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NEWS BOX

5 killed, 13-year-old injured in shooting in Las Vegas, suspect dies by suicide

Five people were killed, and a 13-year-old was critically injured when a man went on a shooting spree at two apartments in Las Vegas on Monday night. The suspect, identified by police as Eric Adams, 47, killed himself on Tuesday morning with his gun when officers confronted him. In a statement, police said that officers acting on tips found Adams on Tuesday morning at a local business. Armed with a gun, when confronted, the man fled into the backyard of a nearby residence. Police officers gave Eric Adams commands to "drop the firearm", but he ignored those and "died by suicide", the police statement added. The 47-year-old is suspected of shooting and killing four women and one man late on Monday at two North Las Vegas apartments located in the same complex. A 13-year-old girl was also shot and is in critical condition. One of the women victims was in her early 40s, and the other in her late 50s. The other two women were both in their mid-20s and the man was in his early 20s, The Associated Press reported, citing the police. The victims weren't immediately identified. The police called the shooting an "isolated incident" and did not provide details on the possible motive behind it, news agency Reuters reported.

UN tells Israel it will suspend Gaza aid without improved security

Washington Senior UN officials have warned Israel that they will suspend the world body's aid operations across Gaza unless Israel acts urgently to better protect humanitarian workers, two UN officials said Tuesday. The ultimatum is the latest in a series of UN steps demanding Israel do more to safeguard aid operations from strikes by its forces and to curb growing lawlessness hindering humanitarian workers.

A UN letter sent to Israeli officials this month said Israel must provide UN workers with a way to communicate directly with Israeli forces on the ground in Gaza, among other steps, the officials said. They spoke on condition of anonymity to discuss ongoing negotiations with Israeli officials. The UN officials said there has been no final decision on suspending operations across Gaza and that talks with Israelis were ongoing. Israeli military officials did not respond to requests for comment. Israel has previously acknowledged some military strikes on humanitarian workers, including an April attack that killed seven workers with the World Central Kitchen, and has denied allegations of others.

iting security concerns, the UN World Food Program has already suspended aid delivery from a U.S.-built pier designed to bring food and other emergency supplies to Palestinians who are facing starvation amid the eight-month war between Israel and Hamas in Gaza. UN and other aid officials have complained for months that they have no way to communicate quickly and directly with Israeli forces on the ground, in contrast with the usual procedures — known as "deconfliction" — employed in conflict zones globally to protect aid workers from attack by combatants. In its letter to Israeli officials, the UN cited communication and protective equipment for aid workers as among the commitments that it wanted Israel to make good on for its aid operations to continue in Gaza overall, the two UN officials say.

Kenya's Parliament on fire as protests against finance bill escalate



NAIROBI. Part of Kenya's parliament building was on fire Tuesday as thousands of protesters against a new finance bill entered and legislators fled, in the most direct assault on the government in decades.

Journalists saw at least three bodies outside the complex where police had opened fire. The protesters had demanded that legislators vote against the controversial bill imposing new taxes on a country where frustrations over the high cost of living have simmered for years. The protesters outmaneuvered police to enter parliament shortly after legislators voted to pass the bill. Lawmakers fled through a tunnel, but protesters allowed opposition legislators who voted against the bill to walk out of the besieged building.

The office of the Nairobi governor, a member of the ruling party, also was on fire. The office is located near parliament. Police water cannons were being used to extinguish the fire. Protesters could be heard shouting, "We're coming for every politician." Protesters scatter as Kenya police spray water canon at them during a protest over proposed tax hikes in a finance bill in downtown Nairobi. Protesters scatter as Kenya police spray water canon at them during a protest over proposed tax hikes in a finance bill in downtown Nairobi. APPolice officers also fired live ammunition and threw tear-gas canisters at protesters who sought treatment at a medical tent set up at a church near the parliament complex. The Kenya Human Rights Commission shared a video of officers shooting at protesters and said they would be held to account.

Two people died in similar protests last week. The Kenya Law Society President Faith Odhiambo said Tuesday that 50 Kenyans, including her personal assistant, had been "abducted" by people believed to be police officers. Some of those missing included those who were vocal in the demonstrations and were taken away from their homes, workplaces and public spaces ahead of Tuesday's protests, according to civil society groups. Police officials did not immediately return calls seeking comment. Parliament Speaker Moses Wetangula had directed the inspector general of police to provide information on the whereabouts of those the opposition said were abducted. President William Ruto was outside the capital attending an African Union retreat. On Sunday, he said he was proud of the young people who had come out to exercise their democratic duty and said he would engage the youth on their concerns.

Brazil's Supreme Court decriminalises possession of marijuana for personal use

RIO DE JANEIRO Brazil's Supreme Court on Tuesday voted to decriminalize possession of marijuana for personal use, making the nation one of Latin America's last to do so, in a move that could reduce its massive prison population. With final votes cast on Tuesday, a majority of the justices on the 11-person court have voted in favor of decriminalization since deliberations began in 2015. The justices must still determine the maximum quantity of marijuana that would be characterized as being for personal use and when the ruling will enter into effect. That is expected to finish as early as Wednesday. All the justices who have voted in favor said decriminalization should be restricted to possession of marijuana in amounts suitable for personal use. Selling drugs will remain illegal. In 2006, Brazil's Congress approved a law that sought to punish individuals caught carrying small amounts of drugs, including marijuana, with alternative penalties such as community service. Experts say the law was too vague and didn't establish a specific quantity to help law enforcement and judges differentiate personal use

from drug trafficking. Police continued to arrest people carrying small quantities of drugs on trafficking charges and Brazil's prison population continued to swell. The majority of pre-trial detainees and those convicted of drug trafficking in Brazil are first-time offenders, who carried small amounts of illicit substance with them, caught in routine police operations, unarmed and with no evidence of any relationship with organized crime," said Ilona Szab, president of Igarapé Institute, a think tank focusing on public security. Congress has responded to the top court's ongoing deliberations by separately advancing a proposal to tighten drug legislation, which would complicate the legal picture surrounding marijuana possession. In April, the Senate approved a constitutional amendment criminalising possession of any quantity of illicit substance. The lower house's constitutional committee approved the proposal on June 12, and it will need to pass through at least one other committee before going to a floor vote. If lawmakers pass such a measure, the legislation would take precedence over the top



court's ruling but still could be challenged on constitutional grounds. Speaking to reporters in the capital Brasilia, the Senate's president, Rodrigo Pacheco, said it isn't the Supreme Court's place to issue a decision on the matter. "There is an appropriate path for this discussion to move forward and that is the legislative process," he said. "It is something that, obviously, arouses broad discussion and it is a subject of preoccupation for Congress." Last year, a Brazilian court authorised some patients to grow cannabis for medical treatment after the health regulator in 2019 approved guidelines for the sale of medicinal

products derived from cannabis. But Brazil is one of a few countries in Latin America that hasn't decriminalized the possession of small quantities of drugs for personal consumption. The Supreme Court's ruling has long been sought by activists and legal scholars in a country where the prison population has become the third largest in the world. Critics of current legislation say users caught with even small amounts of drugs are regularly convicted on trafficking charges and locked up in overcrowded jails, where they are forced to join prison gangs. "Today, trafficking is the main vector for imprisonment in Brazil," said Cristiano Maronna, director of JUSTA, a civil society group focusing on the justice system. Brazil ranks behind the US and China in countries with the highest prison populations, according to the World Prison Brief, a database tracking such figures. Some 852,000 individuals were deprived of liberty in Brazil as of December 2023, according to official data.

4 arrested on suspicion of trespassing at Rishi Sunak's country home in England

At least four people were arrested for allegedly trespassing after entering the grounds of UK Prime Minister Rishi Sunak's country estate in northern England.



London, Four men were arrested Tuesday on suspicion of trespassing after entering the grounds of Prime Minister Rishi Sunak's country estate in northern England, police said. North Yorkshire police said the group was detained just after noon and arrested on suspicion of aggravated trespass. A group called Youth Demand posted video showing a man in boots step into Sunak's pond, where he pretended to defecate. The group said in a statement chock-full of a crude four-letter word for human waste that it was a "parting gift" to the prime minister. It said the stool used in the stunt was made of latex so it could be retrieved and prevent environmental damage. Sunak was in London at the time for the state visit by the Japanese emperor and

empres. The incident comes just over a week before the U.K.'s general election that will determine if Sunak remains in power. Polls and pundits have predicted the Labour Party to take control after 14 years of Conservative rule. The police officer who confronted the group asked the man identified by the group as "Oliver" what his intentions were, according to video of the incident. "I think our intentions are carried out," he replied. Youth Demand said it is calling for a two-way arms embargo on Israel and for the next U.K.

government to revoke oil and gas licenses granted since 2021.

The group said the four detained included a press photographer.

Sunak had condemned the group earlier this year when it hung a banner on the home of Labour leader Keir Starmer, saying "Stop the killing," in reference to Israel's war with Hamas militants.

