Coffin

7 Noises



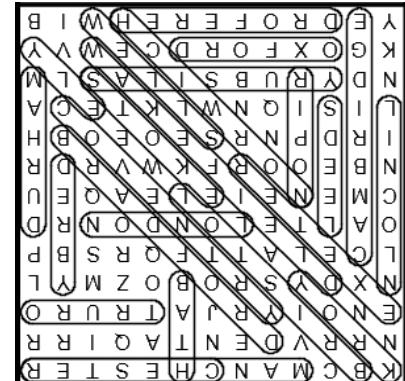
K, AK, Kea, Take, Stake, Casket, Rackets.

Solution to Alpha Triangle**Word Search****English Cities**

Can you find the words connected in one way or the other with the theme indicated by the title in today's Word Search?

The words may be read horizontally, vertically or diagonally either forwards or backwards, but always in straight lines. Use a ruler to cross them through as you find them.

| | | |
|-----------|------------|-----------|
| Bath | Ely | Oxford |
| Bradford | Exeter | Ripon |
| Bristol | Hereford | Salisbury |
| Cambridge | Leeds | Stoke |
| Chester | Lincoln | Truro |
| Coventry | London | Wakefield |
| Derby | Manchester | Wells |
| Durham | Norwich | York |

**Go Figure**

Place the four numbers in the first, third, fifth, and seventh boxes and whatever operators you care to use in the second, fourth, and sixth boxes in the correct order to get the answer. Use the numbers only once. Operations should be carried out sequentially. BODMAS rule does not apply.

The operators:**Easy**

$$\boxed{\quad \quad \quad \quad} = 10$$

2 2 3 3

Medium

$$\boxed{\quad \quad \quad \quad} = 4$$

3 7 7 7

Hard

$$\boxed{\quad \quad \quad \quad} = 54$$

2 4 6 8

Easy - $3 + 2 + 2 + 3 = 10$ Medium - $7 + 7 - 3 - 7 = 4$ Hard - $2 + 4 \times 8 + 6 = 54$ **Our Solutions:****Riddler**

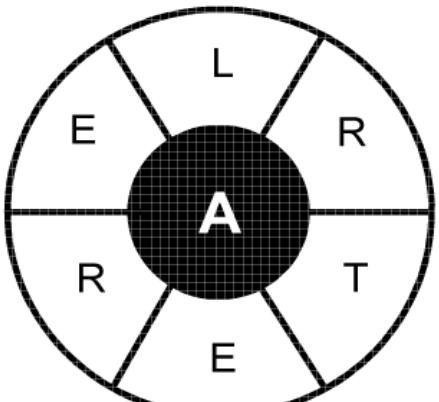
Which is the odd one out?

- (a) Hessian, (b) Marcasite (c) Taffeta
(d) Corduroy (e) Organdie

Answer: Marcasite

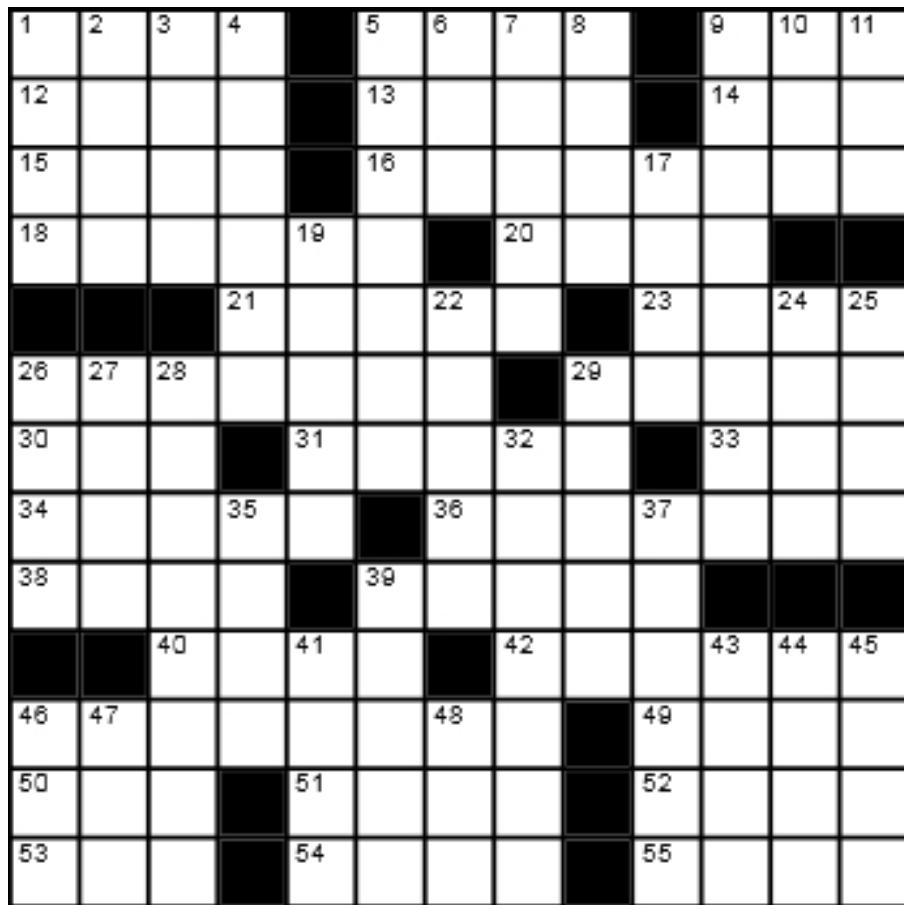
BULL'S EYE

How many words of four or more letters can you make from the letters shown? Each word can use a letter only once and must contain the central letter. There should be at least one 7-letter word. British English Dictionary is used as reference.

**Ratings:**

12 average; 14 good; 16 outstanding.

real, rear, relate, RELATER, tale, teal, tear,
alert, after, ear, later, relate, late, later, rare, rate,

SOLUTION :**Crossword #1287****Across**

1 Legal doings

5 Fog caused by condensation of dew and water droplets

9 2001, in old Rome

12 Hurts remark

13 Canadian province - "Lata" anagram?

14 Paar: 1954 Guru Dutt movie

15 Coloured portion of the eye

16 Powered by a current

18 Slobbers

20 North central US state

21 Tata : Former chairman of the Tata Group?

23 Other abroad

26 Felt hat with dented crown

29 Cricket trophy

30 A sleeveless garment worn

31 Performing

33 American Medical Association, acronym

34 Tender spots

36 An illicit relationship

38 Myra ___ : famous pianist?

39 Make a start

40 Locks

42 Has a good time?

46 Structural designer

49 Beehive state of USA?

50 Voice of America

51 Italian painter Guido - "rine" anagram?

52 Their capital for the Italians?

53 Some promos

54 Scandinavian books

55 "Yes" but not in a very polite or refined way?

by Arabs

Down

1 Ex-India all-rounder

2 Mystery writer John Dickson ___

3 The three of them

4 Soak up

5 Great musician

6 Sick

7 Beer glass

8 Mexican pancake

9 Shivaji and his descendants?

10 French month

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19 Extols or praises

22 Spry

24 San ___ : Italian city?

25 ___ example : e.g.

