



Nation

Yogi govt to host Kumbh Summit ahead of Maha Kumbh 2025

MONEY

No need for panic, enough oil available in world: Puri



FREE PRESS



Edit Anti-climax in Haryana, climax in J&K P.8

Cinema Shehzada Dhami breaks his silence P.14

EXIT POLLS FALTER | Defying exit polls, BJP romped home in Haryana, National Conference falls short of majority on its own in J&K

BJP 3.0 IN HARYANA, NC-CONG IN J&K

Cong snatches defeat from jaws of victory

Ajay Jha
CHANDIGARH

The idiom, "snatching defeat from the jaws of victory," is often used in sporting parlance when a favourite team ends up losing the match. India's principal opposition Congress party ended up doing precisely this in the northern state of Haryana, that too by scoring a self-goal.

Even ardent BJP supporters would not have bet on the party retaining power, let alone creating a new record by becoming the first to score a hat-trick of victories. The BJP top leadership themselves were apprehensive, having asked Chief Minister Manohar Lal Khattar to quit in March amidst reports of his growing unpopularity and the heavy baggage of anti-incumbency that he was supposed to carry.

The BJP's hunch that its stock was declining in Haryana proved correct in the 2024 Lok Sabha elections. The party, which had made a clean sweep by winning all 10 LS seats five years ago, had to share honours with Congress as the two arch-rivals won five seats each. However, the drastic change in just four months took everyone by surprise. The BJP has recorded its biggest-ever victory in Haryana even as the vanquished Congress party is refusing to accept defeat, alleging foul play. This is against the backdrop of the October 5 exit polls which had tipped Congress to return to power.

► Continued on | P6

HARYANA
90 SEATS

BJP
48

INC
37

INLD
2

IND
3



Haryana Chief Minister Nayab Saini greets supporters after winning the Assembly elections from Ladwa constituency, at Ladwa, in Kurukshetra district

BUT...EIGHT MINISTERS FALL SHORT

Eight ministers in the incumbent Nayab Singh Saini government and Assembly Speaker Gian

EC REJECTS CONG PLAINT

Former BJP MP Brij Bhushan Sharan Singh on Tuesday attacked Congress leader Vinesh Phogat over the latter's victory in the Haryana assembly elections, saying she won but the party lost. If she (Vinesh Phogat) used my name to win, it means I am a great man who helped her win. She won but Congress lost... 'Wo jahan jahan jaegi, satyanaash hi hoga (she will spread destruction wherever she goes)', Brij Bhushan Sharan Singh said.

BJP TO GO WITH SAINI

Nayab Singh Saini, sitting CM of Haryana, will get another term at the top post, leaders of the BJP have said. Though the BJP leadership had made it clear ahead of the election that Nayab Singh Saini will remain in the top post in case of a victory, there had been speculation about a change in view of his short stint and the caste angle. Saini is a member of the other backward classes, in a state that has mostly been led by Jats from the top post.

HIGHLIGHTS

HY: RAHUL CAMPAIGNED ON 8 SEATS, LOST ALL:

BJP's IT Cell head Amit Malviya pointed out that the Congress was trailing/losing in 8 out of 12 assembly constituencies in Haryana, which Rahul Gandhi touched during his Vijay Sankalp Yatra. He listed the seats where the Congress was trailing despite Rahul Gandhi's efforts.

J&K: BJP PIPS NC IN VOTE SHARE:

Though NC won more seats, BJP secured highest vote share in J&K. National Conference secured 23.43% votes, according to Election Commission, while the BJP got 25.64% votes. The vote share of Congress stood at 11.97%, and PDP (8.87%), BSP (0.96%), CPI(M) (0.59%), among others.

HY SHUNS ITS SON:

The AAP suffered a humiliating defeat in Haryana, the home state of AAP supremo Arvind Kejriwal, with party failing to win even a single seat. In fact, most of its candidates forfeited security deposit.

MEHBOOBA'S DAUGHTER LOSES:

Mehbooba Mufti's daughter Iltija Mufti lost to National Conference's Bashir Ahmad Shah from the Sirugwara-Bijbehara seat. The high-profile constituency in south Kashmir had been a stronghold of Mehbooba Mufti's Peoples Democratic Party since 1999.

Cong piggy rides on NC

J&K
90 SEATS

CONG+INC
48

BJP
29

OTH
10

PDP
3

Rashme Sehgal
SRINAGAR



Jammu and Kashmir National Conference supporters celebrate JKNC-Congress alliance's win in the Jammu and Kashmir Assembly elections, in Srinagar

Lone BJP woman candidate sweeps Kishtwar

Kishtwar Assembly seat on Tuesday, vowed to fight for the security of the region. Parihar defeated veteran National Conference (NC) leader and former minister Sajad Ahmed Kitchloo.

PM MODI COMPLIMENTS NC FOR ITS VICTORY

Rising above party politics, Prime Minister, Narendra Modi on Tuesday took the lead in complimenting the NC for its victory in the J&K Legislative Assembly polls. PM Modi said on his widely followed X-post

page immediately after all the results for the 90 Assembly seats were declared by the ECI, "I would like to compliment JKNC for their commendable performance in the Jammu and Kashmir Assembly elections."

Congress must reflect on its defeats

Nitendra Sharma
BHOJPAL

The Congress party's recent defeats in Haryana and its poor performance in Jammu & Kashmir, winning only six of 39 contested seats, are significant setbacks. As attention shifts to upcoming elections in Maharashtra and Jharkhand, Congress finds itself in a precarious position in both states.

In Jharkhand, the primary contest lies between the BJP and the Jharkhand Mukti Morcha, while in Maharashtra, Congress is part of the Mahagathbandhan alliance. Despite

ANALYSIS

the disheartening results in the Lok Sabha elections, Congress leaders attempted to frame their losses as victories, a strategy that backfired.

Congress must recognize its

inability to compete with the BJP on caste dynamics and the latter's successful cultivation of a women's vote bank. Internal factionalism has further undermined Congress, as seen in the treatment of leaders like Digvijaya Singh and Kamal Nath in Madhya Pradesh, which mirrors the situation with Bhopendra Hooda in Haryana. The repercussions of these defeats will likely resonate in Madhya Pradesh as well.

► Continued on | P6

RAPE ACCUSED SHOOTS SELF

On Monday, he had opened fire at victim, her uncle and grandfather, killing the latter



A rape accused man who shot at victim and her two family members killing one of them under civil lines police station in Chhatarpur on Monday shot himself dead in presence of cops on Tuesday.

In the morning, accused Bhola Ahirwar made a post on his Facebook, tipping-off SP about his location and also

The Monday firing had led to death of victim's grandfather. The victim and her

uncle were seriously injured and referred to Gwalior in critical condition.

► Continued on | P6

50 sr doctors of RG Kar hospital resign

Aritra Singha & Agencies
KOLKATA

Nearly 50 senior doctors of RG Kar hospital on Tuesday tendered their resignations in a mark of solidarity with medics who have been on fast-unto-death since October 5 demanding justice for the institution's rape and murder victim. Shortly after the development, a section of senior doctors from other medical colleges in West Bengal said they too could follow suit.

The development came in the wake of the indefinite hunger strike being conducted by seven junior doctors in the heart of the city and a symbolic 12-hour fast being held in solidarity by their peers across medical colleges of West Bengal.

WHAT GOVT SAID
The state government, on its part, has maintained that it would roll out safety and security measures it committed before the agitating doctors, including a real-time centralised bed management system, CC camera installation and panic buttons, by the first week of Nov.



Junior doctors and others during a mega rally in Kolkata

with our junior colleagues. We will discuss this threadbare within our organisation before the end of day today," said Dr Manas Gupta, a representative of the Association of Health Services Doctors, one of the organizations of doctors in state-run medical facilities.

NEXT MOVE?
The state government, on its part, has maintained that it would roll out safety and security measures it committed before the agitating doctors, including a real-time centralised bed management system, CC camera installation and panic buttons, by the first week of Nov.

► Continued on | P6

Upadhyay on behalf of Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath at the airport, the visiting president was accorded a warm welcome at the Taj Mahal.

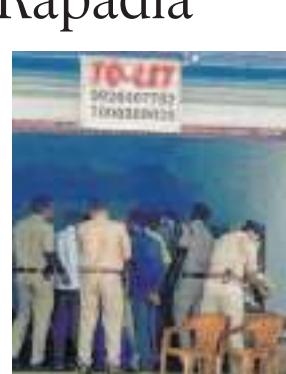
The president and the first lady, who were presented a replica of Taj Mahal by Upadhyay, also posed for photographs with the grand monument on the backdrop.

After being welcomed by UP Minister Yogendra

₹1,814cr Drug Haul: Raw material worth Rs 30L seized from Rapadia

Material could be used to prepare drugs worth Rs 300cr

Our Staff Reporter
BHOPAL



JUDICIAL TEAM CERTIFIES FACTORY OPS

Five-member judicial team examined and certified seizures made by Narcotics Control Bureau (NCB) from Bagroda industrial complex. The Katara Hills police seized 1600 litres Acetone, 1,000 litres toluene, 100 litres HCL, 200kg Sodium carbonate powder, 240 litres solvent, 40kg sodium corbo, 42 bottles Bromine, 20 litres liquid, 50kg Malathion Hydrochloride, 50kg light soda ash and 10kg crystal powder.

► Continued on | P6

The Katara Hills police seized raw material worth Rs 30 lakh from a shop in Rapadia village on Tuesday. The raw material could be used to produce MD drug worth Rs 300 crore.

The PM is an honourable man... he promised the people of J&K statehood and I hope he lives up to that

■ Omar Abdullah
NC vice president

Through their votes, the people have not only strengthened the foundations of democracy but have also illuminated the path of progress for the region

■ Rajiv Kumar
Chief Election Commissioner

The PM is an honourable man... he promised the people of J&K statehood and I hope he lives up to that

■ Omar Abdullah
NC vice president

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WHENEVER, WHEREVER**

JUST CLICK AND START SOLVING!

WINTER SCHEDULE | One more flight for national capital

Air India Express to start flight for Delhi from 27th

Our Staff Reporter

INDORE

Air India Express, an airline which operates direct flight between the city and Sharjah, is going to expand its domestic flight service from the city. From 27th October, the airline is going to roll-out a new flight between the city and Delhi. The airline has also started the booking of the tickets for this flight.

Earlier, Air India Express used to operate a flight between Indore and Delhi, but

The airline started booking with the announcement of the new flight in winter schedule



Representative pic

later it was suspended. Now the airline is going to operate flight on this route again. Official sources informed here on Tuesday that the flight will start from 27th October.

As per the schedule, Indore to Delhi flight IX-2511 will de-

part from Devi Ahilyabai Holkar Airport at 7:45 am and land at Delhi airport at 9:15 am. In return, the flight from Delhi to Indore IX-2513 will depart from there at 1:55 pm and reach the city at 3:20 pm.

With the launch of this new flight, passengers travelling between Indore and Delhi will get the option of an additional flight. The airline has kept its starting fare at Rs 3,500.

orities look into the matter and instruct concerned police authorities to undertake due investigation, guarantee and protect the legitimate rights and interests of Gourav and lodge an FIR in his case.

Gourav informed that he is trying to lodge an FIR against industrialist Sanjay Jaiswani for the past few days, who has cheated him in the business. He said that on Tuesday he also went to the Jansunvai held at Collector office to meet Collector Asheesh Singh, but the meeting could not take place as the Collector was not available at his office.

It appears they had come down from the apartment after hearing the sound of Bodani's car horn. The motorcycle they abandoned in the drain has been stolen from Dwarakapuri recently.

After the incident, Bodani called other people and they conducted a search along the Bodani also informed the police who reached the spot and seized the recovered items.

Maxim A. Aleshin, Senior Consul in the Consulate General of the Russian Federation

Maxim has urged that auth-

Russian consulate urges DGP & CP to file FIR against industrialist

Our Staff Reporter

INDORE

The consulate general of the Russian Federation in Mumbai has urged director general of police (DGP) Sudhir Saxena, commissioner of police (CP) of Indore Rakesh Gupta and deputy commissioner of police (DCP) Abhinav Vishwakarma to lodge the FIR of its citizen Gourav Ahlawat, who is currently staying in the city, against industrialist Sanjay Jaiswani for cheating.

Maxim A. Aleshin, Senior Consul in the Consulate General of the Russian Federation

Maxim has urged that auth-

"Cheating" of Russian citizen by local bizman

in Mumbai, in an e-mail sent to DGP Saxena, CP Gupta and DCP Vishwakarma, has mentioned that Gourav Ahlawat, Russian citizen who is a resident of Moscow, approached the Consulate General of the Russian Federation in Mumbai. He is concerned with the behaviour of the local police (Lasudia Police Station) towards the Russian citizen.

Gourav informed that he is trying to lodge an FIR against industrialist Sanjay Jaiswani for the past few days, who has cheated him in the business. He said that on Tuesday he also went to the Jansunvai held at Collector office to meet Collector Asheesh Singh, but the meeting could not take place as the Collector was not available at his office.

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MP ATS seizes pistols, gun barrels; one held

Our Staff Reporter

BHOPAL/INDORE

The Madhya Pradesh ATS seized two pistols, 200 gun barrels, and other parts used in the illegal manufacture of firearms from Indore and arrested a 33-year-old man, an official said on Tuesday.

The pistols and gun barrels were brought from Surat. The arrested accused, identified as Nepal Singh, is

associated with the inter-state group of arms smugglers," police stated.

Anti-Terrorist Squad officials are trying to trace the people associated with the illegal gun trade who work as couriers and provide logistics support.

An FIR was registered in Bhopal under the Arms Act, the official said.

The investigation disclosed that Sikligars (who are involved in arms mak-

ing) residing in Dhar, Barwani, Khargone and Burhanpur districts of Madhya Pradesh were procuring high-quality gun barrels, other parts, and raw materials used in illegal arms manufacturing, and selling them, according to police.

In March, the ATS raided an illegal arms factory in Khargone and arrested four accused associated with the inter-state network and seized more than 800 high-

quality barrels and other material.

Since January this year, 22 illegal arms factories have been destroyed in these districts, and a large number of illegal arms manufacturing materials and equipment, including barrels and grinders, have been seized.

Additionally, 498 illegal pistols, 98 cartridges have been recovered, and 72 accused have been arrested.

Group of youths carrying sticks damages two-wheelers

Our Staff Reporter

INDORE

A group of youths carrying sticks in hand damaged vehicles in the MIG area, police said on Tuesday. They also damaged the gate of a house in the area. The incident was captured in the CCTV installed in the area. The prime accused was detained by the police and a search is on for others.

ACP (Pardesipura) Shrivendu Joshi said that the incident took place in Somnath Ki Juni Chawl on Tuesday. Rohan Wankhede, a resident of Pardesipura area was identified as the accused. He was later detained and informed the police that his wife is staying with her parents for a few months. He had spent money on the treatment of the child



so he had gone to his in-laws place to demand money.

He and his friends were carrying sticks in their hands and damaged some two-wheeler vehicles parked outside the houses to show their influence among people. The entire incident was captured on CCTV. ACP Joshi said that the accused was identified a few hours after the incident and he was detained. He is being questioned for his accomplices. The accused is a criminal of Pardesipura area.

Indore's biogas model draws applause in Delhi

Our Staff Reporter

INDORE

The cleanest city of the country, Indore's biogas model has garnered significant attention and praise at a high-profile workshop organized in Delhi by the World Bank Group, the Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs (MoHUA), the Ministry of Economic Affairs (MoEA), and the Asian Development Bank (ADB).

The workshop, aimed at fostering knowledge exchange among cities across India focused on solid waste management, urban development, water conservation, and green infrastructure.

Indore municipal commissioner Shivam Verma and additional commissioner Abhilash Mishra represented



Indore at the event. Verma shared the success story of Indore's innovative biogas model, which has become a shining example of sustainable waste management in India. The model leverages cutting-edge technology and a public-private partnership (PPP) approach to convert

organic waste into biogas.

During the workshop, Verma outlined the key features of Indore's biogas model, highlighting its efficient waste collection system. "Organic waste is collected from every household, separated, and sent to biogas plants, ensuring maxi-

mum resource utilization," he explained. The biogas produced is used as fuel for transportation and energy generation, while the byproduct, organic manure, is sold commercially, generating additional revenue for the city.

The initiative's success has been largely driven by active community participation and awareness campaigns, Verma added. He encouraged other cities to adopt similar sustainable projects, noting the dual benefits of environmental impact and financial returns.

Indore's biogas model, with its blend of innovation, community involvement, and economic viability, stood out as a success story, encouraging other cities to follow suit in their efforts toward sustainable urban growth.

City Digest



SARAF

Renovated Jagshobha Pyaua inaugurated

Indore Chandi-Soni, Jawahar Tolkanta Parmarthik Trust, which has been providing pure cold drinking water in Sarafa market of the city for the last 50 years, has now further increased its facility. Jagshobha Pyaua of the market has been renovated with a machine equipped with RO and inaugurated by the trustees. On this occasion, members of the trust along with a large number of Sarafa traders were present on behalf of the traders association.



'MAIN HOON ABHIMANYU' CAMPAIGN

Community involvement essential for combating crime'

Aiming to prevent crime against children, city police have been running Main Hoon Abhimanyu campaign and reaching out to the people through social media groups where victims can report incidents anonymously. Addressing a session organised by State Press Club on Tuesday, additional DCP (Women Safety) Priyanka Dube emphasized the need for community involvement in combating crime. "Police have initiated WhatsApp groups at the district level to monitor crimes against women and children, which will eventually extend to schools," she said. Additional DCP (headquarters) Seema Alava, and joint director Women and Child Development Department Dr Sandhya Vyas highlighted the importance of educating youth about morality and the dangers of cybercrime. The experts advocated for shifting societal perceptions, emphasising that both boys and girls require guidance and highlighted that the campaign aims to empower the public, focusing on community awareness and prevention strategies. A series of posters promoting the campaign was also launched during the session.

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Ayush Saxena, an alumnus of Educational Multimedia Research Centre, an entity of Devi Ahilya Vishwavidyalaya (DAVV), has been awarded International Indian Film Academy (IIFA) Award for Best Adapted Story and Screenplay for the critically acclaimed film, I2th Fail.

I2th Fail, a collaborative effort between Vidhu Vinod Chopra, Vikas Divya Kirti, Jaskunwar Kohli, and Saxena, has garnered significant recognition at the IIFA Awards 2024. In addition to the Best Adapted Story and Screenplay award, the film also clinched the Best Director and Best Screenplay accolades.

The IIFA Awards 2024, held in Abu Dhabi on Sep-



tember 28, celebrated the brilliance of Indian cinema on a global stage. Saxena's contribution to I2th Fail has been instrumental in its success, showcasing his exceptional talent and dedication to the craft of storytelling.

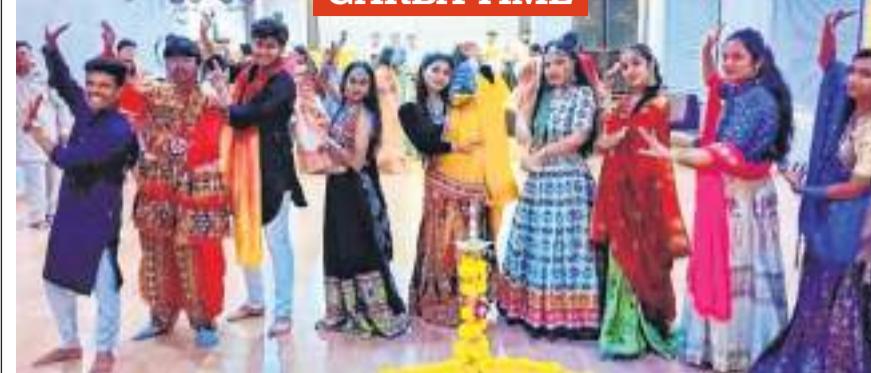
Saxena currently serves as an associate director and associate writer for Vidhu Vinod Chopra Films. His involvement in I2th Fail is a testament to his creative prowess and his ability to contribute meaningfully to the film industry.

"Ayush is a talented filmmaker and writer who honed his skills at the EMRC. His passion for storytelling and his commitment to excellence have led him to achieve remarkable success in the film industry," EMRC director Prof Chandan Gupta.

If you are organising Garba in your society or locality and want its photo to be published in Free Press contact us on these numbers:

Pintu Namdev 9425059364 or Anand Shivre 9425902446

GARBA TIME



Vishisht School of Management organised Vishisht Garba Utsav for students and staff members on Tuesday



Navratri celebrations at Empire Estates Colony in Bicholi Mardana area on Tuesday



Jagdambe Garba Mahotsav 2024 organised by Shree Kshatriya Maratha Samaj in Usha Nagar on Tuesday.



A grand garba festival and Mahaarati was organised at RPL Maheshwari College. The college's principal Dr Rajiv Kumar Jhalani was present

VIRAL CLIP | Hindu organisations create ruckus Youth caught urinating outside temple, arrested

Search on for other youth seen in CCTV footage

Our Staff Reporter

INDORE

A youth was caught urinating outside a temple behind Veer Savarkar Market. On the basis of the CCTV, the traders reported the matter to the police. After knowing about the incident, people from a Hindu organisation created ruckus at the spot demanding strict action against the accused. Police said that the accused has been arrested and a search is on for the other youth seen in the CCTV footage.

The CCTV viral clip shows the youth zipping off his pants facing the temple wall and urinating. Two men spotted him and chased him away. After this incident, the traders kept the market closed demanding strict action against the accused. The youth in the video is said to be the son of a shopkeeper named Moinuddin.



In the viral video, two youths can be seen approaching the temple wall at night. One of them loosened his pants and tried to pee facing towards the temple, while the other stood aside. When on-lookers saw him urinating, they rushed towards them and chased them away.

On Tuesday, the people of the Hindu organisation reached the spot and raised

slogans demanding action against the accused. A heavy police force was also deployed at the spot.

A trader informed the media persons that the video of youths urinating at the ancient temple was given by the residents to the traders. After that an FIR was lodged against two youths. He said that some people also tried to save the accused and told

the traders not to lodge an FIR in the case.

MG Road police station in charge Vijay Singh Sisodiya informed Free Press that on the basis of the video, a case has been registered against the accused under section 299 of BNS and one of the youths named Ahad Mansuri was arrested while a search is started for another youth, who was seen in the video.

Mayor appeals for zero waste Ashtami, Navami celebrations

Our Staff Reporter

INDORE

The mayor of the cleanest city in the country has called on the citizens to continue their commitment to cleanliness as the city prepares for sustainable practices during the upcoming celebrations of Ashtami and Navami. "Indore has achieved unique milestones in cleanliness thanks to the collective efforts of its citizens," said Pushyamitra Bhargav. "Let's take a pledge once again to se-

cure the number one spot in cleanliness. This festive season, we can take another important step toward zero-waste worship by avoiding the use of plastic and disposable materials during Kanya Puja. Instead, let us use eco-friendly and reusable items," he added.

In preparation for Diwali, Bhargav also reminded citizens to donate useful items they find during their cleaning activities to the RRR (Reduce, Reuse, Recycle) centres rather than discarding them.

Rural areas of dist also to be made top in cleanliness

Our Staff Reporter

INDORE

On the lines with the city, now the rural area of the district will also be made top in cleanliness. In this regard, a resolution was taken in a joint meeting of public representatives and officials held here on Tuesday in the special presence of former Lok Sabha Speaker Sumitra Mahajan. Water Resources Minister Tulsi Ram Silawat, MP Shankar Lalwani, District Panchayat President Reena Satish Malviya, CEO of District Panchayat Siddharth Jain, Vice President of District Panchayat Bharat Singh Patel along with officials of rural areas of the district and District Panchayat members, Janpad President etc. were present in this meeting. It was told in the meeting that the first phase of Swachh Bharat Mission has been completed in the district. In the

first phase, individual toilets have been constructed in every house in the rural areas of the district. Community toilets have also been built. In the first phase, Indore district was number one in the country. It was told that the second phase of Swachh Bharat Abhiyan has been started in the district. In this, mechanized material recovery facility centres have been built in all four development blocks for plastic waste management.

Vehicles have been provided for door-to-door garbage collection in 102 gram panchayats with a population of more than 3,000 in the district. Mahajan said that this system should be expanded and vehicles should be provided for door-to-door garbage collection in all the panchayats of the district. Mahajan said that our effort should be that the rural areas of the district also remain top in cleanliness.

Repair roads in markets before Diwali: Mayor

Our Staff Reporter

INDORE

Complete the concreting work in the main markets before Diwali instructed mayor Pushyamitra Bhargav to the IMC officials on Tuesday in a review meeting of Public Works, Garden, Traffic and Electricity Department.

During the meeting, the mayor reviewed the work being done zone-wise regarding the concreting work being done on the damaged roads in the city.

The mayor directed to complete the work in the central areas of the city before Diwali, which includes Pipli Bazaar, Bartan Bazaar, Sarafa Bazaar and other nearby markets.

While reviewing the Garden and Electricity Department, Mayor Bhargav took information about the developed and undeveloped gardens of the city. He directed to construct the gardens on PPP model, take action to compulsorily install solar lights in the garden.

Also, instructions were given to the IMC officials to develop their own nursery, so that sufficient quantity of plants can be obtained from inhouse nursery.

Along with this, instructions were also given to prepare a report regarding the resources required by the garden department for the proper development of the garden, the number of employees along with other details.

Also, keeping in view the convenience of the citizens coming to the garden, instructions were given to keep the lighting system smooth.

Minor traffic altercations turn ugly and violent

Our Staff Reporter

INDORE

Altercations over traffic incidents can soon turn ugly and violent. Two such incidents came to light in the city in a period of 24 hours between Sunday and Monday. In the first incident, a pregnant woman and her husband were assaulted by three miscreants under Palasia station limits on Monday evening.

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Also, keeping in view the convenience of the citizens coming to the garden, instructions were given to keep the lighting system smooth.

Miscreants assault man rushing wife to hospital, set car ablaze

In another incident, a dispute over a right of way on Sunday night soon turned so ugly that the victim was waylaid and brutally assaulted and later his car set on fire by a group of miscreants in the Banganga area. The victim, along with his family members, was rushing his wife to the hospital when the accused stopped his car and dragged him out. Police registered a case against five individuals and sent two of them to jail.

According to police, one Rajiv Yadav lodged a complaint stating that he along with his mother, wife and a relative, left for the hospital in the car to take his wife Kajal for checkup.

While on their way, five miscreants namely Ravi, Dasrath, Yogesh, Vijay and Abhishek coming in another car stopped them near Mishra flour mill in Bhawani Nagar and took Rajiv out of his car and started beating him up after a dispute over

right of way. They even beat him with a belt and threw stones at the car.

Thereafter, Rajiv with his family rushed back home but the miscreants followed them carrying iron rod and sticks and vandalised the door of the house. Later, they threw petrol on the car and set it on fire. Afterwards, the accused fled the scene.

Banganga police station in-charge Siyaram Gurjar said that the police have registered a case against the accused under sections 126(2), 296, 115(2), 351(2), 326(f) and 3(5) of the BNS. The police arrested two accused and sent them to jail after taking preventive action against them and are searching for the remaining accused.

It is said that the woman was pregnant and her husband was taking her to hospital as she suffered labour pain. However, TI Gurjar said that it is not confirmed yet whether the woman is pregnant or not.

woman who is a lawyer. The police arrested two of the accused and are searching for their accomplice.

Court holidays for Dusshera notified

Our Staff Reporter

INDORE

The District Court and its subordinate courts will have Dusshera holidays from Wednesday to Saturday. The

Madhya Pradesh High Court and its divisional benches will have holidays from October 7 to 13 including second Saturday on October 12 and on October 13 which is a Sunday.

Former president of Indore

Indore to host session for transplant coordinators from Oct 21 to 25

Our Staff Reporter

INDORE

In a bid to promote organ donation across Madhya Pradesh, a comprehensive training program for transplant coordinators is scheduled from October 21 to 25 at Mahatma Gandhi Memorial Medical College.

The event, organized under the aegis of the State Organ and Tissue Transplant Organization (SOTTO) and MGM Medical College, will bring together transplant coordinators and ICU staff from government and private hospitals throughout the state. "The primary goal is to equip these healthcare professionals with the technical and communication skills necessary to ensure a smooth and effective organ donation process," Dr Sanjay Dixit, Dean MGM Medical College and competent authority, SOTTO, said.

Trainers from across India will lead the sessions, focusing on how to sensitively communicate with family members to obtain consent for organ donation. Additionally, participants will receive detailed guidance on the preservation of organs to maintain their quality and usability during the transplant process.

The Public Health and Medical Education Department has issued directives to all medical colleges to actively participate in this initiative.

NOTTO director to participate

Dr Anil Kumar, the director of the National Organ and Tissue Transplant Organization (NOTTO), will also attend the programme. He will share insights on advancing organ donation efforts and discuss the experiences of other states, giving participants a broader perspective on the latest reforms and national policies in organ donation.

Critical role of transplant coordinators

"Transplant coordinators play a pivotal role in the organ donation process. Not only are they responsible for navigating sensitive conversations with families, but they also ensure that all necessary protocols are followed efficiently. The training will also cover how to transport organs to different parts of the state and the country where they are most needed," Dr Dixit said.

Indore leading in organ donation

Indore leads the state, accounting for 90 per cent of organ donations in Madhya Pradesh. To date, 60 green corridors have been created, enabling about 200 individuals to receive life-saving transplants from brain-dead donors. Additionally, around 1,635 people have benefitted from donations by living donors. Madhya Pradesh ranks fourth nationally in pledges for organ donation.

12 more dengue cases surface, total 417

Our Staff Reporter

INDORE

With the monsoon withdrawal, vector-borne diseases have been spreading their tentacles across the city as 12 new dengue patients were found positive on Tuesday. With this, the total number of cases has reached 417 so far.

Out of 417 cases, over 30 cases were detected this month. According to district malaria officer Dr Daulat Patel, no new cases of malaria were found on Tuesday, with which the total number of malaria patients remains at seven.

As far as total number of dengue cases is concerned, 245 men and 172 women have been affected by the disease and 47 of them are kids.

"More dengue cases may be detected in the coming days, but we believe that the number will remain lower than that reported last year. Dengue mosquitoes breed in clean water and it's mainly up to the people to prevent waterlogging and wear full-sleeve clothes to avoid the disease," Dr Patel said. He added that there are 12 active cases in the city as all patients had recovered and most of them were treated at home.

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BOUNTY FOR BHERUNDA | CM rolls out goodies

'Govt doing away with every sign of invaders'

Our Staff Reporter

BHOPAL

Chief Minister Mohan Yadav said that state government was doing away with every sign of invaders. The invaders have named Bherunda as Nasrullahganj, which has once again been named Bherunda.

He was addressing village development convention (Gram Vikas Sammelan) in Bherunda in Sehore district on Tuesday. Union Agriculture Minister Shivraj Singh Chouhan was present on this occasion in addition to other ministers.

Yadav said, "Benefit under Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana has been extended to those who have been left out under the scheme." He announced to give Rs 2 crore each to all four local bodies of Budhni Assembly constituency, which Shivraj Singh Chouhan once represented.

Speaking on the occasion, Chouhan asked CM to continue to walk on the path of progress as he and PM Narendra Modi were with him. For the development of the re-



Union minister for agriculture Shivraj Singh with CM Mohan Yadav holding plough during road show in Bherunda in Sehore district on Tuesday

gion, centre and state government will work together. More CM Rise Schools will be opened. Now masoor, urad, tuar will be also purchased on Minimum Support Price.

Paswan said it was necessary to develop villages in order to take the country forward. Prahalad Singh said state and central governments were working for people's welfare.

At the convention, CM and

Panchayat minister Prahalad Patel, union minister of state for rural development Kamlesh Paswan were also present at the programme.

Paswan said it was necessary to develop villages in order to take the country forward. Prahalad Singh said state and central governments were working for people's welfare.

At the convention, CM and

Chouhan inaugurated 500-km roads under PMGSY IV. They also transferred bank loan and community investment amount of Rs 150 crore through single click along with inaugurating eight food processing units and 100 community training centres. They distributed bonus of Rs 2.70 crore to 52,818 tenu patta collectors of Sehore district.

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Narmada river

State government has formed an inter-departmental executive committee for implementation of decisions taken by cabinet committee for integrated development and uninterrupted flow of Narmada river.

RG Kar shadow on Bengali community



Our Staff Reporter

BHOPAL

The RG Kar incident has cast its shadow on Durga Puja celebrated by city's Bengali community this year. As a symbol of anger and shock over the heinous rape-murder of a woman medic in Kolkata, one Kali Badi has decided to keep their decorations simple while others will focus on women empowerment and safety of women in different ways.

Durga Puja celebrations of Bengali community will begin from Wednesday. The decorations at Kali Badi in TT Nagar

will be themed on, Grameen Saje Maa - simplicity that marks rural life. Jaya Ganguly, a member of all-women team that has decorated Pandal told Free Press that they are yet to recover from the shock of RG Kar horror. "We all are deeply hurt. Girls are treated like goddess on earth. And if they are not respected, what can be more sad and shocking," she said.

In view of the incident, they have decorated the pandal with simple handmade artworks and red and white gamchas (cotton scarves). "We hope that Mother Goddess will come and destroy all evil," she said.

Meeta Wadhva from Kali Badi, Danish Kunj, Bawadiya Kalan, said all the visitors to pandal would be able to register protest against RG Kar incident by filling in a digital form titled, Abhaya - Voice Against Rape. She said all stalls at Kali Badi would be dedicated to women to underline their commitment to women empowerment.

Supriya Das of City Durga Utsav Bengal Association in Sindhi Colony said that they would be organising a painting competition on 'Safety of Women and Girls' aimed at gender sensitisation.

5,000 dengue cases in MP, chikungunya spreads tentacles

Our Staff Reporter
BHOPAL

The number of dengue and chikungunya cases continues to rise in the city exposing tall claims of Bhopal municipal Corporation (BMC) about having taken preventive measures to prevent both the diseases. The BMC administration has

BMC blames rain water-filled debris, which will take time to dry

blamed it on water-filled debris, which are a breeding ground for mosquitoes and will take time to dry.

According to health department, there are 5,000 dengue cases in state including 432 in

Nagar, Nehru Nagar, South TT Nagar, Katara Hills, Emerald Park City.

However, BMC administration has claimed to have intensified fogging and chemical spraying in colonies and has begun to impose spot fine.

BMC teams are keeping a watch on debris of vacant plots, under-construction sites

where water-filled pits exist.

"Due to heavy rain, water-filled pits have surfaced. It will take time for water-filled pits, debris to dry. BMC also has intensified fogging and chemical spraying in colonies specially over debris. We are releasing gambusia fish, which eats larvae," Mayor-in-Council member RK Baghel said.

Patwari trapped by Lokayukta police for taking Rs 35,000 bribe

Our Staff Reporter
BHOPAL

Lokayukta police in Jabalpur arrested a patwari for taking bribe of Rs 35,000 in Chhindwara district on Tuesday, police said. The patwari was demanding bribe of Rs 50,000 for the demarcation of complainant's land.

Jabalpur Lokayukta SP Sanjay Sahu said complainant Anand Yadav, resident of Chandangaon in Chhindwara district, has 4.5 acres of parental land. The family had filed the application to divide the land and also to conduct the demarcation of their land.



Patwari Radheshyam Choria demanded bribe of Rs 50,000

for the work.

A complaint to this effect was made to Lokayukta police and after verification of the complaint, an eight-member trap team was formed led by DSP Dilip Jharabade, inspector Kamal Singh Uike, Bhupendra Singh.

Meanwhile, patwari agreed to take Rs 35,000 for the job. On Tuesday, as soon as the money was handed over to patwari at tehsil office in Chhindwara, the trap team caught him red-handed. The police have registered the case and have started the investigation.

Katni Principal District Judge Dharminder Singh appointed HC Registrar General

Our Staff Reporter
BHOPAL

Principal District and Sessions Judge in Katni Dharminder Singh has been made Registrar General of Madhya Pradesh High Court. He will replace Manoj Shrivastava who has been made Principal District and Session Judge, Jabalpur.