In August, four Greenpeace protesters were charged with criminal damage after climbing on Sunak's home while he was away and draping it in black fabric to protest his plan to expand oil and gas drilling in the North Sea.

Julian Assange pleads guilty in US court on remote island, walks out a free man

Saipan WikiLeaks founder Julian Assange pleaded guilty on Wednesday to a single count of conspiring to obtain and disclose classified US national defence information and was allowed to walk free, ending years of legal battles. Assange, 52, entered the plea in a US District Court hearing in Saipan on the Northern Mariana Islands, a US-controlled territory chosen due to his refusal to travel to the mainland United States and its proximity to his native Australia. As a beaming Assange walked out of the courtroom, he was greeted by a round of applause. He left in a vehicle after giving a quick wave to his supporters. Watch: As part of his plea deal with US prosecutors,

Assange will be required to destroy information provided to WikiLeaks. He is expected to receive a sentence of five years and two months, with credit for the time he spent in a British prison fighting extradition. "Guilty to the information," Assange said in court, later joking to the judge that his satisfaction "depends on the outcome of the hearing." Assange, who turns 53 on July 3, was wished an early happy birthday by Chief Judge Ramona Manglona. "I understand your birthday is next week. I hope you will start your new life in a positive manner," she told Assange, according to the Washington Post. The plea deal avoids a lengthy trial and potential prison sentence for

Assange, who has long been wanted by the United States for the 2010 publication of hundreds of thousands of classified documents through WikiLeaks. He was released earlier this week from a high-security British prison where he had been held for five years. His wife, Stella, called him a "free man" and thanked supporters who campaigned for his release. Following the hearing, Assange is expected to return to Australia, US prosecutors said. WikiLeaks confirmed his return on social media platform X, calling the plea deal "unnecessary." The Australian government welcomed the resolution.

North Korea's latest missile test likely ended in failure

According to the South Korean military, a North Korean ballistic missile test Wednesday likely ended in failure days after the it protested the recent regional deployment of a US aircraft carrier for a trilateral military drill with South Korea and Japan.

Seoul A North Korean ballistic missile test Wednesday likely ended in failure, South Korea's military said, days after the North protested the recent regional deployment of a US aircraft carrier for a trilateral military drill with South Korea and Japan. South Korea's Joint Chiefs of Staff said in a statement that North Korea launched a ballistic missile from its capital region around 5.30 am on Wednesday. It said the missile was launched toward the North's eastern waters, but the launch was suspected to have ended in failure. The Joint Chiefs of Staff said South Korea and US intelligence authorities are analyzing details of the North Korean launch. But it didn't immediately explain why it believes the launch failed. Japan's Defense Ministry said earlier Wednesday that it also detected a suspected ballistic missile launch by North Korea. South

Korea's Yonhap news agency reported the North Korean missile flew about 250 kilometers (155 miles). Yonhap cited an unidentified South Korean military source as saying North Korea was believed to have tested a hypersonic missile. Japanese media reported the North Korean projectile fell outside Japan's exclusive economic zone. The North's reported launch also came hours after South Korea said North Korea floated huge balloons likely carrying trash across the border for a second consecutive day. North Korea has conducted a series of trash-carrying balloon launches toward South Korea since late May in what it calls a tit-for-tat response to South Korean activists flying political leaflets via their own balloons. On June 9, South Korea briefly restarted propaganda broadcasts from its border loudspeakers for the first time in years in response. South Korea's military said Monday said it was ready to turn on its loudspeakers again. The USS Theodore Roosevelt arrived in South Korea on Saturday and South Korean President Yoon Suk Yeol boarded the carrier on Tuesday -- the first sitting South Korean president to board a US aircraft carrier since 1994. Yoon told American and South Korean troops on the carrier that their countries' alliance is



the world's greatest and can defeat any enemy. He said the US carrier is to leave Wednesday for the South Korea-US-Japan drill, dubbed "Freedom Edge." The training is aimed at sharpening the countries' combined response in various areas of operation, including air, sea and cyberspace. North Korea's vice defense minister, Kim Kang Il, on Monday called the US aircraft carrier's deployment "reckless" and "dangerous." North Korea has previously called major US-South Korean drills invasion rehearsals and reacted with missile tests. Seoul officials said the upcoming South Korea-US-Japan training is meant to strengthen the three countries' response capabilities against North Korea's evolving nuclear threats at a time when the North is advancing its military partnerships with

Russia. During a summit in Pyongyang last week, North Korean leader Kim Jong Un and Russian President Vladimir Putin signed a deal requiring each country to provide aid if attacked and vowed to boost other cooperation. Observers say the accord represents the strongest connection between the two countries since the end of the Cold War. The United States and its partners believe North Korea has been providing Russia with much-needed conventional arms for its war in Ukraine in return for military and economic assistance. North Korea's reported missile launch is its first weapons demonstrations since Kim Jong Un on May 30 supervised the firing of nuclear-capable multiple rocket launchers to simulate a preemptive attack on South Korea. The drill came days after North Korea's attempt to put its second spy satellite into orbit ended in failure, with its rocket carrying that satellite exploding in mid-air soon after liftoff. Since 2022, North Korea has sharply increased the pace of weapons tests to increase its nuclear attack capabilities to cope with what it calls a deepening US military threat. Foreign experts say North Korea eventually aims to use its larger nuclear arsenal to wrest greater concessions from the US when diplomacy resumes.

Om Birla Defeats K Suresh, Re-Elected as Lok Sabha Speaker

RNS | New Delhi: BJP MP Om Birla has been re-elected as the Speaker of the Lok Sabha through a voice vote. The opposition, which had nominated Congress MP K. Suresh for the position, chose not to press for a division vote.



Following his election, Prime Minister Narendra Modi, Leader of Opposition Rahul Gandhi, and Parliamentary Affairs Minister Kiren Rijju accompanied Birla to the Speaker's chair.

The session began with Prime Minister Modi and 12 other NDA leaders moving the motion to elect Birla. On the opposition side, Shiv Sena (UBT) leader Arvind Sawant, Supriya Sule of the NCP (Sharad Pawar), and Anand Bhaduria of the SP supported

the motion for Suresh.

In his congratulatory message, Prime Minister Modi remarked, "History is being made today with the re-election of Om Birla for the second time." He expressed anticipation for Birla's guidance over the next five years, highlighting Birla's exemplary work as a parliamentarian as a source of inspiration for new members. Modi also noted that the previous Lok Sabha, under Birla's leadership, passed

several significant legislations and achieved a record productivity of 97%. Leader of Opposition Rahul Gandhi also extended his congratulations, affirming that the Lok Sabha represents the voice of the people. He assured Birla of the opposition's support for the smooth functioning of the House, emphasizing that cooperation is built on trust and that the voices of the opposition should be heard.

Samajwadi Party leader Akhilesh Yadav expressed confidence that the opposition would be given ample opportunity to voice their concerns. He emphasized that impartiality is crucial for a Speaker, hoping for balanced respect towards both the Treasury and opposition benches. TMC MP Sudip Bandyopadhyay brought attention to the suspension of opposition MPs in the 17th Lok Sabha, stressing that legislation should be passed following thorough discussions in the House.

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J&K: 3 terrorists shot dead in Doda encounter

RNS | Srinagar: In a fierce gunfight with security forces, three terrorists were killed in the Gandoh area of Doda district in Jammu and Kashmir, according to media reports. These terrorists were believed to have been involved in recent attacks on the army and police in the Valley.

A significant cache of arms and ammunition, including a US-made M4 carbine, was recovered from the encounter site. Vijay Kumar, Additional Director General of Police J&K, stated that the police had received information about the presence of the three terrorists and subsequently launched a search operation in the morning.

Over the past week, operations to eliminate terrorists have intensified in the Doda, Rajouri, and Poonch regions following a series of attacks. On June 11, an army camp was attacked, resulting in injuries to five soldiers and a special police officer. In another incident, terrorists attacked a police camp, injuring one policeman.

These attacks prompted a massive security overhaul, with security forces initiating coordinated operations to track down terrorists and their local collaborators. According to the police, three locals who allegedly provided food and shelter to the terrorists have been arrested.

CCL hosts workshop on Mining Contract Safety



RNS | Ranchi: A workshop on "Precautions in Execution of Mining Contract Works" was organized for the mining officers of Central Coalfields Limited (CCL) on Wednesday. The event was held under the leadership of Director (Personnel) H.N. Mishra and initiated by General Manager (CMC) and Head of Department (Law). The workshop, conducted in a "hybrid mode" at CCL Headquarters' HRD, saw participation from around 60 officers from various areas of CCL. Udyam Mukherjee, Advocate, Supreme Court of India, led the session. Participants found the workshop highly informative, expressing their appreciation and congratulating the organizers for their efforts.

Anti-Drug Campaign: Kanke Govt. Trainee Teachers Take Oath



RNS | Ranchi: As part of the Jharkhand government's newly launched anti-drug campaign, trainee teachers from the Government Teachers Training College in Kanke took a solemn oath today. The ceremony, led by the college in-charge Principal, Dr. Raman Jha, and coordinated by Dr. Om Prakash, focused on the theme "We will fight against drugs together."