? (2,2)

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27 A wood-wind instrument

28 Methane variant (5-3)

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32 Abuja is its capital

35 Actor Morales

37 Bodily damage

39 Multiply

41 Concerning, in legal terms (2,2)

43 Siouxian Indian

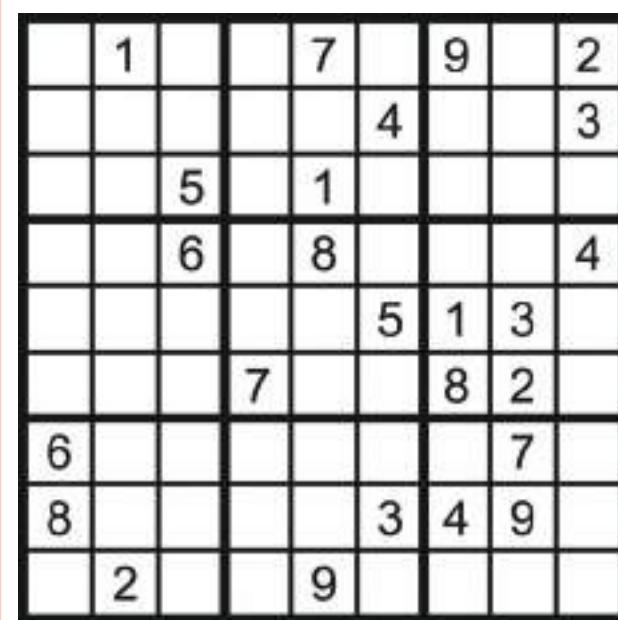
44 Hindu God of death

45 Common Gujarati surname

46 Little ___ from Uncle Tom's Cabin

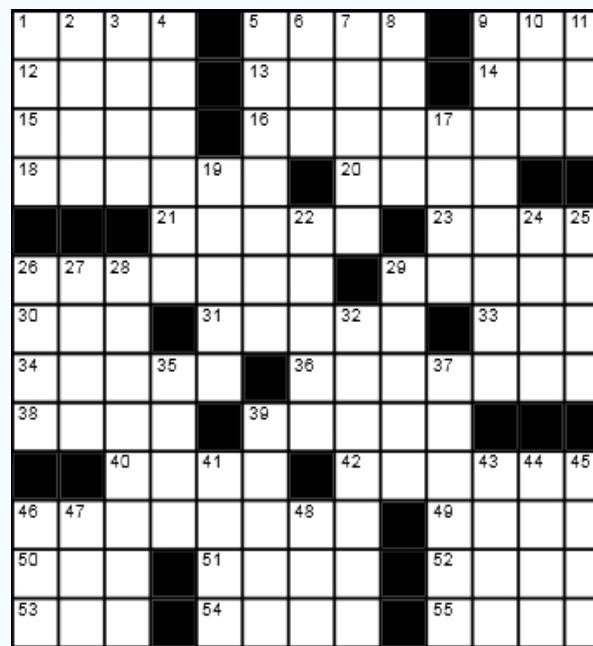
47 Incline head

48 Farthest limit

SUDOKU

ACROSS: 1. Bath, 13 Alta, 14 Aar, 15 Mis, 9 Mani, 21 Elektro, 18 Dior, 20 Louie, 21 Elan, 23 Dior, 19 Uta, 25 Vito, 26 Homberg, 27 Odette, 28 Masha, 29 Agi, 30 Agi, 31 Agi, 32 Iggy, 33 Esa, 37 injury, 38 Iggy, 39 Breit, 41 re, 42 Edie, 43 Edie, 44 Edie, 45 Edie, 46 Edie, 47 Ned, 48 Ned, 49 Ned, 50 Ned, 51 Ned, 52 Ned, 53 Ned, 54 Ned, 55 Ned, 56 Ned, 57 Ned, 58 Ned, 59 Ned, 60 Ned, 61 Ned, 62 Ned, 63 Ned, 64 Ned, 65 Ned, 66 Ned, 67 Ned, 68 Ned, 69 Ned, 70 Ned, 71 Ned, 72 Ned, 73 Ned, 74 Ned, 75 Ned, 76 Ned, 77 Ned, 78 Ned, 79 Ned, 80 Ned, 81 Ned, 82 Ned, 83 Ned, 84 Ned, 85 Ned, 86 Ned, 87 Ned, 88 Ned, 89 Ned, 90 Ned, 91 Ned, 92 Ned, 93 Ned, 94 Ned, 95 Ned, 96 Ned, 97 Ned, 98 Ned, 99 Ned, 100 Ned, 101 Ned, 102 Ned, 103 Ned, 104 Ned, 105 Ned, 106 Ned, 107 Ned, 108 Ned, 109 Ned, 110 Ned, 111 Ned, 112 Ned, 113 Ned, 114 Ned, 115 Ned, 116 Ned, 117 Ned, 118 Ned, 119 Ned, 120 Ned, 121 Ned, 122 Ned, 123 Ned, 124 Ned, 125 Ned, 126 Ned, 127 Ned, 128 Ned, 129 Ned, 130 Ned, 131 Ned, 132 Ned, 133 Ned, 134 Ned, 135 Ned, 136 Ned, 137 Ned, 138 Ned, 139 Ned, 140 Ned, 141 Ned, 142 Ned, 143 Ned, 144 Ned, 145 Ned, 146 Ned, 147 Ned, 148 Ned, 149 Ned, 150 Ned, 151 Ned, 152 Ned, 153 Ned, 154 Ned, 155 Ned, 156 Ned, 157 Ned, 158 Ned, 159 Ned, 160 Ned, 161 Ned, 162 Ned, 163 Ned, 164 Ned, 165 Ned, 166 Ned, 167 Ned, 168 Ned, 169 Ned, 170 Ned, 171 Ned, 172 Ned, 173 Ned, 174 Ned, 175 Ned, 176 Ned, 177 Ned, 178 Ned, 179 Ned, 180 Ned, 181 Ned, 182 Ned, 183 Ned, 184 Ned, 185 Ned, 186 Ned, 187 Ned, 188 Ned, 189 Ned, 190 Ned, 191 Ned, 192 Ned, 193 Ned, 194 Ned, 195 Ned, 196 Ned, 197 Ned, 198 Ned, 199 Ned, 200 Ned, 201 Ned, 202 Ned, 203 Ned, 204 Ned, 205 Ned, 206 Ned, 207 Ned, 208 Ned, 209 Ned, 210 Ned, 211 Ned, 212 Ned, 213 Ned, 214 Ned, 215 Ned, 216 Ned, 217 Ned, 218 Ned, 219 Ned, 220 Ned, 221 Ned, 222 Ned, 223 Ned, 224 Ned, 225 Ned, 226 Ned, 227 Ned, 228 Ned, 229 Ned, 230 Ned, 231 Ned, 232 Ned, 233 Ned, 234 Ned, 235 Ned, 236 Ned, 237 Ned, 238 Ned, 239 Ned, 240 Ned, 241 Ned, 242 Ned, 243 Ned, 244 Ned, 245 Ned, 246 Ned, 247 Ned, 248 Ned, 249 Ned, 250 Ned, 251 Ned, 252 Ned, 253 Ned, 254 Ned, 255 Ned, 256 Ned, 257 Ned, 258 Ned, 259 Ned, 260 Ned, 261 Ned, 262 Ned, 263 Ned, 264 Ned, 265 Ned, 266 Ned, 267 Ned, 268 Ned, 269 Ned, 270 Ned, 271 Ned, 272 Ned, 273 Ned, 274 Ned, 275 Ned, 276 Ned, 277 Ned, 278 Ned, 279 Ned, 280 Ned, 281 Ned, 282 Ned, 283 Ned, 284 Ned, 285 Ned, 286 Ned, 287 Ned, 288 Ned, 289 Ned, 290 Ned, 291 Ned, 292 Ned, 293 Ned, 294 Ned, 295 Ned, 296 Ned, 297 Ned, 298 Ned, 299 Ned, 300 Ned, 301 Ned, 302 Ned, 303 Ned, 304 Ned, 305 Ned, 306 Ned, 307 Ned, 308 Ned, 309 Ned, 310 Ned, 311 Ned, 312 