Shrivastava will replace Amitab Mishra who has been shifted to Katni in the same capacity.

Additional secretary (law) Harsh Singh Bahrawat has been made registrar, High

Court, Jabalpur, in place of Deepak Bansal who has been made District and Additional Sessions Judge of Bhopal.

Khandwa ADJ Neeraj Malviya has been made Officer on Special duty at Indore High Court bench. ADJ Jabalpur Ajay Pandam has been made registrar (inspection and litigation) HC, Jabalpur in the place of Jayant Sharma who has been made District and Additional Sessions Judge, Bhopal. Principal Registrar (ILR & examination) HC, Jabalpur, Ashish Mishra has been made Additional Judge in Gwalior.

district

Youth from Katni looted in Satna

FP News Service

CHITRAKOOT (SATNA):

A 34-year-old youth who came from Katni to Satna to meet his ailing lover was relieved of his golden ring on Monday, the police said.

The youth somehow saved his life. According to reports, Deepak Mishra, resident of Joba Khurd village, was waylaid by two youths when he was going to Preem Vihar colony.

They beat him up and snatched his golden rings from him. Deepak, somehow, managed to escape from the clutches of the looters.

He then reached the city Kotwali police station and lodged a complaint at the police station.

Self-defence training imparted to girls

Jabalpur: A camp was held at Rangaboomi Ribght Town stadium to impart self-defence training to girls. A large number of students from different schools in the city were imparted various training in self-defence. President KTC Ashutosh Mishra assured all the trainees that he would impart training to all the players every month at Rangaboomi Rightown stadium.

Lightning kills 43-yr-old man, injures four

FP News Service

BALAGHAT

Lightning claimed the life of a 43-year-old man in ward number one at Lanji Nagar in front of Barkamudi Naka of the forest department, 50km away from the district headquarters on Tuesday.

The man died on the spot and four sustained injuries. The injured were sent to a hospital. As it was raining heavily, some people took shelter in a tea shop. When there was lightning, people ran here and there. The man who died in the incident was identified as Rajkumar Wankhede.

Raj Kumar Karah met the injured at the hospital and assured financial help to the family members.

Woman cuts off tongue, offers it to Goddess

She refused to go to hospital and her family member said she would automatically get back her tongue

FP News Service

SATNA

At a time when India claims to have gone digital, superstition is still prevailing in the country, especially in rural areas, and it came to light on Monday night when a woman cut off her tongue and offered it to Goddess Durga.

The incident took place at a temple located on the bank of a lake in Majhgawan village on the occasion of Navratri.

Immediately cutting off her tongue, she fell to the ground

unconscious, but when she came round, she refused to go to hospital. The woman has been identified as Rachna Basor. After she cut off her tongue, the floor of the temple was speckled with blood.

The news spread like wildfire, and hundreds of people flocked to the spot. Many of them sang Bhajans (devotional songs) and danced. They also prevented the police from taking her to hospital.

After getting back her senses, she also began to dance in front of the deity.

The police advised the family members to take Rachna to hospital, but neither she nor her family members agreed to the suggestion.

They told the police that she would automatically get back her tongue.

Prisoner falls ill after drinking phenol, official denies report

FP News Service

SEHORE

The health of a prisoner in the Sehore district jail deteriorated on Monday night after he consumed a bottle of phenol inside the prison.

He was taken to hospital where his condition was stated to have improved. According to reports, a prisoner named Jaiprakash was reportedly upset and consumed phenol in the cell where he was kept.

He mixed phenol with water and drank it. Immediately after consuming it, he was very ill and his condition began to deteriorate.

Nevertheless, according to superintendent of Sehore jail Pratibha Patel, a prisoner in Shajapur prison is mentally upset, and he fell ill, after he drank water from a bottle in which phenol was kept.

After he was treated in the hospital, he was fine, but his consuming poison was a big lie, nothing of this sort happened in the prison, she said.

Patwari caught taking bribe

FP News Service

SUMAWALI (MORENA)

Lokayukta police caught a Patwari (revenue official) red handed on Monday when he was taking a bribe of Rs 1,500.

According to reports, Patwari Shyamsunder Sharma demanded a bribe from a farmer who wanted to get land transferred to his name after the death of his father. The farmer



informed superintendent of Lokayukta police Rajesh Mishra who formed a team and took action against the Patwari. Farmer Manoj Singh Jadon gave Rs 1,500 as bribe to Patwari Shyamsunder Sharma. The police caught hold of the official when he was taking bribe. Sharma demanded Rs 2,500 from the farmer for transfer more than three bighas to his name after the death of his father.

Road repair forces committees to change idol immersion plan



Hamidia Road witnesses heavy traffic after half portion of it undergoes repair

Most puja organising committees have been asked to join at Central Library

Our Staff Reporter

BHOPAL

Due to delay in road repair and construction, Durga puja organising committees have changed plan for immersion of idols. This year, tableau processions from different parts of Old Bhopal will join main procession at Central Library instead of Bhopal Talkies due to construction underway on Hamidia Road.

The committee to be headed by chief secretary Anurag Jain will look into implementation of works and conduct regular review. The committee comprises additional chief secretary, water resources department, principal secretary, urban administration, public works department, finance department. Principal secretary, culture and tourism, will be the ex officio member of the committee.

According to Hindu Utsav Samiti, tableau procession from Lilly Talkies, Jinsi, Jahangirabad and other parts of old Bhopal will join main procession at Central Library instead of Bhopal Talkies as Hamidia Road is under construction by Public Works Department (PWD). Hamidia Road construction will be complete in November 2025.

At present, traffic on one side of road is allowed as

other side is under construction. Tableau procession from Lilly Talkies, Jinsi and other parts of this side, have been asked to join us at Central Library from where all the processions will head to Rani Kamlapati ghat."

PWD executive engineer Rakesh Nigam said, "We have been given time limit of November 2025 for completion of Hamidia Road but we will try to finish it within six months provided encroachments are removed fast."

NEXUS | Information is being collected about the links between politicians, bureaucrats and drug traffickers

Delhi taking feedback on Anjana's photos with Devda

Our Staff Reporter

BHOPAL

The central leadership of the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) has taken exception to the photographs of Jagdish Devda with the accused of drugs factory case Harish Anjana.

The BJP leadership and the Union Government are collecting information about the links between Devda and Anjana.

According to sources, since the issue is very serious, the government is also gathering

IB is gathering information; and there are reports that the accused campaigned for the Deputy CM

information through IB.

Although Devda has cleared his stand on the issue, the government is inquiring into his relationship with the accused.

Many photographs of Devda with Anjana went viral. The inquiry was going on into the reason for Devda's letting Anjana to be near him, although a case under the Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances (NDPS) Act was registered against the accused.

Devda on Monday said, "Everybody clicks photographs with politicians."

There are, however, reports



Dy CM Jagdish Devda with accused Harish Anjana File photo

Silence after Congress worker's names crop up

After the Congress worker Premshuk Patidar's name figured in the drug trafficking, the Congress went into silent mode. Premshuk is the brother-in-law of party's candidate from Suwarsa constituency, Rakesh Patidar. After the police took Premshuk into custody, the Congress attack on the ruling party has lost its bite.

Deputy Chief Minister Jagdish Devda has embroiled in the third controversy in nine months after the formation of the state government.

After the Supreme Court removed the transport inspectors,

Devda was on target. When the transport inspectors were recruited, Devda was the transport minister. Male candidates were recruited to the posts reserved for women. Devda was entangled in the controversy over the posting his OSD, when the notes written by him to the chief minister went viral.

According to sources, BJP's state unit in-charge Mahendra Singh and its national co-organisational general secretary

MPIDC teams to survey industries in Bagrodh, Acharpura, Mandideep

Our Staff Reporter

BHOPAL

After seizure of prohibited MD drugs from a factory in Bagrodh industrial area in Bhopal, Madhya Pradesh Industrial Development Corporation (MPIDC) has swung into action to check whether permission given to other factories are being followed in full.

The MPIDC teams will carry out survey in industries, which are situated in Bhopal and Mandideep. The survey teams are visiting industries to check their status. Apart from checking the ownership, the teams are also checking that who is running the industries, how much land was allotted and how much construction has been done.

"Teams have been formed to check industries of Bagrodh, Acharpura and Mandideep. The teams are visiting industries to check status. Attention is being paid to undertake survey of little known and small industries. Along with this, focus will be to look at who is op-

Lease cancellation notice issued

Madhya Pradesh Industrial Development Corporation has issued a notice of lease cancellation to plot owner of factory from where MD drugs worth Rs 1,800 crore were seized in Bagrodh. The name of plot owner is Jaideep Singh. Notably, MPIDC came to know that earlier SK Singh was the factory owner and later he sold the factory to one Jaideep Prasad. The information about transfer of ownership was not given to MPIDC. It was on Monday that MPIDC decided to cancel the lease of controversial factory.

erating the industry," Vishal Singh Chouhan, MPIDC's executive director for Bhopal regional office, told Free Press.

Services of five staffers terminated, one suspended

Disciplinary action against Chief BMO, and warning letter to district health officer recommended

Our Staff Reporter

BHOPAL

Departmental action has been taken against 10 officers and employees of the health sub-centre of Berasia development following the death of woman and newborn during delivery at the health centre.

Services of five staffers of the health sub-centre of Berasia development block have

been terminated, while an order has been issued to suspend one employee and withhold salary increments of two staffers. Similarly, recommendation for disciplinary action against Chief block medical officer Dr Pushpa Guru and a warning letter to district

DEATH OF WOMAN, NEWBORN DURING DELIVERY IN BERASIA BLOCK

health officer Dr Poonam Shrivastava has been made.

Cahoo Dr Prabhakar Tiwari had investigated the matter and recommended to the collector for action against the officers and employees.

On September 20, a warning letter to district

Forced stationery purchase: Schools to lose recognition

DEO issues guidelines six month ahead of the next academic session

Our Staff Reporter

BHOPAL

If any school in Bhopal pressures parents to purchase uniforms or books from a specific vendor, the school's recognition will get cancelled. If any schools found pressuring the teachers, cases will be filed against the school administration and principal. These orders were issued six months ahead of the new academic session by the District Education Officer (DEO) NK Ahirwar. Bhopal Collector Kaushalendra Vikram Singh has also released instructions for the upcoming academic session.

The guidelines stated that

MP Board to refund fees to over 2.2L students

Our Staff Reporter

BHOPAL

The Madhya Pradesh Board of Secondary Education (MPBSE) has announced that students registered under the Sambal Yojana will no longer be required to pay examination fees. However, this announcement comes after the majority of Sambal students have already paid their fees, leaving the board with the challenge of refunding the amount.

The board's decision to waive fees under the Sambal Yojana was displayed on the official portal from September 27.

Earlier, the board had not provided this exemption for the current academic year, leading to confusion among eligible stu-

REVISED SAMBAL YOJANA POLICY

The board had not provided fee exemption for the current academic year, leading to confusion among eligible students

dents. Out of the approximately 2.5 lakh students eligible under the Sambal scheme, the 2.2 lakh students had already paid their fees before the policy change.

The Sambal Yojana, officially known as the Chief Minister Jan-Kalyan (Sambal) Yojana, is a

state government initiative started in 2018. The scheme provides social security benefits, including educational support, to unorganised workers. Under the policy, students from these families are exempted from paying examination fees for classes 10 and 12. However, due to an error in the MPBSE's admission policy for 2024-25, this exemption was mistakenly removed, sparking widespread concern.

In response to the issue, the board quickly amended the policy and reinstated the fee exemption. MPBSE officials stated that the exemption will continue for all eligible Sambal students and have assured them that the confusion caused by the policy error is being cor-

rected. The MPBSE is currently covering the costs of the fee exemptions, amounting to around Rs 26 crore annually. Over the past six years, this financial burden has grown to over Rs 150 crore. The board has repeatedly asked the state government for reimbursement of these funds but has yet to receive a response.

Krishna Deo Tripathi, secretary, MP Board

The board has already provided the exemption to the Sambal card holders. Just for clarification, we have displayed the update on the portal. Students who have filled out the fees will get a refund in the coming days.

offgrid

Forest dept to embark on tiger translocation project

Bandhavgarh, Kanha identify two felines, Panna in process

Rajasthan, Odisha and Chhattisgarh have demanded tigers from MP

advance to identify tigers for translocation.

The Kanha Tiger Reserve has already identified two

felines for the translocation. A tiger of around two-and-a-half-year is in the enclosure, while a tigress from open range has been identified for the translocation. Kanha Tiger Reserve field director SN Singh said that one feline is ready for translocation at any time while another would be available after four to six months.

Meanwhile, Panna Tiger Reserve has also been alerted about the possible tiger translocation plan but

it is yet to identify the big cats. A forest officer of Bandhavgarh Tiger Reserve said that two tigers have been identified for translocation and may be even sent to other states.

Notably, Chhattisgarh, Odisha, Rajasthan and other states have sought tigers from Madhya Pradesh. On international Tiger Day celebration in July, Chief Minister Mohan Yadav had also said that the state will provide tigers to other states.

Tourists spot tiger in Satpura



There was an adrenaline rush among the tourists in the Satpura Tiger Reserve when they spotted a tiger walking along a muddy path on Tuesday. They captured video and pictures of the feline, which went viral on social media. With rich biodiversity and a variety of wildlife, including tigers, Satpura is emerging as an attraction for tourists.

After BJP's win in Haryana, Jalebi politics prevails in MP

Our Staff Reporter

BHOPAL



Jalebis heated up politics in MP after the results of Haryana and those of Jammu and Kashmir assembly elections were declared on Tuesday.

After the results were announced in Haryana, the BJP leaders and workers celebrated their victory by eating Jalebis in their party office in the state capital.

Immediately after the results were out, the party leaders offered Jalebis to their

BJP leaders and workers celebrated victory in Haryana by eating Jalebis; and Congress made it outside party office

state unit president VD Sharma.

Hoping to win the election in Haryana, the Congress was getting ready to set up to make Jalebis outside their party office.

Even after losing the Haryana election, the stall was outside the party office where the Congress celebrated their victory in Jammu and Kashmir.

The Congress hoped to win Haryana election and to celebrate it with Jalebis, but as the results were against their exceptions, so they looked demoralised.

During the election campaign, Rahul Gandhi made a

statement on Jalebi, which sparked a lot of debates.

BJP's state unit president VD Sharma said, "Today is the historic day. The people of Haryana by giving a chance to

the BJP to form a government for the third time put their faith in Prime Minister Narendra Modi again."

The BJP did well in Jammu and Kashmir, he said.

Man kills self after dispute with wife

BHOPAL

A 28-year-old man committed suicide by hanging himself after having dispute with wife on Tuesday morning, Bagwania police said.

Police said victim Ajay Damodar committed suicide in his house on Tuesday. The neighbours found him hanging in his house and raised alarm. The neighbours took Ajay to hospital where doctors declared him brought dead.

The police came to know that Ajay had a dispute with his wife early morning. Harassed by the act, he committed suicide. The police did not find suicide note. He is survived by son and a daughter. The police have registered the case and started investigation.

Jahengirabad sees death of two teens in a day

Our Staff Reporter

BHOPAL



Girl dies of diarrhea; boy ends life in separate incident

not found any suicide note, however, they suspect that the boy took the extreme step over tension in family. Police have registered the case and started the investigation.

DELAY | Necessary certifications from Atomic Centre pending

Blood irradiator machine at MY Hospital awaiting components for activation

Our Staff Reporter

INDORE

Madhya Pradesh's first indigenous blood irradiator machine has arrived at Indore's MY Hospital, but its operation has been delayed as some essential components are yet to arrive. Until these components are in place, patients will have to wait for the advanced medical benefits the machine promises.

Developed by the Board of Radiation and Isotope Technology at Bhabha Atomic Research Center (BARC), Mumbai, the machine was



Blood Irradiator machine (File Photo)

completed on August 21. It is designed to destroy graft versus host disease (GVHD), a potentially fatal condition found in transfused blood. This technology is particularly crucial for patients with compromised immune systems, such as those with bone marrow conditions, cancer, or thalassemia, who require blood transfusions. Currently, this process is carried out using an outdated cobalt machine, which is time-consuming. The new irradiator, once operational, will significantly reduce the time needed for this procedure.

The blood irradiator, weighing 1,800 kg, is the BL-200 model and has already been installed in its chamber at MY Hospital.

Despite its arrival, the machine is awaiting necessary certifications from the Atomic Centre, which are required before it can begin operation. Dr Ashok Yadav, Superintendent of MY Hospital, assured that the machine will be ready for use once these remaining steps are completed, bringing significant benefits to patients who rely on safe and efficient blood transfusions.

How the Machine Works

The blood irradiator targets lymphocytes, immune cells that can lead to rejection of transfused blood or blood products. By destroying these cells, the machine increases the likelihood of the graft being accepted by the host (the patient receiving the transfusion). This process prevents damage to the bone marrow and other complications arising from the rejection of blood products.

Ujjain artistes win accolades at Bhopal by presenting Sanskrit play 'Urubhangam'



A still from the Sanskrit play 'Urubhangam' staged by Ujjain's artistes at Bharat Bhavan, Bhopal (Photo: FP)

FP News Service

UJJAIN

At the Bhas Mahima Samahro, organised by Rangmandal Bharat Bhavan in Bhopal, artistes from Ujjain's theatre group Yatharth Sanskratik Evam Samajik Sanstha presented the Sanskrit play 'Urubhangam'.

of Drama), Lokendra Trivedi, Prem Shankar Shukla (administrative officer at Bharat Bhavan), Anup Joshi (theatre artiste) and a discerning audience.

The plot of the ancient play 'Urubhangam', written by Bhas, revolves around the horrors of the Mahabharata, particularly the battle between Duryodhana and Bhima and the poignant dialogue of the dying Duryodhana with his family. The presentation, conducted in Sanskrit, featured music composed by Ajay Mehta and was directed by Prakash Deshmukh. In a performance lasting around 50 minutes, the artistes showcased their acting skills, successfully connecting the audience to the tragic realities of the Mahabharata.

Mayor inaugurates PM housing fair



Our Staff Reporter

INDORE

Mayor Pushyamitra Bhargav inaugurated the Indore PM housing fair where 18606 units have been built at 14 places, out of which more than 10 thousand have been allotted. The mayor said that under the Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana, you can get your dream house even while sitting at home. It can be booked easily as it has been digitalised by the Indore Municipal Corporation.

IDA to rejuvenate 300-yr-old stepwell

Our Staff Reporter

INDORE



A 300-year-old dilapidated stepwell (baudi) in the Kanadia area will be renovated and rejuvenated by the Indore Development Authority. This stepwell built by Devi Ahilya Bai Holkar will be restored at a cost of Rs 50 lakh. Water Resources Minister Tulsiram Silawat performed bhoomi puja of it on Tuesday.

While inaugurating the renovation and rejuvenation work of the ancient stepwell, Minister Silawat said, "It is the responsibility of all of us to follow the path shown by Devi Ahilya Bai Holkar and convey her thoughts to the people. Along with the renovation work of the stepwell, a statue of Devi Ahilya Bai Holkar, garden, entrance gate, boundary wall and temple will be constructed here."

Minister Silawat said that

this stepwell should be developed as the ideal stepwell of the state. He directed to complete the renovation and rejuvenation work within the time limit with full quality. Along with this, he also instructed that special attention should be paid to safety measures during the construction of the stepwell.

He said that just as Indore is known for its cleanliness, similarly this stepwell should be constructed in an ideal manner, which will give this place a distinct identity.

Minister Silawat said that continuous efforts for development are going on under the guidance of Prime Minister Narendra Modi and the leadership of Chief Minister Mohan Yadav.

"It is a matter of pride for us that we are moving forward on the dreams of Devi Ahilya Bai Holkar and the path shown by her," minister added.

Silawat inspects Lavkush flyover

Water Resources Minister Tulsiram Silawat also inspected the flyover constructed at Lavkush Square. A part of this flyover connecting Vijaya Nagar to Super Corridor is proposed to be inaugurated on Dussehra. Taking stock of the status of the construction of this flyover, Minister Silawat also gave necessary instructions. He instructed to complete the remaining work immediately.

Also, IDA CEO RP Ahirwar took the review meeting of the work process of IDA's flyovers.

Shruti Kochar bags two int'l awards

Our Staff Reporter

INDORE

Dr Shruti Kochar Maru, Consultant Ophthalmic Surgeon at CHL 114 - IOCI and Care CHL Hospital Indore, was honoured with two awards at the South Asian Academy of Ophthalmology (SAO) annual conference in Thimphu, Bhutan. Recognized for her innovative poster and surgical video presentations, Dr Maru's work highlighted advancements in eye care and surgical techniques. "I am thrilled and grateful for this recognition," Dr. Maru stated. Her achievements continue to elevate her hospital's reputation and contribute to the field of ophthalmology regionally and beyond.

Warehouse owners demand procedure simplification

FP News Service

UJJAIN

The members of District Private Warehouse Owners Association submitted a memorandum to local officer in connection with their demand. According to president DP Bhajji, after many years, the state government has decided to procure soy-

bean on MSP. At the same time, regarding the shortage of soybean, the association demanded that currently farmers harvest wheat using harvesters and bring it directly to procurement centres, which are set up at the warehouse level. The moisture content in the wheat is often higher than the approved maximum

level. After being stored in warehouses, due to high temperatures, the wheat loses 2 to 3 percent of its weight due to drying.

This results in a loss of around 1 to 1.5 kg per 50 kg bag. By the end of June, when the rainy season begins, there is a possibility of moisture returning to the stored wheat.

Camp for BJP membership

Sanwar: As part of the BJP membership drive, a camp was set up at the Imlai Chouraha to join new members to the party under the leadership of BJP Mahila Morcha city president Nitu Patel.

Minister Silawat, assembly in-charge Antar Dayal, mandal president Sumer Singh, Bharat Singh Chauhan and others participated in the camp.

**FORM No. IV
(See Sub-rule (2a) of Rule 5)**
DEBTS RECOVERY TRIBUNAL, JABALPUR
AT 797-II, SHAKTIKUNJ, SOUTH CIVIL LINES, JABALPUR (MP)-482001
(Areas of Jurisdiction - Madhya Pradesh & Chattisgarh)
ORIGINAL APPLICATION NO. 912/2024 FF:
CENTRAL BANK OF INDIA APPLICANT
78 SCHEME BRANCH INDORE Versus

M/S SIDDHIVINAYAK FOOD PRODUCTS & OTHERS DEFENDANTS

To:

(1) M/s Siddhivinayak Food Products Prop. Smt. Reena Verma W/o Shri Amit Verma R/o 24 Suraj Nagar, Distt. Indore
(2) Smt. Reena Verma W/o Shri Amit Verma R/o 9 Tigray Rao Kanadia Indore MP452001

Whereas, OA No. 912/2024 was listed before Hon'ble Presiding Officer on 05.08.2024.

Whereas the Hon'ble Tribunal is pleased to issue summons/notice on the said Application under section 19(4) of the Act, (OA) filed against you for recovery of debts of Rs. 94,87,121.67/-

In accordance with sub-section 34 of Section 19 of the Act, you the defendants are directed as under:-

(i) To show cause within thirty days of the service of the summons as to why relief prayed for should not be granted.

(ii) To disclose particulars of properties or assets other than properties and assets specified by the applicant under Serial No 3-A of the application.

(iii) You are restrained from dealing without disposing of secured assets or such other assets and properties disclosed under Serial No 3-A of the Original Application, pending hearing and disposal of the application for attachment of properties.

(iv) You shall not transfer by way of sale, lease or otherwise, except in the ordinary course of his business any of the assets over which security interest created and/or other assets and properties specified or disclosed under Serial No 3A of the Original Application without the prior approval of the Tribunal.

(v) You shall be liable to account for the sale proceeds realized by sale of secured assets or other assets and properties in the ordinary course of business and deposit such sale proceeds in the account maintained with the bank of financial institutions holding security interest over such assets.

You are also directed to file the Written Statement with a copy thereof furnished to the applicant and to appear before the Hon'ble Tribunal before 28.11.2024 at 10:30 AM failing which the application shall be heard and decided in your absence.

Given under my hand and seal of the Tribunal this 01st day of October, 2024.

Registar
Debts Recovery Tribunal, Jabalpur

CAPRI GLOBAL CAPITAL LIMITED CORRIGENDUM
This is in reference to the Sale notice for sale of immovable properties published Under Section (Rule 8 (6) AND 9 (1) of Sarfaisi Act, in case of 1- M/s Mahe Sharsa Bindriya ("borrower") & Mr. Nannu Singh Ji - Mrs. Lexington ("co-borrower") LOAN ACCOUNT NO. LNCGC3NDTL0000009113 published in this news paper on 08-10-2024.
In the Wrongly written "RESERVE PRICE & EARNEST MONEY DEPOSIT" For Property no. 2:- Rs. 7,43,000/- (Rupees Seven Lacs Forty One Thousand Only).
EARNEST MONEY DEPOSIT:- Rs. 74,100/- (Rupees Seventy Four Thousand One Hundred Only)
Please Read as "RESERVE PRICE & EARNEST MONEY DEPOSIT" for Property no. 2:- Rs. 7,43,000/- (Rupees Seven Lacs Forty One Thousand Six Hundred Only).
EARNEST MONEY DEPOSIT:- Rs. 74,160/- (Rupees Seventy Four Thousand One Hundred Sixty Only)
The change should be read as part and Parcel of the earlier publication.
Place: Khargone, (MP) Sd/- (Authorised Officer) Capri Global Capital Ltd. Date : 08-OCTOBER-2023

Form No. URC-2
Advertisement giving notice about registration under Part I of Chapter XXI
(Pursuant to section 374(b) of the companies Act, 2013 and rule 4(1) of the companies (Authorized to Register) Rules, 2014)
Notice is hereby given that in pursuance of sub-section (2) of section 366 of the Companies Act, 2013, an application has been made to the Registrar at Central Registration Centre (CRC), Indian Institute of Corporate Affairs (IICA), Plot no. 6,7,8 Sector 5, IMT Manesar, Gurgaon (Haryana) 122052 that "Mayank Welfare Society" may be registered under Part I of Chapter XXI of the Companies Act 2013, as a company limited by guarantee.

The principal objects of the company are as follows:
• To establish and operate medical clinics, dental hospitals, nursing colleges, hospitals, laboratories and research centres in the medical field.
• To promote and propagate public welfare education programs as per social needs.
• Various schemes of the Central and State Government in the field of women, child, youth, old age and national welfare development implementation and promote.
• To provide assistance in the field of economic, social, education and health to the destitute, the poor, the handicapped and the mentally retarded and to prepare and implement programmes for development of backward classes, scheduled castes and scheduled tribes.
• To establish, construct, operate and acquire educational institutions, colleges, schools, training centres, hostels, research centres, Skill Development and Incubation Centers, libraries etc in various fields of education throughout India.
A copy of the Draft Memorandum and Articles of Association of the proposed Company may be inspected at the office at 104, Trishul Apartment, S-Sanghi Colony, AB road, Indore-452001

Notice is hereby given that any person objecting to this application may communicate their objection in writing to the Registrar at Central Registration Centre (CRC), Indian Institute of Corporate Affairs (IICA), Plot no. 6,7,8 Sector 5, IMT Manesar, Gurgaon (Haryana) 122052, within twenty-one days from the date of publication of this notice, with a copy to the company at its registered office.

For and on behalf of Mayank Welfare Society Sunesh Singh Bhadauria (Chairman)

Dated this 9th day of October 2024

IDFC First Bank Limited

(Formerly known as IDFC Bank Ltd.) CIN : L65107MH2014PLC097792
Registered Office : KRM Tower, 7th Floor, Hemington Road, Chiplik, Bhopal - 462001, Tel : +91 44 4564 4000 | Fax: +91 44 4564 4022

APPENDIX IV-A [See proviso to rule 8 (6) & 9 (1)] SALE NOTICE FOR SALE OF IMMOVABLE PROPERTIES

E-Auction Sale Notice for Sale of Immovable Properties under the Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 read with proviso to Rule 8 (6) & 9 (1) of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002
Notice is hereby given to the public in general and in particular to the Borrower(s), Co-Borrower(s) and Guarantor(s) as per column (ii) that the below described immovable properties as per column (iv) mortgaged/charged to the Secured Creditor, the possession of which has been taken by the Authorised Officer Formerly known as IDFC First Bank Ltd. will be sold on "As-is where is", "As is what is", and "Whatever there is" as described hereinunder, for the recovery of amount due to IDFC FIRST Bank Limited (Formerly known as IDFC Bank Ltd.) from Borrower(s) and Co-Borrower(s) as per column (i).

For detailed terms and conditions of the sale, please refer to the link provided on IDFC FIRST Bank website i.e. www.idfcfirstbank.com.

On: 09.10.2024

HDFC BANK LTD.

Sch. No. 94, Brilliant Avenue, Behind Bombay Hospital, Indore

HPDF BANK

We understand your world

Notice Under SARFAESI Act, 2002

Whereas, The Authorised officer of H.D.F.C. Bank Ltd., under the securitisation & Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of security interest Act 2002 (No. 54 of 2002) and in exercise of powers conferred under section 13(2) read with rule 8 of the security interest (Enforcement) Rules 2002, issued demand notice to below mentioned borrowers & guarantors to repay the amount within 60 days from the date of receipt of the said Notice. The notice was unilaterally to the borrower through postal mode therefore same is being published in accordance with rules laid under the said Act. Notice is here by given to the borrowers & guarantors and the public in general that the authorised officer of the H.D.F.C. Bank Ltd. will take possession of the property described herein below in exercise of powers under Section 13(4) of the said Act read with rule 8 of the said rules after 60 days.

The borrower mentioned below in particular and the public in general are hereby cautioned not to deal with said property and any dealing with the said properties shall be subject to the charge of H.D.F.C. Bank Ltd., Scheme No. 94, Brilliant Avenue, Behind Bombay Hospital, Indore for the amount mentioned against the borrower & interest thereon.

Name & Address of Borrower/ Co-Borrower/Guarantor & Loan A/c No.

M/s. Siddhanta Pipe & Company, Borrower Through its Prop.- Mr. Rajendra Somani S/o Prahlad Das Somani, Address - 204, Tripathi Apartment, Sanghi Colony, Indore M.P. Loan A/C No. 5020000422583

Description of Property	Date of Notice Outstanding Amount
Property 1 : Portion No. 201,202 & 203, 2nd Floor of Sai Krupa, House No. 695, (Old No. 481), M.G. Road, Topkhana, Indore (M.P.) Total super built up area 800 Sq. Ft (55.78 Sq. mtr.) Boundaries : East : House No. 695 (Old No. 481), West : Portion No. 204,205 & 206, North : Govt. Gali, South : M.G. Road	10/07/2024 ₹ 175,36183.33
Property 2: Portion No. 204,205 & 206 2nd Floor of Sai Krupa, House No. 695 (Old No. 481), M.G. Road, Topkhana, Indore (M.P.) Total super built up area 800 Sq. Ft (55.78 Sq. mtr.) Boundaries : East : House No. 695, (Old No. 481), West : Portion No. 204,205 & 206, North : Govt. Gali, South : M.G. Road (Property is owned by Mr. Rajendra Somani S/o Prahlad Das Somani)	

Place : Indore, Date

Regional Digest



SENDHWA

MLA Solanki completes 1,400 km cycle journey in 12 days

MLA Montu Solanki completed a 1,400 km cycle journey from Sendhwa to Tirupati Balaji temple in 12 days. He travelled through Maharashtra, Karnataka, Telangana and Andhra Pradesh along with some parts of Tamil Nadu. He also met with many public representatives and social workers along the way. He also met with farmers and discussed various techniques of their region. During his journey, he also met with Telangana health minister Damodar Raja Narsingh in Sangareddy and presented a tribal souvenir bow and arrow. MLA Solanki expressed gratitude towards everyone who supported him during the journey.



BAGH

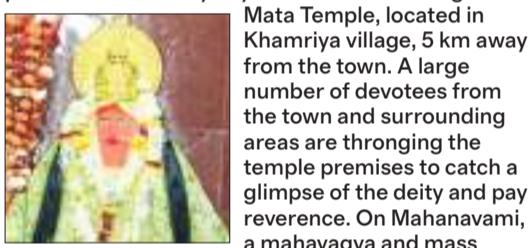
Guest teachers submit memo to naib tehsildar

Guest teachers of Bagh block took out a rally from the Rest House, and submitted a memorandum, addressed to the Governor, to naib tehsildar at Tappa office. The rally was taken out under the leadership of Guest Teachers' Association block president Ramnath Gadaria. The memorandum demanded to secure the future of guest teachers of the state. They demanded a 50% reservation and bonus as announced by former CM Chouhan during Guest Teacher Mahapanchayat in Bhopal in 2023.

ALOT

Devotees throng Navdurga Mata Temple

Following the yearly tradition, the Durga Saptashati path is recited every day in Radi Wali Navdurga



Mata Temple, located in Khamriya village, 5 km away from the town. A large number of devotees from the town and surrounding areas are thronging the temple premises to catch a glimpse of the deity and pay reverence. On Mahanavami, a mahayagya and mass feast will be organised on Friday.



MAHIDPUR

Cycles distributed to meritorious students

A programme of cycle distribution was organised in Government Yashwant Excellence Higher Secondary School. The programme was inaugurated by chief guest civic body president Nani Bai Omprakash Mali, vice president Rajaram Kahar and others. The programme began with the lighting of lamps and worshiping Goddess Saraswati. All the guests were welcomed with garlands by the staff.



MANDSAUR

Police Pensioner Association celebrates second foundation day

The second foundation day of Madhya Pradesh Police Pensioner Association was celebrated with great pomp and gaiety at Sindhu Marriage Garden in Ratlam recently. RP Singh (IPS retired), DIG Manoj Kumar Singh, SP Amit Kumar, ASP Rajesh and others participated in the programme. BJP district president Pradeep Upadhyay assured to raise the demands of the pensioners before the government. Pensioners above 75 years of age were honoured with shawl and coconut.



ALOT

Awareness vehicle rally taken out

As part of 'Abhimanyu' campaign, an awareness vehicle rally was taken out by women police force in the town. The rally was flagged off by SDOP Sabera Ansari. The rally reached garba pandals and took stock of arrangements. Police gave necessary guidelines related to women safety and installed banners of women helpline numbers. SDOP Ansari, TI Santosh Chaurasia, SI Manoj Patidar and others participated in the rally.

SCAM | Panchayats of Petlawad tehsil stands exposed

Vested interests hijack Land Rights Scheme

In many gram panchayats, including Sarangi, Barvet and Raipuriya, leases are being issued to ineligible people, including those with luxurious houses, shops and properties

FP News Service
PETLAWAD

A massive scam has unfolded in the panchayats of Petlawad tehsil, where the Chief Minister's Residential Land Rights Scheme, launched by former CM Shivraj Singh Chauhan in 2021, is being allegedly exploited by strongmen and ineligible individuals.

The scheme aimed to provide landless families from scheduled castes, scheduled tribes and backward classes with residential plots, but it has been hijacked by those with vested interests.

In many gram panchayats, including Sarangi, Barvet and Raipuriya, leases are being issued to ineligible people, including those with luxurious houses, shops and properties.

THE THEN SDM ANIL RATHORE HAD INVESTIGATED THE MATTER AND EXCLUDED 223 INELIGIBLE PEOPLE FROM THE SCHEME IN A SINGLE PAN-CHAYAT, BANNIA

sued to ineligible people, including those with luxurious houses, shops and properties.

The game is being played under the guise of government

leases, with panchayats distributing land worth crores without the required revenue demarcation, inspection or permission from competent officers.

The then SDM Anil Rathore had investigated the matter and excluded 223 ineligible people from the scheme in a single panchayat, Bannia. However, the game has started again, with many panchayats involved in the scam.

The revenue department's investigation can lead to cases against these panchayats, free-

ing government land from strongmen.