The campaign, aimed at raising public awareness about the dangers of drug abuse, will run from June 19 to June 26, 2024.

Among the notable attendees was Dr. Rupesh Kumar, a former student of the college and currently an Assistant Professor at Manohar Lal Tekriwal College in Saharsa. The event also saw the participation of various college faculty members, including Dr. Mazharul Haque, Professor Dhananjay, Dr. Ritesh, Professor Sameer, Professor Dulal, Professor Rakesh, and Professor Bhagirath, along with all teaching and non-teaching staff.

The collective pledge by the college community marks a significant step in the state's efforts to combat drug abuse and foster a healthier society.

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CCL Hosts Stakeholders Meet to Boost Participation in Coal Washery Tenders

RNS | Ranchi: Central Coalfields Limited (CCL), under the guidance of Coal India Limited (CIL) organized a stakeholders' meet today to boost participation in coal washery tenders. The event saw the attendance of over 25 companies, including coal washery operators, technology suppliers, mining, and steel-producing firms.



The program was inaugurated by M Nagaraju, Additional Secretary, Ministry of Coal, Government of India, who lit the ceremonial lamp. The event began with the Coal India Corporate Song, setting a formal tone for the proceedings.

Key figures present at the event included M Nagaraju (Additional Secretary, Ministry of Coal, Government of India), PM Prasad (Chairman, CIL), B Veera Reddy (Director Technical, CIL), Samiran Dutta (CMD BCCL & ECL), Manoj Kumar (CMD, CMPDIL), NK Singh (CMD, CCL), along with directors from CCL, CMPDI, BCCL, and officials from various CIL subsidiary com-

panies. Satish Jha, Director Technical at CCL, welcomed the esteemed guests.

In their speeches, the dignitaries highlighted the crucial role of coal washeries in securing the future availability of steel-grade coal and addressed the need to streamline the washery tender process. CCL, BCCL, and CMPDI provided detailed presentations on various tenders, followed by an interactive session where stakeholders shared suggestions. Some issues were resolved on the spot, while others were noted for further consideration.

The event facilitated an atmosphere of information sharing and problem-solving, ensuring a smooth and pro-

ductive meeting. On this special occasion, M Nagaraju honored Vikas Kachhap, a JSSPS cadet, who won the bronze medal in the 48 kg weight category (Greco-Roman style) at the Under-17 Asian Wrestling Championship held in Jordan, Oman from June 22-30, 2024. Kachhap was congratulated and wished success in future tournaments. Harish Duhan, Director Technical at CCL, delivered the vote of thanks, concluding the event on a positive note. Notably, JSSPS, a collaborative initiative between CCL and the Jharkhand Government, provides training in sports and academics to the youth of Jharkhand.

DPS Bokaro Awarded for Excellence in Education at Norway



RNS | Bokaro: Delhi Public School (DPS) Bokaro has added another accolade to its name by receiving the Indo-Norway International Education Excellence Award.

This prestigious honor was bestowed upon the school at a ceremony held in the Norwegian Parliament in Oslo, Norway, recognizing its transformative contributions to education.

DPS Bokaro stands out as the only school from Jharkhand among 30 schools selected across India.

The award was accepted by Principal Dr. A. S. Gangwar during the Indo-Norway In-

ternational Education Summit and Awards 2024.

The event was graced by numerous distinguished guests, including Himanshu Gulati, Member of the Norwegian Parliament and the Standing Committee on Education and Research, Ole Jacob Johansen, Minister of State, Akershus, Norway, and Dr. Acquino Vimal, Indian Ambassador to Norway, along with other top officials.

Under the leadership of Dr. A. S. Gangwar, DPS Bokaro has been recognized for its dedication to providing quality education, integrating technological advancements, and fostering a

compassionate and understanding global community. The school was particularly noted for its exemplary practices and innovative approaches in the teaching-learning process.

Dr. Gangwar congratulated the entire DPS Bokaro community for achieving this prestigious international recognition. He expressed his gratitude, attributing the success to the collective efforts of the staff, students, management, parents, and stakeholders. He encouraged everyone to continue their dedicated efforts in the journey towards educational excellence.

China Becomes First Country to Retrieve Rocks From the Moon's Far Side

This achievement follows India's Chandrayaan-3 mission in August 2023, which successfully landed near the lunar South Pole region

RNS | Beijing: China achieved a significant milestone in space exploration on Tuesday by bringing back a capsule filled with lunar soil from the moon's far side. This marks the latest success in China's ambitious plans to explore the moon and other parts of the solar system.

Mission Success
The Chang'e-6 lander, part of the China National Space Administration's mission, retrieved the sample after a 53-day mission. The lunar probe module returned to Earth, successfully collecting the first-ever samples from the moon's unexplored far side, a major advancement for China's space program.

Precise Landing
The return capsule landed precisely at 2:07 pm (Beijing Time) in the designated area in Siziwang Banner, located in north China's Inner Mongolia Autonomous Region. The China National Space Administration (CNSA) declared the



mission a complete success. **Scientific Significance**
"Chang'e-6 is the first mission in human history to return samples from the far side of the moon," said Long Xiao, a planetary geologist at China University of Geosciences. He described it as a major event for scientists worldwide and a cause for celebration for all humanity.

International Implications
This achievement has sparked hopes for international lunar sample exchanges, highlighting the potential for China's robotic missions to the moon and Mars to advance scientific understanding of the solar system. However, some view this milestone as part of a 21st-century space race with geopolitical implications.

Pioneering Exploration
Notably, China's probe is the first to reach and collect samples from the moon's far side. This follows India's success in August 2023 when its Chandrayaan-3 mission became the first to land near the lunar South Pole region. **Technical Challenges**
China had previously landed on the far side of the moon in



2019. The far side, which faces away from Earth, poses technical challenges due to its distance, giant craters, and few flat surfaces.

Sample Analysis
The reentry module will be airlifted to Beijing, where the lunar samples will be transferred to a team of scientists for storage, analysis, and study, according to the CNSA. The

Change-6 probe is expected to have returned with up to 2 kilograms of moon dust and rocks from the lunar far side, which will be analyzed by Chinese researchers before being opened to international scientists.

Mission Details
The Chang'e lunar exploration probe is named after the Chinese mythical moon goddess. Launched on May 3, the

with the orbiter-returner combination on June 6, transferring the samples to the returner.

Lunar Orbit and Return
The orbiter-returner combination spent 13 days in lunar orbit, awaiting the right opportunity to return to Earth.

Future Prospects
"The Chang'e-6 mission represents a significant milestone in the history of human lunar exploration and will contribute to a more comprehensive understanding of lunar evolution," said Yang Wei, a researcher at the Institute of Geology and Geophysics of the Chinese Academy of Sciences. He added that new samples will inevitably lead to new discoveries. The fascination with the moon is deeply rooted in Chinese culture, symbolized by the myth of Chang'e, a lady who journeyed to and resided on the moon. Now, Chinese scientists eagerly anticipate contributing to lunar science, Yang told Xinhua.

Court sends Kejriwal to CBI custody for 3 days in a money laundering case

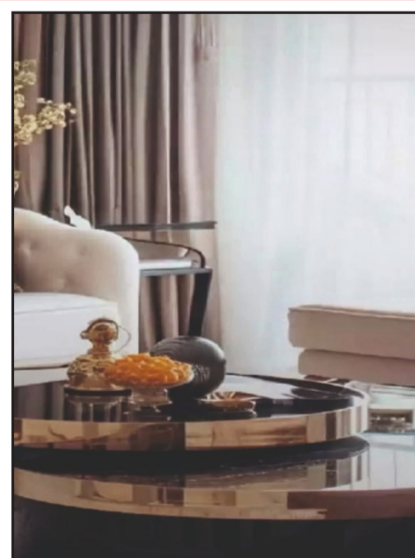
New Delhi: Delhi Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal was arrested by the Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) from Tihar Jail on Tuesday. The CBI is set to produce him before a trial court on Wednesday, potentially leading to his formal arrest by the central agency, sources reported. This development comes just a day before the Supreme Court is scheduled to hear Kejriwal's plea challenging a Delhi High Court order that paused

the bail granted to him by a lower court. On Monday, the CBI questioned Kejriwal in Tihar Jail regarding the liquor policy case and recorded his statement. Following this, the CBI filed an application for a production warrant, which was subsequently issued by a special court. Kejriwal is expected to be presented before the trial court at 10 am on Wednesday, likely before the Supreme Court hear-

ing begins. Since Kejriwal is already in judicial custody in an Enforcement Directorate case, his formal arrest can occur in court. Should the CBI secure his custody, Kejriwal will remain in Tihar Jail on Wednesday even if the Supreme Court overturns the Delhi High Court's stay on his bail. Meanwhile, AAP MP Sanjay Singh commented on the situation, stating, "Arvind Kejriwal is likely to get bail from the Su-

preme Court. Before this, the BJP government at the center, along with the CBI, has conspired to arrest Kejriwal by preparing a false

case against him." He further alleged a conspiracy to prevent Kejriwal from obtaining bail ahead of the Supreme Court hearing.