Ned, 313 Ned, 314 Ned, 315 Ned, 316 Ned, 317 Ned, 318 Ned, 319 Ned, 320 Ned, 321 Ned, 322 Ned, 323 Ned, 324 Ned, 325 Ned, 326 Ned, 327 Ned, 328 Ned, 329 Ned, 330 Ned, 331 Ned, 332 Ned, 333 Ned, 334 Ned, 335 Ned, 336 Ned, 337 Ned, 338 Ned, 339 Ned, 340 Ned, 341 Ned, 342 Ned, 343 Ned, 344 Ned, 345 Ned, 346 Ned, 347 Ned, 348 Ned, 349 Ned, 350 Ned, 351 Ned, 352 Ned, 353 Ned, 354 Ned, 355 Ned, 356 Ned, 357 Ned, 358 Ned, 359 Ned, 360 Ned, 361 Ned, 362 Ned, 363 Ned, 364 Ned, 365 Ned, 366 Ned, 367 Ned, 368 Ned, 369 Ned, 370 Ned, 371 Ned, 372 Ned, 373 Ned, 374 Ned, 375 Ned, 376 Ned, 377 Ned, 378 Ned, 379 Ned, 380 Ned, 381 Ned, 382 Ned, 383 Ned, 384 Ned, 385 Ned, 386 Ned, 387 Ned, 388 Ned, 389 Ned, 390 Ned, 391 Ned, 392 Ned, 393 Ned, 394 Ned, 395 Ned, 396 Ned, 397 Ned, 398 Ned, 399 Ned, 400 Ned, 401 Ned, 402 Ned, 403 Ned, 404 Ned, 405 Ned, 406 Ned, 407 Ned, 408 Ned, 409 Ned, 410 Ned, 411 Ned, 412 Ned, 413 Ned, 414 Ned, 415 Ned, 416 Ned, 417 Ned, 418 Ned, 419 Ned, 420 Ned, 421 Ned, 422 Ned, 423 Ned, 424 Ned, 425 Ned, 426 Ned, 427 Ned, 428 Ned, 429 Ned, 430 Ned, 431 Ned, 432 Ned, 433 Ned, 434 Ned, 435 Ned, 436 Ned, 437 Ned, 438 Ned, 439 Ned, 440 Ned, 441 Ned, 442 Ned, 443 Ned, 444 Ned, 445 Ned, 446 Ned, 447 Ned, 448 Ned, 449 Ned, 450 Ned,

Crossword #1287



Across

- 1 Legal doings
- 5 Fog caused by condensation of dew and water droplets
- 9 2001, in old Rome
- 12 Hurtful remark
- 13 Canadian province - "Lata" anagram?
- 14 Paar: 1954 Guru Dutt movie
- 15 Coloured portion of the eye
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- 30 A sleeveless garment worn by Arabs
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- 40 Locks
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- 53 Some promos
- 54 Scandinavian books
- 55 "Yes" but not in a very polite or refined way?

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- 1 Ex-India all-rounder Ali
- 2 Mystery writer John Dickson
- 3 The three of them
- 4 Soak up
- 5 Great musician
- 6 Sick
- 7 Beer glass
- 8 Mexican pancake
- 9 Shivaji and his descendants?
- 10 French month
- 11 Internet Relay Chat, acronym?
- 12 Deuces
- 19 Extols or praises
- 22 Spry
- 24 San ___ : Italian city?
- 25 ___ example : e.g. ? (2,2)
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- 27 A wood-wind instrument
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- 37 Bodily damage
- 39 Multiply
- 41 Concerning, in legal terms (2,2)
- 43 Sioux Indian
- 44 Hindu God of death
- 45 Common Gujarati surname
- 46 Little ___ from Uncle Tom's Cabin
- 47 Incline head
- 48 Farthest limit

YOUR DAY

By Vinayak Vishwas Karandikar



ARIES: Today is the day to study, enjoy family life. Expect expenditure on entertainment, business and vehicle. People in event management, automobiles, entertainment and art will get success. Entertainment with family is indicated. Skin or kidney problems indicated.



TAURUS: Today is the day for travel, take care of health. Expect expenditure on medical bills and travel. People in fields like art and banking will be benefited. Dispute with younger sibling or spouse is indicated. Some people may have eye problems.