Petlawad SDM Tanushree Meena has acknowledged the matter and assured action as per government rules. The scam highlights the need for strict implementation of the scheme and protection of the rights of the intended beneficiaries.

The government must take immediate action to prevent further exploitation of the scheme and ensure that the benefits reach the deserving poor and landless families.

Admin gears up for CM's Maheshwar visit on Oct 12



Collector Karmaveer Sharma chairing time-limit meeting FP Photo

FP News Service
KHARGONE

A tanker, carrying LPG, overturned near Dokaliya Pada village, 5 km from Badnawar on Petlawad Road, on Tuesday morning, causing panic in the area. The tanker was en route to Ghati, Ujjain, after filling up with Indane Gas from Baroda when it lost control and overturned.

Driver sustained minor injuries in the accident. The accident led to a traffic jam at the spot, prompting authorities to take swift action.

SDM Deepak Chauhan, SDSP Shershingh Bhuria, tehsildar Suresh Nagar; TI Deepak Singh, sarpanch Yogesh Mukati, along with a large number of people, rushed to the scene to manage the situation. The police immediately stopped traffic at Bhawanikheda and Bhaisola Phata to prevent further congestion. Arrangements were made to call a crane to lift the tanker, which was expected to be removed by afternoon. The prompt response of the authorities helped prevent a potentially disastrous situation.

The meeting began with directives regarding the upcoming visit of Chief Minister Mohan Yadav to Maheshwar on October 12. Officers were instructed to compile a list of development works scheduled

for inauguration and bhoomi puja.

As part of the ongoing campaign for cow protection, officials were tasked with organising an exhibition in Maheshwar, showcasing the inspection of cow shelters and improvements in basic facilities.

The review of CM Helpline cases highlighted the need for a swift resolution, particularly for cases categorised under group-C and group-D.

Officers were urged to register as many farmers as possible by October 20 for soybean

procurement at the support price. Instructions were issued to file FIRs against private sellers whose fertilisers, seeds and pesticide samples failed laboratory tests.

Strict orders were given to the public works department, national highway and other relevant authorities to promptly address potholes and road repairs that were exacerbated by the rainy season.

District panchayat CEO Akash Singh, additional collector Rekha Rathore and various department officers participated via video conference.

JNV online applications open for classes IX & XI

FP News Service
ALOT

PM Shri Jawahar Navodaya Vidyalaya, Alot has commenced online applications for admissions to classes IX and XI for the academic session 2025-26.

According to principal Shantilal Teli, students currently studying in classes VIII and X from recognised schools are eligible to apply.

The eligibility criteria for class IX applicants include being born between May 1,

2010 and July 31, 2012, while class XI applicants must be born between June 1, 2008 and July 31, 2010.

The application process will remain open until October 30 and the entrance examination for both classes is scheduled for February 8, 2025. Interested students can submit their online applications by visiting the Navodaya Vidyalaya website. It is essential to note the eligibility criteria and application deadlines to ensure a smooth admission process.

The trains include the Udhna-Barauni Special, Ajmer-Valsad-Ajmer Special and Bikaner-Valsad-Bikaner Special

departing Udhna at 5:30 pm and arriving at Barauni the following day at 10:15 pm, with multiple stops including Ratlam, Ujjain and Gwalior.

Ajmer-Valsad-Ajmer special

Intense vehicle checking drive continues

FP News Service
NEEMUCH

Under the guidance of SP Ankit Jaiswal, ASP Naval Singh Sisodia, CSP Abhishek Ranjan and DSP Vaishali Singh, the police station in charge of traffic Urmila Chauhan and the traffic team continued intensified vehicle checking in the city.

The police are conducting regular checks at different intersections in the city, focusing on removing glass films from four-wheelers. They are taking strict action against minor children driving vehicles, issuing judicial challans to them and their parents and enforcing noise control on vehicles with loud silencers.

In light of the upcoming festivals, the police are also taking the opportunity to educate women, girls and youths participating in garba celebrations about traffic rules. This initiative aimed to ensure a safe and enjoyable festive season for all citizens.

The annual Chunri Kalash Yatra, organised by Samandar Singh Patel, took place with unprecedented fervour, drawing thousands to offer prayer at the Vaishno Devi, Digthana temple.

The event saw a remarkable turnout, as women adorned with urns participated in a vibrant display of faith and devotion.

The yatra commenced in Pipaliya, where women began gathering early in the morning. Ultimately, around 15,000 participants joined in, with approximately 10,000 to 12,000 Kalash carried by the devoted women, and their parents and enforcing noise control on vehicles with loud silencers.

The journey started after a ceremonial worship of the Kalash, led by Patel and his wife, alongside several dignitaries, including former

3 special trains to handle festive rush

FP News Service
RATLAM

To accommodate the surge in passenger demand during the festive season, Western Railway has announced the operation of three pairs of special trains through Ratlam Division.

The trains include the Udhna-Barauni Special, Ajmer-Valsad-Ajmer Special and Bikaner-Valsad-Bikaner Special

departing Udhna at 5:30 pm and arriving at Barauni the following day at 10:15 pm, with multiple stops including Ratlam, Ujjain and Gwalior.

Ajmer-Valsad-Ajmer special

display of devotion |

Thousands of devotees attend Chunri Kalash Yatra



Union minister Vikram Verma and Dhar MLA Neena Verma.

The procession was lively, featuring traditional garba dancing and bhajans performed by local singers, creating an atmosphere filled with joy and spirituality. As the yatra moved toward

Digthana, enthusiastic crowds welcomed it with flower showers, capturing the moment on their phones from rooftops and balconies.

Upon arrival at the Mata temple, rituals were performed by Pandit Akshay Tenguria, followed by the

KRISHAK MITRA YOJANA

MLA raises concern over delay in installation of transformers

FP News Service
JHABUA

MLA Dr Vikrant Bhuria has raised serious concerns regarding alleged scam against farmers under Chief Minister Krishak Mitra Yojana.

Petlawad SDM Tanushree Meena has acknowledged the matter and assured action as per government rules. The scam highlights the need for strict implementation of the scheme and protection of the rights of the intended beneficiaries.

The government must take immediate action to prevent further exploitation of the scheme and ensure that the benefits reach the deserving poor and landless families.



MLA Vikrant Bhuria

over a year since the deposits were made, the promised benefits have not been delivered. He highlighted the plight of farmers from Chui village in the Ranapur janpad panchayat, who have submitted receipts as proof of their payments.

He stated that these farmers, along with many others in the district, have not received any electricity connections despite having paid the required amount. He accused BJP officials of misleading the farmers for electoral gains.

Court orders release of confiscated property

FP News Service
DHAR

Judicial magistrate first class Sanjana Malviya has ordered the release of the confiscated property belonging to Sudhir Jain, Ayushi Jain and others involved in the Saint Teresa land scam case. The order marks the second ruling, followed by a previous court decision.

The controversy began when the police initiated an investigation based on a complaint from a habitual criminal from Mhow, Jaisingh Thakur. On November 28, 2021, then DSP Yashavti Shinde registered a case that implicated 27 individuals, including members of an organisation. The police swiftly arrested several prominent local figures, but the court later ruled that these actions were erroneous and invalidated, and nullified the case.

Hence, the proceedings of the MJCR case were terminated. Also, the permanent arrest warrants issued in respect of the accused should be recalled without delay.

The court's order also mandates the immediate release of the Jains' movable and immovable property, which had been confiscated since August 22, 2022. A letter has been sent to the collector to expedite this process.

Malviya assumes charge as CE

FP News Service
MUNDI

Judicial magistrate first class Sanjana Malviya has ordered the release of the confiscated property belonging to Sudhir Jain, Ayushi Jain and others involved in the Saint Teresa land scam case. The order marks the second ruling, followed by a previous court decision.

Bikaner-Valsad-Bikaner special would operate every Thursday, providing convenient connectivity across key regions. All services feature a range of coach classes, ensuring a comfortable journey for all passengers.

In view of the upcoming festivities, the Railways has announced the operation of special trains to meet the surge in demand.

SDOP Anu receives warm welcome

Manawar: Manawar SDOP Anu Beniwal visited Maa Jagdamba in Shri Ambika Ashram, Balipur Dham. Beniwal saw the statue of Guru Ji, Neelkantheshwar Bhagwan in Shri Shri 1008 Shri Gajanan Ji Maharaj Shri Balipur Dham. Maharaj welcomed SDOP Anu with a bouquet. She was honoured with coconut, shawl, Ramayan Book, Shri Durga Chalisa, and a fruit basket.

PANCHANG 9.10.2024 (DAKSHINAYAN)

Saka 1946 Samvat 2081

Month : Ashwin Shukla 6 Wednesday 12:15 P.M.

Nakshatra : Mula 5:15 A.M. then Purvadasa

Yoga : Saubhag 6:37 A.M. then Shobhan 5:53

Karan : Gara 12:29 A.M. then Visti

Moon : Dhara



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ALOT

Awareness vehicle rally taken out

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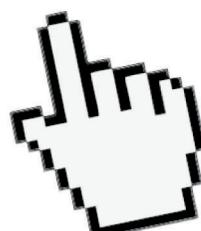
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RAIPUR
Workshop today

A one-day workshop on the theme "Prosperity through Cooperation" is scheduled to take place on 09 October at the New Circuit House, Mini Conference Hall, Civil Lines, Raipur, starting at 10 am. The workshop will focus on the review of various state-level initiatives aligned with the Central Government's theme of 'Cooperation to Prosperity'. The event will feature discussions on the implementation of action plans and guidelines issued by the Government of India, particularly related to restructuring committees of institutions like NABARD, NCDC, Apex Bank, District Cooperative Bank, Minor Forest Produce Association, Fisheries, and Livestock Departments to make them multi-purpose. A departmental review meeting will also be held during the program to evaluate ongoing works in the state under these initiatives.

RAIPUR
Hospital fined ₹31.32 Lakh

The Chhattisgarh state nodal agency continues its crackdown on hospitals violating rules under the Ayushman Bharat Jan Arogya Yojana and Shaheed Veer Narayan Singh Ayushman Health Scheme. Following complaints of unnecessary package blocking, refusal of benefits under the scheme, and overcharging, show-cause notices were issued to multiple hospitals. Babuji Care Hospital in Raipur and Samta Hospital in Dondi Lohara, Balod, had their registrations under the scheme canceled due to non-compliance with orders and unnecessary blocking of packages. Jai Ambe Multi Specialty Hospital, Raipur, was found to have misused ICU facilities. After an unsatisfactory response to a show-cause notice, the hospital was fined ₹31.32 lakh and suspended from the scheme for three months.

GARIABAND
Illegal timber smuggling operation thwarted

A major illegal timber smuggling attempt was foiled by the effort of Varun Jain, Deputy Director of Udanti Sitanadi Tiger Reserve, in the core area of Risaon of Gariaband district in Chhattisgarh. A group of 11 individuals from Sambalpur village, Odisha, was caught while attempting to smuggle 14 pieces of teak trees, converting them into sleepers. Patrolling staff and members of the Joint Forest Management Committee Salhebhath intercepted the group, resulting in the arrest of one individual, Sukul Ram, father of Mindru God. The remaining 10 individuals managed to flee the scene.

Baghel blames EVM for loss

Staff Reporter

RAIPUR

Former Chhattisgarh Chief Minister Bhupesh Baghel on Tuesday reacting to the victory of BJP in Haryana said that in postal ballot the Congress was leading but as the EVM was opened the BJP was leading.

He said the same thing happened in Chhattisgarh and Madhya Pradesh during the general elections where the votes of Congress in postal ballots were ahead but after the EVM counting started, everything overturned.

Even in the surveys, the Congress was leading and now the whole result had changed in favour of BJP.

Former Food Minister Amarjeet Bhagat also blamed the EVM for the loss of the polls. He said the polling

CM PUSHES AGENDAS | International air cargo facilities

Sai discusses industrial growth with Goyal

Staff Reporter

RAIPUR/NEW DELHI

Chhattisgarh Chief Minister Vishnu Deo Sai on Tuesday met with Union Commerce and Industry Minister Piyush Goyal in New Delhi to discuss several key development initiatives for the state, including industrial corridors and international air cargo facilities.

The Union Minister assured support for numerous proposals aimed at boosting the state's industrial and economic growth.

A major topic of discussion was the development of an industrial corridor in state. CM Sai urged the central government to connect the Korba-Bilaspur-Raipur route with the Nagpur Industrial Corridor. In response, Goyal assured the proposal would be implemented soon and directed officials to take the necessary steps.

Sai also emphasized the need for international air cargo facilities in Raipur, which would boost the export of agricultural and food processing products from the state. He proposed utilizing Raipur's old terminal for the facility. Goyal responded positively, assuring prompt approval, which would help the state's industries compete in global markets.

Another significant issue raised was the establishment of an APEDA (Agricultural and Processed Food Products Export Development Authority) certification office in Chhattisgarh. Sai proposed hosting national and international business events in Nava Raipur, positioning the



Chhattisgarh Chief Minister Vishnu Deo Sai met Union Commerce and Industry Minister Piyush Goyal in New Delhi to discuss several key development initiatives for the state on Tuesday.

garh. Sai highlighted it would bring global recognition to the state's agricultural products, benefiting both farmers and industrialists.

The meeting also covered the underutilization of the Concor Container Depot in Raipur, with only 15% of its capacity currently being used. Sai requested the addition of more shipping lines to reduce export costs and stimulate trade. Goyal assured to address it in coordination with the Shipping Ministry.

In addition, Sai proposed hosting national and international business events in Nava Raipur, positioning the

state as a business and industrial hub. Goyal welcomed the proposal and assured it would be implemented soon, fostering new business opportunities in the region.

Demand for SEZs in Chhattisgarh

CM Sai also proposed the establishment of an IT Services Special Economic Zone (SEZ) in Nava Raipur and multi-sector SEZs in other growth areas, including Janjgir and Rajnandgaon, where 400 acres of land has already been identified. The initiative aims to curb the export of raw materials to other states and promote in-

dustrial development within Chhattisgarh.

New Industrial Policy 2024-29

During the meeting, CM Sai briefed Union Minister about Chhattisgarh's new Industrial Policy 2024-29, part of the state's "Amritkaal: Chhattisgarh Vision @ 2047" initiative. The policy focuses on fostering industrial development, creating employment, and ensuring economic prosperity. Sai emphasized that the policy aims to transform Chhattisgarh into a thriving economic hub, paving the way for sustained growth through industrial activities.

Revenue Minister orders probe in fraudulent sale of temple land

Staff Reporter

RAIPUR

Chhattisgarh's Revenue Minister, Tank Ram Verma, has ordered an investigation into the fraudulent sale of land belonging to the Siveshwar Nath Mahadev Temple at Changorabanta, Raipur. The land, originally donated for temple use, was illegally sold to the land mafia. Minister Verma directed the Raipur Collector to investigate the case and submit a report within seven days, ensuring appropriate action is taken against those responsible.

The investigation stems from a complaint by local residents of Dr. Khubchand Baghel Ward No. 68, who reported the illegal sale of 4.40 acres of temple land, located near Mahadev Pond on Ring Road, behind Shyam Petrol



Revenue minister Tank Ram Verma

land mafia Sanjay Aggarwal in 1989.

Despite multiple court rulings in favour of the villagers, including decisions from the Local Court, Sessions Court, and High Court of Jabalpur, the land remains under the control of the land mafia. In June 2022, local residents filed a complaint with the Raipur Collector and Municipal Corporation, urging authorities to halt the illegal sale and restore the mortgaged land to the temple. Following the complaint, the Municipal Corporation took action by demolishing illegal structures on the site using bulldozers on June 16, 2022.

The Revenue Minister's directive aims to resolve the long-standing dispute and ensure that justice is served, protecting the temple land from further exploitation.

SEC stresses timely completion of delimitation

Staff Reporter

RAIPUR

General Administration Department, Government of Chhattisgarh has issued an order for reshuffle of charges among the eight IAS officials on Tuesday

The order states that Avinash Champavat (IAS-2003), secretary revenue and disaster management and rehabilitation department, additional charge relief and rehabilitation commissioner, Commissioner lands records has been given additional charge of Secretary, General Administration Department.

Anbalagan P (IAS-2004) has been given additional charge of Secretary, Food, Civil Supplies and Consumer Protection Department apart from relieving him the charge of Secretary, Religious Trust and Endowment department.

Topeshwar Verma (IAS-2005) has been posted as member, Revenue Board, Bilaspur and additional charge of Chairman, Revenue Board, Bilaspur.

K D Kunjam (IAS-2009) will be special secretary, Revenue and disaster management department and will hold additional charge of special secretary, Religious Trust and Endowment department and Director, Printing and Stationary.

Ramesh Kumar Sharma (IAS-2010) has been given charge as Managing Director, Markfed. With the order the post has been declared equivalent for IAS cadre.

Jitendra Kumar Shukla (IAS-2011) will hold additional charge of Managing Director, Warehousing Corporation along with existing charge of Director, Food and Civil Supplies and Consumer Protection.

Dr. Hulas Pathak, CEO of the IGKV Rabti Incubation Center, informed that their center has incubated 364 startups, out of which more than 100 received financial assistance around 10.84 crore. These startups have introduced over 900 agricultural products to the market and have generated direct and indirect employment for approximately 5,000 people, he added.

Vineet Nandanwar (IAS-2013) has been posted as Director, Land Records with additional charge as joint secretary, Public Complaint and Redressal department.

Dr Farila Alam (IAS-2016) has been given additional charge as deputy secretary, labour department along with existing charges.

The State Election Commission Chhattisgarh was holding a key review meeting in Nava Raipur to assess the preparations for the upcoming local body elections. The meeting focused on ensuring the smooth and transparent conduct of the elections. Senior officials from the General Administration and Urban Administration Departments, along with other concerned officials, were present.

The discussion included updates on reservation status in municipalities and the challenges posed by judicial stay orders on delimitation in certain urban bodies, including Rajnandgaon, Kawardha, Kumhar, Bemetara, and Takhatpur.

The meeting also covered preparations for the general elections for urban bodies and

Rain, thunderstorms hit Chhattisgarh

Staff Reporter

RAIPUR

in these weather changes. The thunderstorm clouds have carried moisture, leading to light drizzles and rain.

On Wednesday, light rain with thunderstorms is expected in isolated areas across Chhattisgarh. On Monday, light to moderate rainfall was recorded in some areas of the Raipur, Surguja, and Bastar divisions. Meteorologists indicate that the southwest monsoon is in the process of retreating, resulting

offgrid

BJP celebrates Haryana victory with 'Jalebi'

Staff Reporter

RAIPUR

in Jammu and Kashmir. State BJP President Kiran Singh Deo expressed his gratitude to the people of Haryana for their continued trust in the party. He emphasized that the election results were a clear rejection of Congress' dual political stance on key issues like the Constitution and reservation. Deo attributed the victory to the leadership of Prime Minister Narendra Modi, under whom, he said, India is progressing rapidly on the global stage and moving towards its goal of becoming a developed nation by 2047. He further stated that Haryana's rejection of Congress' divisive agenda based on caste and religion is a testament to the state's desire for development and progress.

The party leaders said the success was seen as a reflection of increasing public trust in the BJP, not only in Haryana but also with the party's growing performance

Deputy Chief Minister Arun Sao thanked the people of Haryana for their confidence in the BJP and Prime Minister Modi's governance. He noted that the victory marks the end of Congress' misgovernance and corruption in the state. With the BJP returning to power, Sao emphasized that Haryana will now see accelerated development and the establishment of good governance. He pledged that the BJP will honor the trust of the public and continue to meet their aspirations.

Deputy Chief Minister Vijay Sharma also congratulated the people of Haryana for the BJP's historic win. He highlighted that there is widespread distrust of Congress across all sections of society, which was evident in the election results. Sharma assured that the BJP government will work towards the overall development of the state, with a focus on public



BJP state president Kiran Deo shares jalebi as sweet among the party workers on victory in Haryana on Tuesday.

welfare, good governance, and service to the people. He reaffirmed the party's commitment to fulfilling its promises and removing the shadow of Congress's past governance from the state.

The BJP's victory in Haryana, according to Sharma, is not just a win for the party but a triumph of the people's aspirations.



584.81 pts



217.40 pts



3 paise



₹400



₹00

SENSEX 81,634.81

NIFTY 25,013.15

USD/INR 83.97

GOLD 78,300.00

SILVER 94,000.00

mp Briefs

NEW DELHI

Tata Motors Group global wholesales down 11% in Q2

Tata Motors on Tuesday reported an 11 per cent decline in group wholesales, including Jaguar Land Rover, at 3,04,189 units in the second quarter of the ongoing fiscal as compared to the same period last year. Global wholesales of Tata Motors passenger vehicles in Q2 FY25 were at 1,30,753 units, lower by 6 per cent as compared to Q2 FY24, the company said in a statement.

NEW DELHI

Sobha Ltd Q2 sale bookings fall 32%

Sobha Ltd has posted a 32 per cent decline in its sale bookings to Rs 1,78.5 crore during July-September quarter despite strong housing demand. In a regulatory filing on Monday, Bengaluru-based Sobha Ltd informed that its sale bookings stood at Rs 1,78.5 crore in the second quarter of this fiscal as against Rs 1,72.8 crore in the year-ago period.

NEW DELHI

Tea exports up 23% in Jan-July period

Tea exports between January and July this year have touched 144.50 million kilograms, up by 23.79 per cent from the year-ago period, Tea Board said. The country had shipped out 116.73 million kilograms in the corresponding period of the 2023 calendar year. Unit price realisation, however, has declined to Rs 256.37 per kg during the first 7 months of 2024 as against Rs 264.96 per kilogram in the previous corresponding period.

NEW DELHI

Global tablet market up 15% in Q2

Global tablet shipments grew 15% (year-on-year) in the second quarter (Q2) this year, despite a slow period historically, a report said on Tuesday. The market witnessed a return to form in Q2 2024 as Apple and Samsung had new releases compared to none the previous year, while other market players also displayed strong numbers, according to Counterpoint Research's latest 'Global Tablet Market Tracker'.

NEW DELHI

Job-oriented courses in high demand

Expertly designed, job-oriented, and easily accessible courses in wellness and beauty are in high demand, said Nandan Gijare, MD of i2CAN. The institute offers courses in Cosmetology, Aesthetic Medicine, and Diet & Nutrition across five cities in India, including Pune, Mumbai, Hyderabad, Wayanad, and Mathura.

NEW DELHI

UNIQLO names Kareena and Sidharth as new faces of brand

Global apparel retailer UNIQLO on Tuesday announces Bollywood icons, Kareena Kapoor Khan and Sidharth Malhotra as the new faces of the brand in India. This partnership will be marked with the duo's debut in UNIQLO's 2024 Fall Winter campaign.

Sensex rebounds 584 pts on gains in bluechip stocks amid poll results

Stock markets end 6-day slide on value buying

PTI

NEW DELHI

Stock markets snapped the six-day losing run on Tuesday with benchmark Sensex climbing nearly 585 points on the back of value buying in blue-chips like HDFC Bank, Reliance Industries and Mahindra & Mahindra.

The 30-share BSE Sensex rose by 584.81 points or 0.72 per cent to close at 81,634.81. During the day, it surged 713.28 points or 0.88 per cent to hit an intraday high of 81,763.28.

The NSE Nifty rose 217.40 points or 0.88 per cent to 25,013.15. Intraday, it jumped 248.25 points or 1 per cent to hit a high of 25,044.

From the Sensex pack, Adani Ports & Special Economic Zones, Mahindra & Mahindra, Reliance Industries, HDFC Bank, Larsen & Toubro, NTPC, State Bank of India, UltraTech Cement and Kotak Mahindra



Bank were the major gainers. In contrast, Tata Steel, Titan, Bajaj Finserv, JSW Steel, Bajaj Finance, Hindustan Unilever, ITC, Tata Motors and Tata Consultancy Services were among the laggards.

"After sessions of corrections, India is getting some support at the level of 25,800 for Nifty50. Good state election result for the ruling party, contrary to the exit polls, has brought some optimism in the domestic market," Vinod Nair, Head of Research at Geojit Financial Services, said.

Market participants also kept a close eye on the RBI's monetary policy to be announced on Wednesday. The reconstituted rate-setting panel of the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) started deliberations on the next bi-monthly monetary policy on Monday.

In the current context, experts feel that the RBI may not follow the US Federal Reserve, which lowered the benchmark rates by 50 basis points, and the central banks of some developed nations, which have since reduced the interest rates.

"RBI policy outcome, though no cut is expected, a plausible change in stance to neutral is anticipated," Nair added.

Market participants also kept a close eye on the RBI's monetary policy to be

Investors richer by ₹7.51 lakh cr

Investors wealth soared by Rs 7.51 lakh crore on Tuesday, where markets snapped the six-day losing run with benchmark Sensex climbing nearly 585 points. The market capitalisation of BSE-listed firms surged Rs 7,51,481.51 crore to Rs 4,59,50,926.21 crore (USD 5.47 trillion). "Markets reversed its 6-session losing streak due to short covering by investors in banking, telecom, auto and realty stocks,"

Prashanth Tapse, Senior VP (Research) at Mehta Equities Ltd, said. All eyes will be on the RBI's credit policy outcome on Wednesday, although there are expectations that the central bank could maintain the status quo on interest rates.

RBI policy outcome, though no cut is expected, a plausible change in stance to neutral is anticipated," Nair added.

India will be able to navigate through any oil supply shock that may result from the potential widening of the conflict in the Middle East, Oil Minister Hardeep Singh Puri said on Tuesday.

International oil prices have flared to near USD 79 per barrel from about USD 70 per barrel in just over a week's time. "There is no cause for panic," Puri said. "More than enough oil is available in the world."

While India, the world's third largest oil importing and consuming nation, is more than 85 per cent dependent on imports to meet its crude oil needs, the situation is "manageable", he said. "There is no need for concern." "We are pretty confident we will be able to navigate as we had done in the past," the minister said. This is primarily because the market



Int'l oil prices have flared to near \$79 per barrel from about \$70 per barrel in just over a week's time

that Israel may target oil or nuclear facilities in Iran.

And Tehran can choose to respond with either a direct attack on Israel or shutting the Strait of Hormuz - the world's most important oil transit point, further flaring oil prices.

The Strait of Hormuz, located between Oman and Iran, connects the Persian Gulf with the Gulf of Oman and the Arabian Sea.

A fifth of global oil flows through the Strait. Oil from all major oil producers - Saudi Arabia, Iraq, Kuwait and UAE - is exported via the Strait.

Only Saudi Arabia and the United Arab Emirates (UAE) have operating pipelines that can circumvent the Strait of Hormuz. Prior to the spike last week, the most since January 2023, there were hopes of a cut in petrol and diesel prices.

The price of a basket of crude oil India imports had averaged USD 73.69 per barrel in September, down from about USD 83.84 a barrel in March when petrol and diesel prices were last cut by Rs 2 per litre.

Sebi proposes policy for sharing data for research purposes

PTI

NEW DELHI



Data Advisory Committee (MDAC).

The committee suggested that in order to achieve the balance between data privacy vis-a-vis providing access to data, organisations, which are the actual source of data, will need to have a policy on data collection, processing, storage, dissemination and sharing.

Accordingly, the regulator, in its consultation paper, has proposed that "stock exchanges, depositories and clearing corporations will have their own policy for sharing data separately for research purposes only".

SEBI clears NSDL IPO

The Securities Exchange Board of India (SEBI) has cleared the initial public offering (IPO) of India's largest depository, the National Securities Depository Ltd (NSDL).

The market watchdog issued an observation on Sept 30, for the company's public offering. In SEBI's parlance, obtaining the observation letter means it's a go-ahead to float the public issue.

The issue of the Mumbai-based securities depository will consist only of an offer for sale component.

Sebi outlines specific due diligence of investors and investments of AIFs

PTI

NEW DELHI

Markets watchdog Sebi on Tuesday directed Alternative Investment Funds and their managers to exercise specific due diligence with respect to investors and investments in a bid to prevent circumvention of various laws and ensure compliance with regulatory frameworks.

In its circular, Sebi said that AIFs, their managers, and key personnel are required to conduct the due diligence on their investors and investments.

Under this, AIFs designated as Qualified Institutional Buyers (QIBs) or Qualified Buyers (QBs) must ensure that investors who are not eligible for QIB or QB status on their own do not avail of the respective benefits through the AIF.

Sept price hike of Chinese steel will provide relief to Indian manufacturers

ANI

NEW DELHI

The recent increase in Chinese steel prices may give some relief to Indian steel makers. A report by Axis Securities highlights that Chinese hot-rolled coil (HRC) steel prices have gone up in September 2024, giving an edge to Indian steel companies.

"The increase in Chinese HRC prices has turned the import parity premium of the domestic HRC prices vs. Chinese prices from approx. 7-8 per cent in September '24 into an import parity discount of approx. 3 per cent at present," according to the report.

The report noted that as of September 2024, the domestic HRC (hot-rolled coil) prices



were about 7-8 per cent higher than Chinese prices, but this gap has now reversed into a discount of approximately 3 per cent.

HRC, which stands for hot-rolled coil, refers to steel rolled into coils at high temperatures and is commonly used in industries such as construction, automotive, and manufacturing.

The report says that this shift is expected to provide some relief to Indian HRC (Steel) makers to stabilise domestic prices.

IGJS will help boost exports by 20% to the UAE in 2024: GJEPC

PTI

MUMBAI

The Gem and Jewellery Export Promotion Council (GJEPC) of India on Tuesday said the International Gem and Jewellery Show (IGJS) Dubai, which commenced on Tuesday, is expected to boost exports to the UAE by 20 per cent in this calendar year.

"IGJS Dubai has become a cornerstone event for the region, strengthened by the India-UAE CEPA agreement, which has opened doors to deeper partnerships and new growth opportunities. In 2023, India's jewellery exports to the UAE reached USD 8 billion, with a surge in demand for plain gold jewellery and studded jewellery," GJEPC vice chairman Kirit Bhansali said in a statement.

Top 8 hsg markets see 5% annual sales dip in Sept qtr



from 1,01,221 units sold during the same period in 2023.

The number of new residential units launched in the top 8 markets fell 25 per cent to 91,863 units from 1,23,080 units.

PropTiger pointed out that a sharp increase in home prices, averaging a nearly 20 per cent increase across the top eight cities, impacted affordability.

As per the data, housing sales rose only in Delhi-NCR and declined in the other seven major cities.

Delhi-NCR saw a 29 per cent growth in sales to 10,098 units during July-September from 7,800 units in the year-ago period.

However, the sales declined nine per cent in Ahmedabad to 9,352 units from 10,305 units. Bengaluru witnessed an 11 per cent fall in sales to 11,160 units from 12,588 units.

PE inflow in real estate jumps 2-fold to \$2.2 bn in Jul-Sep

PTI

MUMBAI

Private equity investments in the real estate sector jumped over twofold to USD 2.2 billion in July-September as investors look for gains amid strong property demand, according to Savills India.

In the year-ago period, private equity (PE) investments in real estate stood at USD 934 million. Real estate consultant Savills India also noted that the PE inflows stood at USD 3.9 billion during the January-September period of this calendar year, touching the investment quantum registered in the entire 2023.

The PE inflows stood at USD 6.7 billion in 2019, USD 6.6 billion in 2020, USD 3.4 billion in 2021, USD 3.4 billion in 2022, and USD 3.9 billion in 2023.

MFIN tightens underwriting guidelines for lenders amid over-indebtedness concerns

PTI

MUMBAI

The microfinance industry's self-regulatory body MFIN on Tuesday said it has tightened loan underwriting guidelines for its members amid concerns about over-indebtedness among the borrowers.

Micro Finance Industry

a household on account of previous loans or even 'bullet repayments' where money is paid at end of a loan period.

Microlenders are carrying out varying practices at present, and hence, MFIN has issued the guidelines to ensure "uniformity in the treatment", and help lenders to have a robust underwriting policy

dealing with cases of bullet repayments/missing EMIs.

The body, however, did not elaborate on the exact steps undertaken. It may be noted that there have been concerns around over-indebtedness among MFI borrowers, wherein a single borrower has been given five loans in many cases.

Gilts surge; traders cover short bets ahead of MPC outcome on Wednesday

Informist

MUMBAI

Prices of government bonds surged as traders picked up bonds to compensate for days of selling. Towards the end of the day, traders covered short bets ahead of the Monetary Policy Committee meeting outcome on Wednesday, dealers said.

The 10-year benchmark 7.10%, 2034 gilt ended at INR 102.02 or 6.81% yield, compared with INR 101.72 or 6.85% yield on Monday. Gilts opened higher, and the buying momentum built up through the day as the market got closer to the MPC's decision.

RBI Governor Shaktikanta Das will deliver a statement detailing the rate decision at 1000 IST on Wednesday. After the US FOMC cut the Fed funds rate by 50 bps in September, the domestic market began taking bets that the MPC would ease monetary policy with a change of stance at its October meeting.

mp Briefs

NEW DELHI

Daewoo eyes ₹500 cr revenue by FY27

Korean brand Daewoo on Tuesday said it has set the target of achieving a revenue of Rs 500 crore by FY27 from India business and plans to launch over 100 products across multiple categories. Besides, the company is also looking to launch its own branded stores across the country, and aims to open 130 outlets by 2025-2026, it said.

NEW DELHI

Hindenburg Research shorts Roblox

Hindenburg Research disclosed a short position in Roblox (RBLX) on Tuesday, alleging that the gaming platform popular among young children inflated metrics including user numbers.

NEW DELHI

Patanjali Foods gets CCI nod

The Competition Commission of India (CCI) on Tuesday cleared the proposed acquisition of the home and personal care business of Patanjali Ayurved by Patanjali Foods in a Rs 1,100 crore deal. "The proposed combination involves the acquisition of Patanjali Ayurved Ltd's (PAL) HPC business division by Patanjali Foods Ltd (PFL)," the CCI said in a release.

NEW DELHI

Received show cause notice from CCPA: Ola

The Central Consumer Protection Authority has issued a show cause notice to Ola Electric for alleged violation of consumer rights, misleading advertisement and unfair trade practices, according to a regulatory filing by the company. The company received the show cause notice by email on October 7, 2024, Ola Electric said in the filing.

NEW DELHI

ICICI Bank partners with PhonePe

ICICI Bank on Tuesday announced that it has partnered with PhonePe to offer instant credit on UPI to its pre-approved customers. The partnership enables millions of pre-approved customers of ICICI Bank to activate short term credit line instantly on the PhonePe app.

NEW DELHI

Bharat Realty partners with Tata Trent

Soon on the heels of a collaboration with IHCL, Bharat Realty has announced another venture with the Tata Group. This initiative aims to establish large-scale Westside retail stores in Mumbai's western suburbs. The new Westside stores will be situated in two of Bharat Realty's flagship developments: Bharat Skyvistas in Andheri and Bharat Arize in Goregaon.

NEW DELHI

Airtel-Nokia 'Green 5G' initiative

Bharti Airtel and Finnish telecom and IT company Nokia on Tuesday said their collaboration to launch the 'Green 5G' initiative is aimed at improving energy efficiency on Airtel's mobile network and reduce its carbon emissions by 143,413 metric tons of CO2 annually.

Rising palm oil, higher inputs cost to impact FMCG players' margins in Sept qtr

PTI

NEW DELHI

Leading FMCG players expect rising palm oil prices, higher input costs and increased advertising and promotion expenses to impact their margins and profits in the September quarter.

In the latest quarterly business updates, FMCG players such as Godrej Consumer Products Ltd (GCPL), Dabur and Marico have hinted at a flattish growth in their margins on year-on-year basis as prices of copra and vegetable oil appreciated in the July-September period.

Godrej Industries Group's



FMCG arm GCPL said it expects a "flattish" earnings growth in the domestic market in the September quarter as higher palm oil prices

added to input costs.

"Palm input costs have been rising since March and have risen in the high teens as of date. Management has

decided not to pass on the entire cost hike to consumers in one step and decided to continue investments on the long-term growth initiatives like rural van programme, new category development etc," it said.