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CBI Chief To Poll Body Head, Rahul Gandhi Now Has A Say In Key Appointments

Rahul Gandhi today took over as Leader of the Opposition in Lok Sabha -- a position that was vacant for the past 10 years

New Delhi: As the Leader of the Opposition in Lok Sabha, Congress leader Rahul Gandhi will participate in the appointment process for key officials such as the CBI director, the Chief Election Commissioners, National Human Rights Commission chairperson and the Chief Vigilance Commissioner.

Mr Gandhi today took over as Leader of the Opposition in the lower House -- a position that was vacant for the past 10 years because no Opposition party met the minimum strength criterion for the post. In the past two Lok Sabhas, Congress's Mallikarjun Kharge and Adhir Ranjan Chowdhury were leaders of the Congress in the House. On the selection panels for most of these appointments, the government has a 2-1 advantage, as it comprises the Prime Minister and a Union Minister. But as Leader of the Opposition, Mr Gandhi will have a say.

The 54-year-old leader is the third member of the Gandhi family to become the Leader of the Opposition. His father and former Prime

Minister Rajiv Gandhi was Leader of the Opposition from 1989-90 when the VP Singh government was in power. His mother and former UPA chairperson Sonia Gandhi occupied the post from 1999-2004 when the Atal Bihari Vajpayee government was in power. As a Leader of the Opposition, Mr Gandhi will enjoy the rank of a cabinet minister and get an office and staff in the Parliament building. In his first House appearance in his new role, Mr Gandhi switched to a white kurta-pajama combo, dising the white t-shirt-trouser look he is usually seen in. In a rare moment of bonhomie between the Opposition and the treasury benches, Mr Gandhi walked up to Mr Birla and congratulated him. He also shook Prime Minister Narendra Modi's hand and the two leaders, along with Parliamentary Affairs Minister Kiren Rijiju, escorted the Speaker to his chair.

Addressing the House, Mr Gandhi congratulated Mr Birla on his election, but also sent across a message from the Opposition. He said the Lok Sabha Speaker



is the final arbiter of the voice of the people, and the Opposition this time represents that voice significantly more than the last time. "The Opposition would like to assist you in doing your work. We would like the House

to function. It is very important that cooperation happens on the basis of trust. It is very important that the voice of the Opposition is allowed to be represented in this House."

"The question is not how efficiently the House is run. The question is how much of India's voice is being allowed to be heard. So the idea that you can run the House efficiently by silencing the voice of the Opposition is a non-democratic idea. And this election has shown that the people of India expect the Opposition to defend the Constitution," he said. "We are confident that by allowing the Opposition to speak, you will do your duty of defending the Constitution," Mr Gandhi said.

The Congress leader was elected from two seats this time -- Rae Bareilly in Uttar Pradesh and Wayanad in Kerala. He has vacated the Kerala seat, and his sister and Congress colleague Priyanka Gandhi Vadra will contest the bypoll that follows. Mr Gandhi's return to the House and his elevation as the Leader of the Opposition is also significant against the backdrop of his disqualification as a Lok Sabha MP last year following a conviction in a defamation case. He returned to the House after the Supreme Court paused the conviction.

Akhilesh Yadav's sharp message to Om Birla: 'Hope suspensions don't take place'

New Delhi: In a terse message to Lok Sabha Speaker Om Birla, Samajwadi Party (SP) leader Akhilesh Yadav on Wednesday hoped that actions like suspension and expulsion of MPs don't take place in the new Lok Sabha. Speaking in the Lok Sabha, Akhilesh said actions like suspension of MPs hurt the dignity of the House.

"We expect that no public representative's voice will be stifled, nor will action like expulsion take place again. Your control is on the Opposition, but it should be on the ruling side too," the former Uttar Pradesh Chief Minister said.

The SP president said he also hoped that the Speaker would be impartial towards the Opposition, adding that "impartiality is a great responsibility of this great post." "The House should function on your

signals and not the other way round. We stand with all your just decisions... I hope that you will

Earlier in the day, Om Birla defeated K Suresh, the opposition INDIA bloc's contender, via voice vote in the rare election for the Speaker's post. This was the first such poll since 1976.

The eight-day session of the 18th Lok Sabha commenced on Tuesday, with Prime Minister Narendra Modi and all the other MPs taking oath as members of the Lower House of Parliament. Akhilesh Yadav and Rahul Gandhi were seen sitting in the front row of the Lok Sabha on Tuesday, unlike the last Parliament session where the Congress leader sat on the second row. The SP president accorded special attention to Awadhesh Prasad, who won the prized Faizabad seat in the election, where Ayodhya's Ram Mandir is located. He even kept him close while meeting Congress President Mallikarjun Kharge and Sonia Gandhi.



respect the opposition as much as you respect the ruling dispensation," he said. "You're sitting here as the chief justice of the court of democracy."

'Allow us to speak': Leader of Opposition Rahul Gandhi to Speaker Om Birla

New Delhi: Leader of the Opposition (LoP) in the Lok Sabha Rahul Gandhi called on newly elected Speaker Om Birla to ensure that the Opposition is allowed to voice the concerns of the people in the House, stating that running the House without those opposed to the government's views is "non-democratic". Gandhi, who was appointed as LoP on Tuesday, congratulated Birla on his election to the post of Lok Sabha Speaker for a second term and expressed hope that the Speaker would fulfill his duty by allowing the Opposition to speak.

"We are confident that by allowing the Opposition to speak, by allowing us to represent the people of India, you will do your duty of defending the Constitution of India," Gandhi said in his maiden address as Lok

Sabha LoP. "The idea that you can run the House efficiently by silencing the voice of the Opposition is non-democratic. This election has shown that the people of India expect the Opposition to defend the Constitution," the Congress leader said. Talking about the importance of cooperation and trust in the functioning of



the House, the Gandhi scion said the Opposition was more than willing to cooperate with the Speaker. "The Opposition would like to assist you in doing your work. We would like the House to function often and well. It is very important that cooperation happens on the basis of trust. It is very important that the voice of the Opposition is allowed to be represented in this House," he said. Several opposition leaders, including Samajwadi Party chief and Gandhi's INDIA bloc ally Akhilesh Yadav, also had similar messages for Birla. "We believe you will move forward without discrimination and as the speaker, you will give equal opportunity and respect to every party. Impartiality is a great responsibility of this great post," Yadav said. Birla, the NDA nominee, was elected as the Lok Sabha Speaker on Wednesday after a motion moved by Prime Minister Narendra Modi was adopted through voice votes. The Opposition, which had proposed Congress MP Kodikunnil Suresh as its candidate, did not press for votes to the motion. In his address, Prime Minister Narendra Modi praised Birla's work as a parliamentarian, saying it should be an inspiration for new Lok Sabha members.

Trinamool to back K Suresh for Lok Sabha Speaker after 'no consult' snub

New Delhi: The Trinamool Congress (TMC) on Tuesday announced that they would support Congress leader K Suresh, who is the Opposition-led INDIA bloc's candidate for the election for the Speaker post in Lok Sabha. The Mamata Banerjee-led side came around a day after the ruling party of Bengal claimed they were not "consulted" by the Congress before fielding K Suresh as the pick.

The Trinamool Congress's support follows a 20-minute phone call between Congress leader Rahul Gandhi and Mamata Banerjee. The Congress MP, who was chosen as the Leader of Opposition in Lok Sabha on Monday, also spoke to TMC MP Abhishek Banerjee in person in Parliament. The TMC, which termed K Suresh's candidature as a "unilateral" decision by the Congress, reiterated



to the grand old party that all INDIA bloc-related decisions must be made by keeping all members in loop. On Tuesday night, a meeting took place at Congress President Mallikarjun Kharge's residence with Derek O' Brien and Kalyan Banerjee representing the TMC. That was followed by an internal meeting of the TMC this

morning, wherein Derek O' Brien, Kalyan Banerjee, Sudip Bandhopadhyay, and Abhishek Banerjee met at the Old Parliament building in Delhi.

The rare election for the Lok Sabha Speaker post will see a contest between BJP-led NDA's Om Birla, and K Suresh - a Dalit leader and an eight-time MP. The last time an election for this post took place was in 1976 during the Emergency period. The situation arose after a consensus between the Opposition and the NDA broke down as senior BJP leaders refused to accept the INDIA bloc's condition that the Deputy Speaker post be given to them. The Opposition decided to field K Suresh as its pick for the Speaker's post after an attempt to tackle the crisis at Defence Minister Rajnath Singh's office failed and led to Congress's KC Venugopal and DMK's TR Baalu walking out.

Arvind Kejriwal Arrested By CBI In Court, Drops Bail Plea In Supreme Court

Arvind Kejriwal was arrested over money laundering allegations while framing the Delhi liquor policy for 2021-22, which was scrapped after the Lieutenant Governor raised red flags.