GEMINI: Today is the day to enjoy and travel. Expect expenditure for luxury items, vehicle and children. People in arts, entertainment and tourism will be benefited. Picnic or long journey with family is indicated. Some people may suffer from eye problems.



CANCER: A day to be with family, study and enjoy. Expect expenditure for house, vehicle and education. People in fields like automobiles, art and education will be benefited. You will enjoy decorating your house or enjoy party at home. Some people may suffer from diabetes.



LEO: Today is the day for travel, expenditure and enjoyment. Expect expenditure for business, travel and communication. People in fields like tourism, advertising and art will be benefited. Long journey or picnic is indicated. Some people may suffer from knee pain.



VIRGO: Today is the day to earn, travel and study. Expect expenditure for education, travel and entertainment. People in fields like entertainment, art and tourism will be benefited. Fun time with family is indicated.



LIBRA: Physical or mental stress and loss is indicated, so take care. Expect expenditure for business, health, premium. People from entertainment, art, pubs and lodging will be benefited. Married people may experience some disputes. Some people may suffer from kidney problems.



SCORPIO: Today is the day for expenditure, travel and business. Expect expenditure for luxury, beauty products and entertainment. People in fields like art and entertainment will be benefited. Long journey, picnic or tour with family is indicated. You may suffer from eye problem.



SAGITTARIUS: Today you may get your stuck money back. Expect expenditure for health, medical treatment, premiums. People from automobiles, entertainment and art will get success. Relationships may see some twists and turns. So avoid disputes. Stomach pain indicated today.



CAPRICORN: Today is the day for enjoyment and business. Expect expenditure for business, children and entertainment. People in arts, entertainment and sports will get success. Married and love life will be romantic. Some people may suffer from knee problems.



AQUARIUS: Today is the day to study and travel. Expect expenditure for education, interior decoration, vehicle and travel. People in fields like art, education and interior decoration will be benefited. Enjoyment and party is expected in the house. You may suffer from indigestion.



PISCES: Today loss is indicated, so act wisely. Expect expenditure for children, premiums and maintenance. People in fields like liquor shops, bars and pubs will be benefited today. Family dispute is indicated, so try to avoid it.

FPJ - SUDOKU - 178

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| 8 | | | 3 | 4 | 9 | | 7 | |

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

WHAT TO DO: Fill in the grid so that every row, every column and every 3x3 box contains the digits 1 to 9. Every puzzle has only one correct solution.

Solution

Across: 1 Acta, 5 Mist, 9 MVI, 12 Barh, 13 Alita, 14 Ar, 15 Iris, 16 Elec, 18 Doubts, 20 Iova, 21 Reta, 23 Dira, 26 Homology, 29 Ashes, 30 Aba, 31 Dining, 33 AMA, 34 Sores, 36 Liasion, 38 Hes, 39 Beghi, 40 Ha!, 42 Edya, 55 Yeah, 45 Shab, 46 Egmee, 49 Uath, 50 VOA, 51 Rehi, 52 Roma, 53 Ads, 54 Agie, 55 Yeah, 56 Esal, 57 Injury, 58 Bebed, 41 In re, 43 Otoe, 44 Yama, 45 Shab, 46 Eva, 47 Nod, 48 End.

Let's embark on the journey back home

— Rajyogi Brahma Kumar Nikunj Ji

One would agree with the famous opening lines of the 150-year-old opera song

"Home, Sweet Home" that say, "Mid pleasures and palaces though we may roam, Be it ever so humble, there's no place like home." Truly, a home is considered to be a place of sanctuary for all its members,

where children feel free to express themselves and are assured of peaceful and firm guidelines for their behaviour, growth, and development. It is for this comfort that each of us yearns to be back

home at the end of a long day, where we can unmask ourselves to parents who are ever-ready with an accepting heart, and where we can rest while others are on guard. A person deprived of such natural rights has to be on their own. Can we find anyone today who is completely free of worry and fear like a little child is at home? How many of us sleep at night as a child would when their parents are by their side? Not many. This is because most of us carry the baggage of things to be done and anxiety for the future all the time, as a result of which we

sometimes hesitate to trust even the closest of our companions.

Not many of us remember that we originally lived in the soul world, a place far away from this planet, and came down to play our part in this eternal drama of life. Even when everything material perishes, these truths remain intact. We

may be believers, but we have not been able to experience the protection that comes from being children of the Almighty. The flow of deep, unconditional love from our eternal Father needs to be revived so that our lives can bloom again from their barren state. We have missed our spiritual shelter for too long now. Just as we feel the need to anchor ourselves in our physical home at the end of each day, we must unwind and prepare ourselves for a journey back to our eternal home.

The writer is a spiritual educator and popular columnist for publications across India, Nepal and the UK, and has written more than 8,000 columns. He can be contacted at nikunjji@gmail.com / www.brahmakumaris.com



guiding
Light

SAIBABA & SWAMI SAMARTH

MESSAGE FOR THE DAY

Today is a day to organize, celebrate, declutter, and deal with authority.

Remember that being stubborn or holding onto your ego will only lead to losses. Let go and be flexible.

Matters related to the home will be of focus. We love how you worship us in your home.



Tip for the day: Just think about Sai Baba and Swami Samarth and say "Thank You" as many times as you can.

Lots of divine miracles your way, Sheetal Sapan Mhatre.

Best herbs to grow at home

Savitha B

Here are some of the most popular herbs to grow at home in India, widely used in home remedies since ancient times. Growing these small plants ensures they are safe, organic, and free of pesticides. It's a great way to save money while boosting your health. Freshly harvested herbs not only enhance your cooking but also help soothe many common health issues. You can easily grow a selection of home remedies in just a few pots placed in a sunny spot. These herbs offer both culinary and medicinal benefits, making them ideal for indoor gardening. Look for seedlings at your local garden store or try sprouting seeds at home. Curious about which herbs to grow? Today, we'll share a list of herbs that thrive indoors and possess healing properties.

Aloe vera: It cures sunburn, heals the digestive tract. Not really a culinary herb but the soft gel could be added to smoothies. Plant in pots placed in full sunshine. Water well. Break open the thick leaves and apply the gel that seeps out to your skin to soothe sunburn.

Basil: This is one of the traditional herbs to grow at home in India. It is used for headaches and pain relief. This sweet, fragrant annual herb is ideal for growing in pots. Pull off the white flowers as soon as they appear. This will prevent your herbs from tasting bitter. Rub crushed leaves on your temples to relieve headaches.