"As a result, the standalone EBITDA (earnings before interest, taxes, depreciation, and amortization) growth will be flattish," said GCPL, which owns brands such as Good Knight, Cinthol and HIT.

However, in terms of top-line the company expects its standalone business (domestic) "to perform well with high single-digit underlying volume and value

growth", GCPL said. Marico said among key inputs, copra prices rose ahead of internal forecasts and the recent import duty hike led to vegetable oil prices moving higher towards the end of the quarter.

"Crude oil derivatives, however, remained range-bound. We expect gross margin to moderate on a year-on-year basis owing to partial absorption of higher input costs, as the company prioritised expanding its consumer franchise in the current demand environment," said Marico which owns popular brands like Saffola, Parachute, Livon etc.

Adani Green units plan to raise \$1 bn in dollar bonds

FPJ News Service

NEW DELHI

Four subsidiaries of India's Adani Green Energy, opens new tab plan to raise up to \$1 billion by issuing U.S. dollar-denominated bonds, two merchant bankers involved in the deal said on Tuesday.

The companies will issue bonds with a maturity of 20 years in one or more tranches starting this month, the bankers said, speaking on condition of anonymity as they are not authorised to speak to the media, Reuters reported.

"The companies may tap the market before the end of this month, once it judges the pulse

TN govt urges striking workers of Samsung India to get back to work

PTI
CHENNAI

The Tamil Nadu government on Tuesday urged the agitating workers of the Samsung India Electronics factory near here to return to work immediately, considering the welfare of other employees and their families.

Minister for Industries TRB Rajaa, who held talks with the management and workers separately over the last two days to resolve the issues, wondered if it was fair on the part of the employees to continue their protest just because they were unable to get Centre of



Indian Trade Unions-backed Union registered by the labour department.

"We all know that the issue of union recognition is subjective. We cannot discuss it now. The government is with you, Chief Minister MK Stalin is with you and considering all these factors, they should return to work immediately," Rajaa said while addressing

reporters at the Secretariat. Pressing for various demands including wage revision, better working conditions and recognition of the Union backed by CITU, about 1,100 employees of the total 1,750 workforce of Samsung India went on strike since Sep 9 at Sriperumbudur near here.

Rajaa said employees have listed nearly 14 demands, which include better amenities at the factory. The management has promised to address it. Rajaa recalled that whenever companies were invited to set up shop in the state, he was keen to know the number of jobs it would create.

Tata Power DDL says TQM practices helped improve electricity supply reliability by 70%

PTI
NEW DELHI

Debt-ridden telecom operator Vodafone Idea on Tuesday said it has been in discussion with the Department of Telecom for the waiver of bank guarantee, which the company is required to submit a year before the due date for payment of spectrum acquired prior to 2022.

The Department of Telecom (DoT) has asked the telco to submit bank guarantees as an assurance for the spectrum payment of Rs 24,747 crore due in September next year.

As per norms, bank guaran-

SPECTRUM PAYMENT

VIL says it continues to be engaged with DoT for waiver of bank guarantee

PTI
NEW DELHI

tees need to be submitted at least one year before the payment due date.

"The company has made detailed representations to the DoT and continues to be engaged with DoT for removal of the bank guarantee requirements for spectrum acquired before 2022. This is also an industry fact," Vodafone Idea said in a regulatory filing.



Hyundai Motor to sell over 14.2 mn shares in Indian subsidiary for IPO

IANS
SEOUL / NEW DELHI

for the IPO pricing, but it seeks to go public within this year with an aim to raise up to 4 trillion won (\$2.96 billion) at about \$20 billion IPO valuation, Yonhap news agency reported.

Hyundai Motor established the Indian subsidiary in 1996, and it would be the first carmaker to go public in India in around two decades, officials said.

The SEBI has approved Hyundai Motor India's Rs 25,000 crore IPO that will open on October 14 for subscription.



Embassy REIT raises ₹2,000 cr to repay NCDs maturing in Oct

PTI
MUMBAI

Embassy Office Parks REIT has raised Rs 2,000 crore debt to repay non-convertible debentures maturing this month.

In a regulatory filing on Tuesday, Embassy REIT said it has raised "Rs 2,000 crore of coupon-bearing debt at an interest rate of 7.95 per cent."

Embassy REIT will utilise the proceeds from this debt raise to repay its NCDs maturing in October 2024.

IndoSpace plans to raise investment up to ₹4,500 cr in logistics & warehouse parks in TN



IndoSpace is a leading developer of Grade A industrial and logistics real estate

Logistics parks operator IndoSpace on Tuesday said it is looking to bolster its presence in the manufacturing sector with an increased investment plan of up to Rs 4,500 crore in new logistics and warehouse parks in Tamil Nadu.

A leading developer of Grade A industrial and logistics real estate, IndoSpace had last year signed an initial pact with the Tamil Nadu government for investing Rs 2,000 crore in the state's logistics industry.

Tamil Nadu continues to be

announcing significant expansions in the state, IndoSpace said, adding that the company has helped develop an ancillary ecosystem that supports these OEMs.

IndoSpace announces plans to increase its investments up to Rs 4,500 crore in new logistics and warehouse parks in Tamil Nadu. These parks will support the growing manufacturing sectors like automobile and electronics in the state," the company said.

This investment is expected to create over 8,000 new jobs, besides enhancing the state's already credible industrial infrastructure, IndoSpace said.

Bank of India's Bullion Exchange Branch takes 'Integrity Pledge'

On Tuesday, all customers of the Bank of India's Bullion Exchange Branch participated in the Integrity Pledge as part of Vigilance Awareness Week 2024. The event was graced by key branch officials, including AGM Anju Kakkar, Branch Administrator Sunil Choudhary, and Chief Manager Amit Kumar Gupta from the Mumbai South Zone Vigilance Office. This initiative was conducted under the guidance of the Vigilance



Department of Bank of India's Head Office, reinforcing the bank's dedication to promoting ethical conduct and transparency across all branches. The Integrity Pledge emphasizes the commitment of both the bank and its customers to uphold honesty and ethical practices in their financial dealings.

Not applying for benefits under India's new EV policy in short term: BYD

PTI

NEW DELHI

Chinese electric vehicle maker BYD is not ready to apply for benefits in the short term under India's new EV policy announced earlier this year that seeks to attract global manufacturers to the country, a senior company official said on Tuesday.

"Representatives of our company, who have a good idea about that policy went in, went through that. The final conclusion... is that we are not ready to implement this policy in the short term," he said when asked if BYD was looking to apply for



Electric Passenger Vehicles Business Rajeev Chauhan told PTI here.

"Representatives of our company, who have a good idea about that policy went in, went through that. The final conclusion... is that we are not ready to implement this policy in the short term," he said when asked if BYD was looking to apply for

HPCL makes historic entry into US mkt with export of premium lubricants



Hindustan Petroleum Corporation Limited (HPCL) has achieved a significant milestone with its first-ever export of HP LUBRICANTS to the United States, marking its presence in the 30th country globally. In a major breakthrough, HPCL's premium Shock Absorber Oil, HP SHOCK OIL DC, has been selected by M/s. Duroshox, a leading manu-

facturer of vibration isolation, motion control, comfort, and damping solutions, for use in their solar panel dampers produced at their facility in San Antonio, Texas. ED - Lubes, HPCL, CH Srinivas said, "This milestone marks a significant step forward in our strategic expansion plans. We are proud to have made inroads into the US market."

Nifty likely to face resistance at 25150



Look at market fluctuations as your friend rather than your enemy; profit from folly rather than participate in it.

Warren Buffett



DII / FPI trading activity

	BUY VALUE	SELL VALUE	NET VALUE
DII	19,494.71	12,494.03	7,000.68
FII / FPI	14,774.19	20,503.79	-5,729.60

including 10-12 franchisees, out of which already launched 8 showrooms in H1FY25. They have a strong pipeline of own and franchisee showrooms to meet the yearly target.

They are also on course for 18-20% YoY revenue growth for FY25 considering ensuing festive season Dhanteras, Diwali and Durga Puja. Taking all strategic initiatives, launching new collections and taking all steps to improve the stud ratio to 12%+ level.

Bharti Airtel:

With respect to news article titled "Bharti Airtel is reportedly in advanced negotiations with the Tata Group to acquire Tata Play, India's largest direct-to-home (DTH) business" and "Bharti Airtel may buy another 'loss-making' Tata Group company, after 7 yrs", the company has clarified no material event / information that requires disclosure, however, company evaluates various opportunities for acquisition.

Dr. Reddy's:

Aurigen Oncology Ltd, a wholly-owned subsidiary of Dr. Reddy's Laboratories and a clinical stage biotech

committed to bringing in novel and effective therapeutics for the treatment of cancer, has announced the Phase 1 results for Ribrecabtagene autoleucel (DRL-1801) from the SWASTH study – India's first trial for a novel autologous BCMA

directed CAR-T cell therapy in patients with relapsed / refractory multiple myeloma. After reviewing the Phase 1 data, the Indian Regulatory Agency i.e., Drugs Controller General of India (DCGI), has given the nod to commence Phase 2 part of the trial. These results of Phase 1 were presented at the 21st annual meeting of the International Myeloma Society at Rio De Janeiro, Brazil, held recently.



Top 5 stocks to watch out for 9th Oct

Torrent Power:

Torrent Power has received a letter of award from Maharashtra State Electricity Distribution Company Limited (MSEDCL) for long-term supply of 2,000 Megawatt (MW) Energy Storage Capacity from INSTS Connected Pumped Hydro Storage Plant.

This 2,000 MW capacity is inclusive of 1,500 MW Capacity for which Letter of Intent was already issued by MSEDCL on 17th September 2024. The Company has now received allotment of additional 500 MW capacity under the tender taking the total capacity allocated to 2,000 MW.

Vraj Iron & Steel:

The company has entered into a long term agreement (LTA) with NMDC Ltd on 7th October 2024 for the procurement of Iron Ore Lump for the period of three years.

Senco:

Retail growth was robust at 27% in Q2FY25 and 19% in H1FY25 on a YoY basis. The SSG growth substantially improved to 20% in Q2FY25 as against 4% in Q1FY25 yielding 12% SSG growth in H1FY25. The Stud ratio substantially improved to 11.1% in Q2FY25 as against 9.9% in Q1 yielding 10.5% in H1FY25.

In terms of H2FY25 outlook, the company have given guidance for launch of 18-20 jewellery showrooms

Stock Ideas

Glenmark - technical call of the day

Stock have given an inside bar breakout on daily scale and formed a strong bullish candle. Buying is visible across Pharma stocks which may support the bullish momentum. The ADX line is headed up which confirms the strength.

Buy Glenmark

CMP	1734
SL	1675
TRGT	1855

Hot stocks

Company Name	10/7/2024	7 DSMA	21 DSMA	50DSMA	250 DSMA	BSE 1 Year High Price	Pulse
Prince Pipes	544.90	557.54	567.95	589.68	641.91	775.75	100
Eureka Forbes	545.70	563.25	539.10	509.26	487.94	599.95	100
Oil India	547.05	565.33	584.71	626.26	401.50	767.30	100
Granules India	548.35	564.41	580.97	628.67	463.37	724.55	100
Sunteck Realty	548.50	574.06	575.39	581.10	493.47	698.35	100
Varroc Engineer	561.70	580.41	570.51	551.28	717.00	717.00	100
Minda Corp	563.05	599.56	569.84	551.49	434.21	652.90	100
Birlasoft Ltd	567.35	593.64	621.74	626.52	676.71	861.60	100
Berger Paints	567.90	602.41	611.03	580.32	554.34	629.60	100
Dabur India	569.35	603.59	639.89	636.47	567.42	672.00	100
Star Health Insu	571.90	596.61	608.96	604.60	565.58	647.65	100
Forts Health.	579.00	599.41	588.28	550.42	444.83	628.00	100
UPL	580.20	604.47	605.13	583.02	545.21	635.00	100
Avanti Feeds	581.75	616.25	655.46	675.11	534.62	791.10	100
RHI Magnesita	587.60	608.34	598.92	604.47	658.32	829.95	100
Sonata Software	588.90	618.81	647.70	648.27	669.25	867.10	100
Ambuja Cements	590.30	619.81	621.52	630.67	576.86	706.85	100
Gujarat Gas	596.25	610.29	623.87	626.45	547.71	689.45	100
LIC Housing Fin.	607.25	647.41	671.83	682.03	620.71	827.00	100
Jubilant Food.	618.45	656.91	671.23	646.13	537.73	715.15	100
Adani Power	625.30	648.85	651.19	670.63	582.30	896.75	100
Balrampur Chini	627.90	650.44	600.95	559.58	433.78	692.85	100
G N F C	631.20	667.37	663.00	670.22	683.41	814.85	100
Nippon Life Ind.	631.90	659.80	668.81	669.50	542.20	740.35	100
Medplus Health	639.55	662.25	684.55	672.43	709.71	849.30	100
Elgi Equipments	640.35	672.85	703.92	684.83	616.66	799.00	100
One 97	651.60	695.91	671.41	596.37	568.77	998.30	100
Indian Hotels Co	652.30	681.76	688.32	657.65	547.28	720.60	100
Triveni Turbine	657.35	688.89	726.52	714.13	529.65	842.55	100
CCL Products	662.90	688.91	723.78	702.36	632.33	854.00	100

Upwardly mobile companies

Company Name	9/30/2024	10/8/2024	Days	Gain/Loss %	Per Day Average
BASF India	7384.40	8517.25	5	15.34	228.57
JK Paper	449.05	502.05	5	11.80	10.60
KPIT Technologi.	1628.80	1714.40	5	5.26	17.12
M & M Fin. Serv.	338.70	288.80	5	-14.73	-9.98
PCBL Ltd	578.05	500.00	5	-13.50	-15.61
Avenue Super.	5096.60	4470.75	5	-12.28	-125.17
NMDC	244.85	219.10	5	-10.52	-5.15
Jubilant Food.	681.10	615.50	5	-9.63	-13.12
Dabur India	625.35	567.15	5	-9.31	-11.64
Manappuram Fin.	201.30	182.60	5	-9.29	-3.74

Top percentage gainers

Company Name	10/7/2024	10/8/2024	% chg
One 97	651.60	753.60	15.65
Triveni Turbine	657.35	728.60	10.84
HEG	2226.25	2451.75	10.13
Varun Beverages	541.80	589.90	8.88
H U D C O	210.30	228.95	8.87
Rail Vikas	450.30	487.00	8.15
HFCL	1301.5	1407.00	8.11
Trent	7449.45	8047.80	8.03
Adani Energy Sol	932.90	1007.45	7.99
Kaynes Tech	4872.80	5253.65	7.82
Dixon Technolog.	13495.85	14522.00	7.60
Godrej Consumer	1349.85	1544.95	7.50
Cams Services	4107.60	4415.00	7.48
JSW Energy	672.75	722.70	7.42
Godfrey Phillips	6421.70	6880.30	7.14
Engineers India	189.00	202.20	6.98
Bombay Burmah	2482.90	2650.45	6.75
Indiamart Inter.	2775.70	2962.95	

np *Briefs***AAP: 0 in Hry, 1 in J&K's Doda**

The AAP on Tuesday suffered a humiliating defeat in Haryana with most of its candidates set to lose their security deposit. According to EC, the party could gain just 1.76% vote share in the election when it contested on 89 of the 90 assembly seats. Meanwhile, AAP pulled a surprise win after Mehraj Malik won the Doda seat handing the party its first-ever assembly seat in Jammu and Kashmir.



BJP supporters celebrate the party's win in the Haryana poll at party headquarters in New Delhi on Tuesday —ANI

COMING POLLS | Win will bolster BJP's image in Maha, Jharkhand

Ripple effect of BJP's win in Haryana

KS Tomar

The BJP has secured a resounding third consecutive win in Haryana, underscoring its adeptness at leveraging a blend of caste-based strategies, effective leadership, a

The momentum could provide the BJP an advantage in elections in Maharashtra and Jharkhand

fractured opposition, and a well-oiled election machinery. Despite grappling with two-time anti-incumbency, the party maintained its dominance by appealing to diverse voter bases and capitalising on local and national issues that resonated with the electorate.

The Congress, on the other hand, faced significant setbacks owing to a variety of factors. Complacency, an over-reliance on Jat leaders, sidelining of Dalit leader Kumar Selja, and a lack of a compelling campaign agenda all contributed to its defeat. Further, the decision of the AAP to contest all seats, coupled with the failure to exploit issues such as unemployment and price rice, rendered the Congress campaign ineffective.

The BJP's strategic strengths, in consolidating non-Jat votes, coupled with the Congress's internal weaknesses, led to the latter's defeat. BJP's triumph not only reinforces its influence in the North but sets the stage for potential challenges in the forthcoming elections in Maharashtra and Jharkhand.

The implications are profound. BJP and Congress may appear to be on equal footing for future contests in the two states, the perception of BJP's strength following its victory is significant. The win bolsters the party's image as a formidable force in the Hindi heartland, given Haryana's proximity to Delhi. It could boost the morale of the party, solidifying its grip over UP and MP, and creating a ripple effect in Maharashtra and Jharkhand. BJP aims to project the win as a reaffirmation of its continued dominance in the North.

Conversely, the BJP's loss in Jammu and Kashmir will be viewed as a setback, particularly in regions where security, national integration and Kashmir's unique status are pressing concerns.

In Maharashtra, BJP is allied with the by Eknath

Shinde's Shiv Sena. The win could enhance the BJP's negotiating power with its allies, reinforcing the stability of the current government. However, a loss in J&K might embolden Uddhav Thackeray's Sena, along with Congress and NCP, to intensify their criticism of the BJP's national policies, especially on federalism and national security.

Maharashtra's voters are influenced by a blend of urban concerns, such as economic policies, and rural issues, like agriculture and employment. The victory is likely to help the BJP maintain its urban base. Yet, a defeat in J&K could damage its appeal in rural or sensitive regions, particularly about nationalism and governance.

In Jharkhand, BJP faces a robust regional alliance comprising JMM, Congress and RJD. The win could enhance the BJP's image as a party capable of challenging regional coalitions. However, the loss in J&K could undermine its narrative of being an unassailable force, potentially empowering the Hemant Soren-led govt in Jharkhand, which has regional roots and appeals to tribal sentiments.

Jharkhand's substantial tribal population resonates with regional autonomy and decentralisation. A defeat in J&K, where BJP has been seen as centralising power, could bolster support for regional narratives of autonomy in the state, solidifying backing for Soren's coalition against the BJP's centralising tendencies.

The momentum could provide the BJP an advantage in elections in Maharashtra and Jharkhand. Conversely, losing J&K could present an opportunity for opposition parties to capitalise on the BJP's vulnerabilities, particularly in Maharashtra and Jharkhand. Concerns about the BJP's handling of sensitive regions may be raised, allowing opposition parties to frame the narrative as one of national governance failure.

Alliance dynamics in Maharashtra could shift. The BJP-Shinde government may face stronger opposition from the MVA (Sena-UBT, Congress, NCP). The loss in J&K could lead to intensified critiques of BJP's national policies, resonating with urban voters in Mumbai and other city centres. In Jharkhand, the opposition might use the J&K defeat to bolster their position, undermining the BJP's claims of being the guardian of national unity and security.

—KS Tomar is a political analyst & strategic affairs columnist based in Shimla

Rashid party a damp squib

The Awami Ittehad Party led by Sheikh Abdul Rashid alias Engineer Rashid, who proved a giant slayer after he defeated former chief minister Omar Abdullah in the 2024 parliamentary election, has failed to make much impact in the J&K assembly poll. Rashid, who won while incarcerated in Tihar Jail on terror funding charges, attempted to demonstrate that his parliamentary win was not merely a fluke. However, he failed to strike a chord with the voters in the first assembly polls after the abrogation of Article 370.

**Jammu: Cong wins only 1 seat**

While the National Conference-Congress combine won the Jammu and Kashmir assembly election, the Grand Old Party hit a new low as far as the results of the Jammu region were concerned. Of the 29 seats the Congress contested in the Jammu region, only one came their way after party candidate Iftikhar Ahmed defeated his nearest rival, Vibodh Gupta of the BJP, by a margin of 1,404 votes in Rajouri.

'Need to identify those responsible'

A blame game began in the



Congress as it failed to come back to power in Haryana after 10 years, with senior party leader Kumari Selja. "The Haryana poll results are disappointing and I am pained at the disappointment of the Congress workers in the state who have worked very hard and were looking forward to forming their government after 10 years. It will not be business as usual in Haryana and I am sure the Congress high command would identify those who negated the efforts to bring the party to power after 10 years," she said.

2 Hindus among 48 J&K winners

With the NC and Congress alliance set to form the next govt in J&K after crossing the majority mark by winning 48 seats, only two Hindu faces have won the election on the ticket of the regional party even as the two allies together fielded 30 candidates, including several Sikhs. However, BJP which had emerged victorious on 29 seats have 28 Hindus and one Sikh member as none of its Muslim candidates, including two former ministers, managed to win.

कायलीय नगर पालिका निगम, इन्दौर

निविदा निपत्रित कर्ता का नाम				संपर्क का संबंधित एवं लागत		निविदा प्रक्रिया एवं लेनदेनी की अपेक्षित तिथि	
पुरा. निविदा निपत्रित कर्ता का नाम	पुरा. निविदा निपत्रित कर्ता का नाम						
पुरा. निविदा निपत्रित कर्ता का नाम	पुरा. निविदा निपत्रित कर्ता का नाम						

प्रतिविधि विभाग, कैरेक्टर के निविदा / विवर / लागत के बारे में डिजिटल वर्तना का प्राप्तान्वयन है।

PHOGAT ME NOT, IT'S VICTORY

Several senior Cong, BJP leaders trounced in Haryana assembly election

Rajesh Moudgil

CHANDIGARH

The evening in Paris may not have yielded the desired outcome for grappler Vinesh Phogat, but here on Tuesday, star wrestler and Congress candidate won her debut electoral battle from Julana seat with a narrow margin of about 6,000 votes.

After her disappointment at the Games, Vinesh returned home and retired from the game and joined Congress on September 6. She was given ticket by the party to fight from Julana seat. She was locked in a multi-corner seat in Jind district — the state's Jat heartland. Julana is Vinesh's "sasural" as her husband Somvir Rathee hails from here while she hails from Balali village in Charkhi Dadri district.

Her's was the most-watched fight as she faced AAP candidate Kavita Dalal, who is a



Vinesh Phogat

former WWE wrestler and claims substantial support from about six villages having Jats with Dalal "gotra". While the sitting MLA of Janayal Janta Party (JJP) Amarjit Dhanda posed a threat to her, another rival party INLD, had fielded Surinder Lather, who has a large number of Jats of "Lather gotra" in the constituency.



Savitri Jindal & Naveen Jindal

tuary. BJP's Capt Yogesh Bairagi, a non-Jat candidate backed by OBC and SC as well as Brahmins also gave her a daunting challenge. She defeated Bairagi by about 6,000.

SAVITRI WINS TOO..

Another prominent winner was the country's richest woman Savitri Jindal, mother of BJP MP from Kurukshetra Navin Jindal, who fought against BJP's two-time MLA Kamal Gupta in Hisar and won by over 18,000 votes.



Bhupinder Singh Hooda

Among other prominent winners were BJP caretaker CM Nayab Saini from Ludwara seat, BJP's former home minister Anil Vij who won for the seventh time from Ambala Cantt, four-time MLA Arvind Sharma, Gohana, 4-time MLA Ghanshyam Saraf, Bhiwani and other senior leaders including Mool Chand Sharma, Ballabgarh, Rao Narbir Singh, Badshahpur, Vipul Goyal, Gurugram and Krishan Panwar, Rajya Sabha member, who fought from Israna seat.

BJP WINNERS

Other prominent winners were OP Dhankar, Badli, Capt Abhimanyu, Narnaund and speaker Gian Chand Gupta from the Panchkula seat. While the top leader of INLD Abhay Chautala also lost from his home turf Ellenabad seat, JJP leader and former deputy chief minister Dushyant Chautala was trounced from the Uchana Kalan constituency.

CONGRESS WINNERS

Among prominent winners from Congress included its tallest leader and two-time former chief minister Bhupinder Singh Hooda, former minister Ashok Arora, Paramvir Singh and Akram Khan. The main losers from Congress included its state president Udai Bhan from Hodal and Karan Dalal, a veteran, from Palwal seat.

BIGGEST LOSERS

Among the biggest losers in the BJP are former ministers OP Dhankar, Badli, Capt Abhimanyu, Narnaund and speaker Gian Chand Gupta from the Panchkula seat. While the top leader of INLD Abhay Chautala also lost from his home turf Ellenabad seat, JJP leader and former deputy chief minister Dushyant Chautala was trounced from the Uchana Kalan constituency.

Overconfident: Kejri diagnosis of Congress

Gaurav Vivek Bhatnagar

NEW DELHI



Caste division bid failed: PM

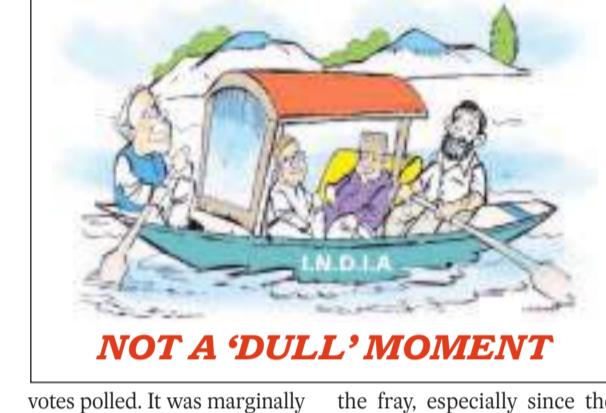
Gaurav Vivek Bhatnagar

NEW DELHI

Prime Minister Modi on Monday criticised the Congress for attempting to engage in caste-based politics in Haryana, stating the party's efforts to sow division had failed. He highlighted the BJP's historic third consecutive win in the state as proof that "the Congress has been exposed."

Speaking to BJP workers at a thanksgiving event at the party headquarters in Delhi, Modi said, "The people of Haryana have done wonders by making the 'lotus' bloom again." He asserted Congress's attempts to spread disunity were unsuccessful, saying, "When they are out of power, they behave like a fish out of water, resorting to spreading the poison of caste in society to incite all sections."

As for AAP, despite hectic campaigning by its top leadership in the state during the assembly poll, it managed to get only about 1.75 per cent of all



NOT A 'DULL' MOMENT

votes polled. It was marginally higher than the BSP's vote share. All the three main parties — the Congress, the BJP and the Indian National Lok Dal — polled far more.

Kejriwal campaigned aggressively through the state projecting his "son of the soil" card, as he was born in Bhiwani, failed to live up to expectations. There was a media hype around AAP's entry into

the fray, especially since the party rules the two neighbouring states of Delhi and Punjab and had deployed both its central leaders and state leaders for campaigning.

On Tuesday, Kejriwal added "no election should be taken lightly since each election and each seat is tough". He could not have been more correct. The results have, however, also upset Kejriwal's own calcula-

tions as he believed and had stated publicly that "no government will be formed in Haryana without AAP's support". That dream has crashed.

Meanwhile, AAP's Rajya Sabha MP Swati Maliwal claimed that her own party betrayed the INDIA bloc by fielding its candidates on almost all seats in Haryana and "cutting votes" of the Congress.

In a post on X, Maliwal wrote: "He came to Haryana only to take revenge from Congress. He falsely accused me of being a BJP agent, and today he himself is betraying the INDIA bloc and cutting votes of INC!"

Pointing out that AAP candidates lost their deposits on most seats, she had a word of advice for Kejriwal: "There is still time, give up your ego, remove the veil from your blurry eyes, stop doing drama and work for the people."

new kids on the block

PARIVAR CUBS 'SLAY' SEASONED RIVALS

Rajesh Moudgil

CHANDIGARH

Several of the political dynasts who fought their debut assembly election this time, have succeeded in trouncing their seasoned rivals.

Sample this: Aditya Surjewala, son of Haryana Congress MP Jai Prakash, won the Kalayat seat in his maiden election from Kaithal, won the election by over 8,000 votes. A third-gen scion of the Surjewala family, he defeated sitting BJP MLA Leela Ram.

Another prominent dynast was Arti Rao, daughter of

BJP's tallest Ahir leader and union minister Rao Inderjit Singh, who won her debut election from Ateli seat defeating Attar Lal of BSP by over 56,000 votes in a fiercely fought multi-corner contest. Her victory marks the third consecutive win for the saftron party from here.

Vikas Saharan, son of Haryana Congress MP Jai Prakash, won the Kalayat seat in his maiden election, defeating former BJP minister Kamlesh Dhanda and INLD's veteran Rampal Majra, by over 13,000 votes. It was Vikas' first election.

Notably, Congress' Goluk Setia — the grandson of

former Congress leader Lachman Dass Arora — floored the former controversial MLA and leader of Haryana Lokhit Party Gopal Kanda in his maiden election. He defeated Kanda by 7,000+ votes. In Samalkha, first timer Manmohan Badhana, the son of BJP leader Kartan Badhana, trounced Congress legislator Dharam Singh Chhokar by over 19,000 votes.

Likewise, Arjun Chautala, son of INLD leader Abhay Chautala, won from Rania defeating his grand-uncle

State reclaims 116-acre Charkop land in one shot

Ravikiran Deshmukh

MUMBAI

The state government has decided to take back over 116 acres of a prime land parcel in Charkop (Kandivali) allotted for the industrial purpose. The suburban collector has been asked to take possession of the land within a week to restore it under full control of the govern-

ment.

The move may have a far-reaching impact as it comes after Friday's (October 4) cabinet meeting. Interestingly, it was not publicised along with the other decisions for reasons best known to the authorities.

The Charkop land parcel was first reserved for industrial development in 1961, demarking 150 plots for

The land parcel is currently with the industrial estate; it will now go under the control of suburban collector

industrial use and leased out to entrepreneurs for 30 years. In 1982, the state

decided to hand over the plots to occupants under certain conditions under the supervision of the collector.

Later, in 2002, the state handed over the land to the industries department, which was placed under the MIDC. As the MIDC was unable to handle day to day activities, the parcel was given to Kandivali Industrial Estate Ltd for management.

After Tuesday's decision, the state revenue department said that several complaints were being made to the government as well as the suburban collector about the management of the parcel. A complaint has been filed before the Lokayukta and the issue figured in the state legislative assembly. The Kandivali Industrial Estate Ltd has not been able

to deal with the complaints of encroachments, sources said.

Sources added that issues related with transfer of plots, redevelopment, usage of transfer of development rights (TDR), conversion of land parcels from occupant class-2 to occupant class-1 (complete ownership) have been cropping up from time to time.

Haryana result | Poll outcome won't affect Cong's prospects, say MVA parties; Fadnavis says J&K poll is a tight slap to Pak

'Haryana has defeated Oppn's fake narratives'

Kalpesh Mhamunkar

MUMBAI

The BJP's victory hat-trick in Haryana shows the people have defeated the Opposition's narratives on various issues and exposed Congress leader Rahul Gandhi's politics of drama, Maharashtra Deputy Chief Minister Devendra Fadnavis said on Tuesday.

"People of Haryana have shown faith in the leadership of Prime Minister Narendra Modi. Similar results will be seen in Maharashtra in the month of November," Fadnavis said.

Fadnavis along with the BJP state president Chandrashekhar Bawankule, MP Bhagwat Karad, senior leader Bhai Girkar were present at BJP state office at Nariman Point to celebrate victory in Haryana. Fadnavis further said that which party has won the election in Jammu and Kashmir is not important but it is a tight slap to Pakistan.

Bawankule said, "After listening to Rahul Gandhi's statement about reservation in America, the anti-reservation face of Congress has come to the fore. As people believe that only BJP can protect life, property and constitution, it will have repercussions in Maharashtra. Considering the need for a double engine government for the development of the state, the voters of Maharashtra will also give victory to the Mahayuti Alliance. 'BJP Ghar Chalo Abhiyan' will be implemented to defeat the dirty politics of the opposition in Maharashtra. The time for introspection has now come for the Congress."

Chief Minister Eknath Shinde also expressed gratitude to the people of Haryana.



BJP leaders celebrate party victory -Vijay Gohil

People of Haryana have shown faith in the leadership of Prime Minister Narendra Modi. Similar results will be seen in Maharashtra in the month of November
Devendra Fadnavis

The Haryana results are surprising and shocking. How did the tide suddenly turn when, in the morning, the Congress was leading
Nana Patole

Now the Congress should introspect. Whenever there's a direct fight between Congress and BJP, Congress falls weak
Priyanka Chaturvedi

"The people of Haryana have put their stamp of trust on the double engine government for the third time in a row. Heartiest congratulations to PM Modiji, Amit Shahji and BJP president JP Naddaji for this undisputed success."

However, State Congress president Nana Patole raised suspicion on the counting process in Haryana. In a statement to media, Patole stated, "The election results for the Haryana assembly are surprising and shocking. How did the tide suddenly turn when, in the morning,

Congress was leading in most constituencies. Patole claimed that in several districts, the EVM machines had a 99% battery charge, and in those locations, Congress candidates lost while BJP candidates emerged victorious. In contrast, in areas where the EVMs had a 60-70% battery charge, Congress candidates were successful. He asserted that this discrepancy clearly indicates tampering with the EVMs. Patole stated that the BJP has lost its connection with the people. He described

the victory achieved through manipulation as a "murder of the democratic process." The Congress party plans to lodge a complaint with the Election Commission regarding this issue and does not accept the election results, he added.

Shiv Sena UBT MP Priyanka Chaturvedi took potshots at Congress over the Haryana election result. "I will congratulate BJP for winning in Haryana despite anger against them in the state. BJP did well campaigning and successfully persuaded people towards them."

Shiv Sena UBT MP Priyanka Chaturvedi took potshots at Congress over the Haryana election result. "I will congratulate BJP for winning in Haryana despite anger against them in the state. BJP did well campaigning and successfully persuaded people towards them."

He further asserted that Shiv Sena still stand with Hindutva but not with BJP.

"My grandfather fought against the wrong Hindutvaists of that time. I left BJP, but that does not mean that we have left Hindutva. My Hindutva is comprehensive

"I say that Congress or NCP should declare the face of the Chief Minister and I will support them right now because Maharashtra is important for us," Thackeray said.

"I had never asked for a CM post when MVA formed the government in 2019. Then how can I expect now," said Uddhav.

ADB approves \$42 million loan to restore coastline

PTI
NEW DELHI

The Asian Development Bank (ADB) has approved a USD 42 million loan to provide coastal and riverbank protection ecosystems in Maharashtra. As per an official statement by the ADB, the approved loan will help to increase resilience of local communities.

The ADB stated that the 'Maharashtra Sustainable Climate-Resilient Coastal Protection and Management' project will establish coastal erosion and riverbank protection solutions such as sheet piles and vegetation planting to restore and stabilise the coastline.

"The project will demonstrate the benefits of adopting new engineering hybrid approaches such as offshore reefs construction and rock protection works as well as soft nature-based solutions such as beach and dune nourishment," said ADB Water Resources Specialist Marie L'Hostis.

The ADB will help build the capacity of the Maharashtra Maritime Board in shore management planning, including the establishment of a coastal infrastructure management unit.

Modi to launch projects worth ₹7,600cr in Maha

building at Shirdi Airport worth over Rs645 crore, the statement said.

Modi will launch the operationalisation of 10 government medical colleges in Maharashtra located at Mumbai, Nashik, Jalna, Amravati, Gadchiroli, Buldhana, Washim, Bhandara, Hingoli and Ambernath (Thane), his office said.

In line with his vision to position India as the 'Skill Capital of the World', Modi will also inaugurate the Indian Institute of Skills (IIS) in Mumbai, the statement said.