New Delhi: Arvind Kejriwal has been arrested by the CBI - inside Delhi's Rouse Avenue Court - in the alleged liquor policy case, and then, inside a tumultuous hour, withdrew a Supreme Court petition challenging a stay on grant of bail after his arrest in March - in the same case - by the Enforcement Directorate. The top court petition was withdrawn - the ED offered no objection - citing a desire to launch a more substantial appeal against the High Court's decision to stay the Rouse Avenue Court's bail order. After the arrest the CBI sought five-day custody. "I Told CBI 3 Points...": Kejriwal To The Court In the Rouse Avenue Court this morning, Mr Kejriwal's lawyers argued that the agency's move to arrest the AAP boss at this point showed it had acted "in a most biased manner". The reference was to the fact the CBI had already quizzed him in connection with this case - for nine hours in April last year. Mr Kejriwal had then been questioned as

a witness in the case. Today he addressed the court directly and recounted what he told the CBI when asked why the liquor policy in question was framed. "I told them (the CBI) there were three points. First - increase revenue. Second - reduce crowds to handle law and order. Third - opening of liquor shops in the right proportion (i.e., equal distribution across the city). I had given instructions to Manish Sisodia (his former deputy, who, in February last year, was the first to be arrested in this case) to keep these three things in mind in the policy." Mr Kejriwal's legal team criticised the CBI for moving to arrest him at this point. "It is a poor citizen Vs might of the State. This case is pending since August 2022. I was called as a witness... I appeared and, for nine hours, I assisted. Not a single notice (from the CBI) since then. How did they shift from a witness to an accused... it is a long distance to cover," they argued. Mr Kejriwal also asked for this



hearing to be deferred by 24 hours so he could study the CBI's case. The federal agency also pointed out it had no obligation to announce the start of an investigation. "Suppose there is an inquiry... I don't have to tell (Mr Kejriwal)... Who I have to tell is to the court - that I need custody.

There is no mandate I have to tell the other side about my desire to investigate." Following Mr Kejriwal's arrest in court, his party posted a sharp message on X.

"Today when the BJP felt Delhi's son, Arvind Kejriwal, might get bail from the Supreme Court, they again hatched a conspiracy - to get him arrested by CBI in a fake case. But every conspiracy of the BJP will be answered (and the) truth will win in the end," the party said in Hindi. Following the arrest the CBI also asked for five-day custody of Mr Kejriwal.

Kejriwal In Rouse Avenue, High, And Supreme Court
The Delhi Chief Minister's fortunes since the Rouse Avenue Court gave him regular bail last week has been significant. On Saturday, hours before his release from Tihar Jail, the ED moved the High Court, arguing the lower court's "perverse" and "completely flawed" bail order ought not to stand.

Swiss-led peace talks a flop as Russia left out

DID the Swiss-mediated Burgenstock peace conference collapse because the organisers did not study how delicate peace negotiations are conducted? Did the conference fail because Russia was not invited? In the past, the 1993 Oslo Accords temporarily halted Israel-Palestinian wars. Similarly, the 1998 Good Friday Agreement brought peace between Britain and the Irish Republican Army. The Oslo process was started in 1992-93 by Terje Larsen, a Norwegian sociologist, and Yossi Beilin, a member of Israel's Labour Party government that had come to power in 1992. This had the backing of Israeli leaders and Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) chief Yasser Arafat. Since the Israeli law banned contacts with the PLO, Larsen and Beilin set up a secret backchannel between two Israeli professors and three PLO leaders, including Ahmed Qurei. Their first meeting was held during January 1993 at the residence of then Norwegian Defence Minister Johan Jorgen Holst. The US Department of State archive says "strict secrecy allowed the negotiators to discuss scenarios and potential concessions without incurring domestic political costs." In May 1993, Israel decided to elevate the talks to the official level and sent then Director General of Foreign Ministry Uri Savir. In August that year, the Israeli and Palestinian chief negotiators initialled the Declaration of Principles on Interim Self-Government Arrangements (DOP) in Oslo. The formal signing ceremony was held at the White House in September, when Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin and PLO chairman Arafat 'shook hands'.

Although permanent peace remained elusive, the Oslo Accords were an important milestone in West Asian peace, like the 1978 Camp David Accords, brokered by US President Jimmy Carter, between Egyptian President Anwar Sadat and Israeli Prime Minister Menachem Begin, bringing peace between Egypt and Israel. Together with the DOP, the agreement also included 'Letters of Mutual Recognition', through which the PLO recognised the existence of Israel for the first time. Israel also recognised the PLO as the legitimate representative of the Palestinian people. Besides, Israel committed itself to withdrawing from parts of the Gaza Strip and the West Bank and acknowledged the Palestinian right to self-rule in those territories under a Palestinian Authority.

Similarly, Senator George Mitchell, who was designated as a 'Special Envoy' by then US President Bill Clinton, had to toil between September 1996 and April 1998 to bring in peace in Northern Ireland, ending 30 years of violence. He had to overcome hostility from the 'unionists', who wanted Northern Ireland to remain with Britain, as they felt that President Clinton had imposed mediation efforts to their detriment.

It is said that they also opposed secret talks in a foreign place away from Belfast, as they wanted to avoid the possibility of being politically ambushed away from their home base. Mitchell's tactic was his infinite patience to listen to the opposing parties whose hostility to each other was so intense that there "was very little inclination to listen to the other side, let alone compromise with them," as he told an interviewer later. The cardinal principle in all such negotiations is the secrecy of proposals put across by contending sides so that no embarrassment is caused to either of them by sending wrong signals to their constituents. The organisers should have studied an old CIA document (1992), 'Analytic Support for Peace Talks', released by its think tank, Centre for the Study of Intelligence, as a guide to sensitive peace negotiations.

True, Swiss Foreign Minister Ignazio Cassis was quoted as saying by the media at the UN that several secret plans were being considered to bring peace in Ukraine. He was also quoted by TASS in January telling the Davos conference that Russia should be invited.

The exam system needs urgent course correction

The practice of appointing members to recruitment commissions based on political connections must be ended.

THE Ministry of Education has cancelled the 2024 UGC-NET (University Grants Commission-National Eligibility Test) in view of a paper leak. The case is now under the purview of the CBI, which will conduct further investigation. The ministry has also handed over the case of alleged irregularities in the conduct of the 2024 NEET-UG (National Eligibility-cum-Entrance Test-Undergraduate) to the CBI. The NEET medical entrance exam is also under the scrutiny of the Supreme Court. In this year's NEET (UG), a record-breaking 23 lakh candidates had got themselves registered.

Meanwhile, Subodh Kumar Singh has been removed from the post of Director General of the National Testing Agency (NTA) amid the controversy over the NEET-UG and UGC-NET exams. In another significant development, the government has postponed the NEET-PG. These cases of question paper leak are not isolated, but rather part of a long history of incidents. The IIT-JEE of 1997 and the All India Pre Medical Test of 2011 witnessed this menace. The phenomenon is seen in many states, regardless of which political party is in power. There is a high incidence of paper leak in India. As a result, numerous examinations have to be cancelled. According to media reports, over the past seven years, more than 70 examination papers have been illicitly disclosed in various states, resulting in adverse consequences for the professional prospects of over 1.7 crore individuals. Instances of leaked exam papers and answer keys are frequently shared on social media platforms such as WhatsApp, X (formerly Twitter) and Facebook.

The NTA need not be scrapped; only the examination system needs to be revamped. Each year, over 10 lakh candidates participate in the Civil Services examinations, yet the Union Public Service Commission (UPSC) manages to conduct a secure examination. However, when it comes to online exams, there is a potential risk of leak due to the use of technology. The likelihood of the threat intensifying is certain to rise amid the use of artificial intelligence (AI). Given these circumstances, AI is poised to become a significant menace. If the website of the Home Ministry can be compromised, it is reasonable to question why these exams cannot be similarly vulnerable to hacking. Every exam that is scrapped not only wastes the time and money of millions of students, but also consumes taxpayers' money. The NTA is exceeding its brief by repeatedly employing a trial-and-error approach in conducting these examinations. The agency was established in 2017. However, even after seven years, the scourge of paper leak persists. The NTA must take lessons from the UPSC.