Lemon balm: Lemon balm is one of the good herbs to grow in pots. It is used for cold sores, insect bites and is a natural insect repellent. Grow this herb in pots, or it will colonize your garden. Use for healing and preventing cold sores. Also, rub leaves directly onto skin as a natural insect repellent.

Lavender: This sun-loving plant needs good drainage. Use a small pot filled with gravel and a light soil. It is best to grow this herb in summer. It has antiseptic and anti-inflammatory properties.

Crush a handful of the heads and add to a bowl of boiling water to use as a steam bath for your face. You can also dab the oil from the flowers on blemishes.

Parsley: It is an immune booster and is also chewed for fresh breath. Thrives in a pot in the sun as long as the soil is kept moist. Feed with organic fertilizer. Eat one tablespoon of chopped flat leaf or curly parsley daily. Chewing parsley neutralizes mouth odors.

Rosemary: It is used for mood lifting, cold soothing with cinnamon. This hardy perennial loves basking in sunshine. Tea made from a thumb-sized piece has been known to lift spirits in people suffering from seasonal affective disorder (SAD) and hangovers.

Thyme: It is an antioxidant and antiseptic. Plant in dry, light soil and in sunlight. A powerful antioxidant as well as an antiseptic. Drink a tea made from lemon thyme to treat colds before bed.

Warning: Don't use thyme when pregnant.



Amritha K

When you have oily skin, you have to think twice before investing in skincare products. Most moisturisers, sunscreen lotions available in the market are generally not oily skin-friendly, causing the skin to break out when applied. But that doesn't mean that people with oily skin are left high and dry by skincare companies, you just have to be a bit extra careful when buying them. From creams, lotions to oils, the products to manage oily skin. Today, we will look at the best and effective essential oils for oily skin.

An overactive oil gland results in oily skin, and over-cleansing may make it oilier. By removing all the natural oils from your skin, your skin will become overly moisturised. Therefore, do not wash your face more often than twice daily. Common causes of oily skin include:

- Stress
- Certain medications
- Excessive use of skincare products
- Using the incorrect skincare products
- Using excessive amounts of skincare tools
- Hormonal imbalance
- Excessive consumption of dairy products

1 Geranium oil

Geranium essential oil is extracted from the stems and leaves of the Pelargonium plant, Pelargonium odoratissimum. As an effective astringent, geranium oil also prevents the skin from sagging. As an oil that balances the production of sebum in the skin, it is beneficial for individuals with oily skin.



3 Grape seed oil

Grape seed oil is extracted from grape seeds. Vitamin E and essential fatty acids make grape seed oil a highly desirable oil for oily skin types. Antioxidants and anti-inflammatory compounds in this oil make it suitable for oily skin types. In addition to its astringent properties, this oil helps to tighten the skin and shrink the pores, which prevents clogging and acne development.

4 Fennel seed oil

If your skin isn't excessively oily but is on the oily side, fennel oil promises to balance out the natural oils produced by your skin without drying it out. Besides acting as a toner, it tightens pores and increases circulation below the skin (essential for healthy, regenerative skin).



7 Lavender oil

Lavandula angustifolia, or Lavandula officinalis, is the plant that produces lavender essential oil. The antiseptic properties of lavender make it useful in treating acne and controlling excess oil production.

If your skin is oily, your sebaceous glands are overactive, causing excessive oil production. Oily skin is often aggravated by factors such as humidity, heat, and hormones. The essential oils mentioned in this article may help control excess oil production.

Essential oils for oily skin



5 Neroli oil

The oil of neroli is obtained from the flowers of the citrus Aurantium. This oil is a potent toner and skin cleanser. The oil exhibits antiseptic properties that balance oil production and reduce pore size without drying out the skin. Consequently, neroli oil is a perfect solution for oily skin types.

6 Rosemary oil

The benefits of rosemary oil make it one of the most popular essential oils. The oil is obtained from the fresh flowering tops of a shrubby evergreen bush, Rosmarinus officinalis. The oil exhibits astringent properties and can also be used to treat sagging skin. A regular massage with rosemary oil helps to tone the skin and prevent acne due to its extensive antiseptic and astringent properties. By balancing the oil content of the skin, it also gives the skin a healthy glow.

Top cholesterol-busting foods for a better lifestyle

Asha Das

If you are looking at your food habit with a new perspective of busting cholesterol, we are here with some effective and healthy choices. There are many super healthy and heart-friendly foods out there that will take good care of your well-being. Unhealthy lifestyle has a great role to play in increasing the incidence of heart diseases in the Indian population. The main reason is the increased use of fast foods that contain excess oil and preservatives. The best idea to lead a healthy life is to prefer fruits and vegetables that are nature's gift for a healthy heart. It may be hard for you to break or change your food habits all of a sudden. It is better to go step by step by including at least one fruit and vegetable in your daily diet. In the later stage, move entirely to salads, healthy recipes and fruit or vegetable juices. Making this a habit will set up good eating habits in your kids as well. All of the best cholesterol-busting foods contain immense amounts of antioxidants that will fight dangerous free radicals. Stop thinking of low-fat food that comes without any flavours. Avoiding fat completely is not the solution for a healthy heart. Try foods that increase your HDL and decrease the LDL cholesterol level. Here, we will discuss some of the best cholesterol-busting foods that you should definitely include in your diet.



Oats

Making a change in your breakfast choice can do wonders on your heart's health. Oats are the best option to reduce your bad LDL cholesterol. The beta-glucan present in oatmeal will help to absorb LDL. This will be excreted from the body, thereby protecting the heart.

Salmon

There is happy news for all the fish lovers. Salmon is the best ever option to protect your heart with its rich content of omega-3 fatty acids. According to a study, replacing saturated fats with omega-3s will help in increasing the good HDL cholesterol.

Avocado

This is a rich source of heart-healthy MUFA that will help in increasing the HDL cholesterol while reducing LDL cholesterol. This also has beta-sitosterol that reduces cholesterol absorption in the body.

Walnuts

Selecting some snack foods remains a great challenge for people who opt for healthy foods. A study showed that whole walnuts will lower total cholesterol and LDL cholesterol levels. This makes it one of the best cholesterol-busting foods.

Neha Ghosh

Tooth decay and cavities are among the world's most common oral health problems and half the world's population suffer from it. Most often these tooth problems are seen in children, teenagers and older adults.

What causes cavities?

Dental cavities are damaged areas that eventually become holes inside the teeth caused by the bacteria Streptococcus mutans. It survives on the surface of the teeth creating acid out of sugar from foods. A build-up of foods and bacteria form plaque which causes destruction to the tooth enamel, leading to tooth erosion. This erosion causes holes in between the teeth, around teeth fillings which are chipped and close to the gums. Cavities also occur due to the lack of dental hygiene, foods that stick to your teeth, frequent snacking, dry mouth, etc.