Connecting people

In a digital world, the number of people using letters and postcards to communicate with loved ones is dwindling. But does it have to be so? On World Post Day today, let's restore a bit of tradition to keep in touch. —Vijay Gohil

HC seeks details of coins in SC lawyer's possession

Urvi Mahajani

MUMBAI

Observing that the coins donated to the Mumbai University (MU) had "history and culture associated with them", the Bombay High Court has directed Dinesh Mody, a senior Supreme Court lawyer and a prominent numismatist, to file an affidavit stating whether he auctioned any of those coins which he had donated in 2005. Mody had donated



around 25,000 coins to establish a museum at the university. A bench of Chief Justice DK Upadhyaya and Justice Amit Borkar has also asked Mody to file affidavit giving details of coins with their correct description and also submit the coins in his possession with the Prothonotary of the high court, who in turn has been directed to keep the same in safe custody.

The HC was hearing a PIL

tended that 2,000 are currently displayed in the MU museum due to space constraints. He emphasised that the balance coins are safely with him.

The bench said preservation of the coins with the museum was important for its historical and cultural value. "The coins, which are supposed to be kept in a museum in safe and secure custody, do not carry with themselves only the value of the metal they are made of.

Bizman held in ₹36 cr FD fraud

Poonam Apraj

MUMBAI

The EOW had earlier arrested the bank's branch manager who got bail after three years in jail

tors, without disclosing his own involvement, and opened a bank account into which Rs14 crore of Mathadi FDs was transferred.

After these transactions, the bank became suspicious. However, before the investigation could begin, Shah allegedly withdrew Rs2.5 crore and gave it to Roy. He also withdrew Rs5 crore and bought 9kg gold from a bullion dealer.

It is also alleged that a certain amount was transferred to the account of one Shivam Fashion Pvt Ltd. The owner of Shivam Fashion, Diwakar Jha, is also on the EOW's radar. So far, the police have arrested 12 persons in the case. The 12th arrest is of Shah, who was taken into custody from his residence in Malad. The court has remanded him to six days of police custody.

It's official: Ajit to fight from Baramati

Prakarta Pol

MUMBAI

about his prospects.

In a recent interview, he admitted that it was a mistake to field his wife Sunetra against his sister. He stated that politics should not have been brought into the family. On another occasion at a public rally, he also said that he has no desire to contest from Baramati, which led to speculation about his son, Jay Pawar, possibly contesting the seat. There have also been speculations that Ajit Pawar himself would explore other constituencies, such as Hadapsar and Shirur.

With confirmation that Ajit himself will contest from Baramati has the political grapevine abuzz on who Sharad Pawar would field as his candidate. Yugendra Pawar is said to have become politically active in the constituency, making an uncle versus nephew contest quite likely.

Ajit's absence delays cabinet meeting

Ravikiran Deshmukh

MUMBAI

On Tuesday, the state cabinet meeting scheduled for 4:30pm was unexpectedly postponed, with the reason cited as the indisposition of Chief Minister Eknath Shinde. While it is acknowledged that he may have been unwell, insiders said that the recent posturing by Deputy Chief Minister Ajit Pawar and the ongoing Dhargar agitation are being seen as the key factors.

Despite cabinet meetings being the most important engagement for ministers, Pawar had arranged to visit Baramati but was still home.

It was only after frantic calls were made to his official residence at Malabar Hill that he was persuaded to participate, sources revealed to the FPJ.

The reason behind Ajit Pawar's posturing is said to be the introduction of proposals that would impose a significant financial burden on the state. Sources said that proposals are often being presented without consulting the finance department.

Over the years, the HC said that nothing concrete has been done for all these years by the authorities of varsity. "Once the coins were donated to the Mumbai University by Respondent number 4 (Mody) as per agreement, the coins became property of MU, which were to be preserved and protected not only for its value in the market but also for its academic value," the bench underlined.

The plea highlighted the apathy on part of the authorities of MU that led to siphoning of its own property in the form of coins. Expressing displeasure over the inaction by the MU

BOPDEV GHAT GANG RAPE | NCP (SCP) leader Supriya Sule demands Dy CM Devendra Fadnavis's resignation over deteriorating law and order situation

MVA stages demonstration over crimes against women

Staff Reporter

PUNE

It has been over four days, but the Pune Police have yet to arrest the culprits involved in the Bopdev Ghat gang rape case. Meanwhile, the Maha Vikas Aghadi (MVA) staged a demonstration at Alka Chowk in Pune, demanding accountability for the increasing crimes against women in the city. NCP (SP) working president Supriya Sule, NCP (SP) Pune city chief Prashant Jagtap, Congress Pune city chief Arvind Shinde, Shiv Sena (UBT) Pune city chief Sanjay More and many others were present at the protest site.

Speaking to the media, Sule, who is the MP from the Baramati Lok Sabha constituency, demanded the resignation of Deputy Chief Minister Devendra Fadnavis, who is also the state's Home Minister. She said, "Nearly one week has passed since the tragic incident. It is extremely heart-wrenching. Last month also a similar incident took place. Such incidents aren't stopping. Who is responsible for this? The current Mahayuti government. Law and order have completely collapsed in Pune and the



state. There is no fear of the police among the criminals. The problem isn't with the Police Department but with the Mantralaya. Criminals feel that we can reach a compromise by contacting the Mantralaya and hence, there is no fear of the police."

In the past year to year and a half, Maharashtra's crime rate has increased. Devendra Fadnavis should take responsibility and resign. He must answer why the crime rate is on the rise. He has time to go to election events but does not have time for the victims," the NCP (SP) leader added. A 21-year-old woman was allegedly

raped by three unidentified persons, who also tied up her male friend using his own clothes and belt and assaulted him in Bopdev Ghat on Thursday night. Police investigation revealed the three suspects, who were armed with 'koyta' (machetes) and bamboo sticks, took away the woman's ornaments and later raped her. The trio also warned the duo of dire consequences if they revealed the incident to anyone.

Meanwhile, Pune Police's DC (Zone 5) R Raja told The Free Press Journal on Monday that the number of police teams searching for the

accused has been increased to 60, which includes officials from the crime branch, detective branch, forensic team and dog squad.

Closed-circuit television (CCTV) footage from over 100 locations within 70-80km of the crime spot at Bopdev Ghat has been collected and is being analysed. We have recovered data of mobile phones active in the locality before and after the incident and found that more than 3,000 cell phones were active. Call detail records are being verified and analysed. Besides, over 200 habitual offenders have been interrogated.

Pawar & Sule visit Bopdev Ghat

Staff Reporter

PUNE

NCP (SP) Chief Sharad Pawar and working president Supriya Sule on Tuesday visited Bopdev Ghat in Pune, the place where a 21-year-old woman was gang raped by three unidentified persons.

During their visit, Pawar and Sule accessed the crime scene and examined the area where the tragic incident took place. They also took stock of the ongoing police investigation into the case.

Additionally, the sketches of the suspects have been circulated to all groups and nearby villages. We are receiving calls, and the information is being verified, he added. He also shared that a reward of Rs10 lakh has been announced for providing information about the suspects.

ABVP storms SPPU exam bldg

Staff Reporter

PUNE

The Akhil Bharatiya Vidyarthi Parishad (ABVP) stormed the Savitribai Phule Pune University (SPPU) examination building on Tuesday afternoon, demanding the release of the BA LLB revaluation results. Harshvardhan Harpude, Pune City Secretary of ABVP, stated, "The BA LLB second semester exams were held in June, and the results were announced in July. Students who did not clear the exams applied for revaluation. However, the revaluation results have not been released for the last two months. These students need to fill out the application forms for the third-semester examination. But, as the results of the second-semester revaluation are still not out, there is confusion among the students."

"Additionally, the university



administration has suddenly changed the deadline for filling out the examination form, causing further hardship for the students. If the results for those who have applied for revaluation are declared after the application deadline set by the university administration, will they get their extra fees back? When will the university administration provide clarity to the students?" Harpude added. A scuffle also broke out with the police at

the gate. Later, around 20 to 30 protesters managed to enter and sat in the reception area of the examination building, shouting slogans against the university administration.

Meanwhile, examination director Mahesh Kakde denied the protesters' claims and stated that the results had been released. He asked the students to provide their permanent registration numbers (PRN), assuring them he would gather the results.

24-hr+ power cut in NIBM Annexure area

Indu Bhagat

PUNE

The challenges in the NIBM Annexure area go beyond bad roads, traffic woes and lack of proper drainage. On Monday, the residents were forced to live without power for more than 24 hours. They claim that frequent power cuts occur in the area as the electricity infrastructure fails to keep pace with the development and increasing residential projects.

Raj Singh, a resident of Raheja society and also an activist, said, "We are deprived of basic amenities like proper roads in our area. The residents of NIBM Annexure are facing a power cut for more than 24 hours. The work of road construction is going on, and they dug up the entire area. The electric cable was cut during the digging, due to which there's a power cut and people are forced to live in the dark. The business has suffered due to a lack of power. Our society has a strong power backup; therefore, we are not impacted much, but the other residents in our area have to face a hard time due to power failure."

Aquib Shaikh, owner of a cafe in the NIBM Annexure area, expressed his ordeal and loss in the business due to the power failure in the area. He said, "I opened my cafe at noon yesterday, and there was no light. My freezer started to defrost, and by evening, the food stored in the freezer had spoiled. I incurred a loss of around Rs10,000-12,000. The light was restored late at night after 10pm. Apart from that, there was some renovation work going on in my cafe, and because of the power loss, the

work was stopped and I had to pay the labourers their charge. So this power cut bore a hole in my pocket. And it made a huge loss of money and business."

On the condition of anonymity, an owner who runs a restaurant situated in the area said, "Because there was no light in our area, my business was down. My business was heavily impacted as during the peak hours there was no light and the customers had to go. During the daytime, you still manage, but in the evening, you can't. Most customers had to return as there was no light. This is not the first time that this has happened; earlier it happened six times, and we haven't had electricity for more than 12 hours, and our business has been heavily impacted."

Pallavi Lokhande, a resident of the NIBM area, said, "The power outage is common here these days due to a lot of construction activities going on. I'm a working professional, and the power cut impacted my work. I had to log in using my phone. I even made a complaint to MSEDL."

Meanwhile, speaking to The Free Press Journal, Garje Ramakant, Assistant Engineer, MSEDL, NIBM area, said, "We received a complaint from a resident at around 4.30pm regarding a power cut. As soon as we got the information, we sent our team. The damaged electric cable wire was fixed, and the power was restored. Very few consumers were affected, and the issue occurred because the contractor while digging the road ruptured the electric cable. They didn't take accountability and inform us."

Pune Metro sees ridership surge on new PCMC-Swargate stretch

Ankit Shukla

PUNE

After the inauguration of the District Court to Swargate stretch of Pune Metro there has been a massive surge in ridership. From Oct 1 to 5, ridership touched 3.45 lakh on the PCMC to Swargate route — 70,361 on Oct 1, 70,133 on Oct 2, 63,683 on Oct 3, 65,277 on Oct 4 and 76,087 on Oct 5.

Aarti Deshmukh, a college student, said, "I travel from Swargate to Pimpri regularly, and the metro has made my travel much easier. It is fast, clean, and much more affordable than taxis or autos."

Meera Singh, who frequently commutes to Shivaji Nagar, commented, "The frequency of the trains can be better, especially during peak hours. Sometimes it gets overcrowded, and it feels like there are not enough trains running."

Rajesh Kulkarni, a tech professional, highlighted parking woes at metro stations. "If the authorities find a solution for vehicle parking, then it will be the best mode of transport. People will happily choose the metro," he said.

Meanwhile, commuters like Sandeep Bhusale, are now demanding the opening of the

Khadki Metro Station, which is on the PCMC to Swargate route. "I live near Khadki, and it is frustrating that the station is not operational yet. The authorities need to speed up the construction and open it soon," Bhusale told The Free Journal (FPJ).

Speaking to the FPJ, Hemant Sonawane, Executive Director (Administration and Public Relations) of Pune Metro, said, "70% of the work on Khadki metro station is being done, and the rest of the work will be completed in the next three months. Probably, it will start in January for the commuters."

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gp Briefs

AHMEDABAD

Seizure of 3.6KL of adulterated oil

The Food and Drugs Department, after carrying out surprise raids at multiple locations in Dhanera and Deesa, seized a total of 3,639 litres of suspicious edible oil valued at over ₹6.5 lakh. The surprise checks were conducted at Arbuda Oil Industries, Lakshmi Oil Industries in Dhanera, and Bajrang Marketing in Deesa. As per the official, a total of 3,639 litres of suspected edible oil valued at ₹6,55,120 was seized from the three firms. Based on the information received, raids were conducted at these locations. At Lakshmi Oil Industries in Waler village, Dhanera, a suspicious quantity of Raida oil was found. Two different samples of Jai Lakshmi Mustard Oil were taken in the presence of the firm's owner, while the remaining quantity of 1,586 litres of suspected Raida oil was seized. Similarly, suspected Raida oil was found to be produced at Arbuda Oil Industries in Karadhanji village, Dhanera. In the presence of firm owner Prakashbhai Ramjibhai Patel, a sample of Raida oil was taken, and the remaining quantity of 1,590 litres, valued at ₹2,86,200, has been seized.

AHMEDABAD

3 Guj lawyers now judges

The Central Government has announced the appointment of three lawyers as Judges of the Gujarat High Court. The appointed advocates are Sanjeev Jayendra Thaker, Deependra Narayan Ray, and Maulik Jitendra Shelat. The press communiqué from the Ministry of Law and Justice stated, "In exercise of the power conferred by clause (1) of Article 217 of the Constitution of India, the President of India, after consultation with Chief Justice of India, vide notification dated 08.10.2024 is pleased to appoint S/Shri (i) Sanjeev Jayendra Thaker, (ii) Deependra Narayan Ray and (iii) Maulik Jitendra Shelat, Advocates as Judges of the Gujarat High Court, with effect from the date they assume charge of their respective offices."

AHMEDABAD

Trustee held in land scam

The Ahmedabad crime branch arrested Mohammad Memon and presented him in court, demanding 14 days remand for illegally buying property in the name of trust. Additional government lawyer Y K Vyas told the court that the Jamia Darul Quran Trust of Surat had appointed Memon and four other members as trustees. This trust was made to provide medical and educational services to the people of Ahmedabad.

WHAT SPARKED INTEREST | Candid conversation between Rushikesh Patel and Jagdish Vishwakarma, 'Let's see what happens, if they remove us, let it be'

Buzz over ministers' viral video

FPJ News Service

AHMEDABAD

In a surprising turn of events, a candid conversation between Gujarat Health Minister **Rushikesh Patel** and **Jagdish Vishwakarma**, Minister of Protocol (Independent Charge), has gone viral on social media. The two ministers, unaware of the proximity of cameras, were caught discussing the Bharatiya Janata Party's (BJP) 'Sadasaty Abhiyan 2024' (National Membership Drive) during a press conference on October 6. The video clip, complete with audio, has since garnered widespread attention, sparking debates and reactions across social platforms.

The Sadasaty Abhiyan, launched on September 2, aims to expand BJP's membership base and strengthen its organizational structure ahead of upcoming elections. However, the off-the-record exchange between the ministers offered a rare glimpse into the internal workings of the party's membership drive and the pressures faced by its leaders.

In the conversation that was inadvertently caught on camera, Patel is heard responding to Vishwakarma's



remarks about the targets set for the membership drive. Vishwakarma mentions that Prime Minister Narendra Modi has asked for a detailed report on voter turnout and membership growth. Patel, in response, casually remarks, 'Je thaay ae, kaadhi mele to kaadhi mele' (Let's see what happens, if they remove us, let it be), a statement that has since become the focal point of the video.

The Conversation Unfolded

Here's a translated excerpt from the now-viral exchange:

Jagdish Vishwakarma: 'The party... PM sir has asked for a report. How many votes did you get? How many members did you create? It's confirmed news. How many voters do you have, and what percentage did you achieve?'

Rushikesh Patel: 'Whatever will this prove? Will it prove performance?'

Vishwakarma: 'No, the party checks it all differently.'

Patel: 'Whatever happens, let it happen...'

Vishwakarma: 'I'm not saying that. I'm saying the party is doing its whole analysis.'

Panchal (an unidentified individual): 'Most of the assembly seats have reached 45-50%.'

Patel: 'I have reached 50-55%.'

Vishwakarma: 'Of the votes you got?'

Patel: 'I got 90,000 votes and created 50,000 members.'

A Political Slip-up

The accidental recording highlights the pressures party leaders face as they work to meet the ambitious targets of the Sadasaty Abhiyan 2024. Patel's seemingly nonchalant remark, 'Whatever happens, let it happen,' has sparked discussions about internal discontent and the strain on political figures tasked with delivering on the party's expectations.

While the ministers were likely discussing the strategy behind the membership drive, the candidness of their exchange has brought the conversation into public view. The incident underscores the challenges of maintaining a clear distinction between private political strategy and public scrutiny in today's age of social media, where even informal remarks can quickly go viral.

Public Reactions and Scrutiny

The video has drawn mixed reactions from the public and political analysts alike. Some see it as an innocuous conversation that was blown out of proportion, while others view it as a revealing insight into the inner workings of the party and the personal toll that political campaigns can take on their leaders.

Political commentators have noted that the viral clip serves as a reminder of the constant pressure political figures face to meet specific targets and expectations, especially in an era where even casual conversations can be subject to public scrutiny.

A Reflection of Growing Pressures

As India gears up for major elections in the near future, the BJP's membership drive is seen as a critical part of its strategy to secure votes and maintain its organizational strength. The candid exchange between Patel and Vishwakarma highlights the immense pressure on party members to meet their goals, while also reminding politicians of the fine line between private discussions and public perception.

After rains, heatwave grips state

FPJ News Service

AHMEDABAD



As the monsoon bids farewell, Gujarat faces an unexpected challenge: soaring temperatures and a looming heatwave. The State Meteorological Department has forecasted temperatures soaring to 36-37 degrees Celsius in the coming days, defying the usual onset of cooler weather.

Typically, this transition period from monsoon to winter sees a moderation in temperatures. However, the shift in north-westerly winds has brought about a prolonged heat spell across Ahmedabad and Gandhinagar, where temperatures are expected to exceed 35 degrees Celsius.

The sudden change in weather patterns has health officials concerned about the potential impact on public health. With the convergence of warmer days and lingering cool nights, conditions are ripe for respiratory illnesses, fever, and increased incidents of heat-related ailments such as hypertension and heatstroke.

The Meteorological Department has advised people to stay updated with weather forecasts and take necessary precautions to mitigate the effects of the heatwave. With no immediate likelihood of rain to alleviate the heat, authorities are monitoring the situation closely to ensure public safety.

Journalist, 33 others arrested in ₹200cr input tax credit scam

FPJ News Service

AHMEDABAD

Scam involved the creation of over 200 bogus firms across India to fraudulently avail ITC

the arrest of more than 33 individuals, including owners of 12 fake companies. Among those questioned were Ajay Barad, son of Saurashtra BJP MLA Bhagwan Barad, and journalist Mahesh Langa.

Preliminary investigations revealed that the accused had established over 200 bogus companies throughout the country. These companies were allegedly used to generate fraudulent input tax credits, inflicting financial damage on the government exchequer. The scam involved sophisticated methods, including the use of fake identities and forged documents to create the bogus firms. The scam is part of an organized effort to defraud

the government through fake billing, false documentation, and the misrepresentation of facts.

ACP Bharat Patel of the Crime Branch confirmed that Langa was arrested based on false documents found in his possession during the raids. "Following a complaint received from the GST department, journalist Mahesh Langa has been arrested for submitting false documents," said Patel.

The multi-agency investigation involved teams from the Crime Branch, Economic Offences Wing, and Special Operations Group, who executed raids in Gujarat.

The authorities believe that more than 200 fraudulent companies were operating in an organized manner across the country, using illegal tactics to obtain and pass bogus input tax credit. The scam has resulted in significant financial losses to the country's exchequer.

VNSGU to set up Olympic-level gym

FPJ News Service

SURAT



As India prepares to host the 2036 Olympics, Veer Narmad South Gujarat University (VNSGU) in Surat has taken a significant step to boost the country's Olympic aspirations. The university's Board of Management has approved a plan to construct a state-of-the-art gymnasium, specifically designed to train students in powerlifting and weightlifting. With a budget allocation of Rs 20 crore, this initiative aims to prepare young athletes for the global stage.

The move comes in response to India's underwhelming performance at the Paris Olympics, where the country's medal tally fell short of expectations. With the 2036 Olympics on the horizon, various states in India are gearing up to enhance their sports infrastructure to prepare the next generation of athletes. Gujarat, in particular, has been active in building new stadiums and sports facilities. VNSGU's decision to focus on

weightlifting and powerlifting is a part of this broader national effort to strengthen India's sporting capabilities.

VNSGU Vice-Chancellor Kishoresinh Chavda emphasized the importance of this project, stating, "For the upcoming 2036 Olympics, we have taken a decision to build an Olympic-level gym specializing in weightlifting. Our aim is to create a facility that can train athletes to compete at the highest levels. We have already begun preparations to ensure the gym meets Olympic standards."

The establishment of the gym follows an online meeting chaired by Gujarat's Chancellor, Acharya Devrat, who encouraged universities across the state to focus on a specific sport to help groom champions. During this meeting, the vice-chancellors of various universities discussed which sports their institutions would prioritize. VNSGU chose weightlifting, believing that this sport aligns with the university's strengths and offers a promising path to Olympic success.

This initiative is part of a larger trend across India, where institutions are beginning to focus on sports infrastructure to foster young talent, with one eye on future Olympics. The VNSGU gym is expected to become a hub for weightlifting enthusiasts, offering aspiring athletes an opportunity to train with top-tier equipment and under the guidance of experienced coaches.

'Plant a Smile' campaign launched

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Police bust fake certificates racket

FPJ HYDERABAD

The sleuths of Commissioner's Task Force, South Zone Team along with Amberpet Police conducted raids on such Photo copyCentre named as "MS Enterprises" situated at Owaishi Nagar, Amberpet, Hyderabad. Police teams have busted fake certificate rackets, arrested two people who provided fake educational certificates of SSC, Intermediate, Degree and other fake documents to aspirants and collected huge amounts from them.

Arrested have been identified as Mohammed Mahfooz Iqbal (41) and Shaik Ilyas Ahmed (34). Police have seized 84 fake certificates, 4 empty certificates, 14 Judicial Stamp Papers, 40 Empty A4 Size Papers, CPU, Monitor, Printer, Mouse, Keyboard, 2 mobile phones and a pen drive from them.

The arrested Mohammed Mahfooz Iqbal is running a Photo copy centre (in common parlance called Xerox Centre) at Amberpet and doing all types of online work. As his business was running in losses, he along with his friend Shaik Ilyas Ahmed hatched a plan to prepare fake educational certificates like SSC, Intermediate, Degree and other documents to earn easy money.

The accused Mahfooz Iqbal having knowledge on Photoshop and Ilyas Ahmed acts as agent and brings candidates who need fake educational certificates. For that, Mahfooz Iqbal is preparing fake educational certificates for the candidates by editing the name, roll numbers, marks and percentage and other details on the certificates and preparing them as original.

The accused Iqbal and Ilyas charge huge amounts from candidates.

On tip-off credible information, the Commissioner's Task Force South Zone Team along with Amberpet Police arrested two people and seized material were handed over to Amberpet SHO for further action. The Amberpet Police have registered a case in Cr. No.640/2024 U/s 318(4), 338, 336(3), 340, 339, R/w 49 BNS and took up investigation.

AP CM Naidu thanks PM for supporting Polavaram

FPJ AMRAVATI

Andhra Pradesh Chief Minister N Chandrababu Naidu said he had a fruitful meeting with Prime Minister Narendra Modi in the national capital on Monday.

In a social media post, he thanked the PM for the Cabinet approval of revised cost estimates of the Polavaram Project and also support for the capital Amaravati.

"Had a fruitful meeting with the Hon'ble Prime Minister, Shri @narendramodi ji in New Delhi today. I thanked him for the cabinet approval of revised cost estimates of the Polavaram Project and apprised him of developments in Andhra Pradesh."

"I am thankful for his overall support and reassurance on the Central Government's hand holding in matters related to fiscal stress being faced by our state and appreciate his support to the Capital City of Amaravati," Naidu said in the post.

In another post, he said he met with Union Minister of Railways Ashwini Vaishnav and thanked him for taking forward the long-pending assurance of the establishment of a Railway Zone with Visakhapatnam as headquarters.

The CM said Vaishnav informed him that Railways is investing Rs 73,743 crore on various infrastructure projects across Andhra Pradesh.



Prime Minister Narendra Modi with Andhra Pradesh Chief Minister N Chandrababu Naidu during a meeting

Andhra CM Naidu expresses shock over 'advocates' bus accident

FPJ AMRAVATI

Andhra Pradesh Chief Minister N Chandrababu Naidu on Tuesday expressed the shock and grief over the tragic death of G. Jyotsna (55), wife of Bar Council member, Sunkar Rajendra Prasad, who died in a road accident near Jaipur on the wee hours of Tuesday. Ten other advocates suffered injuries.

About 75 advocates of the

Bezwada Bar Association (BBA) were on an education tour to Rajasthan from October 2 to 9. The accident occurred when one of the buses in which they were travelling hit a truck on Jodhpur Highway in the early morning.

CM Naidu said G Jyotsna had organized many programs to bring awareness among women and students of the state and the news of her death is very sad.

CM extended his condolences to her family members and instructed the officials to help the injured advocates to get the best treatment and the help they needed.

CM Naidu spoke with Rajasthan Chief Minister Bhajan Lal Sharma and requested to extend treatment and make arrangements to send all the advocates of the BBA to Andhra Pradesh back.

DCA sleuths raid unlicensed medical shop in Sircilla

FPJ HYDERABAD

Hyderabad, Oct.8 (NSS): Drugs Control Administration, Telangana raided a medical shop located at Ananth Nagar, Sircilla, Rajanna-Sircilla District, which was operating illegally without a drug license. During the raid, DCA seized stocks worth Rs 30,000 from the premises.

The DCA officials, acting on a tip-off regarding the illegal sale of medicines, raided a shop located at D.No. 2-5-10, Ananth Nagar, Sircilla, Rajanna-Sircilla District on October 7, 2024 and one G. Raju was found to be operating the shop 'Sri Laxmi Pharmacy' on the said premises within Sri Durga Hospital, Sircilla, illegally, without a drug license.

During the raid, DCA officers detected unauthorized stocking of huge quantity of medicines for sale and 11 varieties of medicines, including antibiotics, anti-ulcer drugs, anti-emetics and so on were found stocked for sale at the premises. The DCA officials seized the stock worth Rs 30,000 during the raid.

L.R.D. Bhavani, Drugs Inspector, Sircilla carried out the raid and lifted the samples for analysis.

Wholesalers/Dealers who supply medicines to such unlicensed entities, who are stocking and selling drugs without a drug license, are also punishable under the Drugs and Cosmetics Act.

SRI SARSWATHI DEVI



TG is poised as a global hub for tourism, investments: Jupally

FPJ LOS ANGELES

temples, folk art, eco-tourism, and medical tourism.

He also spoke about the grandeur of the Bathukamma festival and the vast investment opportunities in Telangana.

Jupally extended an open invitation to international tourists to explore Telangana, a place where cultural hospitality, traditional festivals, and authentic cuisine offer unforgettable experiences.

In addition to tourism, he emphasized the growing investment opportunities in Telangana.

He mentioned that Hyderabad, known as Mini India, has emerged as a hub for world-class IT, healthcare, and pharmaceutical industries. The Minister also introduced the "Future City" project, which aims to attract significant investments in IT, healthcare, and pharmaceutical sectors.

Describing Telangana as a blend of tradition and modernity, the Minister highlighted the state's cultural heritage, traditional arts, natural beauty, waterfalls, rivers,

Police refunds Rs 21L to victims of Cyber fraud

FPJ HYDERABAD

Nowadays lots of people are losing their money in one and another cyber fraud cases and cyber criminals are utilizing the greed of people and trapping them in many ways.

Hyderabad City Cyber Crime Police have solved two such cases and refunded an amount of Rs 21, 55,331 to the victims in two cases.

In the first case, a complaint was received from a 67-years old retired male person from Hyderabad stating that the Cyber fraudsters cheated him on the pretext of fake TRAI & CBI officers and made him transfer an amount of Rs 8,05,331 to the bank accounts provided by the accused.

In this regard the Cyber Crime police, Hyderabad registered a case under the sections of 66(C), 66(D) IT Act & Sec 318(2),318(4),338,336(3),340(2) BNS.

Police made efforts and sent notices to the Bank officials and followed up with the Bank officials to freeze the amount and guided the complainant to file a petition in the court for the refund

Further, within a few days, received court orders from the Additional Chief Metropolitan Magistrate, Eswaraiah of XII ACMM Court, Nampally, Hyderabad, regarding reverting back the amount of Rs 21, 55,331 to the complainant's bank account.



of Rs 13,50,000 to the bank accounts provided by the accused.

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Self - proclaimed sorcerer arrested

FPJ HYDERABAD

The sleuths of Commissioner's Task Force, South-East Zone Team, Hyderabad along with the staff of Bandlaguda Police Station on Tuesday arrested a person who was cheating general public in the name of black magic.

Arrested has been identified as Mohammed Kaleem (48), resident of Hassan Nagar, Bahadurpura, Hyderabad.

A woman by name Nazia approached a Baba Mohammed Kaleem with an intention to eliminate her in-laws by performing black magic, same has come to the notice of the complainant, on which a case in Cr.No. 30/2024 U/s 351(2) BNS of Bandlaguda Police Station was registered.

After arrested of the Mohammed Kaleem who is pretending as Baba, it is revealed that, Nazia and Baba Mohammed Kaleem performed black magic on complainant Mohammed Irfan Malik and his family by keeping their photos along with wheat flour toys and the same was video graphed and was sent to complainant and threatened as his entire family will be died within 48 hours.

The Commissioner said that the management of sanitation should be done smoothly, and appropriate measures should be taken to maintain cleanliness in this regard. She said that the movement of clean autos should be monitored to collect garbage from house to house. It is advised that sanitation management should be

395 petitions submitted at Prajavani programme

FPJ HYDERABAD

A total of 395 applications were submitted during the Prajavani program organized at Mahatma Jyotiba Phule Praja Bhavan in Hyderabad on October 8, 2024.

The Telangana revenue department received 50 complaints, and the housing department received 125 complaints.

The Prajavani program, organised by the state government, is a weekly program for the citizens to submit their grievances.

An official release said that the applications re-

GHMC Commissioner inspects Rajendranagar

FPJ HYDERABAD



done properly, garbage vulnerable points should be removed and C&D waste should be transported by special vehicles to prevent the spread of infections. Anti-larvae oper-

ations, fogging etc. have been ordered to control mosquitoes. Similarly, the concerned authorities were ordered to fill the pot holes formed on the roads. On this occasion, the Commissioner instructed Rajendranagar Deputy Commissioner Ravi Kumar to take steps to remove the waste immediately from the commercial area.



The sleuths of CCS Madhapur and Balanagar zone in coordination with the local police have nabbed two notorious Inter-State house burglary gangs of Dhar of Madhya Pradesh.

Police arrests two notorious Inter-State house burglary gangs

FPJ HYDERABAD

The sleuths of CCS Madhapur and Balanagar zone in coordination with the local police have nabbed two notorious Inter-State house burglary gangs of Dhar of Madhya Pradesh.

These two house burglary gangs consist of six members and are involved in 35 cases. 17 cases pertain to Cyberabad Commissionerate, 09 cases in Rachakonda Commissionerate, 05 cases in Sangareddy, 04

A Slew of films beckon at Lamakaan

FPJ HYDERABAD

The cultural hub Lamakaan beckons film aficionados this week. Ang Lee's film *Pushing Hands* attracted a decent and film-educated crowd to Wednesday's screening. The *Rashieduddin Khan Dialogues*, 2nd edition, also saw good numbers. The talk delivered by Dr. Syeda Hameed on Maulana Abul Kalam Azad, with her chaste & lucid Urdu and English, was received well by the audience. Dr. Fatima Shahnaz read her poetry *Soul Murder*, *Reclaim the Night* to more informed participants and held discussion post recitations. Saturday and Sunday evenings draw a sizeable crowd to two theatre plays. Darpan staged Manto's short story *Sadak Ke Kinare*, and *Shoi*, a new entrant in the league of the theatre group, staged Shakespeare's *Hamlet* in the modern context.

It's raining films this week at Lamakaan. No doubt, films attract all kinds of audiences because of the medium. This



Tuesday, we have a short film, *Hari Hara*, on the subject of drug abuse. Wednesday evening will have *Bazm e Sukhan*'s monthly Urdu meetup.

This month's poet is icon of Urdu lyrics, Sahir Ludhianvi

Wednesday evening will have *Bazm e Sukhan*'s monthly Urdu meetup

Screening of neurodiversity in the movies on Thursday

looks quite grim and uncertain, especially to the innocent Palestinians who are denied basic rights. In this context, *An Evening in Solidarity with Palestine* is being organized. Films and discussion will be held on Friday at 4 pm. *Caste Analysis* is a complex thing. This Saturday, a discussion on *Dissecting Caste Structure* is organized to demystify caste. Artology is going to teach art to all age groups in their workshop on Sunday morning. *Religious Movie Club* will do a Psycho Analysis of the film in the late afternoon.

Quick Trail

BENGALURU
BSS holds workshop, says develop scientific appetite

Breakthrough Science Society (BSS) Bangalore district committee on Monday hosted an activist experiment workshop at CV Raman House in Bengaluru's Malleshwaram, emphasizing the importance of cultivating scientific appetite.

BSS Karnataka state secretary Dipti highlighted the historical development of the scientific method and its importance in understanding the world, emphasizing the need for a scientific temper.

BSS Karnataka state vice president Shivakumar demonstrated a variety of scientific experiments, illustrating the scientific method in a hands-on way.

His enthusiastic and interactive approach sparked curiosity and a spirit of inquiry among the participants.

BSS Karnataka state vice president Vilas stressed the importance of a rationalist approach to daily life and social issues, arguing that the scientific method and scientific temper is essential for addressing the challenges facing our country.

He emphasized that the scientific movement cannot be separate from the social movement to end the suffering of common people.

BENGALURU
Accident at Ullal Lake claims life of 25-year-old woman

A tragic accident near Ullal Lake on Tuesday morning resulted in the death of a 25-year-old woman, identified as Monika.

The incident occurred when Monika's two-wheeler collided with a BMTC electric bus (KA 51AK 0697) operating on route 234E/5. CCTV footage shows the moment of impact as Monika's vehicle crashed against the bus. Following the collision, she fell onto the road, where a car coming from behind ran over her, leading to her death at the scene.

The Bengaluru Metropolitan Transport Corporation (BMTC) released a statement clarifying the events surrounding the accident. According to their report, at approximately 9:45 AM, the bus was travelling from Ullal to Kempgowda Bus Station when the unfortunate collision occurred.

After the accident, an ambulance promptly arrived and transported Monika to the hospital. However, despite receiving medical attention, she succumbed to her injuries shortly after.

Local police were notified immediately and officials from BMTC visited the site to investigate the circumstances of the incident.

The organisation has expressed its condolences to Monika's family during this difficult time, emphasizing the need for greater road safety awareness.

BENGALURU
FIR against Congress MLA Vinay Kulkarni for alleged rape

An FIR has been registered against Congress MLA Vinay Kulkarni at Sanjay Nagar Police Station after a complaint by a woman farmer leader, who has accused him of raping her.

Serious charges have been made against Kulkarni, including rape, harassment, and threat to life. The victim claims that she met Kulkarni in 2022 through a mutual contact. Following their first meeting at his home, she stated that Kulkarni began contacting her frequently. He allegedly made inappropriate video calls and pressured her to engage in sexual acts.

The victim also alleged that on August 24, 2022, after visiting Kulkarni's home, she was taken to a secluded area, where he reportedly raped her. She claimed that he also threatened her.