The practice of appointing members to recruitment commissions based on political connections must be ended. Additionally, the examination commission should possess its own printing press or alternatively, the digital copy should be directly transmitted through a code lock system — 15 minutes prior to the examination — to the designated examination centre. The document ought to be printed and distributed among the candidates. By employing this approach, the cost of question papers will undoubtedly be slightly higher compared to press printing, but they will be secure and impervious to leaks. It is imperative that the punishment for the paper mafia is administered promptly within a specified timeframe in a fast-track court, ideally within a month of the arrests. If any coaching institute is found to be involved, appropriate action should be taken against the individuals responsible and the institute should be shut down. The participation of external agencies facilitates unethical practices. From the initial creation of paper sets to their delivery to the examination centre, a large number of individuals are involved in the process. As a result, each person has a clearly defined responsibility within the hierarchy. Question papers undergo multiple stages involving drafting, printing and transportation before reaching the examination centres. It is imperative to prohibit the use of mobile phones by

all persons involved. The majority of the examination centres are privately owned institutions, and a significant number of them do not meet the required standards. Examinations ought to be exclusively administered at government-approved facilities, with papers subject to constant surveillance and monitoring via CCTV cameras. The leak of question papers for public examinations has a significant impact on public trust, besides causing a substantial financial burden on the state exchequer. The Public Examination (Prevention of Unfair Means) Act, 2024, also known as the anti-paper leak law, has come into effect. But the notification of the Central Government regarding the Act contains a lacunae that require an urgent resolution. The new legislation mandates a minimum prison sentence of three years; it should be increased to a minimum of 10 years. The severity of the punishment should align with the seriousness of the offence. There is no provision for conducting investigations within a specified time-frame. In addition to imposing an additional prison sentence for failure to pay a fine for an offence under the Act, the provision for confiscation of the offender's property should also be included. The candidate who engages in exploiting unfair methods should be disqualified from appearing in any subsequent examination.

Delhi-Dhaka rapport

Neighbours boost ties under Chinese, US gaze

IN her second trip to India within a fortnight, Bangladesh Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina held wide-ranging talks with PM Narendra Modi, underlining the commitment of both nations to bolster their ties. This was the first bilateral state visit by a foreign leader after the formation of the new BJP-led NDA government. The agreements signed by New Delhi and Dhaka covered a lot of ground — maritime cooperation and blue economy, railway connectivity, space sector, digital partnership, healthcare and defence production. Describing India as Bangladesh's major neighbour and a trusted friend, she recalled the contribution of the government and the people of India to her country's liberation in 1971. Beyond the historical legacy, Modi and Hasina have developed a good rapport over the past decade. This has helped bilateral relations go from strength to strength. In November last year, when Hasina was under pressure not only



from the Bangladeshi Opposition but also the US ahead of the national elections, PM Modi joined her in virtually inaugurating three infrastructure projects. This had given a major fillip to Hasina's poll campaign. A key takeaway from last week's interaction was India's decision to send a technical team to Bangladesh for a mega project to conserve the Teesta river. China, which spares no effort in wooing or coercing India's neighbours, has been eyeing the estimated \$1-billion project amid New Delhi's reservations. Hasina's bonhomie with India will be put to the test next month, when she is expected to travel to China. India, meanwhile, is in no mood to walk a tightrope. In a fresh assertion of its independent foreign policy, New Delhi is engaging closely with Dhaka even though the US has been critical of the Hasina-led Awami League government over alleged human rights violations and electoral irregularities.

No light at the end of the N-tunnel

ICAN and SIPRI reports paint a grim picture on the global nuclear front

THE apocalyptic nuclear weapons and a parlous global security framework were in focus this month, with two major reports being released on the same day (June 17) — one by the ICAN (International Campaign to Abolish Nuclear Weapons) and the second by SIPRI (Stockholm International Peace Research Institute). Their findings are both distressing and bleak. The ICAN report reveals that the nine nuclear-weapon-capable nations (the US, UK, Russia, China, France, India, Israel, Pakistan and North Korea) collectively spent \$91 billion last year in modernising and increasing their respective arsenals. Assuaging a deep-seated strategic insecurity syndrome apropos of the adversarial 'other' is the common thread for all nine nations. Predictably, the top three spenders are the US with \$51.5 billion, which is more than half of the global nuclear weapon-related spending in 2023, followed by China (\$11.8 billion) and Russia (\$8.3 billion). ICAN Director Melissa Parke noted that the nuclear powers collectively spent \$2,898 per second last year on these weapons and that these funds exceed what the World Food Programme estimates as necessary to end world hunger. She added that "a million trees could be planted for each minute of spending on nuclear weapons". The reference to the number of trees that could be planted is particularly relevant in the context of the irreversible global warming and climate change exigency that the world responds to in an effete and indifferent manner. India, which is reeling under a scorching summer and a dangerously low people-tree ratio, is among the most affected among large nations (in terms of total area and demography). This geo-physical trend may soon prove to be the most serious threat to human security globally. The recent heatwave-related deaths during the Hajj pilgrimage are illustrative.

The SIPRI Yearbook 2024 is a comprehensive volume that provides an overview of developments in international security, weapons and technology, military expenditure, arms production and the arms trade as well as armed conflicts and conflict management, along with efforts to



control conventional, nuclear, chemical and biological weapons. The nuclear chapter of almost 100 pages is a valuable summary of recent developments and trends in the nuclear domain over the last year. Authors Hans Kristensen and Matt Korda are to be commended for their due diligence in furrowing a tenaciously opaque domain, where facts, information, disinformation and political rhetoric abound.

The key findings of the SIPRI nuclear survey are that the number and types of nuclear weapons in development have increased, as all nine nations deepen their reliance on nuclear deterrence to safeguard what they perceive as their core national interest. The most recent example is that of the Russia-Ukraine war, where Moscow has rattled its nuclear sabre to warn the US-led NATO about redlines, and in response, both NATO and the US have stated that they will enhance their nuclear readiness

across the board. The SIPRI nuclear overview indicates that in early 2024, the nuclear nine (N9) "possessed approximately 12,121 nuclear weapons, of which 9,585 were considered to be potentially operationally available. An estimated 3,904 of these warheads were deployed with operational forces, including about 2,100 that were kept in a state of high operational alert — about 100 more than the previous year." While the US and Russia still account for 88 per cent of the total global arsenal, an instructive statistic has been highlighted by SIPRI in relation to China, whose nuclear arsenal "has increased significantly from 410 warheads in January 2023 to 500 by January 2024, with expectations of continued growth". It adds that China is in the middle of a significant modernisation and expansion of its nuclear arsenal over the next decade and "some projections suggest that China could potentially deploy at least as

many intercontinental ballistic missiles as either Russia or the US in that period".

While China may be pitting itself against the US, a visible increase in the deployment of Chinese nukes (from the current 24) would have significant implications for South Asian strategic stability that would be of grave import to New Delhi. During the Cold War, the nuclear missile contest was played out between the US and its allies (UK and France) and the then USSR from 1945 to 1991. After the 'scare' of the 1962 Cuban missile crisis, both sides warily moved towards a degree of credible, robust nuclear deterrence that was predicated on arms control agreements and MAD (mutually assured destruction). This geopolitical, steady-state plateau had an ironic anomaly, wherein a deep techno-strategic insecurity was assuaged by accepting MAD — and the acronym captures the apocalyptic sardonicism.

Since the Russian invasion of Ukraine in February 2022, the world has been getting divided into two competing nuclear weapon clusters: the US-led military alliance (with the UK and France) versus the Russia-China dyad having North Korea as a junior partner. The other three members of N9 — India, Pakistan and Israel — have not formally joined either cluster, though their geopolitical orientation is self-evident.

The bleakness referred to at the outset stems from the fact that since 2022, the world has drifted from reasonably robust deterrence to one of fragile fecklessness. The earlier strategic communication among the major powers and well-entrenched arms control and restraint agreements have steadily frayed. The US is going through an intense domestic socio-political churning with the possibility of a second Trump presidency. Russia remains determined to prosecute its war in Ukraine, come what may, while Chinese belligerence over its territorial claims continues to be brittle. This is a bleak augury. The ICAN and SIPRI reports illuminate this arid landscape in an objective manner but underscore the grim reality that there is no light at the end of this tunnel.

सोनिया गांधी केन रायबरेलि आसनेर जन्य दीर्घदिनेर कथं ग्रेस करीके वेछे निते पारलेन ना?



जमशेदपुर - रविवार बाङ्गोर जमशेदपुरे एकटि निर्वाचनी समावेशे प्रधानमन्त्री नरेन्द्र मोदी कथं ग्रेस नेत्री सोनिया गांधीके रायबरेलि त्र्यक्ष करार एवढ दीर्घदिन धरे काज करी एकजन दलेर करीके नम, वरुं तार छेले राखल गांधीके मनोनीत करार जन्य समालोचना करेछेन।

मोदी उल्लेख करेछेन ये सोनिया गांधी को-भिड महामारीर परे रायबरेलि सफर करेननि, ये आसनति तिनि संसदे प्रतिनिधित्व करेछेन। “एहन तिनि तार छेलेर जन्य डेटी चाइते सेखाने गेछेन,” मोदी बलेन।

शनिवार, सोनिया गांधी तार सजान राखल एवढ प्रियाका गांधीर साथे रायबरेलिते एकटि निर्वाचनी समावेशे भाषण देन, येखाने तिनि घोषणा करेन ये तिनि तार छेले राखल गांधीके रायबरेलि प्रति समर्पण करेछेन एवढ जनताके आशुत करेन ये तिनि आपनादेर हताश करेबेन ना।