Symptoms of cavities

The most common symptoms of tooth decay and cavities are toothache, tooth sensitivity, mild to sharp pain when eating or drinking, etc.

Complications of cavities

- Tooth abscess
- Constant tooth pain
- Difficulty in chewing solid food
- Risk of breaking or chipping a tooth
- Formation of pus around the infected tooth

Diagnosis of cavities

The dentist will first examine your mouth and teeth, ask about the ongoing tooth pain and sensitivity, and conduct an X-ray that will show the extent of cavities and tooth decay.

Treatment of cavities

● Tooth fillings are the primary treatment option when tooth decay has progressed. Fillings are done of various materials like porcelain, silver, gold or tooth-coloured composite resins.

● Fluoride treatments restore the tooth's enamel and prevent the progression of cavities. Fluoride treatments can be in liquid, foam, gel or varnish form that's brushed onto the teeth.

● Root canals are done when the erosion reaches the inner part of the tooth. This treatment option is for repairing a badly damaged infected tooth.

● Crown is a custom-fitted covering that replaces the tooth's entire natural crown. Crowns are made of resin, porcelain, gold or other materials.



Home remedies to get rid of cavities

Clove: Clove is used for treating any kind of dental issue, including cavities. It contains a chemical called eugenol which has anti-inflammatory, analgesic and antibacterial properties that help alleviate pain and prevent the cavity from spreading.

● Gently chew a clove to extract its oil. Then keep the clove under your tongue for several minutes.

Salt: Salt is excellent when it comes to treating cavities due to its antiseptic and antibacterial properties. It can reduce inflammation, ease the pain, and prevent the growth of bacteria in the mouth.

● Mix 1 teaspoon of salt in a glass of warm water. Swish this solution in your mouth for 1 minute. Do this 3 times a day until your symptoms subside.

Garlic: Garlic contains a natural compound called allicin which has antibacterial, antimicrobial and antibiotic properties. It is responsible for treating tooth decay and cavities. In addition, the antifungal and antibacterial properties of garlic help to remove microbes & deal with pain.

● Crush 3 to 4 garlic cloves and 1/4 teaspoon of rock salt. Apply it on the infected tooth. Leave it on for 10 minutes and rinse. Do this twice daily.

● Apply some turmeric powder on the affected teeth. Leave it on for a few minutes and wash off.

Licorice: Licorice root may help keep your teeth healthy and can prevent the growth of cavity-causing bacteria. The licorice root contains natural plant chemicals and a compound called trans-chalcone which blocks the action of a key enzyme Sortase A. This enzyme allows the bacteria to thrive in oral cavities.

● Use dried licorice root powder to brush your teeth daily.

Turmeric: Turmeric contains a natural chemical called curcumin which exhibits antibacterial, anti-inflammatory properties and antimicrobial properties. The curcumin inhibits the activity of the enzyme Sortase A which helps the bacteria Streptococcus mutans to thrive.

● Mix 2 teaspoons of tripala powder with 1 teaspoon of honey to form a paste. Apply it on the cavities for a few minutes and wash off.

Neem: Neem is another effective home remedy for treating dental caries. The antimicrobial properties of neem twigs are effective against microorganisms like Streptococcus mutans, Streptococcus mitis, Streptococcus sanguis, and Streptococcus salivarius.

● Chew the neem twigs for a few minutes and rinse. Do this twice daily.

Nutmeg: The antimicrobial properties present in nutmeg extract help prevent cavities and tooth decay caused by cariogenic bacteria Streptococcus mutans. Nutmeg is also effective against other oral microorganisms like Streptococcus sanguis, Streptococcus salivarius, Streptococcus sobrinus, etc.

● Apply nutmeg oil directly on your teeth using cotton swabs. Keep it on for a few minutes and rinse your mouth.

Triphala: Triphala is a herbal concoction consisting of amla, bibhitaki and haritaki. Since ancient times, it has been used in Ayurvedic medicine for treating a wide range of health problems ranging from dental caries to stomach ailments.

● Mix 2 teaspoons of triphala powder with 1 teaspoon of honey to form a paste. Apply it on the cavities for a few minutes and wash off.

Tips to prevent cavities

- Brush twice a day regularly with a fluoride toothpaste.
- Floss once a day.
- Consume fibre-rich fruits and vegetables and calcium-rich foods.
- Limit snacking between meals.
- Rinse your mouth after finishing your meal.
- Cut down on sugary and acidic foods like candies, sweets, refined carbohydrates, soda and juice.



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Strong women,

powerful stories & empowering narratives



Navratri Special

Celebrating the spirit of Navratri with women-centric stories that empower and inspire—including *Darlings*, *Shaadi Ke Baad* & more

CJ Desk

Navratri, the nine-day festival dedicated to Goddess Durga, celebrates the strength, courage, and grace of women. It's a time to reflect on the indomitable feminine energy that triumphs over challenges and adversity. To embrace the festive spirit, we bring you a collection of powerful women-centric stories, alongside trending films and shows that highlight female empowerment. Each of these narratives honors the perseverance and resilience of women, embodying the spirit of the goddess herself.



Shaadi Ke Baad
(Pocket FM)

Arohi's journey for justice and self-respect: After enduring a life-shattering incident, Arohi is further shaken when she learns that her father and stepmother have arranged her marriage to a wealthy, physically challenged man—without her consent. Though Arohi refuses, they impose a condition that forces her to reconsider. What was the condition? What happened to Arohi? And how will she rise above these struggles? *Shaadi Ke Baad* portrays Arohi's courage as she navigates her battles with dignity and determination.

Darlings

(Netflix)

Darlings is a dark comedy following the life of Badru, played by Alia Bhatt, who endures domestic abuse at the hands of her husband. Rather than succumb to her circumstances, Badru decides to take matters into her own hands, seeking revenge with a quirky twist. This film addresses serious issues with humor, creating an engaging yet impactful story of resilience, empowerment, and taking a stand.



Maharani Season 2

(SonyLIV)

This political drama focuses on Rani Bharti, a humble housewife who unexpectedly rises to power after her husband, Bihar's Chief Minister, steps down. With little political knowledge, Rani evolves into a formidable leader, standing up against a corrupt system. Her journey from homemaker to political force perfectly captures the spirit of empowerment, making *Maharani Season 2* an essential watch this Navratri.