Siddaramaiah will remain as CM, says senior Karnataka Minister Satish Jarkiholi

NT Correspondent
MYSURU

Senior Minister Satish Jarkiholi on Tuesday said Siddaramaiah will remain as Chief Minister of Karnataka, and the Congress high command has not discussed with him and other party leaders about the possibility of Deputy Chief Minister D K Shivakumar replacing him at some point in time.

Speaking to reporters here, Jarkiholi, who is at the forefront of behind-the-scenes political activities within the Congress amid demands for Siddaramaiah's resignation by the opposition following charges against him in the Muda case, however, said the party's central leadership can respond to questions whether he will hold the post for a full term of five years.

"I can only say that he will be there. Siddaramaiah will be there as Chief Minister," the Public Works Minister, an ST leader with considerable standing in northern Karnataka, said.

"Whether he will be there as CM for three years or five years doesn't come at my lev-



el. I can only say Siddaramaiah will be there as CM and we are with him."

On the possibility of Shivakumar, who is also State Congress chief, taking over as CM in the event of a change of guard, he said: "High command has not discussed with us about D K Shivakumar (being made CM)...you ask him. I can only say Siddaramaiah will continue as CM."

There was stiff competi-

tion between Siddaramaiah and Shivakumar, a powerful leader from the politically influential Vokkaliga community, for the Chief Minister's post after the declaration of Assembly election results in May last year, and the Congress had managed to convince the latter and made him the Deputy Chief Minister.

There were some reports at the time that a compromise had been reached based on a

"rotational chief minister formula," according to which Shivakumar will become CM after two-and-a-half years but they have not been officially confirmed by the party.

Amid demand by opposition parties for Siddaramaiah to quit, Jarkiholi on Sunday met Home Minister G Parameshwara, a senior leader from the SC community, in Tumakuru, after last week's

meeting with Congress President Mallikarjun Kharge in Delhi, leading to intense speculations in political circles over leadership change.

There was also a closed-door meeting earlier between Jarkiholi, and Mahadevappa becoming a point of discussion in political circles, Parameshwara said: "It is good if there are discussions. Like 'Chai pe Charcha,' we had a discussion over coffee."

"Just because two of us meet over a coffee and because of that if one is made a CM, many such discussions would take place and a lot of coffee will get consumed," he told reporters in a lighter vein in Bengaluru. "...nothing will happen if we discuss, high command is there. Also such a situation (for CM change) has not arisen, let's discuss and place a demand when the situation arises."

Meanwhile, taking a dig at "developments" within the Congress, Leader of opposition in the Assembly R Ahoka said there is a "running race" in the ruling party for the CM post. He said "breakfast and dinner meetings" are on among ministers to replace the CM.

HC seeks probe into stamp paper 'scam'

NT Correspondent
BENGALURU

The High Court of Karnataka has directed the government to investigate over Rs 30,000 crore in losses attributed to the alleged counterfeiting and illegal sale of stamp papers by the Karnataka State Licensed Electrical Contractors Association (KSLECA). This directive follows a Public Interest Litigation (PIL) filed against the association.

Retired photojournalist Eshwar Raj made this revelation during a press conference held at the Press Club on Tuesday, where he stated that more than 3 Lakh counterfeit stamp papers have been sold since 2013.

According to the Electricity Supply Corporations (ESCOMs), no fees should be charged for applications for new connections. However, it has been reported that KSLECA charges around Rs 300 per application, despite higher authorities being aware of this practice.

The PIL claims that KSLECA has violated its licensing conditions set in 2002 under the Karnataka Stamp (Franking Impression of Stamps) Rules, 2000. The Association is said to have used franking machines for unauthorized purposes and has unlawfully sold blank instruments. It is also accused of collecting funds under the name of a 'Members Welfare Fund' from both members and non-members while evading taxes.

The petition highlights that state sub-registrars have issued multiple instruments with the same K2 challan number, violating Section 10A of the Karnataka Stamp Act, 1957. This practice raises concerns about the authenticity of the instruments.

Shivakumar rules out CM's resignation, quells rumours

NT Correspondent
RAICHUR



"Earlier, Koliwad had said that Siddaramaiah should resign over the Muda 'scam' keeping the party's interests in mind and to avoid trouble."

become the CM again after coming out clean.

Speaking to reporters here, Shivakumar, who is also the state Congress president, ruling out the chief minister's resignation, said: "there won't be any change."

Asked about the alleged "2.5 years agreement" between him and Siddaramaiah for CM post, Shivakumar said, "that is a different matter.

Later speaking to reporters in Hubballi, Shivakumar,

in response to a question that some Congress leaders were lobbying the Congress central leadership for CM post in Delhi, said, "no lobby or declaration."

Karnataka Minister questions BJP's stance on BSY's Poco case

NT Correspondent
BENGALURU



Karnataka Minister Dinesh Gundu Rao on Tuesday hit out at the BJP for not taking action against former Chief Minister B S Yediyurappa against whom a Protection of Children from Sexual Offences (POCSO) case has been registered.

He said the central government did a commendable job by suspending the National Film Award to be presented to choreographer Jani Master citing allegations of crime under POCSO Act.

Anyone who is under in-

vestigation or inquiry for sexual harassment or molestation should not be honoured, the Minister said, adding that it was a good decision by the central government.

However, the party did not adopt the same yardstick when it came to Yediyurappa, the Health Minis-

ter said. "However, my question is regarding B S Yediyurappa, who is facing a POCSO inquiry. An FIR has been filed, the CID has investigated the matter, and now the trial is set to begin. Why is the BJP not taking any action against Yediyurappa, especially considering the serious charge of sexual harassment of a 17-year-old girl?" Rao sought to know.

Stating that a chargesheet has been filed against Yediyurappa, the Minister said the "minimum action" the BJP should have taken is to remove him from "his post in the central committee".

Child Rights activists to govt: Declare 'Today's children are today's citizens'

NT Correspondent
BENGALURU



Nagashinha G. Rao, Director of the Child Rights Trust, has appealed to Chief Minister Siddaramaiah to make the declaration 'Today's children are today's citizens' mandatory in Anganwadis, schools, and public speeches.

This request coincides with the 35th anniversary of the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child, adopted on November 20, 1989. India signed

the convention on December 11, 1992 while committing to uphold the rights of

children to life, protection, development, and participation. To celebrate this

milestone, various countries are organizing programs focused on children's rights.

Activists are launching a campaign to promote significant changes in the country's approach to child rights. The slogan 'Today's children are tomorrow's citizens' highlights the need for recognizing children as active members of society. Article 5 of the Indian Constitution states that all persons born in the country are citizens, with no age limit specified.

Launched war on drugs, arrested 67 in Sep for drug peddling: Chief cop

NT Correspondent
BENGALURU



According to him, 170 kg ganja, two kg opium, 13 grams of cocaine, 972 grams of 'MDMA', and 972 'Ecstasy' tablets, among others, were seized last month. "Every day we will conduct raids in every part of the city and identify culprits and seize their drugs. In addition to that,

many of the foreigners who are indulging in drug peddling in Bengaluru city, we have been deporting them also," he said. So far in 2024, about 80 foreigners were deported to their countries for drug peddling in Bengaluru. "Wherever the case is registered, we try to go to

the root of that case to identify where the drug is being supplied like in HSR layout (jurisdiction), where 28 kg of ganja has been seized (recently)...the supply was coming from Tamil Nadu so we are trying to identify who is the main supplier in Tamil Nadu and how he is supplying...that investigation is still going on," Dayananda said.

Akka Café initiative launched to empower women in Karnataka

NT Correspondent
BENGALURU



Dr Sharad Prakash Patil, Karnataka's Minister for Medical Education, Skill Development, Entrepreneurship, and Livelihood, launched the state's Akka Café initiative, highlighting its potential to boost women's empowerment and socio-economic development. Speaking at the event, Dr Patil emphasised the initiative's focus on self-reliance and entrepreneurship, particularly in rural areas.

"The Akka Café initiative will empower women and promote entrepreneurship, creating a lasting impact on Karnataka's socio-economic landscape," he said. Launched under the 2024-25 state budget by Chief Minister Siddaramaiah, Akka Café aims to create sustainable livelihoods for women, especially those from Self-Help Groups (SHGs). The initiative supports women entrepreneurs by offering them opportunities to manage cafés showcasing local cuisine while maintaining high standards of quality and hy-

giene. In its first phase, the government plans to establish 50 cafés statewide, blending rural and urban locations. SHG women will receive up to Rs 15 lakh in grants for setup costs, including infrastructure. Additionally, 2,500 coffee kiosks will be opened, with rural women receiving training through the Central Coffee Board. The government has allocated Rs 25 crore for this program.

Additionally, NLM is piloting a bakery unit run by SHG women entrepreneurs, offering products like cookies and cakes through a cloud kitchen in Bengaluru and a premium bakery outlet in Devanhalli. This provides an additional revenue stream for women entrepreneurs, enhancing their economic independence.



Free Press
FOR FREE FLOW OF TRUTH

Anti-climax in Haryana, climax in J&K

How true it is that the Indian voter cannot be taken for granted. Once inside the polling booth, they have nothing to fear and can choose any candidate — or even no candidate. Almost every exit poll predicted that Congress would return to power with a solid majority in Haryana. Pre-poll reports also suggested the ruling BJP was in for a severe beating. This inflated the egos of Congress leaders, who assumed Haryana was like a ripe mango that would fall effortlessly into their basket. This overconfidence led some Congress leaders to claim they would win by an unprecedented margin. In retrospect, this only revealed how disconnected they were from the ground reality.

Ultimately, this overconfidence is what did the grand old party in. The over-reliance on former Chief Minister Bhupinder Singh Hooda to win the state was a tactical error. Of the 90 candidates, nearly 70 were his personal picks, which naturally antagonised other groups. True, the Jats are influential in terms of both money and muscle, and the Congress — especially Hooda — believed it could win by appeasing them. Little did they know that the BJP had conveniently consolidated non-Jat voters under its banner, upsetting Congress's plans. The presence of parties like the Indian National Lok Dal and the Aam Aadmi Party in the fray hurt the Congress more than the BJP.

Ten years ago, when the BJP came to power in Haryana on Prime Minister Narendra Modi's appeal, he appointed Manohar Lal Khattar, virtually an unknown political entity, as chief minister. Khattar was not well-known outside the RSS, where he had been a full-time worker. Politically he turned out to be a liability, as shown by the BJP's failure to win a majority on its own in 2019. The party smartly replaced Khattar with Nayab Singh Saini, a tactically strong move that paid dividends. While farmers' anger and the common man's disillusionment with the Centre's treatment of protesting women wrestlers were real, they weren't strong enough to dislodge the BJP — especially when the alternative was Hooda and Co., who faced corruption charges from their time in power a decade ago.

In Jammu and Kashmir, the results went almost as predicted. The BJP retained its hold on Jammu while surrendering the Valley. The party's claim that it had transformed the state failed to convince the masses, many of whom couldn't use their mobile phones for long periods. The abrogation of Article 370 might have found supporters across the country, but in Kashmir, it was seen as an abrogation of the Centre's trust in the people. Union Home Minister Amit Shah, credited with splitting the state into two Union Territories, found favour only with the BJP cadres. The decision wasn't even mentioned in any election manifesto. It's no surprise that the party faced a rout in the Valley, and its strategy of splitting anti-BJP votes also didn't work.

The results suggest that the National Conference-Congress alliance will form the government. Rahul Gandhi's Bharat Jodo Yatra, which culminated in Srinagar, helped reconnect the Congress with Kashmiris, but the victory is clearly the National Conference's. The Congress didn't make much headway in Jammu either — it was more of a piggyback ride for them. The People's Democratic Party was routed, largely due to its past willingness to ally with the BJP, which had always demanded the abrogation of Article 370. The success of the NC, especially Omar Abdullah, shows that in politics, no leader is out of bounds if they are ready to amend their ways, take up public issues, and regain popular support. Abdullah now faces the challenge of providing stable governance while likely being needled by the Central government.

While the people of Haryana can expect stable governance for the next five years, Abdullah's challenges are manifold. Without the shield of Article 370, he must combat the perception that J&K is governed by an LG and advisers from outside the state. He needs to erase that image while continuing the progress that the Centre had set in motion. He also must remain vigilant against extremists with extra-territorial loyalties, who have been lying dormant under the Centre's strict security measures. Only then will these results benefit the people.

While Haryana can expect stable governance for the next five years, Abdullah's challenges are manifold. Without the shield of Article 370, he must combat the perception that J&K is governed by an LG and advisers from outside the state. He needs to erase that image while continuing the progress that the Centre had set in motion. He also must remain vigilant against extremists. Only then will these results benefit the people



Fuzzy Logic

ROHIT CHAUDAVARKAR

The unexpected results seen in the Haryana Assembly polls have surprised politicians and political observers all over the country. Most exit polls broadcast by national news channels a couple of days ago predicted that the Congress party would win and form the government in the state. Now it seems that the Bharatiya Janata Party has an edge and will continue to rule the state for a third term. This means that after Gujarat and Madhya Pradesh, the BJP has found a third state in India which has defied anti-incumbency and chosen the same party to form the government. The big question now being asked is, how the political parties in Maharashtra, especially the Maha Vikas Aghadi (MVA) of which the Congress is a part, will be affected by this development?

Ever since the Lok Sabha poll results came out in the first week of June, the Congress in Maharashtra has looked and felt very confident. The party started getting aggressive not just with the ruling government but also with its alliance partners in the field. The body language of the leaders of the Congress started looking different in the past four months. In Maharashtra both the political alliances, the MVA and the

BJP-led Mahayuti, are currently going through the process of deciding the seat-sharing formula for the upcoming Assembly polls. The Congress was beginning to take an aggressive posture in these talks with its partners Shiv Sena (UBT) and NCP (SCP) in the talks. The leaders were looking as if they had almost taken it for granted that they would be winning the upcoming Assembly polls. Now suddenly with Haryana results out and the Congress getting a setback there, all this is expected to change.

Uddhav Thackeray's Shiv Sena (UBT) has been constantly demanding that the MVA should announce the face of the probable chief minister from the MVA alliance in advance. Barring the 2019 Assembly election (where the BJP announced that Devendra Fadnavis would be their CM candidate if they returned to power), Maharashtra has never seen a tradition of any party or alliance announcing their "CM candidate" in advance but the Shiv Sena (UBT) has insisted that this should be done. The Congress has opposed this idea as they feel that once a face is announced by a particular party in advance it discourages activists of other parties from the alliance from participating in the election campaign aggressively. Now looking at the fact that the Congress

party has not been able to win the Haryana polls decisively, Shiv Sena (UBT) has once again started pushing for the demand of announcing the CM candidate from Tuesday evening.

The Haryana results are also likely to put the Congress on the defensive over seat-sharing talks with the Shiv Sena (UBT) especially in Mumbai and Mumbai Metropolitan Region (MMR). It is now well known that seat-sharing in Mumbai city and suburbs has not been easy between the Congress and Uddhav Thackeray's party. Congress feels that it was dominating Mumbai and ruled the BrihanMumbai Municipal Corporation (BMC) before the 1980s when Shiv Sena took over the

reins in the BMC. In fact the Congress and Shiv Sena have been bitter rivals for decades in Mumbai. Now with Congress losing Haryana both parties may be looking at the seat-sharing deal for Mumbai from a different perspective.

Some Congress party insiders, speaking with The FPJ, said that the party's strategies may have gone wrong in many ways in Haryana. The way some leaders were given too much prominence, the way seats were distributed to candidates from a particular lobby, the way two prominent leaders of the party from Haryana were not given a big enough role; all these factors went against the party according to them. The question is whether



Uddhav Thackeray is likely to step up pressure on the Congress

these mistakes will be avoided in Maharashtra. Some from the Congress party feel that in Maharashtra the party has to strike the right seat-sharing deal with Uddhav Thackeray in Mumbai and Konkan and with Sharad Pawar in Western Maharashtra. These two regions themselves account for more than 100 seats out of the 288 seats of the Maharashtra Assembly.

Some observers say the problem with the Congress party is that it has very good leaders at the top and a committed voter base, but it now lacks a widespread party cadre. The grassroots Congress worker has somehow moved away from the party and either joined some other party such as Sharad Pawar's NCP, or has left politics. The challenge for the top leadership of the Congress at the Centre and in the state is to revive that grassroots campaigning activity and commitment among the activists which has been on the decline for the past few years. Whether that will happen effectively is not known but one thing is obvious that the Haryana trends and results have been a wakeup call for the Congress party in Maharashtra.

Rohit Chaudavarkar is a senior journalist who has worked for 31 years with various leading newspaper brands and television channels in Mumbai and Pune



Outlook

SUMIT PAUL

Bengalis in India, especially in West Bengal, are euphoric that the Bangladesh government has revoked its earlier ban on the export of hilsa fish to India. Now they'll be able to relish it again.

The passion for the bony fish (*Tenualosa ilisha*) in West Bengal has increased since Partition and the 1971 war when millions of Bengali Hindus, the Bangals, had to leave what was then East Pakistan, where the best hilsa (from the Padma river) is still found, and cross over to India. Though West Bengal is the largest producer of freshwater fish in the country, and has a wide variety of them, the Bangladeshi hilsa rules the heart of most Bengalis.

The hilsa is found in most perennial rivers in Asia that empty into the region's seas, from Iraq in the West to Myanmar (Burma) in the East. Species can differ. So can the taste. Much like the salmon of North America, the hilsa, or ilish in Bangla, enters the river from the sea to swim upstream for hundreds of kilometres and spawn. Then it returns to its salty abode. Hilsa from the sea is tasteless; in the river it's delicious. One possible trigger for the transformation in taste:

during the monsoon, the swollen Hooghly river carries plenty of detritus-goodies for the fish into the ocean and the hilsa gorges on this in preparation for its marathon round trip from sea to river and back again.

Before the Farakka barrage was built on the Ganga in North Bengal, the hilsa used to be spotted as far upstream as Allahabad. Today, it's rare to find it even at Kolaghat near Calcutta. The best hilsa are the ones that weigh 1.5 kg to 2 kg apiece. The hilsa is not sliced up and sold in parts, unlike say the rohu, because its tail and head — unlike that of many other varieties — aren't in demand. Those who cannot afford the big fish buy the smaller ones weighing less than 500 gm apiece, and it's overfishing of this size that has sent stocks dwindling. There was a time when East Bengal football supporters would celebrate the team's victory by buying the fish. Not any longer.

Mani Shankar Mukherjee, the renowned Bengali novelist who writes under the nom de plume of Shankar, says the Bengali craze for hilsa is not reflected proportionately in Bengali literature. But there's folklore. There's one story about Swami Vivekananda, he says, travelling down the Padma river in

1899. A fisherman offered him 16 hilsas — presumably the large ones — for Re 1, adding four more free. Vivekananda then stepped ashore to look for pui saag, a type of green, together with which he'd cook the ilish dish. A villager had pui at home, but wanted to be accepted as Vivekananda's disciple in return for parting with it. Swami agreed. All for the hilsa.

There's a book at the famous India House in London. The book describes 365 preparations of hilsa. In other words, one can have a novel dish each day for a year! Not just Bengalis, others have also fallen in love with hilsa. The famous theatre personality, the late Habib Tanvir, was hilsa's great and unabashed admirer. He observed that the Bangladeshi hilsa was tastier than Hooghly hilsa because the former swims against the tide. Independent Bangladesh's first President, Sheikh Mujibur Rahman, personally served "Shorshe Ilish" (hilsa in mustard), when he invited Indira Gandhi to Dhaka in 1971.

Culinary experts say that hilsa cooked in mustard with Basmati rice and garden fresh green chillies tastes celestial. When Ghilab went to Calcutta from Delhi, he too got

enamoured of the "sparklingly shining and smart-looking fish" (Caudwell's phrase for hilsa) and mentioned this in his Persian letters. He even called it "Baashiq", though I've never found this word in any Urdu, Persian and Arabic dictionary. But Ghalib's "Dashtambu" (compilation of his Persian letters) has this word. Even John Borthwick Gilchrist, the first professor of Hindustani at Calcutta's Fort William College, was smitten by the *sui generis* taste of hilsa and called it "the crown of all fish".

The fastidious lovers of this "queen of fish" are of the view that people relish hilsa because it naturally tastes a bit salty. Though a tad thorny, many of its lovers like it because of this very reason! It's said that the real taste of hilsa lies in a deft manner of removing its thorns from the flesh. This really requires some sort of a skill. Even food experts say that "thornier a fish, tastier it is". Only flesh makes a fish taste a bit bland, like tuna and kingfish. By the way, hilsa has 10,000 bones!

One more thing that makes hilsa altogether different from other fish is that it distinctly tastes below par during the mating season and when it produces eggs. Even die-hard hilsa lovers avoid it during

this period and turn to other varieties. The late poet Subhash Mukherjee called it "separation from one's beloved"!

And here's a method of cooking mustard hilsa, which I chanced upon in a hoary-old book at Kamalpur (the naval base of the erstwhile East Pakistan during the 1971 war). The most important aspect of this dish is the mustard sauce (kashundi), which should neither be very concentrated, nor should it be diluted to the extent of tasting like pungent water. The flesh of hilsa fish soaks up the tanginess of mustard and when you bite, you feel as if you're sinking your teeth into a crunchy, yet juicy piece of marinated fish-steak. And with Basmati rice, it makes an eater, nay connoisseur, say, "Agar firdaus warre-zaminast / Hamnast, hamnast, hamnast" (If there's a heaven elsewhere on earth / It's here, here, here).

It's indeed a romantic saga how a Bengali's taste buds are so inseparably attached to this "fish of all fishes".

Sumit Paul is a regular contributor to the world's premier publications and portals in several languages. Incidentally he is a life-long vegetarian

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

De jure relief only

The Supreme Court's recent ruling affirming the right of journalists to criticise the government without retaliatory action comes as a breath of air for the media's honest warriors — journalists — who do not

want to join the bandwagon in sucking up to those in power.

However, doubts remain as to how far this momentous judgement will hold water. The "one-man show" that we have witnessed over the past decade offers very

little hope that the SC's verdict will be honoured. If the PM has a grudge against a "colonial mindset", ordinary Indians have a lot to complain about a "post-colonial mindset" as displayed by not only the present dispensation, but the Con-

MIKA'S MATRIX



Haryana results, a wake-up call for Congress in Maharashtra?

The problem with Congress is that it has good leaders and a committed voter base, but it now lacks a widespread party cadre



Uddhav Thackeray is likely to step up pressure on the Congress



We need child protectors

The world is getting more and more digitalised, making it difficult to protect children's rights online. While some support limits on the use of smartphones and social media until a child reaches social maturity, doing so runs the danger of barring them from acquiring critical digital skills. Even the United Kingdom and Australia are considering legislative measures, though such bans can heighten disparities, particularly among marginalised people. How can we

strike a compromise between safeguarding children from online threats and ensuring they enjoy digital opportunities? Navigating this serious situation requires a joint effort from parents, schools and government.

Anshu Bharti

It is disconcerting to find children as young as six and seven handling and using electronic devices, which older people find difficult to operate. Is it something in the air that makes them take to electronic devices like a duck takes to water?

Anthony Henriques

wp *Briefs*

NEPAL

5 Russian climbers found dead

Five Russian climbers, who went missing on Mt Dhaulagiri, were found dead at an altitude of over 7,000 metres on Tuesday. According to Mingma Sherpa, vice chairman of Heli Everest, who was involved in the search and rescue operation, the five Russian climbers were aiming to summit the world's seventh highest peak on Sunday during Nepal's autumn climbing season. The climbers lost contact with the base-camp after departing from the high camp at 6:00 am while attempting to the climb.

PAKISTAN

Pashtun rights group banned

Pakistan has banned the Pashtun Tahafuz Movement (PTM), a prominent rights group, listing it as a "proscribed organisation". A notification issued by the federal government on Sunday said the PTM was "engaged in certain activities which are prejudicial to the peace and security of the country". Pashtuns are a distinct ethnic group living mostly in Pakistan and Afghanistan. The movement, founded in 2014, advocates for the rights of ethnic Pashtuns affected by Pakistan's war against the Taliban and its local affiliate, Pakistan Taliban.

UNITED STATES

10-yr target set for safer water

A decade after the Flint, Michigan, water crisis raised alarms about the continuing dangers of lead in tap water, President Joe Biden is setting a 10-year deadline for cities across the nation to replace their lead pipes, finalising an aggressive approach aimed at ensuring that drinking water is safe for all Americans. Biden is expected to announce the final Environmental Protection Agency rule Tuesday in Wisconsin. The new rule supplants a looser standard set by former President Donald Trump's administration that did not include a universal requirement to replace lead pipes.

RWANDA

Vaccine trials to curb virus

Rwanda has launched a trial of a vaccine against the Marburg virus to try combat an outbreak of the Ebola-like disease in the East African country. "The vaccination is starting today immediately," Health Minister Sabin Nsanizimana said at a news conference on Sunday in the capital, Kigali. The virus has killed 12 people in Rwanda since it was declared an outbreak on September 27.

Mexico Mayor killed 6 days into job

The mayor of a Mexican city plagued by drug violence has been murdered less than a week after taking office. Local media reports state that Alejandro Arcos was found dead on Sunday in Chilpancingo, with his decapitated head left on a pick-up truck. He had been mayor for six days. His death came three days after the city government's new secretary, Francisco Tapia, was shot dead. Authorities have not released details of the investigation, or suspects.

WHY SUPPORT IS WAVERING | Year on, people tired of death, destruction, displacement and suffering forced on them

Hamas losing Gaza support**Agencies**

CAIRO/RAMALLAH



Palestinians walk amidst the rubble after an Israeli airstrike in Gaza

- AFP



What was he (Yahya Sinwar) thinking? Didn't he expect that Israel would destroy Gaza?

A Palestinian resident

Palestinian militants mounted an unprecedented raid into Israel, something they'd never thought they'd see.

But several said that the Iranian-backed militant group – which has ruled Gaza since 2007 – had given little thought to their suffering, and some suggested the attack had been a terrible mistake. Hamas says

the October 7 attack – the deadliest in Israel's 75-year history – marked a turning point in the decades-long struggle for Palestinian nationhood, which had drifted off the international agenda.

An opinion poll published in mid-September by the Palestinian Center for Policy and Survey Research (PSR), a think tank based in Ramallah and funded by Western donors, showed for the first time the majority of Gazans opposed the decision to attack. The poll, conducted in early September, found that 57% of people surveyed in the Gaza Strip said the decision to launch the offensive was

incorrect, while just 39%

said it was correct – down sharply from the previous poll in June.

Hamas has long been accused of crushing dissent in Gaza with beatings or worse. But recent months have seen some rare public displays of dissent. Former Hamas official Ahmed Youssef Saleh took to Facebook in July to ask whether anybody in Hamas "studied and thought of the consequences" before launching an attack that invited Israel's uncompromising invasion. Saleh's post has since drawn hundreds of comments, many adding their own criticism of the Islamist group. Saleh, who continues to post, did not respond to requests for comment.

A day after the Israel Defense Forces (IDF) announced the killing of Suhaib Hussein Husseini, commander of the Lebanese militant organisation Hezbollah, its deputy leader said the Iran-backed group's capabilities are still intact after a year of fighting. The militants had moved beyond "painful blows" inflicted by Israel as its forces began ground operations in the southwest of Lebanon, expanding their incursions into a new zone, Qassem said on Tuesday. He added they were locked in a war about who cries first, and Hezbollah would not cry first.

According to a statement issued by the IDF, the Israeli Air Force conducted a "precise, intelligence-based strike in the area of Beirut" that killed Husseini. Husseini played a crucial role in weapon transfers between Iran and Hezbollah and was responsible for distributing advanced weaponry among Hezbollah's units, overseeing both transportation and allocation of these arms. He was also a member of the Jihad Council, Hezbollah's senior military leadership council, said the statement. He was in charge of budgeting and management of the various units in the organisation, Xinhua news agency reported.

Hezbollah declined to

Another Hezb cmdr falls

Smoke billows after an Israeli airstrike in Lebanon - AFP

Israeli forces began ground operations in southwest Lebanon, expanding their incursion into a new zone

comment immediately on the strike. However, it claimed responsibility for rocket fire that hit a military base overnight near the headquarters of Israel's foreign intelligence agency, Mossad, according to local media. Earlier, Hezbollah said it had fired rockets at Israel's third largest city, Haifa, on Monday, as Israeli forces looked poised to expand ground raids into south Lebanon. The militant group said it targeted a military base south of Haifa with Fadi missiles and launched another strike on Tiberias, 65 km away. It also targeted areas north of Haifa

in a second salvo of missiles later in the day. Hamas also said it struck Tel Aviv with a missile salvo.

Meanwhile, Iran warned Israel on Tuesday against any attacks, a week after Tehran fired a barrage of missiles on it, putting the Middle East on edge. Any attack on Iran's infrastructure will be met with retaliation, Foreign Minister Abbas Arraqchi said, warning Israel against attacks on his country. Arraqchi will visit Saudi Arabia and other countries in the Middle East starting on Tuesday to discuss regional issues and work on stopping Israel's "crimes" in Gaza and Lebanon, Iran's ISNA news agency reported.

Gulf Arab states - most of them major energy exporters like Iran - have sought to reassure Tehran of their neutrality in the Iran-Israel conflict, sources told Reuters last week.

'Strongest storm of this century' to hit US**FPJ News Service**

WASHINGTON

Hurricane Milton will be the strongest storm of the planet of this century as it churned monstrously into a Category 5 hurricane in just a few hours and is expected to slam the Tampa region of Florida this week, weather experts said.

"Milton" is already a storm for the record books, said the New York Times.

Meteorologists were glued to their computers Monday as the hurricane went from a staggering Category 1 storm at midnight to a Category 5 by noon. And it didn't stop there. By Monday night, the storm's maximum sustained wind speeds had accelerated to nearly 290 kmph, making "Milton" one of the strongest and deadliest Atlantic hurricanes ever. Based on wind speed, it joins a handful of other hurricanes to rival the strongest Atlantic storm ever recorded: a 1980 hurricane named Allen, which had a peak wind speed of 305 kmph before it made landfall along the United States-Mexico border. As the hurricane

churns in the Gulf of Mexico and threatens Florida's coast, the National Hurricane Center (NHC) said it is closely monitoring the storm's path and strength. The National Hurricane Center said "Milton" continues to pose an "extremely serious threat" to Florida. It is expected to make landfall along Florida's west coast on Wednesday with slightly less intensity. Like Hurricane Helene which slammed Florida 10 days ago, Milton's dangerous impacts will be spread over a much larger area. Tampa

Mayor Jane Castor issued a stern warning to residents who choose to stay behind in evacuation zones. "I can say without any dramatization whatsoever: If you choose to stay in one of those evacuation areas, you're gonna die," the Mayor said Monday.

"Helene" was a "wake-up call," Castor said. But the potential threat "Milton" brings is "literally catastrophic," she added. After the "Helene" aftermath, Tampa residents are heading evacuation orders. Fire Chief Barbara Tripp told CNN.

Hopfield, whose research is

Trump launches latest tirade aimed at migrants**FPJ News Service**

WASHINGTON

Republican presidential candidate Donald Trump Monday lit another flame in the campaign by saying that migrants who cross the borders in the south come with a bad set of genes and blamed them for the murders in the US. He made the comments in a radio interview with conservative commentator Hugh Hewitt while lambasting the immigration policies of his Democratic rival, Vice President Kamala Harris. He claimed that 13,000 "murderers" had crossed through the US's "open borders" and were "happily living" in the country. "You know now, a murderer – I believe this – it's in their genes. We have got a lot of bad genes in our country right now," Trump told



Hewitt. Trump's claims, which distort data from the US's Immigration and Customs Enforcement agency, drew swift condemnation from the White House. "That type of language is hateful, it's disgusting, it's inappropriate, and has no place in our country," said White House Press Secretary Karine Jean-Pierre. Critics said it followed a long history of the

president ever convicted of a crime – accused immigrants of "poisoning the blood of our country" in December in a phrase that earned him comparisons to Adolf Hitler.

HARRIS FACES TOUGH QUESTIONS

Meanwhile, Harris ducked many tough questions in a wide-ranging "60 Minutes" interview that aired Monday. Confronted with hard numbers on the flow of immigrants across the southern border, she avoided a direct answer and just said migration is a "longstanding problem." She refused to answer if the Biden administration should have cracked down sooner. On Ukraine, Harris said she would not meet bilaterally with Russian President Vladimir Putin to negotiate a solution to end the war. "Ukraine must have a say in the future of Ukraine," she said. "I've been proud to stand

with Ukraine. I will continue to stand with Ukraine, and I will work to ensure Ukraine prevails in this war, to be safe, secure and prosperous," she added. She said if Trump were president, "Putin would be sitting in Kyiv right now," referring to the Ukrainian capital.

SETBACK FOR HARRIS
Many Arab Americans are outraged by the Biden administration's support for Israel as it wages war in Gaza and now in Lebanon, the NYT reported. Nowhere is this more politically important than in Michigan, a crucial battleground state with a significant population of Arab American and Muslim voters.

Interviews with the community in the Detroit area showed that support for Democrats has all but vanished. Some voters are now considering backing third-party candidates or Trump instead of Harris.

Physics Nobel: Two scientists honoured for machine learning**Agencies**

STOCKHOLM

John Hopfield and Geoffrey Hinton have won the Nobel Prize in physics 2024 for their pioneering work in the field of machine learning, according to Al Jazeera. The Royal Swedish Academy of Sciences said on Tuesday the scientists were honoured "for foundational discoveries and inventions that enable machine learning with artificial neural networks".

Hopfield, whose research is



carried out at Princeton University in the United States, was recognised for creating an associative memory that can store and reconstruct

images and other types of patterns in data. Hinton, who works at the University of Toronto, invented a method that can autonomously find properties in data, allowing it to perform tasks such as identifying specific elements in pictures.

"This year's two Nobel Laureates in physics have used tools from physics to develop methods that are the foundation of today's powerful machine learning," the Nobel committee said in a media release.

'Post-office, Don and Putin spoke secretly'**Agencies**

WASHINGTON

Former President Donald J. Trump has secretly spoken with President Vladimir V. Putin of Russia as many as seven times since leaving office, even as he was pressuring Republicans to block military aid to Ukraine to fight Russian invaders, according to a new book by journalist Bob Woodward.

The book, titled "War", and scheduled to be published next week, describes a scene in early 2024 at Mar-a-Lago, Trump's estate in Florida. He ordered an aide out of his office so he could conduct a phone call with Putin. The unidentified aide said the two may have spoken a half-dozen other times as well since Trump left the White House.

The book also reports that Trump, during the Covid-19 pandemic in 2020, secretly sent Putin what were then rare tests for the virus for the Russian's personal use. Putin urged Trump to not publicly reveal the gesture because it could damage the American president politically.

Hasina will return when polls are announced: Son**Agencies**

DHAKA



Sheikh Hasina will come back to Bangladesh as soon as the interim government decides to hold an election, the former prime minister's son Saeed Wazed Joy was quoted as telling The Times of India in an interview on Monday by the Daily Star. "For the time being, she is in India. She will go back to Bangladesh the moment the interim government decides to hold an election."

I am thankful to PM Narendra Modi for saving my mother's life at such short notice," Hasina had resigned

is a need for me to join politics, I will not refrain from that.

My mother would have retired from politics after the current term. I never had any political ambition and am settled in the US.

"But the developments in Bangladesh in the past few days show that there is a leadership vacuum. I had to get active for the sake of the party and I am at the forefront now," he added.

Joy's statements came following reports that Khaleda Zia's son, Tarique Rahman, the Bangladesh Nationalist Party's acting chairman, is returning to Dhaka.

'Ex-PM has gone off the grid'**Agencies**

DHAKA

Foreign Affairs Advisor Touhid Hossain has said that the interim Bangladesh government does not have any confirmation about the present location of former Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina.

"We could not make certain of her whereabouts. We inquired with Delhi and with the United Arab Emirates, no one has been able to provide official con-

fimation. As you all have seen. She is possibly in Ajman. But we have been unsuccessful in our attempts to reconfirm it," he told reporters at the foreign ministry on Monday.