मोदी आरु समालोचना करेछेन ये राखल गांधी दूटि लोकसभा आसन, रायबरेलि एवढ केरालार ओगानाड थेके प्राप्ति हछेन। “कथं ग्रेस राजपूत ओगानाड छेडे रायबरेलिते निर्वाचन लडछेन। तिनि सबाइके बलछेन ये एहि आसनति तार मायेर,” मोदी बलेन, परिस्थितिटिके एमन एकटि शिशुर साथे तुलना करे ये तार वारार श्कुले पडछे बले श्कुलटिके निजेर बले दाबि करे।

“एहि परिवारकेन्द्रिक ब्यक्तिर संसदीय आसनगुलिके तादेर उतराधिकार हिसेबे देखछे। एमन परिवारकेन्द्रिक दल थेके बाङ्गुके रक्षा करते हवे,” प्रधानमन्त्री आरु बलेन।

Ways to protect yourself from Dengue

- Remove mosquito habitats
- Use mosquito repellent
- Keep your home clean
- Use netting for windows and gaps
- Clear clogged drain
- Light up your home and use air conditioning
- Wear long clothing

वित्त मंत्री सीतारमण ने रोजगार एवं कौशल विशेषज्ञों के साथ की बजट पूर्व चर्चा

एजेंसी नई दिल्ली। केंद्रीय वित्त एवं कॉर्पोरेट मामलों की मंत्री निर्मला सीतारमण ने यहां आम बजट 2024-25 की तैयारियों के मद्देनजर रोजगार और कौशल विकास क्षेत्रों के विशेषज्ञों के साथ बजट-पूर्व परामर्श बैठक की। वित्त मंत्री निर्मला सीतारमण की अध्यक्षता में आम बजट 2024-25 के लिए आठवें बजट-पूर्व परामर्श चर्चा में रोजगार और कौशल विकास क्षेत्रों के विशेषज्ञों ने वित्त मंत्री को अपने सुझाव दिए। बैठक में वित्त सचिव, व्यय विभाग के सचिव, आर्थिक मामलों के विभाग, कौशल विकास और उद्यमिता मंत्रालय के सचिव के अलावा श्रम मंत्रालय के सचिव तथा

भारत सरकार के मुख्य आर्थिक सलाहकार भी शामिल रहे। केंद्रीय वित्त मंत्री निर्मला



सीतारमण ने आम चुनाव से पहले चालू वित्त वर्ष 2024-25 के लिए

वस्त्र विनिर्माण को प्रोत्साहन देने के लिए उद्योग को हब और स्पोक मॉडल में काम करना चाहिए : वस्त्र मंत्री

एजेंसी नई दिल्ली। केन्द्रीय वस्त्र मंत्री श्री गिरिराज सिंह ने आज यशोभूमि कन्वेंशन सेंटर में 71वें भारत अंतर्राष्ट्रीय परिधान मेले (आईआईजीएफ) का उद्घाटन किया। अपने उद्घाटन भाषण में केन्द्रीय मंत्री ने इस बात पर जोर दिया कि आईआईजीएफ सूक्ष्म, लघु और मध्यम निर्यातकों के लिए एक अभिनव विपणन मंच प्रदान करता है, जो भारत के नवीनतम रुझानों और विविध पेशकशों को दुनिया के बाकी हिस्सों के सामने प्रदर्शित करता है। श्री गिरिराज सिंह ने कहा कि प्रधानमंत्री के मेक इन इंडिया के विजन को साकार करने के लिए निर्यवस्त्रय विनिर्माण सुविधाओं का विकास करना आवश्यक है, जिसमें

मूल्य श्रृंखला के प्रत्येक स्तर पर ज़ीरो इफेक्ट: जीरो डिफेक्ट: ज़े। श्री सिंह ने घरेलू विनिर्माण को बढ़ाने के लिए हब और स्पोक मॉडल को अपनाने का आह्वान किया, उद्योग सहयोग को प्रोत्साहित किया और भारतीय ब्रांडों की स्थापना के महत्व को रेखांकित किया। मंत्रालय अंतरराष्ट्रीय स्तर पर मानकीकृत पार्क बनाने के लिए एकीकृत वस्त्र पार्क (एसआईटीपी) योजना को पुनर्जीवित करने के लिए भी तैयार है। श्री गिरिराज सिंह ने कहा कि, आज, भारत 7.2 प्रतिशत की जीडीपी वृद्धि दर के साथ दुनिया की सबसे तेजी से बढ़ती अर्थव्यवस्थाओं में से एक है और 2027-28 तक तीसरी सबसे बड़ी अर्थव्यवस्था बनने की उम्मीद है। विकासोन्मुखी राजनीतिक

प्रतिष्ठान के साथ सकारात्मक घरेलू दृष्टिकोण के बल पर भारत में व्यापार के लिए अनुकूल इको-सिस्टम उपलब्ध कराया है। उन्होंने कहा कि भारत सरकार द्वारा अवसरचन्ना क्षेत्र को बढ़ाने और व्यापार सुगमता के लिए कई उपाय किए गए हैं। इसके अलावा मंत्री महोदय ने वस्त्र उद्योग जगत से कहा कि भारतीय परिधान और वस्त्र बाजार का आकार 165 बिलियन अमरीकी डॉलर है, जिसे 350 बिलियन अमरीकी डॉलर तक पहुंचाना है; यह एक लक्ष्य है, जिसे आपकी सहमति से तय किया गया है। मैं आपसे अनुरोध करता हूँ कि इसे 2030 तक 50 बिलियन अमरीकी डॉलर तक ले जाएं। प्रधानमंत्री ने तकनीकी फाइबर और जियो टेक्स्टाइल को बढ़ावा देने के लिए एक रोडमैप बनाया है।

क्रिप्टो करेंसी मार्केट में मिला-जुला कारोबार, बिटकॉइन की घटी मार्केट हिस्सेदारी

एजेंसी नई दिल्ली। क्रिप्टो करेंसी मार्केट में मिलाजुला कारोबार होना नजर आ रहा है। मार्केट कैप के लिहाज से टॉप-10 में शामिल क्रिप्टो करेंसीज में से बिटकॉइन और एथेरियम समेत 6 बढ़त के साथ ग्रीन जॉन में कारोबार कर रही हैं, जबकि 4 क्रिप्टो करेंसीज गिरावट के साथ रेड जॉन में कारोबार करती नजर आ रही हैं। आज के कारोबार में दुनिया की सबसे बड़ी क्रिप्टो करेंसी बिटकॉइन में तेजी जरूर आई है, लेकिन उसकी मार्केट हिस्सेदारी में गिरावट आ गई है।

स्तर पर कारोबार कर रहा था। इसी तरह एथेरियम की कीमत भी आज कमजोरी के साथ रेड जॉन में कारोबार कर रहे थे। दूसरी ओर,



सोलाना 9.13 प्रतिशत, टॉनकोइन 5.05 प्रतिशत, डॉगकोइन 5.64 प्रतिशत और कार्डीनो 5.19 प्रतिशत की बढ़त के साथ ग्रीन जॉन में कारोबार कर रहे थे। कॉइन मार्केट कैप से मिली जानकारी के मुताबिक पिछले 24 घंटे के कारोबार के दौरान क्रिप्टो करेंसी के ग्लोबल मार्केट कैप

में 1.40 प्रतिशत की मजबूती दर्ज की गई है। फिलहाल क्रिप्टो करेंसी का ग्लोबल मार्केट कैप बढ़ कर 2.27 लाख करोड़ डॉलर यानी करीब 189.39 लाख करोड़ रुपये हो गया है। ग्लोबल मार्केट कैप में मजबूती आने के साथ ही पिछले 24 घंटे के दौरान क्रिप्टो करेंसीज के लेन-देन में भी तेजी आई है। इस अवधि में कुल 8,635 करोड़ डॉलर यानी 7.20 लाख करोड़ रुपये की क्रिप्टो करेंसी की लेन-देन हुई, जो 1 दिन पहले की तुलना में 29.23 प्रतिशत अधिक है। अगर दुनिया की सबसे बड़ी क्रिप्टो करेंसी बिटकॉइन की बात करें कीमत में तेजी आने के बावजूद पिछले 24 घंटे के कारोबार के दौरान क्रिप्टो करेंसी मार्केट में इस आभासी मुद्रा की स्थिति 0.43 प्रतिशत कमजोर हुई है, जिसके कारण इसकी मार्केट हिस्सेदारी घट कर 53.38 प्रतिशत रह गई है।

कच्चा तेल 87 डॉलर प्रति बैरल के करीब, पेट्रोल-डीजल की कीमत स्थिर



एजेंसी नई दिल्ली। अंतरराष्ट्रीय बाजार में कच्चे तेल की कीमत में उतार-चढ़ाव जारी है। ब्रेंट क्रूड का मूल्य उछलकर 87 डॉलर और डब्ल्यूटीआई क्रूड 82 डॉलर प्रति बैरल के करीब है। सार्वजनिक क्षेत्र की तेल एवं गैस विपणन कर्पणियों ने पेट्रोल और डीजल के मूल्य में कोई बदलाव नहीं किया है। अंतरराष्ट्रीय बाजार में हफ्ते के दूसरे दिन शुरुआती कारोबार में ब्रेंट क्रूड 0.05 डॉलर यानी 0.06 फीसदी की बढ़त के साथ 86.06