Sukhee

(Netflix)

Sukhee, played by Shilpa Shetty, tells the story of a middle-aged homemaker on a journey of self-discovery. Caught between societal expectations and family duties, Sukhee decides to break free and rediscover her identity, passions, and joy. This heartfelt narrative reminds women that it's never too late to prioritize their own happiness, making *Sukhee* an inspiring tale for the modern Indian woman.



PETA says no to a donkey with Salman

CJ Desk

Bollywood superstar and *Bigg Boss 18* host Salman Khan has been requested by the People for the Ethical Treatment of Animals (PETA) to convince the makers of the controversial reality show to not use animals.

A letter issued by PETA India addressed to Salman with the subject "Urgent Request to Keep Animals Out of *Bigg Boss*", read that there are complaints over the "keeping of a donkey in the *Bigg Boss* house."

The letter read: "We are being inundated with complaints by members of the public who are deeply distressed over the keeping

of a donkey in the *Bigg Boss* house. Their concerns are valid and must not be ignored." As one of India's most influential stars and the host of *Bigg Boss*, you have the power to set a compassionate example. We respectfully ask that you use this influence to urge the show's producers to avoid using animals as props for entertainment."

The letter mentioned that

it would not only "prevent stress to the animals and upset to viewers" but also "set a powerful precedent".

"We also urge you to encourage Advocate Gunaratna Sadavarte, who has reportedly brought Max into the house, to surrender the donkey to PETA India to rehome in a sanctuary with other rescued donkeys. Such a move would surely win Advocate Sadavarte fans," he said.

The letter firmly mentioned that using an animal on the show set is no "laughing matter." As prey animals, donkeys are naturally nervous. They, and other animals, would find the lights, sounds and clamor that is standard on all show sets confusing and frightening. That a show set is no place for an animal is obvious to viewers who are saddened to see the donkey kept in a small, confined space standing in waste." Moreover, donkeys are social animals, whose wellbeing is best ensured by permitting them to be part of a herd. Just as we humans live in family groups, so do donkeys."

The letter further read: "It is reported Advocate Sadavarte keeps the donkey for research regarding milk. But donkeys produce milk strictly for their foals."

The statement concluded with: "Please take the steps suggested in this letter to show that *Bigg Boss* recognizes animals deserve our compassion and respect."

Fighter

Nimrit

Sagarika Choudhary

Actress Nimrit Kaur Ahluwalia rose to fame from the television soap *Choti Sarrdaari*, and later went on to participate in reality shows like *Bigg Boss 16* and *Khatron Ke Khiladi 14*. In a candid chat with *The Free Press Journal*, Nimrit spoke about her battle with depression, life after *Bigg Boss*, opting out of *Love Sex Aur Dhokha 2*, and more. Excerpts:

Q. How did life change for you after *Bigg Boss 16*?

A. It changed a lot and it had more to do with my personal growth. I finally understood more about myself, because when you're in an environment where you're cut off from everyone that you love and when you're not in the most comfortable situation, it gives you a lot of time to think. I also became a lot more spiritually-inclined and self-assured.

Q. You had spoken about your mental health on the show. How are you doing now?

A. When I participated in *Bigg Boss*, I had just gotten off my medications. I was on antidepressants for a year. I'm doing great now. But I still urge people that even if they're doing fine, it is very important to



speak to a therapist every now and then. Throwing your emotions at your family and friends is not right, because they too are dealing with their own mess.

Q. You also underwent a drastic physical transformation. Tell us about it

A. The transformation was challenging because before I got on my antidepressants, I was pretty much very fit. I liked what I

looked like in the mirror. And then it was a little hard for me to accept the new me, which was a result of being on antidepressants and going through the hormonal changes that I did. It was frustrating because irrespective of me eating clean or working out, I did not see a drop on the weight scale. I had put on 15 kilos in a span of six months. After I finished my medicines, the side effects slowly withered away and I finally started to see changes in my body. It was comforting and nice to look at, and I also got a lot of my confidence back.

Q. What happened to your Bollywood debut with *Love Sex Aur Dhokha 2*?

A. It was a very conscious decision to pull myself out of *Love Sex Aur Dhokha 2*. I believe if you're not in a position to be able to give your 100 per cent to a project, then it doesn't make sense for you to be a part of it. I am a first generation in the industry and I know people like me are not going to get too many opportunities that easily. So I need to be my best version when the time arises. Back then, I was straight out of a reality show and I needed a little detox. I felt that it was important for me to get back to normal life. I am now shooting for my Punjabi film debut, Shaunki Sardar, and you will hopefully get some more good news soon.

Q. A lot of former television celebs have called TV regressive. Do you feel the same?

A. Whatever the makers are making, at the end of the day, it is being consumed by viewers, right? There's a demand for it, and people are watching those shows. People are still associating with them, so I don't think the daily soaps are irrelevant. The regression is not in our industry, but in society. If society does not change then you won't even see that kind of content being made. If we really need change, then it's not just the content that is to be altered, but the society as a whole needs to take certain measures.



I believe if you're not in a position to be able to give your 100 per cent to a project, then it doesn't make sense for you to be a part of it

— Nimrit Kaur Ahluwalia



CAUGHT ON CAM

Several Bollywood celebrities put their best fashion foot forward as they attended an award show in Mumbai on Tuesday night

Pics: Varinder Chawla
Aditya Seal



First look of *Fabulous Lives of Bollywood Wives*

'She is really going to mess it up'

CJ Desk

Bollywood superstar Ranbir Kapoor, along with veteran actress and mother Neetu Kapoor, will make an appearance to cheer on Riddhima Kapoor Sahni, who is set to step into the limelight with her debut on *Fabulous Lives of Bollywood Wives*.

On Wednesday, the streaming giant dropped the trailer, which hinted at a face-off between the original wives and three new entrants: Shalini Passi, Kalyani Saha, and Riddhima. The caption read: "Mumbai meets Delhi in a fabulous face-off this season. *Fabulous Lives vs Bollywood Wives*, arriving on October 18, only on Netflix!"

In the trailer, Ranbir makes a brief appearance and humorously trolls his sister, saying: "She's really going to mess it up." Neelam Kothari, a cast member since the first season, described Riddhima as "chota packet bada dhamaka."

The trailer teases a season full of chaos, drama, fireworks, and an epic face-off between Mumbai's wives and Delhi's socialites. It also features appearances from Gauri Khan, Karan Johar, Orry, Khushi Kapoor, Shanaya Kapoor, Ananya Panday, and Ekta Kapoor.