Law Affairs Advisor Prof Asif Nazrul had said earlier that she would be brought back home if the legal procedure required it. Recently, there were rumours on social media that she had left New Delhi for the United Arab Emirates.

US urges safety of Bangladeshi Hindus**Agencies**

DHAKA

The United States said it wants to see the rights of the minority communities protected in Bangladesh as Hindus celebrate their largest festival of Durga Puja.

The statement from the US comes in the wake of increasing attacks on the minority Hindu community in Bangladesh following the resignation of Sheikh Hasina as the Prime Minister and her escape to India in August.

"Of course, we want to see the rights of minorities protected in Bangladesh as also is true all around the world," State Department spokesperson Matthew Miller told reporters at his daily news conference. Miller was responding to a question about the threat being posed to the Hindu community by some religious fundamentalists as they celebrate Durga Puja. India has also urged the Bangladesh govt to ensure peaceful religious events for the Hindu community.

sp Briefs

NEW DELHI
Mahmudullah announces retirement from T20Is



Veteran Bangladesh all-rounder Mahmudullah on Tuesday announced his retirement from T20 Internationals and the third and final match of the ongoing series against India will be his last game in the format. The final match between India and Bangladesh will be played in Hyderabad on Saturday. "Yes, I'm retiring from T20Is after the last game of this series. It was pre-decided," he said at the pre-match press conference ahead of the second T20I against India here. "It's the right time to move on from this format and concentrate on ODI," he added. The 38-year-old, who made his debut in 2007, has played 50 Tests, 232 ODIs and 139 T20Is. The former Bangladesh T20 captain had called time on his Test career in 2021.

NEW DELHI
Young Indian sailors bag seven medals in Oman

Young Indian sailors delivered an impressive performance at the Musanah Race Week in Oman, securing a total of seven medals: one gold, four silver, and two bronze. Notably, Shreya Krishna Lakshminarayanan won gold in the Optimist Girls U-15 category, with her teammate Kommaravelly Lahari taking silver. In the ILCA-4 categories, Shashank Batham and Akshat Kumar secured silver and bronze respectively in the U-16 boys competition. The event featured 106 sailors from across Asia and showcased India's rising talent in sailing.

NEW DELHI
Marco Curto banned for racism

Italian defender Marco Curto has received a 10-match ban from FIFA for racially abusing Wolves striker Hwang Hee-chan during a friendly match. Five of the matches are suspended for two years, and Curto is required to undergo community service and training. The incident, which occurred in July, drew significant condemnation, with Wolves expressing strong support for FIFA's decision. The ban reflects a commitment to combating racism in football, sending a message that such behavior will not be tolerated.

MADRID
Barcelona sets sights on women's Champions League

Barcelona will pursue its third consecutive Women's Champions League title this season, bolstered by key signings like Polish striker Ewa Pajor. The Catalan team, fresh off its victory against Lyon in the previous final, will kick off the group stage against Manchester City. Both Aitana Bonmatí and Alexia Putellas have extended their contracts and will be crucial for the team's success as they aim to become only the second team to win three titles in a row.

ENGLAND BATTLE BACK: Chasing runs & resilience against Pak's Titanic total

Crawley's counterpunch sets stage after Pak's dominance

AP
MULTAN

England chipped at Pakistan's massive 556, three-centuries total by reaching 96-1 at stumps on day two Tuesday of the first test.

Pakistan started the day on 328-4 and was spearheaded by Salman Ali Agha's unbeaten 104 and Saud Shakeel's 82.

On a pitch which still looks good for batting with little help for fast bowlers or spinners, England raced at nearly five-runs-per-over as Zac Crawley smashed 11 fours in his unbeaten 64. Joe Root was not out on 32.

England lost stand-in captain Ollie Pope without scoring in the second over to a stunning one-handed catch by a diving Aamer Jamali at mid-wicket off Naseem Shah. England trails Pakistan by 460 runs.

Pope had to open the innings after Ben Duckett injured his left thumb while grabbing a sharp chest-high catch of No. 11 Abrar Ahmed in the slips that finally ended England's heat-sapping 5/12.

Pakistan's Agha Salman (L) plays a shot as England's wicketkeeper Jamie Smith watches during the second day of the first Test at the Multan Cricket Stadium in Multan on Tuesday AFP

sessions on the field at Multan Stadium.

Whether Duckett bats was yet to be determined.

England's Jack Leach took 3-160 and Shoaib Bashir 1-124 but Pakistan dominated both spinners.

Brydon Carse's long wait for his first wicket in his debut test came on Tuesday, which he finished with 2-74. Gus Atkinson (2-99) and Chris Woakes (1-69) toiled without finding any reverse swing on the green square.

England did well in the first session and allowed Pakistan only 69 runs with Carse breaking the resistance of nightwatchman Naseem, who gloved a legside catch after scoring his test-best 33.

Naseem denied England a breakthrough for 1 1/2 hours and braved a couple of blows. He got a knock on the back of his helmet when he was struck hard by an Atkinson short ball and also received brief treatment when Carse struck the batter's right thumb off another short ball before round-the-wicket worked for the right arm fast bowler.

Leach had Mohammad Rizwan caught at mid-off for a 12-ball duck.

Shakeel, who began the day

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SP Briefs**where tradition meets triumph**

A young girl applies tilak on the ZR Irani Cup Trophy, celebrating the Mumbai Ranji team's victory at Wankhede Stadium in Mumbai on Monday ANI

**MADRID
World
Pickleball
C'ship coming
to Mumbai**

The World Pickleball Championship (WPC) Series will be held in Mumbai from November 12-17, attracting nearly 650 players from across the globe. This event is anticipated to promote the sport in India and showcase international talent. Previous competitions were held in Vietnam and Bali, where Indian teams excelled. The WPC aims to elevate the profile of Pickleball in India and foster its growth at all levels.

**NAM DINH
India,
Vietnam gear up for friendly tie**

The Indian men's football team is set to face Vietnam in a friendly match on October 12 in Nam Dinh. Coach Manolo Marquez is focused solely on the match, emphasizing preparation over tourism. The city is passionate about football, which could add to the challenge for the Blue Tigers. India aims for their first victory of the year after training sessions in Vietnam leading up to the game.

**MONTEVIDEO
Uruguay
names seven uncapped players for WC qualifiers**

Uruguay's manager Marcelo Bielsa has announced a squad for upcoming World Cup qualifiers against Peru and Ecuador, which includes seven uncapped players. Notable inclusions are River Plate's Joaquin Lavega and Universidad de Chile's Marco Orona. The squad also sees the return of key players like Darwin Nunez who missed previous matches due to suspension. Currently, Uruguay stands third in the South American qualifiers with 15 points.

**SHANGHAI
Tsitsipas vs Medvedev at Shanghai Masters**

Stefanos Tsitsipas advanced in the Shanghai Masters, defeating Alexandre Muller 6-3, 7-5, setting up a clash with Daniil Medvedev, who holds a 9-4 lead in their rivalry. Tsitsipas expressed a newfound respect for Medvedev after previously heated interactions. Other notable matches saw Ben Shelton, Taylor Fritz, and Gael Monfils progress, with Monfils preparing to face Carlos Alcaraz next. As the tournament progresses, top contenders like Novak Djokovic and Alexander Zverev have third-round matches awaiting them.

CROWNING GLORY: A new era of excellence unleashed with stunning wins

MP's rising stars shine bright in Vinoo Mankad Trophy & U-19 T20

In a display of sheer dominance, Madhya Pradesh's young cricket talents have taken center stage, clinching resounding victories in both the Vinoo Mankad Trophy and the U19 T20 Championship. The boys' U19 team secured a massive 128-run win over Bihar, while the girls' U19 squad crushed Sikkim by 152 runs. From stellar batting performances to jaw-dropping bowling feats, MP's rising stars have truly left their mark on the national stage, showcasing a new era of cricketing excellence.

MP secures convincing victory over Bihar

VINOO MANKAD TROPHY**Our Sports Reporter**
HYDERABAD/INDORE

In a dominant performance, the Madhya Pradesh Cricket Association (MPCA) secured a convincing victory over Bihar by 128 runs in the Vinoo Mankad Trophy U19 limited overs tournament.

Winning the toss, Bihar opted to field first, a decision that seemed promising initially.

However, MPCA showcased their batting depth, posting an impressive total of 137 runs for the loss of nine wickets in their allotted 50 overs. Key contributions came from Saransh Surana, who scored 51 runs, Rudrash Singh with 45, Kumar Aryan at 39, and Manal Chouhan contributing 34. Bihar's bowlers, led by Badal Kumar and Suman Saurav, took 3 and 2 wickets respectively, but struggled to contain the MPCA batters.

In their response, Bihar's

innings faltered as they were bowled out for 189 runs in 47.3 overs. Hemant Singh was the standout performer for Bihar, scoring a resilient 85 runs. Despite his efforts, the rest of the batting order collapsed. Anvesh Chawla excelled with the ball for MPCA, claiming 4 wickets, while Sumit Singh supported well with 3 wickets, ensuring Bihar's batting line-up crumbled.

The result solidified Madhya Pradesh's position in the tournament, displaying their talent and skill at the U19 level.

MP claims resounding victory over Sikkim

UNDER-19 T20 CHAMPIONSHIP**Our Sports Reporter**
RANCHI/INDORE

The Madhya Pradesh Cricket Association (MPCA) triumphed over Sikkim by a staggering 152 runs in the Girl's U19 T20 tournament. The match featured fierce competition as part of the series organised by the Board of Control for Cricket in India (BCCI).

Winning the toss, MPCA chose to bat first and set a formidable target of 183 runs, finishing their innings at 183 for 3 in just 20 overs. Shreya Dixit

emerged as the star performer, scoring a brilliant 90 runs, while Vaishnavi Vyas provided solid support with an unbeaten 58. Despite their efforts, Sikkim's Namrata claimed 2 wickets, but it was not enough to stem the flow of runs.

In response, Sikkim struggled severely against the MPCA bowlers, managing a mere 31 runs for the loss of all 10 wickets in just 16.5 overs. The highlight of the bowling performance was Anandi Tagde, who made a sensational impact with the ball, taking 6 wickets for just 1 run, including a remarkable hat trick that left the Sikkim batting line-up in disarray.

Indore triumphs as state-level chess competition



Indore chess team members celebrate their victory with the trophy

Our Sports Reporter
INDORE

The closing ceremony of the state level chess competition at Shri Vaishnav Institute of Management and Science, Indore, marked the successful conclusion of an event that brought together talented players from seven districts, including Dhar, Jhabua, Indore, Barwani, Khargone, Khandwa, and Burhanpur.

The Indore team emerged victorious, capturing the title of overall champion, while Dhar secured the second position.

Chief Guest PK Sanse, a member of the selection committee, honoured the winning teams during the ceremony. The competition was inaugurated by Anand Pawar, a member of the executive council of Devi Ahilya Vish

wavidyalaya, who emphasised the significance of chess in enhancing intellectual abilities and fostering patience and mental balance in everyday life.

In his address, Dr George Thomas, director of the institute, underscored the importance of chess in developing mental toughness and decision-making skills among students. He noted how engaging in chess can cultivate a strong mental and intellectual foundation essential for personal and academic growth.

Throughout the competition, participants showcased impressive intelligence and strategic skills. The ceremony concluded with the felicitations of winners, who received special trophies for their outstanding performances.

UTD crowned champions in inter-college district-level kabaddi competition



UTD team members celebrate their victory with the trophy

Our Sports Reporter
INDORE

Damodar Prasad Arya, a commentator associated with the directorate of urban administration and development in Madhya Pradesh, will lend his voice to the ICC Women's T20 World Cup 2024. Arya is set to cover the highly anticipated match between the women's teams of India and Sri Lanka, scheduled to take place at the Dubai International Cricket Stadium in the United Arab Emirates.

The match will be broadcast live across various centers of All India Radio, starting from 7 PM until the conclusion of the game. This year's Women's T20 World Cup is being hosted in the UAE, showcasing the talents of female cricketers from around the globe.

With a wealth of experience, Damodar Arya has previously provided commentary for seven T20 and One Day World Cups, including the Women's T20 World Cups in 2020 and 2023. His return to the commentary box is anticipated by fans who look forward to his insightful analysis and engaging commentary style during this prestigious tournament.

Ram Srivastava addressed the audience, emphasizing the importance of sportsmanship and dedication, while principal Dr Anand Nighojkar provided the welcome address.

Dr Anupam Sharma, the observer of the competition, guided the players throughout the tournament. Certificates were awarded to the players of both the winning and runner-up teams, along with trophies and medals presented on behalf of the organising college.

Key officials and sports dignitaries including Brajesh Bagora, Dr Mitesh Chaudhary, and many others were present to witness the event. Dr Nilesh Mandloi, the sports officer, provided insights regarding the three-day Kabaddi competition, highlighting the talented athletes involved.

The closing ceremony was honoured by the presence of Chief Guest, additional DCP (traffic) Arvind Tiwari, who congratulated all players for their commendable performances during the competition. College chairman Dr Khandwa starting October 9.

State-level ranking tennis tournament from Oct 14

Our Sports Reporter
INDORE

The Shri Puneet Memorial 2nd Madhya Pradesh State Level Ranking Tennis Tournament is scheduled to commence at the Indore Tennis Club from October 14, under the auspices of the Madhya Pradesh Tennis Association. The tournament will run from October 14 to October 19, 2024, with preliminary qualifying matches taking place on October 12 and 13.

Secretary of the Madhya Pradesh Tennis Association, Anil Dhopar, announced that the tournament will feature various categories, including boys' competitions for 12 years, 14 years, and 18 years, as well as girls' categories for 12 years and 14 years, along with women's singles and men's singles and doubles events.

With approximately 300 entries received from across the state, the tournament promises to showcase a high level of talent and competition.

Our Sports Reporter
INDORE

The IPSC under 19 boys cricket tournament officially began at Daly College on Tuesday, with a vibrant inaugural ceremony led by principal Dr Gunmeet Bindra. The tournament has attracted schools from across the region, promising a series of exciting and competitive matches.

The opening day witnessed outstanding performances from various teams. In a remarkable match, DPS Marthura Road triumphed over PPS Nabha by an impressive

margin of 272 runs, with Kabir Singh Chaddha being honoured as the Man of the Match for his stellar contributions.

In another competitive clash, Daly College Indore edged past DPS RK Puram, winning by 27 runs, while Ansh Dadwani received the Man of the Match award for his exceptional play. Modern School also showcased their dominance, defeating LKS Gotan by 10 wickets, with Vanam Agarwal standing out as the Man of the Match.

As the tournament progresses, excitement builds among players and spectators alike, anticipating fierce competition and remarkable displays of talent in the coming days.

IPSC U-19 boys cricket tourney kicks off at DC



Chief guest inaugurating IPSC under 19 boys cricket tournament at Daly College

FP News Service
SIRONJ/BHOPAL

Vidisha witnessed an impressive display of talent at the 68th State Taekwondo and Lawn Tennis Championship, where athletes from the Bhopal division claimed resounding victories.

Bhopal's taekwondo team bagged a remarkable 23 gold, 13 silver, and 11 bronze medals across both boys' and girls' categories. Meanwhile, in lawn tennis, the players secured 15 gold and 9 silver medals, emerging victorious in the under-14 and under-17



The victorious Bhopal team poses proudly during the prize distribution ceremony

categories for both boys and girls.

With these exceptional performances, Bhopal division was crowned the overall champion in both taekwondo and lawn tennis. The success

was steered by the dedicated efforts of general manager Jamshed Khan, assistant general manager Shan, lawn tennis coach Nalin, and taekwondo coaches Monica Jain and Sakshi Sharma.

Bhopal's Arya to commentate at ICC Women's T20 WC

Our Sports Reporter
INDORE

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MPS Academy kabaddi team shines in CBSE State Cluster Championship



among students.

MPS Academy's Kabaddi team, representing the state in the highly competitive CBSE Cluster Championship, showcased remarkable performance by advancing through the tehsild District, and division-levels. The four-day CBSE State Cluster Competition, hosted in Miyana of Guna, attracted a total of 60 school teams from across the state, underscoring the event's significance in promoting sports

tire staff, and Society Chairman Ashutosh Chhajlani, who extended heartfelt congratulations to the students and sports coach Deepak Kumawat. Chhajlani also expressed gratitude toward the area

SGSITS inaugurates annual sports competition 'Varchasva'

Our Sports Reporter
INDORE

The Shri Govindram Seksaria Institute of Technology and Science (SGSITS), Indore, inaugurated its much-anticipated annual sports competition, 'Varchasva' 2024-25, under the esteemed leadership of Prof Sandeep Narulkar, the institute's director, along with Prof LL Jain.

The event witnessed the presence of distinguished guests, including Prof BS More and Arun Kulika, amidst an enthusiastic crowd.

Competing against a diverse field of swimmers, Dr Dilliwal clinched three gold medals, highlighting his dedication to fitness and competitive spirit at an impressive age. His outstanding performance not only brings pride to Indore but also inspires many to pursue their passions regardless of age. Dr Dilliwal shined at National Championship, wins three gold

and brotherhood among students.

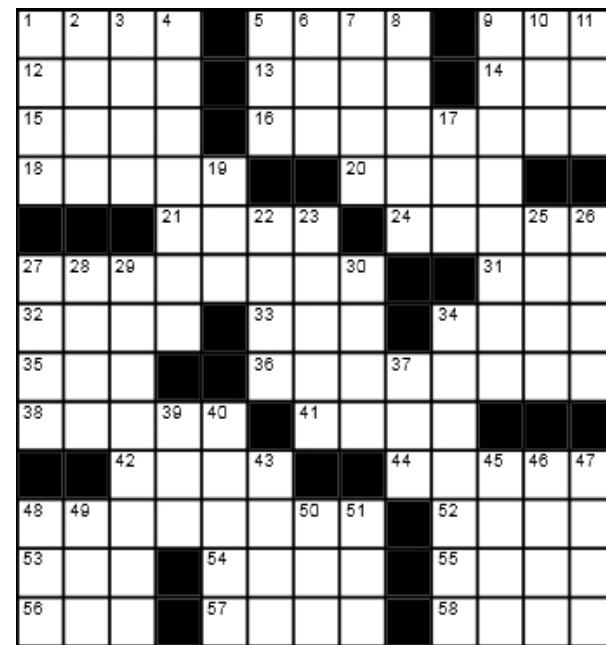
The inaugural event marked the start of various competitions, including badminton, football, table tennis, basketball, and more, featuring participation from 11 branches in both men's and women's categories. Notably, the Inter Branch Badminton Men's Competition saw the Electronics and Instrumentation Departments advance to the quarter-finals, showcasing impressive performances. In women's matches, the Bio-medical Engineering and PG Departments also secured their spots in the quarters.

In his opening speech, chief guest Prof Narulkar congratulated the participants on their sportsmanship and encouraged them to excel. Prof Jain emphasised the positive aspects of sports for mental and physical health. The ceremony included an oath-taking session administered by Mr. Vishnu Jaiswal, chairman of the Student Sports Committee, symbolising commitment to fair play.



Chief guest inaugurating the annual sports competition, 'Varchasva' 2024-25 at SGSITS

Crossword #1286



Across

- 1 Plan detail
- 5 Space available
- 9 Simile centre (2,1)
- 12 Stylish, smart
- 13 Destiny, lot
- 14 'Me' in French
- 15 Wings or winglike parts
- 16 Former capital of Turkey
- 18 Dutch cheese
- 20 In the past
- 21 Platter
- 24 Fizzy drinks
- 27 Hema Malini's daughter in films (4,4)
- 31 Set of tools
- 32 Norse deity
- 33 Flightless bird
- 34 Walt Disney's famous spaniel, mother of Scamp
- 35 Activity on Node, abbr.
- 36 Indian rice dish
- 38 Ancient Roman garments
- 41 In a ___ : in trouble?
- 42 Maintained or held?
- 44 Store of treasure
- 48 Captivating
- 52 Do as ordered
- 53 Yonder, in short
- 54 Knocks with knuckles
- 55 Like a bear with a ___ head : very irritable?
- 56 Poultry farm product
- 57 Formerly - "rest" anagram?
- 58 Twelve months

Down

- 1 Slangy sort of cord-like pasta, in short
- 2 Marco ___ : the famous traveler?
- 3 He sold his birthright to his twin brother Jacob
- 4 Type of cheese
- 5 Request For Inf.
- 6 1948 pact
- 7 Palindromic boy
- 8 Implies or signifies
- 9 Father of India's Constitution
- 10 Old French coin
- 11 Weaken; suffer from a disease or malady
- 17 Sgt. or Cpl.
- 19 Give help
- 22 Search for
- 23 Arrives
- 25 Assistant
- 26 Eyelid problem
- 27 Change of Govt. : coup d'___
- 28 Go away!
- 29 Asian metropolis (4,4)
- 30 A board game
- 34 Hansen's disease
- 37 Alimentary canal
- 39 Ireland's ___ Lingus
- 40 Meager or thin
- 43 Ski lift - "bra" anagram ? (1-3)
- 45 Reed instrument
- 46 "Aver" anagram for a girl's name?
- 47 Ogler or viewer
- 48 Affirmative vote
- 49 Domesticated canine
- 50 Vinyl
- 51 Superlative suffix

YOUR DAY By Vinayak Vishwas Karandikar



ARIES: Focus on career and expanding your horizons today. Expect expenditure on legal matters. People in fields like law and travel will be benefited. You may enjoy exciting new experiences with family. Some people may suffer from skin or ear problems.



TAURUS: Today is the day to explore new philosophies and cultures. Expect expenditure on communication. People in fields like networking and academia will be benefited. Some people may suffer from throat infection.



GEMINI: Today is the day for deep thinking and transformation. Expect expenditure on investments and finances. People from publication and research will get success. A transformative conversation with a loved one is indicated.



CANCER: Today is the day to focus on partnerships and collaboration. Expect expenditure on communication and legal matters. People in fields like consultancy and public relations will get success. Strengthening bonds with your partner is indicated.



LEO: Focus on health and daily routines today. Expect expenditure on work-related travel. People in fitness and consultancy will be benefited. Domestic life may be busy but fulfilling. You may enjoy a long journey with family.



VIRGO: Today is the day for creativity and romance. Expect expenditure on communication and hobbies. People in fields like arts and entertainment will do well. A good day to enjoy romantic pursuits with loved ones.



LIBRA: Focus on home and family today. Expect expenditure on family needs and real estate. People in interior design and home-based businesses will be benefited. You may go for a long journey. Some people may suffer from throat pain.



SCORPIO: Today is the day to communicate, learn, and gain. Expenses on short trips are indicated. People in fields like networking and research will be benefited. Ill health or a dispute with your father is indicated. Some people may suffer from respiratory issues.



SAGITTARIUS: Today is the day to focus on personal finances. Expect expenditure on personal items, luxury goods and business. People in personal consultancy and insurance will get success. A day to enjoy material comforts with loved ones.



CAPRICORN: Today is the day to focus on self-improvement and personal goals. Expect expenditure on personal projects and business. People in leadership, communication and media will be benefited. Married people may face disputes with their spouse.

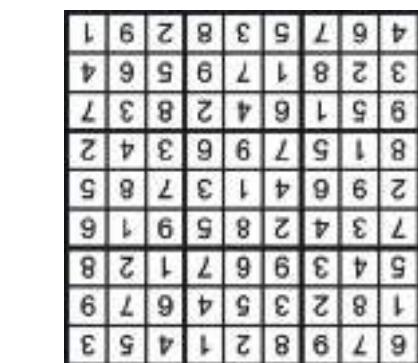
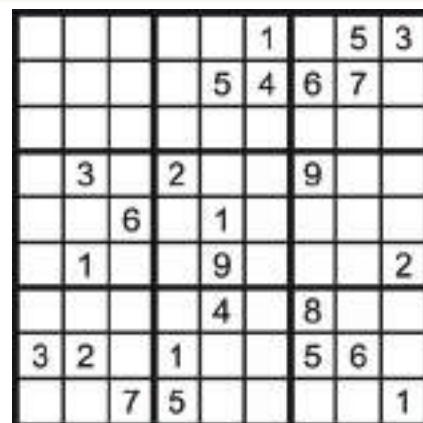


AQUARIUS: Today is the day for introspection, spirituality, and enjoyment. Expect expenditure on health and sports. People in psychology and communication will be benefited. A day to find peace and quiet within your home.



PISCES: Today is the day for socialising. Expect expenditure on group activities and entertainment. People in community work will be benefited. Those in relationships can tie the knot. Married couples can enjoy a romantic date.

FPJ - SUDOKU - 177



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.

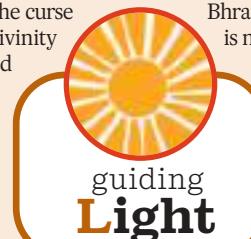
Solution

Across: 1 Spec, 5 Room, 9 As, 3 Post, 13 File, 14 Mail, 15 Able, 16 Isenthal, 18 Gouda, 20 Once, 21 Bisc, 24 Soles, 27 Seth Deel, 31 Kit, 32 Thro, 33 Emu, 34 Lady, 35 AON, 36 Kedgeree, 38 Toga, 41 Soup, 42 Kefir, 44 Tomato, 48 Adorably, 52 Obe, 53 Yogh, 54 Raps, 55 Sorrel, 56 Egg, 57 Eats, 58 Year
Down: 1 Spec, 2 Pilo, 3 Esau, 4 Cheddar, 5 Rel, 6 OAS, 7 Otto, 8 Means, 9 Ambedkar, 10 Sou, 11 Ali, 17 NCO, 19 Aid, 22 Seet, 23 Comets, 25 Ade, 26 Sty, 27 Elia, 28 Shoo, 29 Hong Kong, 30 Ludo, 34 Leprosy, 37 Guit, 38 Togo, 39 34, 41 37, 42 38, 43 39, 44 35, 45 36, 46 Vera, 47 Egy, 48 Ayg, 49 Dog, 50 Vito, 51 35, 52 34, 53 37, 54 36, 55 38, 56 Egg,

Aparajitayai Namah

— Prof S Ainavolu

A parajita is one who is invincible or difficult to defeat or conquer. In a physical conquests, it is easier for us to judge who was losing and who had the upper hand. When the demonic forces acquire super-normal abilities due to the boons obtained, it becomes difficult to overcome their negativity and constrain them. Shumba and Nishumbha were such two and became the curse for the good and divinity around. Devi assumed the invincible form and facilitates the logical conclusion to the bad elements. Aparajita is worshiped as 'part of all the beings' and is seen as the reflection of the divine in us. In the stuti, mother Goddess is extoled and worshipped as 'ya devi sarvabuteshu', one who prevails in all, with different qualities.



The take-away from the stuti is for us to become Aparajita. We need to see the entirety as the reflection and part of ONE. When there is no 'other', then there is no conflict. If there is nothing which is to be won. Then everyone is 'Aparajita'. We need to remember that the real battle is always inside us. Unfortunately, many do not delve inside and won't recognize the downside that is deep inside. The 'ar' as mentioned in arishadvargas are the real enemies that have to be conquered. Then, the Aparajita is with us, in us, and always.

Dr S Ainavolu is a Mumbai-based teacher of Management and Tradition. Intent is nextgen's learning and cultural education

TAROT MESSAGE FOR THE DAY ACE OF SWORDS

A good day to finish any pending work. Communicate gently and calmly, and let go of anything toxic.

Today, an opportunity will present itself to you that will require practicality. Be clear and honest in your communication. A truth will reveal itself. Some of you may visit a doctor, an alternative therapist, or undergo medical tests.



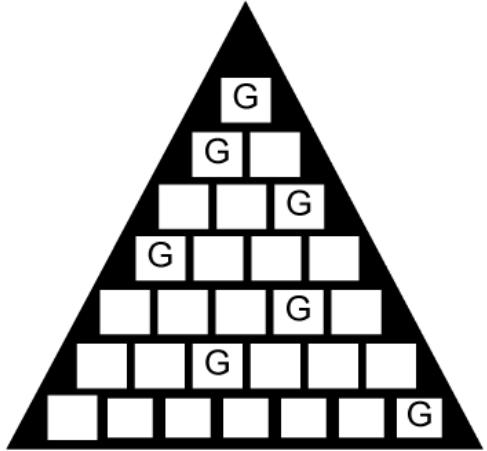
Tip for the day: Focus on the card's image and say, "Divine, please help me communicate calmly and clearly".

Lots of divine miracles your way, Sheetal Sapan Mhatre.

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 7th letter
- 2 Gallium for the chemist
- 3 Give a hard time
- 4 Transmission part
- 5 Extent
- 6 Exasperates or infuriates
- 7 Cooking briskly



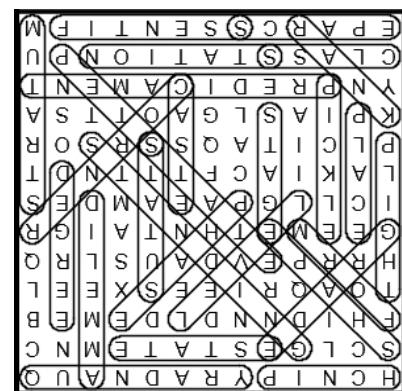
G, Ga, Rag, Gear, Range, Angers, Searing.

Solution to Alpha Triangle**Word Search****Current State**

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.

Caste	Level	Scrape
Class	Phase	Shape
Corner	Pickle	Stage
Degree	Pinch	Standing
Dilemma	Place	State
Estate	Plight	Station
Fitness	Predicament	Status
Form	Quandary	Step
Grade	Rank	Stratum

**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**

$$\boxed{\quad \quad \quad \quad} = 21$$

3 5 6 7

Medium

$$\boxed{\quad \quad \quad \quad} = 41$$

5 8 8 9

Hard

$$\boxed{\quad \quad \quad \quad} = 35$$

2 5 8 9

Easy - $3 + 6 + 7 + 5 = 21$
Medium - $5 \times 8 - 8 + 9 = 41$
Hard - $5 \times 9 - 2 - 8 = 35$

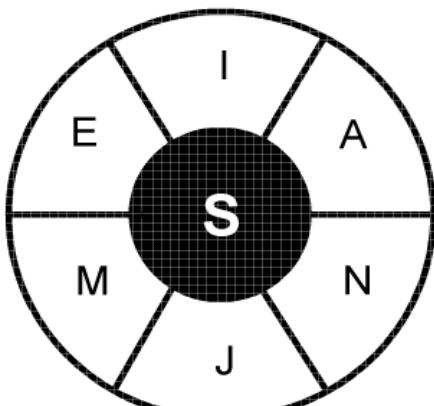
Our Solutions:**Riddler**

How long should a ladder be to reach a window 40 feet from the ground, assuming that the distance from the foot of the ladder to the wall is 9 feet?

1.687 ft., which equals 41 feet.

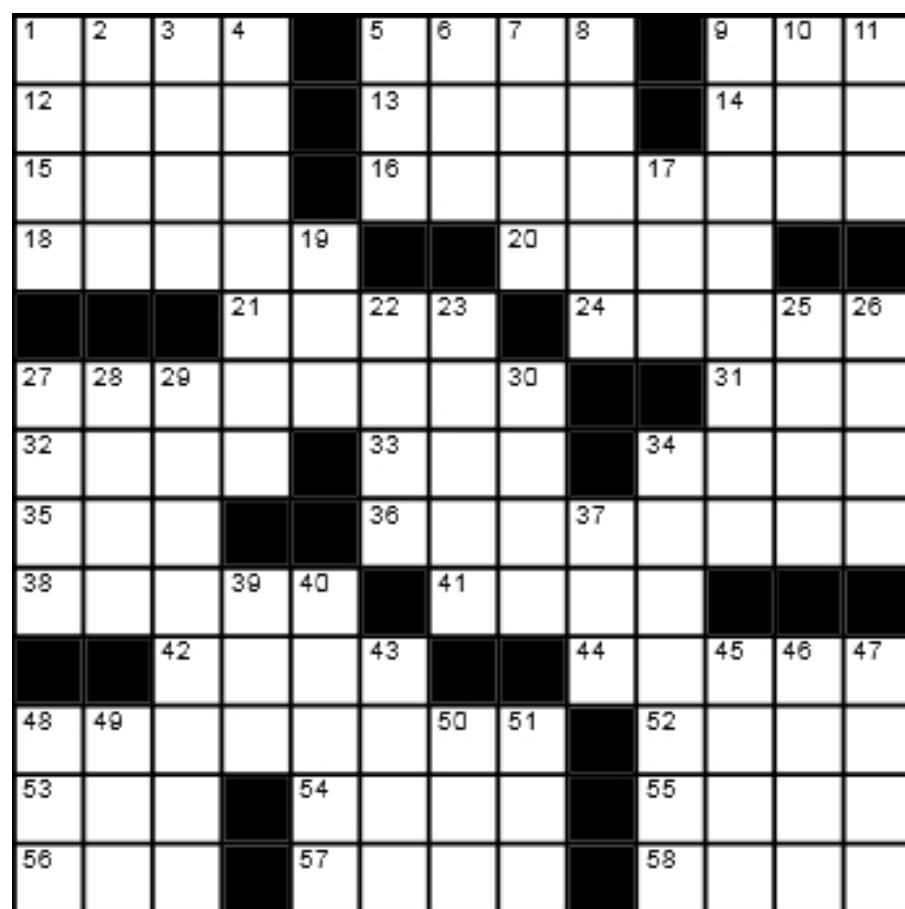
BULL'S EYE

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:**

04 average; 05 good; 06 outstanding.

anise, JASMINE, same, saue, seam, sine

SOLUTION :**Crossword #1286****Across**

- 1 Plan detail
- 5 Space available
- 9 Simile centre (2,1)
- 12 Stylish, smart
- 13 Destiny, lot
- 14 'Me' in French
- 15 Wings or winglike parts
- 16 Former capital of Turkey
- 18 Dutch cheese
- 20 In the past
- 21 Platter
- 24 Fizzy drinks
- 27 Hema Malini's daughter in films (4,4)
- 31 Set of tools
- 32 Norse deity
- 33 Flightless bird
- 34 Walt Disney's famous

spaniel, mother of Scamp

35 Activity on Node, abbr.

36 Indian rice dish

38 Ancient Roman garments

41 In a ___ : in trouble?

42 Maintained or held?

44 Store of treasure

48 Captivating

52 Do as ordered

53 Yonder, in short

54 Knocks with knuckles

55 Like a bear with a ___ head : very irritable?

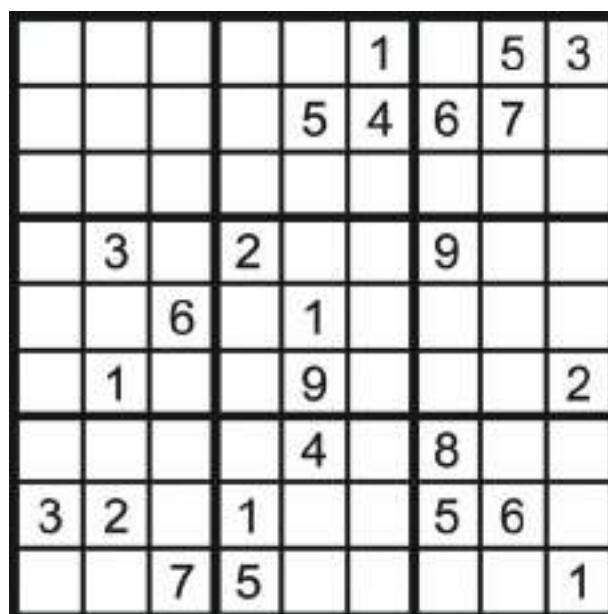
56 Poultry farm product

57 Formerly - "rest"

anagram?