Ranbir Kapoor with sister Riddhima Kapoor Sahni

A heartfelt moment in the trailer shows a conversation between Neetu and Riddhima, reflecting on life after Rishi Kapoor's death. Neetu is heard saying, "After papa, Riddhima, I used to shake." Riddhima responds, "We don't really show our emotions, but inside we are still hurting."

Fabulous Lives of Bollywood Wives first aired in 2020 and focuses on the personal and professional lives of Neelam Kothari, Maheep Kapoor, Bhavna Pandey, and Seema Kiran Sajdeh. The second season premiered in September 2022.

The new season will also feature appearances by the husbands, including Chunky Panday, Samir Soni, and Sanjay Kapoor. The show will stream on Netflix.



Sharvari expresses gratitude

Sharvari credits her films for giving courage and faith in her journey

IANS

Sharvari has credited her films *Munjya*, *Maharaj* and *Vedaa* for giving her courage in her acting journey. Sharvari took to Instagram, where she shared a slew of pictures of herself looking every inch gorgeous dressed in an all black cross halter back neck top paired with an embellished jacket and flared pants.

Keeping it classy, she chose minimum jewelry, smokey eyes and nude lips.

"I'm so grateful for the love I have received this year for my films

Munjya, *Maharaj* & *Vedaa*.. These films

and your love has given me courage and faith in my journey!" she wrote as the caption.

The actress is undergoing heavy training for her fight sequences for her upcoming film

Alpha starring Alia Bhatt. On October 4, the makers of the upcoming spy film *Alpha* starring Alia Bhatt and Sharvari have finally revealed the release date.

The movie will hit the screens on Christmas - December 25, 2025. The banner Yash Raj Films took to Instagram, where they made the announcement along with a poster carrying the release date.

The poster was captioned: "On Christmas 2025, #ALPHA will rise! Get ready for an action-packed holiday. 25th Dec, 2025 @aliaabbatt | @sharvari @shivrawail | #YRFSPYUniverse"

In the film, directed by Shiv Rawail, Alia and Sharvari both play super agents.

In September it was reported that the two actresses were preparing hard for their next physically challenging schedule of *Alpha* in Mumbai.



A still from *Bhool Bhulaiyaa 3*

Dual Manjulika mystery

CJ Desk

Makers of *Bhool Bhulaiyaa 3* released the trailer of the film in Jaipur

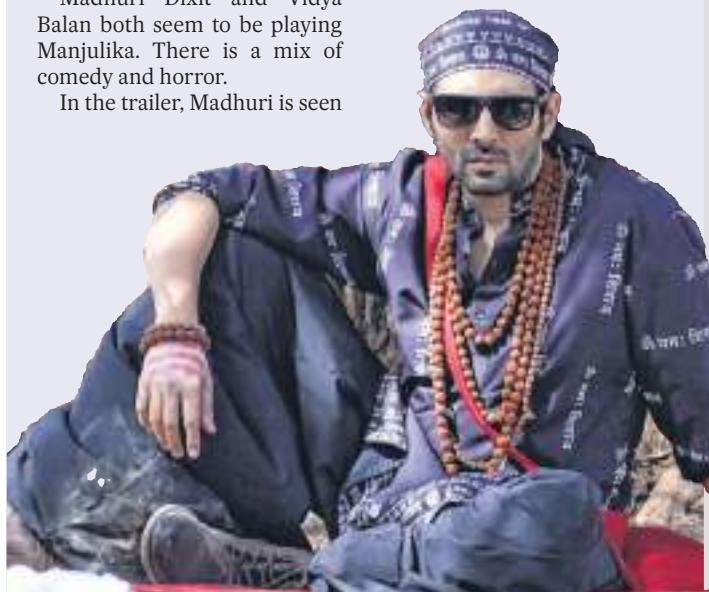
Kartik Aaryan starrer *Bhool Bhulaiyaa 3* is one of the most awaited movies of 2024. The makers finally released the trailer of the film on Wednesday, revealing the character of Madhuri Dixit.

The film, which stars Kartik Aaryan as Rooh Baba also marks the return of Vidya Balan as Manjulika from the first film in the franchise.

However, there is confusion that has been raised in the trailer as to who is real Manjulika. The trailer also features Triptii Dimri as Kartik Aaryan's love interest, while Sanjay Mishra and Rajpal Yadav reprise their comic roles.

Madhuri Dixit and Vidya Balan both seem to be playing Manjulika. There is a mix of comedy and horror.

In the trailer, Madhuri is seen



Kashika Kapoor dazzles



Actress and team promote their film *Aayushmati Geeta Matric Pass* at Navratri celebrations in Ahmedabad



CJ Desk

Kashika Kapoor, along with the team of *Aayushmati Geeta Matric Pass*, brought electrifying energy to Ahmedabad as they promoted their upcoming film during the grand Garba night.

The audience, over 10,000 strong, went wild as Kashika took the stage, captivated by her stunning *desi kudi* vibes in a traditional green *bandhani ghagra choli*.

Dressed in a green sleeveless blouse with a plunging neckline, adorned with

golden criss-cross straps, and paired with a matching *ghagra* and *dupatta*, Kashika looked flawless, flaunting her toned midriff and radiant beauty. Her minimal makeup and loose curls completed the look, making her the center of attention.

As soon as she stepped on stage, the crowd couldn't contain their excitement, tripping over themselves to catch a glimpse of her beauty. In her signature warm and welcoming style, Kashika graciously posed for pictures with everyone, making sure to interact with as many fans as possible, even while on stage.



ADAH'S empowering role

Actress to be the face of *Har Ghar Durga* campaign

CJ Desk

Adah Sharma is experiencing a career surge, as *The Kerala Story* has been declared the highest-grossing female-led film of all time in India. Following this success, the talented actress has been signed as the face of the *Har Ghar Durga* campaign, which aims to empower young girls through self-defense training.

Having recently appeared in *Sunflower Season 2*, Adah Sharma is set to star in *Reeta Sanyal*, which will be released on October 14 on Disney Plus Hotstar.

young age. Adah expressed her enthusiasm for the initiative, stating, "I'm happy to be the face of the *Har Ghar Durga* campaign. I believe Durga resides in all women. It's wonderful that girls are being taught self-defense at such a young age."

Adah Sharma attended an event in Mumbai to launch the campaign, where she interacted with girls from various schools.

During the event, she shared her tips for maintaining focus and participated in teaching basic self-defense techniques.

Having recently appeared in *Sunflower Season 2*, Adah Sharma is set to star in *Reeta Sanyal*, which will be released on October 14 on Disney Plus Hotstar.

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