58 Twelve months

- 1 Slangy sort of cord-like pasta, in short
 - 2 Marco ___ : the famous traveler?
 - 3 He sold his birthright to his twin brother Jacob
 - 4 Type of cheese
 - 5 Request For Inf.
 - 6 1948 pact
 - 7 Palindromic boy
 - 8 Implies or signifies
 - 9 Father of India's Constitution
 - 10 Old French coin
 - 11 Weaken; suffer from a disease or malady
 - 12 Sgt. or Cpl.
 - 13 Give help
 - 14 Search for
 - 15 Arrives
- 25 Assistant
- 26 Eyelid problem
- 27 Change of Govt. : coup d'___
- 28 Go away!
- 29 Asian metropolis (4,4)
- 30 A board game
- 34 Hansen's disease
- 37 Alimentary canal
- 39 Ireland's Lingus
- 40 Meager or thin
- 43 Ski lift - "brat" anagram ? (1-3)
- 45 Reed instrument
- 46 "Aver" anagram for a girl's name?
- 47 Ogler or viewer
- 48 Affirmative vote
- 49 Domesticated canine
- 50 Vinyl
- 51 Superlative suffix

SUDOKU

43 Table, 45 Odore, 46 Velas, 47 Eper, 48 Ayde, 49 Dog, 50 Lps, 51 Est.
43 Tapas, 44 Sobe, 45 Ale, 46 Spore, 47 Eper, 48 Shoo, 49 Hony Anou, 50 Ludo, 51 Ali, 52 Sel, 53 Alde, 54 Come, 55 Alde, 56 Egg, 57 Eter, 58 Reps, 59 Soe, 60 Doby, 61 Tote, 62 Kepo, 63 Tote, 64 Tote, 65 Sel, 66 Sel, 67 Eter, 68 Sel, 69 Sel, 70 Sel, 71 Sel, 72 Sel, 73 Sel, 74 Sel, 75 Sel, 76 Sel, 77 Sel, 78 Sel, 79 Sel, 80 Sel, 81 Sel, 82 Sel, 83 Sel, 84 Sel, 85 Sel, 86 Sel, 87 Sel, 88 Sel, 89 Sel, 90 Sel, 91 Sel, 92 Sel, 93 Sel, 94 Sel, 95 Sel, 96 Sel, 97 Sel, 98 Sel, 99 Sel, 100 Sel, 101 Sel, 102 Sel, 103 Sel, 104 Sel, 105 Sel, 106 Sel, 107 Sel, 108 Sel, 109 Sel, 110 Sel, 111 Sel, 112 Sel, 113 Sel, 114 Sel, 115 Sel, 116 Sel, 117 Sel, 118 Sel, 119 Sel, 120 Sel, 121 Sel, 122 Sel, 123 Sel, 124 Sel, 125 Sel, 126 Sel, 127 Sel, 128 Sel, 129 Sel, 130 Sel, 131 Sel, 132 Sel, 133 Sel, 134 Sel, 135 Sel, 136 Sel, 137 Sel, 138 Sel, 139 Sel, 140 Sel, 141 Sel, 142 Sel, 143 Sel, 144 Sel, 145 Sel, 146 Sel, 147 Sel, 148 Sel, 149 Sel, 150 Sel, 151 Sel, 152 Sel, 153 Sel, 154 Sel, 155 Sel, 156 Sel, 157 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Home vastu for happiness



Jyoti S

It is said that a happy family is a prosperous family where the members live in harmony with each other. You derive happiness from the people around you and the relationship that you share with them. But if you remain surrounded by family conflicts and quarrels, will you be able to remain happy at all? Of course not. This is why it is important to follow the Vastu tips for happiness to bring peace, prosperity, and cheerfulness to your life. Vastu Shastra advocates that the design and layout of a house plays a crucial role in the well-being of a person. Here is a list of various Vastu tips that can help you bring happiness to your world:

■ Entrance of the house:

The main door of the house in the eastern or northern direction as this attracts the positive energies that bring happiness to the house.

■ East and North section:

These portions of the house are said to be very auspicious as this is the place from where positivity enters the house. Therefore, these sections must be kept clean and clutter-free at all times.

■ Placement of kitchen:

The kitchen must be constructed in the South-East direction as it would enhance the health and happiness of the family.

■ Brahmarshan (center):

No furniture must be placed at the center of the house (Brahmarshan) as it is the most powerfully and positively charged area that can boost up the positive energies of the person who comes in contact with this place.

■ Location of owner's bedroom:

The breadwinner and head of the family must be given a bedroom that is in the Southwest direction to help him have control over the family and take proper decisions regarding their welfare.

■ Windows:

The eastern portion of the house must have the maximum number of windows while the western portion of the house must have the minimum number of windows.

■ Doors:

As per Vastu, the doors & windows in a house must be even-numbered as that would help in maintaining the balance between the elements of nature.

■ Location of bedroom for couples:

The Southwest direction is best for the couples who own the household. They can also take the Northwest direction but the Northeast direction must be avoided.

■ Northeast portion:

It is advisable to keep the northeast section of the house open and put some source of water such as a fountain here as well.

■ Location of children bedroom:

The daughters of marriageable age must be given a bedroom in the North-West side of the house. Also, children must study facing the east or north direction as that would bring them success in all their endeavors.

These are some basic Vastu tips that can make your home peaceful and prosperous and your family members healthy, wealthy and wise. Thus, we may say that a happy home can provide you all the happiness of the world and therefore, you must follow these tips for the welfare of your family.

Not moisturizing your skin every day or not doing it properly can make your skin age faster and cause premature signs of ageing appear sooner, like wrinkles and fine lines. There are certain moisturizer mistakes that most of us make on an everyday basis. These mistakes can make our skin age faster. Today, we're letting you know about the most common moisturizer mistakes that can make your skin look older than it actually is. Avoid making these mistakes to make sure that your skin looks refreshing and youthful at all times. Take a look at them here:

1 Slathering moisturizer on dry skin

This is the most common moisturizer mistake that a majority of us have made at some point or the other. Applying moisturizer on dry skin is not as effective as applying it to damp skin. For the moisturizer to get completely absorbed into your skin, it is essential for your skin to be a bit damp.

2 Inconsistent application of moisturizer

Most women these days are always pressed for time. And, there are times when we either apply too much or too little of the moisturizer. This inconsistency can have an adverse effect on the condition of the skin. So, avoid inconsistent application of moisturizer to make sure that your skin looks its absolute best at all times.

Somya Ojha

A moisturizer is an essential skin care product that creates a protective layer of moisture on your skin, thereby preventing it from getting dehydrated and looking dull. Skin care experts all over the world urge women to make sure that their skin stays well-moisturized at all times. Not only does it keep flakiness at bay, but it also helps your skin stay healthy and youthful.



Mistakes that make your skin age faster

3 Forgetting the neck area

This is another moisturizer sin that most of us have committed at some point or the other in our lives. We pay extra attention to our facial skin, while ending up ignoring the skin on our neck area. This habit can make the skin on your neck age faster & also look darker than your facial skin.

4 Applying makeup right after applying the moisturizer

This is the next moisturizer mistake that we must avoid at all costs. The moisturizer needs to stay on your skin for about 10-15 minutes to be able to form an even surface on your skin's outer layer. Applying makeup right after moisturizer can leave your skin exposed to harsh chemicals in the products.

5 Not paying attention to the ingredients

Have you ever picked up a moisturizer without paying attention to the ingredients used in it? If so, then it is about time to read the label prior to purchasing a moisturizer. Moisturizers loaded with chemicals can harm your skin and accelerate aging.

6 Not using the moisturizer made for your skin type

Not using the moisturizer exclusively made for your skin type is another mistake that can make your skin age faster. All skin is different and it is crucial to use the product that is specifically formulated for your skin type.

7 Not exfoliating your skin

Not exfoliating your skin can cause a build-up of dead skin cells and grime. Accumulated impurities in your skin pores can make it difficult for a moisturizer to reach your skin's inner layers. And, lack of moisture can cause dullness as well as premature signs of ageing to develop.

8 Not applying moisturizer on oily skin

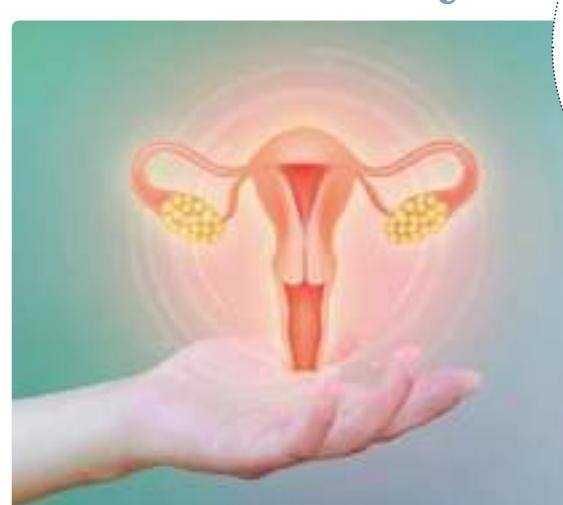
This is another common moisturizer mistake that can cause premature signs of ageing. Even if your skin looks oily, it is still important to make sure that it is well-moisturized. As moisture deficiency can adversely affect the state of all skin types. It is wise to use a moisturizer that is especially made for oily skin types.

Myths and facts related to PCOS and infertility

Dr. Ritu Hinduja

Fertility Consultant, Nova IVF Fertility, Mumbai

Polycystic ovary syndrome (PCOS) is a hormonal disorder affecting many women, characterized by menstrual irregularities, excess androgen (male hormone) production, and ovarian cysts. Over time, PCOS can lead to various health complications, including infertility. Women diagnosed with PCOS often struggle to conceive spontaneously. However, with lifestyle modifications and proper treatment, managing this condition effectively is possible. Numerous myths about PCOS and its impact on fertility can mislead couples, leading to feelings of helplessness, frustration, and guilt. Instead of being swayed by misconceptions, women should seek accurate information to better understand their condition.



Myths and facts related to PCOS and infertility

Myth: Women with PCOS can't get pregnant

Fact: Being diagnosed with PCOS does not mean that motherhood is out of reach. Female infertility caused by PCOS can be managed with appropriate treatment. Lifestyle modifications, such as improving dietary habits, staying physically active, and following prescribed medications, can help improve the condition and increase the chances of conception. Additionally, women can explore fertility treatments like assisted reproductive technologies (ART) or in vitro fertilization (IVF).

Myth: All women with PCOS have irregular periods

Fact: While irregular periods are a common symptom of PCOS, not all women experience this. Many women with PCOS have regular periods, though they may still face issues with ovulation.

Myth: PCOS is caused by poor lifestyle choices

Fact: The exact cause of PCOS remains unclear, though genetic and hormonal factors play significant roles. While lifestyle choices, such as diet and exercise, can influence PCOS symptoms, they are not the sole cause. PCOS can affect women who maintain healthy lifestyles, including those who eat well, exercise regularly, and manage stress.

Myth: PCOS only affects reproductive health

Fact: PCOS affects more than just reproductive health; it impacts overall well-being. In addition to reproductive issues, women with PCOS may experience insulin resistance, increasing the risk of type 2 diabetes and cardiovascular diseases. The emotional toll of PCOS can also lead to mental health challenges, including anxiety, depression, and stress.

Myth: PCOS symptoms will disappear after pregnancy

Fact: Although pregnancy may temporarily alleviate some PCOS symptoms, the condition persists. Hormonal fluctuations during pregnancy can cause temporary changes, but PCOS is a chronic condition that often reemerges after childbirth once hormone levels stabilize.

Chandana Rao

Lately, natural or herbal remedies for various diseases and ailments are becoming more and more popular, as people are realising that vegetables and fruits come with health benefits that are actually effective. Many research studies have claimed that vegetables and fruits have properties that can cure and prevent certain disorders even better than medicines.

The best part about natural medicine is that you do not have to worry about undesirable side effects either. In addition, natural remedies made from vegetables and fruits can also nourish your body well and help improve your health in general, apart from treating disorders. Did you know that the mixture of coconut water and honey can treat up to 7 disorders? Well, here's a look at how you can prepare and consume this health drink.

Just add a tablespoon of honey to a glass of tender coconut water, stir well to form a mixture, and consume this mixture every morning, before breakfast. Have a look at some of the health benefits of this remedy, here.

■ Prevents early ageing

As the combination of tender coconut and honey is rich in antioxidants and vitamin A, it protects your cells against the effects of free radicals and also keeps the signs of premature ageing at bay.

■ Improves digestion

The mixture of tender coconut and honey can regulate your bowel movement and reduce the production of acids in the stomach, thereby preventing conditions like constipation and acidity.

■ Promotes hydration

Coconut water is an excellent natural hydrator, packed with electrolytes like potassium, magnesium, and calcium. When combined with honey, it becomes even more effective in replenishing lost fluids, making it ideal for people who engage in physical activity or live in hot climates.

Health Benefits: Coconut water with honey

■ Treats infections

The combination of coconut water and honey can reduce inflammation and infection in the body, as it comes with antiseptic properties.

■ Reduces cholesterol

This natural health drink has the capacity to lower the cholesterol levels in your blood, as it courses through your arteries and dislodges the fat that is accumulated in them.

■ Boosts immunity

The mixture of tender coconut and honey nourishes your cells with its vitamins and mineral content, thereby keeping your immune system healthy and strong.

■ Detoxifies the kidneys

This homemade health drink has the ability to flush out the toxins and waste from your kidneys, keeping them cleansed and healthy.



■ Reduces constipation: By improving our bowel movement, this homemade health drink can ease away constipation symptoms.

■ Balances pH levels: This combination can help regulate your body's pH balance, as coconut water is known for its alkalinizing effect, countering the acidity that can build up in the body due to diet and stress.

■ Supports heart health: The potassium in coconut water, when paired with the beneficial antioxidants in honey, can support heart health by helping to regulate blood pressure and improve circulation.

What are the causes and treatments of bloating

Janhavi Patel

Ever felt like the jeans you wore just last night suddenly refused to fit today? Is it possible to have gained some extra pounds around the abdomen overnight? Answer is, yes, it's possible. But it's not gaining weight overnight that causes the jeans not to fit. It's just the air or gas in your body that accumulates in your abdomen. Bloating is nothing but an increase in the abdominal area or a swelling seen around the abdomen when gas accumulates in the gastrointestinal tract (GI). This could be a once-in-a-while occurrence or it could be something you experience very frequently. This frequent bloating is usually noticed due to an individual's lifestyle habits like the diet, stress of everyday events, pollutants in the air, etc.



How does this gas get trapped in the abdomen?

Most of the gas found in our body is just swallowed air. The other bit is produced when food gets broken down by the gut bacteria in our body. Usually, this gas is expelled in different ways like frequent burping or belching. The problem occurs when the GI does not move this gas out efficiently.

Bloating gives you the feel of a tight or "stuffed" stomach. It causes you to feel discomfort, not just physical but also mental. Though bloating is not such a serious condition and can be treated easily, it could lead to complications. It causes severe damage to the intestine in some extreme cases.

Type of foods: Foods rich in carbs, fibres, sugars, fructose, dairy, etc., when not digested properly, or when not suited by the body, produce a lot of gas that is not expelled properly by the body. This leads to bloating. Sodium present in salt causes water retention in our body. When excessive salt is consumed, bloating is common.

Overseating and indigestion: Our taste buds make us greedy during meals. We tend to overeat unnecessarily only because we like the taste of the food. This overeating could lead to partial digestion or indigestion of the food. When food is partially digested, the gas produced accumulates, causing a bloated stomach. Eating too fast could also lead to bloating.

Food intolerances and allergies: When a particular type of food is not suited for our body, it does not get broken down properly, causing our body to react to this undigested food. One of the symptoms of such allergies and intolerances could be bloating.

Alvarez syndrome: This is a neurosis of the abdominal wall and not because of excessive gas.

What are the most common causes for bloating?

Constipation and other bowel disorders: The most obvious cause for bloating is constipation. The irregular bowel movements don't allow the body to expel the gases of the body normally. Bowel obstruction, the obstruction of the intestines, causes an irregularity in bowel movements. This causes abdominal pain, bloating, vomiting, etc.

PMS: We know that women deal with a lot of physical and emotional changes in their body during "that time of the month." The most common complaint we hear from them is having a bloated stomach. This bloating is what causes those unbearable cramps.

Diseases: Gastric dumping syndrome, celiac disease, polycystic ovarian syndrome, excessive infestation with intestinal parasites, splenomegaly, etc., could also be the causes of abdominal bloating.

Aerophagia: Some people have a habit of swallowing air. We all swallow air when we breathe, but in some, the air doesn't follow the actual mechanism through which air enters the gut. This habit of air swallowing is also a very common cause for bloating of the abdomen.

How to treat this seemingly harmless condition?

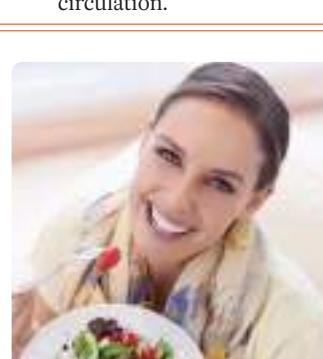
The most common and fastest treatment is over-the-counter medications like antacids. But this is just a quick solution. If you experience frequent bloating, then a dietary and lifestyle change is in order. Consuming foods with soluble fibers, water-rich vegetables and fruits, naturally soothing foods, herbal teas, probiotics, and raw dairy products is an effective way to reduce excessive gas production in the body. And of course, don't forget to exercise. Here are a few more tips to keep your bloating under control:

Eat smaller, frequent meals: Instead of consuming large portions in one sitting, opt for smaller, more frequent meals throughout the day. This can help your digestive system process food more easily, reducing the likelihood of gas buildup and bloating.

Engage in gentle movement: Physical activity helps stimulate the muscles of the gastrointestinal tract, aiding in digestion and the release of trapped gas. Simple activities like walking, stretching, or yoga can relieve bloating.

Limit high-FODMAP foods: Some individuals experience bloating due to high-FODMAP foods (Fermentable Oligosaccharides, Disaccharides, Monosaccharides, and Polyols), which are types of carbohydrates that can be difficult to digest. Foods like garlic, onions, beans, and certain fruits can trigger bloating. Keeping track of these foods in your diet and reducing their intake might alleviate symptoms.

Use digestive enzymes: Some people find relief from bloating by taking over-the-counter digestive enzymes, especially if they have trouble digesting certain foods like lactose or proteins. These supplements can help break down food more efficiently, minimizing gas buildup.



Chew your food thoroughly:

Digestion begins in the mouth, and chewing food thoroughly can reduce the amount of air swallowed. It also helps to break down food more efficiently, preventing digestive strain that can lead to bloating.

Try abdominal massage: A gentle self-massage targeting the abdominal area can help promote the movement of trapped gas through the intestines, reducing bloating and discomfort.



CONTENT OR CLUTTER?

Sagarika Choudhary

Actor-filmmaker Rajat Kapoor recently starred in the second season of the web-series *Tanaav*, helmed by veteran director Sudhir Mishra. In an exclusive conversation with *The Free Press Journal*, Kapoor opened up on the show's comparisons with *Fauda*, the OTT culture in India, OTT censorship and more.

Q. Why did you decide to do *Tanaav*?

A. Initially, I had refused to do *Tanaav*. I had done *Scam 1992* in which I was an income tax officer. I did *Mulk* where I was a cop. I didn't want to play a cop or intelligence officer again as I thought it would be similar. But the makers persuaded me to do it and I am glad! I am very happy with my role in *Tanaav*.

Q. *Tanaav* is an adaptation of *Fauda*. Were you apprehensive of comparisons between the two?

A. I have not watched *Fauda*. In fact, I saw half an episode once and I got bored of it. I don't think people can really compare *Tanaav* with *Fauda*, because the two shows are very different. The initial impetus might have come from *Fauda*, but *Tanaav* is more about Kashmir and our issues. It's very Indian.

Q. Why do you think the audience is shifting from theatres to OTT?

A. The habit of going out was broken dur-

I think OTT platforms have too much power now, which is not nice. They are now controlling the industry and deciding what should be made, which is terrible.

— Rajat Kapoor

FPJ
EXCLUSIVE

Rajat Kapoor opens up on his show *Tanaav*'s comparisons with *Fauda*, the OTT culture in India, OTT censorship and more

ing the COVID years. A new habit was formed wherein the world was available to us on our laptops. We have now gotten used to having everything delivered at our doorsteps, be it groceries or content. Earlier, people would go to theatres to watch a movie every week. Now, they wait and check which is that one movie in a month that is worth watching on the big screen, because the rest will anyway be available on OTT within two weeks.

Q. Do you think OTT has breathed new life into the content scene of India?

A. In some way, yes, because new kinds of content is now being made, which is good for some actors and filmmakers. But I feel it has also cluttered up the space. I think OTT platforms have too much power now, which is not nice. They are now controlling the industry and deciding what should be made, which is terrible. It is becoming a monopoly which was not the case earlier. Some 20 years ago, there would be these few big studios which would make all mainstream films, but there were also independent producers and filmmakers, who would make films like *Bheja Fry* or *Aankhon Dekhi*. I feel that is not possible today because the OTT game is too strong and they dictate what should be made and delivered, what should be released in theatres and what should head straight to the online portals. I don't find it a very happy situation.

Q. What is your opinion on OTT censorship?

A. It is irrelevant in this day and age. Everything is available on the internet. What are you going to censor? How are you going to stop anything? And the audience will anyway convey to you what they want to watch. So we should not worry much about censoring a film. You don't see *Godfather* and become a gangster, because there are other values that you have in the society. If someone is making a film on a political party, you don't just go and join the party suddenly. I don't think films have that much influence on people.



She (Alia) broke down, she cracked up, cried, raved, ranted, and locked herself in a room
— Sanjay Leela Bhansali

A still from *Gangubai Kathiawadi*

Alia's emotional reaction after *Inshallah*'s collapse

Filmmaker Sanjay Leela Bhansali reveals that Alia Bhatt was heartbroken after *Inshallah* got shelved

CJ Desk

Filmmaker Sanjay Leela Bhansali has revealed that actress Alia Bhatt was heartbroken after their film *Inshallah* got shelved. For those unversed, a few years back, Bhansali's love story, *Inshallah*, created quite an excitement among the audience over the pairing of Salman Khan and Alia.

However, the project was reportedly scrapped over creative differences between Salman and Bhansali.

In an interview with a film publication, Bhansali revealed Alia's reaction upon learning about the film getting shelved.

He stated, "She (Alia) broke down, she cracked up, cried, raved, ranted, and locked herself in a room. The filmmaker also revealed that he later called Alia and informed her that she will be playing the titular role in *Gangubai Kathiawadi*.

"Alia said, 'From Los Angeles, where I was supposed to play the character in *Inshallah*, I have come to *Kamatipura*. How will I do this? I don't



Kolkata's iconic Globe Cinema reopens

CJ Desk

Kolkata's iconic Globe Cinema reopened on *Maha Panchami* on Tuesday after a hiatus of nearly two decades.

Once a hub for film lovers, the cinema will screen three Bengali films alongside two recent all-India hits, rekindling the magic that once captivated audiences.

The reopening promises to be a celebration of nostalgia and excitement, as the city's cinephiles eagerly

anticipate the revival of this cultural landmark.

Satadeep Saha, managing director of SSR Cinemas, which has leased the property, on Monday announced that the newly-revamped Globe will feature two screens (Dual-Plex) equipped with state-of-the-art facilities, with seating capacities of 239 and 197, respectively.

Originally built by the British in 1867 as the Grand Opera House, the venue initially hosted a mix of British and Indian plays, establishing a significant cultural legacy in the city.



(Above) View from the stage in 1918
(Below) The newly reopened Globe Cinema

Pics: Varinder Chawla

CAUGHT ON CAM

Celebs were snapped as they were out and about in Mumbai



Sara Ali Khan is snapped outside the gym in Juhu

Tanishaa Mukherjee is spotted at a pet clinic in Khar

Suhana Khan poses for our shutterbugs as she is spotted at an event

Sidharth Malhotra is snapped in Andheri

Shehzada Dhami breaks his silence

Aanchal Chowdhary

Shehzada Dhami, who was ousted from *Yeh Rishtey Kya Kehlata Hai*, has once again stirred headlines ever since the news of his participation in *Bigg Boss 18* has started doing rounds on the internet.

The actor, before getting in the *Bigg Boss* house got in an exclusive chat with *The Free Press Journal* and spoke about his stint on the show, his fallout with YRKKH's producer Rajan Shahi and a lot more.

Q. Your name has been associated with the show before this season and it was with *Bigg Boss* OTT. Now that you are finally doing the show, what was that one driving factor for you to do so?

A. Ji, maine wo show nahi kiya tha. Firstly, other projects of mine were yet to begin, so my dates were free. I spoke to people about it and asked them if I have 2-3 months free so should I take up the show. I personally wanted to do the show and was contemplating on the same. Har project lene se pehle sochna padta hai phir cheha kaise bhi show ho. So, yes, I was in talks with the creatives and makers constantly. At the end, when all of us came to mutual agreement, I took up the show and signed it and here I am.

Q. Your promo that was dropped by the channel looked amazing. You are narrating a story that you have not spoken about. Rajan sir has accused you of a lot of things in his interviews. With your participation in *Bigg Boss*, do you think you would want to keep your side of the story in front of the world?

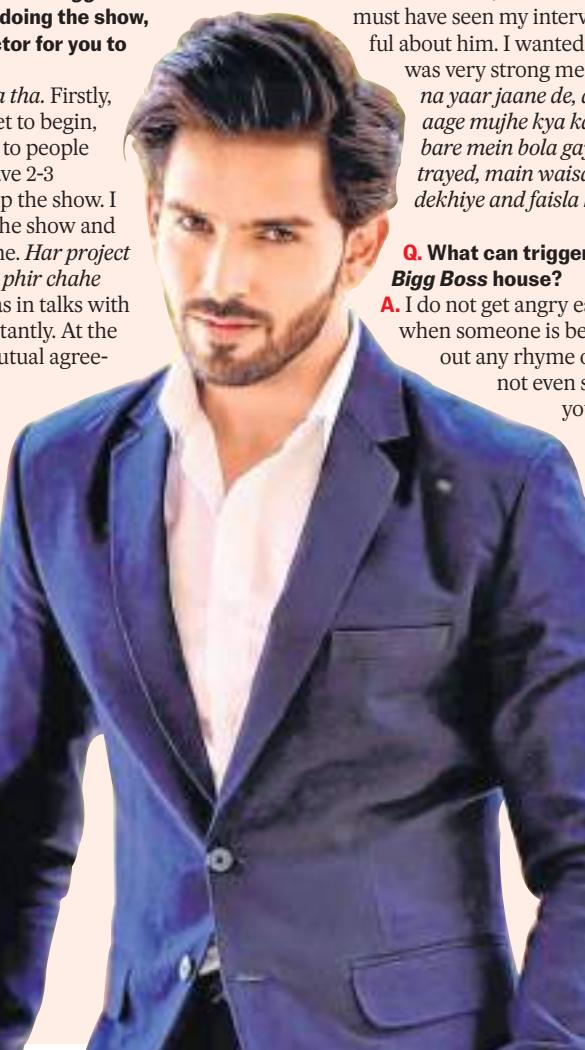
A. See, wo baat bol nahi paana ya bolna chahane nahi, in baato mein bahut antar hota hai. Mere paas constantly aap logo ke calls aarahe the, aap log mujhe daily basis par in-

terviews ke liye bol rahe the, but I did not want to speak about it. I did not want to put water in the dough and keep kneading it. I am not even that kind of a person. It was an incident that had passed. Mujhe ye laga ke wo bhi mere life ka ek hissa tha jaha se meri life mud gayi hai but I never thought that my time was bad. My time was very good and it has always been good. Bas wo ek takdir hai jo mod leti hai, us wakt meri takdeer ne modh liya tha. Main nahi chahta tha ke mujhe kuch bolna hai aur bounce back kar na hai. Jab maine unke interviews dekhe aur maine suni cheez tab mujhe laga ke he is talking about my upbringing, my parents. He spoke about me having a manufacturing defect. I did not like it, he should not have said it. You must have seen my interview, I was very respectful about him. I wanted to let it all go because I was very strong mentally. I thought, chhad na yaar jaane de, abhi aage dekhte hain ke aage mujhe kya karna hai. Jaisa mere bare mein bola gaya, the way I was portrayed, main waisa hoon ya nahi, ye aap dekhte and fajla kijiye.

Q. What can trigger your anger in the *Bigg Boss* house?

A. I do not get angry easily. I just do not like it when someone is being disrespectful without any rhyme or reason. If a person is not even saying anything and yet continuously dis-

respect him or her. I think har insaan se aap janaab kar ke baat karo. Main aap bolunga, aap tu bologe, dusri bar fir aap waise karoge, main fir bhi same hi rahunga toh aapko khud realise ho Jayega ke aapko bhi aache se baat karni chahiye. If we respect each other, then why will there be fights? Do we fight in our house? Pyaar se hi rehte hain na?





Mithun da receives standing ovation

President Droupadi Murmu presented *Dadasaheb Phalke Award* to actor

Film veteran and politician Mithun Chakraborty on Tuesday received the prestigious *Dadasaheb Phalke Award*, the highest recognition in the field of Indian cinema.

President Droupadi Murmu presented the *Dadasaheb Phalke Lifetime Achievement Award* to Mithun Chakraborty during the 70th National Film Awards ceremony, held at Vigyan Bhawan in New Delhi.

Upcoming generation will get inspired, says Rishab Shetty

Kannada superstar Rishab Shetty is chuffed on winning the Best Actor in a Leading Role at the 70th edition of the National Film Awards for his work in the landslide hit *Kantara*. The actor said that the National Award win will inspire others from Kannada film industry and other film industries of India to come up with compelling stories and fresh ideas in pursuit of artistic excellence. He said after the National Award ceremony in Delhi, "I feel extremely proud and glad to have received the

National Award as it gives recognition to the Kannada film industry. It gives motivation to the upcoming generations of actors and filmmakers of the regional film industries of India, and they feel charged up to perform better in pursuit of national recognition". He further mentioned, "For me and my contemporaries, it allows us to push the envelope as getting a National Award is a huge responsibility as much as it is an honour. It gives us the responsibility to strive hard and chase excellence".



Manasi Parekh gets teary-eyed

It's an extremely emotional moment for actor Manasi Parekh as she bagged her first *National Film Award* on Tuesday evening. She broke down while receiving the award from President Droupadi Murmu for her performance in *Kutch Express*. Tears in Manasi's eyes were clearly visible. She shared her Best Actress award with Nithya Menon, who got it for the Tamil film *Thiruchitrambalam*. After learning about the honour in August, Manasi took to Instagram and penned an emotional note. "I completed 20 years as an actor

this year and 16th August, 2024 will be a day etched in my mind forever. My friend @anandntiwari was the first to send me a Congratulations on your National award! So proud of you and I literally jumped out of my make up seat as I was getting ready for shoot. I couldn't believe what he said and suddenly my phone was ringing and I was flooded with messages from people and media. I cried. I cried hard and loud. The kind of cry that my character Monghi in #Kutchexpress has when she realizes her whole life has crumbled," she wrote.

● ● I feel extremely proud and glad to have received the *National Award* as it gives recognition to the Kannada film industry

— Rishab Shetty



'Perfect Lady Singham'

Deepika Padukone stuns as Lady Singham in trailer, providing a treat for the fans



A still from *Singham Again*

IANS

The recently released trailer of the Rohit Shetty action spectacle, *Singham Again* trailer has created a huge buzz and has started a dialogue on social media. The trailer features the long-awaited introduction of Deepika Padukone as Lady Singham, which has finally come to fruition.

Deepika matches her husband's Ranveer Singh's energy in the trailer as she delivers punchy dialogues, and adrenaline boosting action with perfect tone of her character of Shakti Shetty which is pitched a bit higher.

For years, audiences have asked Rohit Shetty to introduce a powerful female counterpart in his cop universe, and with Deepika, the wait is over.

Deepika is known for portraying strong, dynamic characters in films like *Chennai Express* (her earlier collaboration with Rohit) and *Padmaavat*. In the *Singham Again* trailer, the actress shines once again, delivering intense action scenes that showcase her commanding presence.

Her character, Shakti Shetty was seen packing powerful punches both in combat and dialogue. Fans immediately took to social media to praise her, calling her the "perfect Lady Singham".

Lights, camera, ouch!

Singer Tulsi Kumar injured on the sets of her new music video

Singer and radio jockey Tulsi Kumar was injured in an accident while shooting her latest music video, sparking concern among her fans and followers. The beloved artist,

known for her soulful voice and significant impact on the Indian music scene, was reportedly filming an ad campaign when a wall-board unexpectedly fell, causing her to be pushed forward. A behind-the-scenes video of the incident has since gone viral on social media platforms, including X and Instagram. In the footage, Kumar, dressed in comfortable attire, is seen being comforted by her crew as they rush to assess her injuries.



Emraan Hashmi injured on Goodachari 2 set in Hyderabad

Emraan Hashmi suffered an injury while shooting for an action scene in a Telugu movie in Hyderabad on Monday evening, his PR team said. The 45-year-old actor was shooting in Hyderabad for *Goodachari 2*, the sequel of a 2018 Telugu

action spy thriller which also features South star Aditi Sesh. During a sequence of the film, the *Tiger 3* actor sustained an injury - a major cut below his right jaw, said the PR team in Mumbai. Helmed by Vinay Kumar Sirigineedi, the film is part of a spy franchise and will be released in multiple languages.



Dr. Mitra Basu Chhillar and Dr. Neelam Chhillar

IANS

Bollywood actress and former beauty queen Manushi Chhillar credits her father and doctor Mitra Basu Chhillar for his dedication that inspired her to dream of being a "clinician" when she was younger.

Manushi took to Instagram where she re-shared a post by her father, who is in a conversation with actress Samantha Ruth Prabhu for her podcast.

Sharing a glimpse of the chat, Manushi wrote a note for her

dad, which read: "@dr_mitra_basu_chhillar, he's always been more than just a doctor to me. Watching my dad pour his heart into helping others live healthier lives, day in and day out, shows me what passion truly looks like." "It's his dedication that inspired me to dream of being a clinician when I was younger, and even now, his relentless commitment reminds me that age is no limit when you're following your purpose," she added.

Manushi, who comes from Rohtak, comes from a family full of doctors. Her father, Mitra Basu Chhillar, is a physician and

scientist at Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO), while her mother, Neelam Chhillar is the departmental head of neurochemistry at the Institute of Human Behaviour and Allied Sciences, New Delhi.

Talking about the actress, Manushi represented her state of Haryana at the *Femina Miss India 2017* pageant and won the title of *Femina Miss India World 2017* and then went on to become the sixth contestant from India to be crowned *Miss World* after 17 years.



Manushi's inspiring tribute

Actress credits doctor father for inspiring her to be 'clinician' when she was 'younger'



Get ready to groove

Amit's album *Azaad Collab* promises a fun-filled musical adventure

CJ Desk

Singer and composer Amit Trivedi is thrilled to announce his latest album, *Azaad Collab*. Known for his soulful voice and innovative music, Amit rarely engages on social media for announcements. However, he felt compelled to share this exciting news directly with his fans, audience, and supporters.

In a heartfelt message, Amit expressed his gratitude to those who have supported him throughout his musical journey. "I usually don't come on social media to announce anything, but this time I thought I should come here because there is something really special to share. With a lot of love and investing a lot of time, I have created an album named *Azaad*

Collab. I wanted to share this because I only know how to make music, and this album is for those fans who have been with me through my entire journey. This album is for the people who listen to my songs and love my songs, and it is also for those people who aren't my fans or who don't resonate with my music. Who knows, maybe this time many of you music lovers might resonate with my music, so please give it a shot. It is a very breezy, happy, and positive album. It's all about love and freedom; hence, it's called *Azaad Collab*, and it's coming soon!"

Amit promises that *Azaad Collab* will be a breezy, happy, and positive album designed to uplift spirits and spread joy. The album will blend diverse musical styles and feature collaborations with a variety of talented artists, showcasing Amit's signature voice while exploring new dimensions of creativity and music. It is set to be a celebration of freedom and expression, inviting listeners from all walks of life and different genres to experience the magic of music and love. Stay tuned for more updates on *Azaad Collab* and its upcoming releases.

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