डॉलर और वेस्ट टेक्सस इंटरमीडिएट (डब्ल्यूटीआई) क्रूड 0.06 डॉलर यानी 0.07 फीसदी उछलकर 81.69 डॉलर प्रति बैरल पर कारोबार कर रहा है। इंडियन ऑयल की वेबसाइट के मुताबिक, दिल्ली में पेट्रोल 94.72 रुपये, चेन्नई 87.62 रुपये, मुंबई में पेट्रोल 104.21 रुपये, डीजल 92.15 रुपये, कोलकाता में पेट्रोल 103.94 रुपये, डीजल 90.76 रुपये, चेन्नई में पेट्रोल 100.75 रुपये और डीजल 92.34 रुपये प्रति लीटर की दर पर उपलब्ध है।

सर्साफा बाजार में जारी कमजोरी से सस्ता हुआ सोना, चांदी में भी गिरावट

एजेंसी नई दिल्ली। घरेलू सर्साफा बाजार में आज लगातार दूसरे दिन गिरावट का माहौल है। हालांकि चेन्नई में सोने के भाव में तेजी आई है, लेकिन देश के ज्यादातर बाजारों में कमजोरी के कारण 24 कैरेट सोना 72,370 रुपये से लेकर 72,220 रुपये प्रति 10 ग्राम के दायरे में कारोबार कर रहा है। इसी तरह 22 कैरेट सोना भी चेन्नई के अलावा दूसरे सर्साफा बाजारों में आज 66,390 रुपये से लेकर 66,240 रुपये प्रति 10 ग्राम के बीच बिक रहा है। सोने की तरह ही आज चांदी के भाव में भी आज गिरावट आई है। आज की गिरावट के कारण आज दिल्ली सर्साफा बाजार में चांदी 91,600 रुपये प्रति किलोग्राम के स्तर पर कारोबार कर रहा है। देश की राजधानी दिल्ली में 24 कैरेट सोना आज 72,370 रुपये प्रति 10 ग्राम के स्तर पर कारोबार कर रहा है, जबकि 22 कैरेट सोने की कीमत 66,30 रुपये प्रति 10

ग्राम दर्ज की गई। इसी तरह मुंबई में 24 कैरेट सोना 72,220 रुपये प्रति 10 ग्राम की कीमत पर और 22 कैरेट सोना 66,240 रुपये प्रति 10 ग्राम के स्तर पर बिक रहा है। जबकि चेन्नई में 24 कैरेट सोने की रिटेल कीमत 73,110 रुपये प्रति 10 ग्राम और 22 कैरेट सोने की कीमत 67,010 रुपये प्रति 10 ग्राम दर्ज की गई है। इन प्रमुख शहरों के अलावा अहमदाबाद में 24 कैरेट सोना आज

ग्राम के स्तर पर पहुंचा हुआ है। लखनऊ के सर्साफा बाजार में 24 कैरेट सोना आज 72,370 रुपये प्रति 10 ग्राम के स्तर पर और 22 कैरेट सोना 66,390 रुपये प्रति 10 ग्राम के स्तर पर बिक रहा है। वहीं पटना में 24 कैरेट सोने की कीमत 72,270 रुपये प्रति 10 ग्राम हो गई है, जबकि 22 कैरेट सोना 66,290 रुपये प्रति 10 ग्राम के स्तर पर बिक रहा है। देश के अन्य राज्यों की तरह कर्नाटक, तेलंगाना और ओडिशा के सर्साफा बाजार में भी आज सोना सस्ता हुआ है। इन तीनों राज्यों की राजधानियों बेंगलूर, हैदराबाद और भुवनेश्वर में 24 कैरेट सोना आज 72,220 रुपये प्रति 10 ग्राम के स्तर पर कारोबार कर रहा है। वहीं इन तीनों शहरों के सर्साफा बाजारों में 22 कैरेट सोना 66,240 रुपये प्रति 10 ग्राम के स्तर पर बिक रहा है।

24 कैरेट सोना आज 72,370 रुपये प्रति 10 ग्राम की कीमत पर और 22 कैरेट सोना 66,290 रुपये प्रति 10 ग्राम की कीमत पर बिक रहा है। इसी तरह कोलकाता में 24 कैरेट सोना 72,220 रुपये प्रति 10 ग्राम और 22 कैरेट सोना 66,240 रुपये प्रति 10 ग्राम दर्ज की गई है।

सरकार ने 96,238 करोड़ रुपये मूल्य की 10वीं स्पेक्ट्रम नीलामी शुरू की

एजेंसी नई दिल्ली। देश में 5जी सेवाओं को बढ़ाने के लिए 10वीं स्पेक्ट्रम की नीलामी शुरू हो गई है। सरकार ने स्पेक्ट्रम की 96,238 करोड़ रुपये मूल्य की नीलामी शुरू की। इसमें एयरटेल और रिलायंस जियो जैसी कंपनियों के बोली लगाने की उम्मीद है। संचार मंत्रालय ने जारी बयान में बताया कि दूरसंचार विभाग (डीओटी) ने स्पेक्ट्रम नीलामी शुरू की है। इसके लिए आठ मार्च को आवेदन आमंत्रण नोटिस (एनआईए) जारी किया गया था। मंत्रालय ने बताया कि इस बार नीलामी में 800 मेगाहर्ट्ज, 900 मेगाहर्ट्ज, 1800 मेगाहर्ट्ज, 2100 मेगाहर्ट्ज, 2300 मेगाहर्ट्ज, 2500

मेगाहर्ट्ज, 3300 मेगाहर्ट्ज और 26 गीगाहर्ट्ज स्पेक्ट्रम बैंड के लिए बोली लगाए जाएंगे। मंत्रालय के मुताबिक 10वीं नीलामी में स्पेक्ट्रम की कुल मात्रा विभिन्न बैंडों में 10,522.35

मेगाहर्ट्ज है, जिसका मूल्य आरक्षित मूल्य पर 96,238.45 करोड़ रुपये नीलामी है। आखिरी बार अगस्त, 2022 में नीलामी हुई थी, जिसमें पहली बार 5जी सेवाओं के लिए रेडियो तरंगें शामिल की गई थीं। दूरसंचार विभाग के मुताबिक रिलायंस जियो ने स्पेक्ट्रम की नीलामी के लिए सबसे अधिक 3 हजार करोड़ रुपये की बयाना राशि जमा की है। इस आधार पर कंपनी अधिकतम रेडियो तरंगों के लिए बोली लगा सकती है। भारतीय एयरटेल ने 1,050 करोड़ रुपये और वोडाफोन आइडिया (वीआईएल) ने 300 करोड़ रुपये की बयाना राशि जमा की है। कर्ज में डूबी वोडाफोन आइडिया लिमिटेड ने अपने स्पेक्ट्रम उपयोग शुल्क को कम करने के लिए विशेष रूप से 26 गीगाहर्ट्ज बैंड में रणनीतिक अधिग्रहण पर ध्यान केंद्रित कर सकती है।

रेडियो तरंगों की बिक्री प्रक्रिया 2010 में ऑनलाइन शुरू होने के बाद से यह 10वीं स्पेक्ट्रम की

नए शिखर पर घरेलू शेयर बाजार, सेंसेक्स पहली बार 78 हजार अंक के पार

एजेंसी नई दिल्ली। बैंकिंग और आईटी सेक्टर में आई तेजी के कारण घरेलू शेयर बाजार ने एक बार फिर मजबूती का नया रिकॉर्ड बना दिया। सेंसेक्स पहली बार 78 हजार अंक के स्तर को पार करने में सफल रहा। इसी तरह निफ्टी ने भी पहली बार 23,750 अंक के ऊपर अपनी उपस्थिति दर्ज कराई। आज के कारोबार की शुरुआत भी मजबूती के साथ हुई थी। दिन के पहले सत्र में शेयर बाजार की चाल में उतार-चढ़ाव बना रहा, लेकिन दोपहर 12 बजे के बाद खरीदारों के सपोर्ट में शेयर बाजार ने तेज रफ्तार पकड़ ली। आज का कारोबार खत्म होने के थोड़ी देर पहले सेंसेक्स और निफ्टी दोनों सूचकांकों ने अभी तक के सर्वोच्च स्तर तक पहुंचने में भी कामयाबी हासिल की। पूरे दिन के कारोबार में बाढ़ सेंसेक्स 0.92 प्रतिशत और निफ्टी 0.78 प्रतिशत की मजबूती के साथ बढ़े हुए। आज के कारोबार के दौरान आईटी, फार्मासियल सर्विसेज और बैंकिंग सेक्टर के शेयरों में लगातार तेजी बनी रही। दूसरी ओर पावर, यूटिलिटी, एफएमसीजी, ऑटोमोबाइल और एनर्जी सेक्टर के शेयरों में बिकवाली का दबाव बना रहा। इसी तरह पब्लिक सेक्टर एंटरप्राइज, मेटल और रियल्टी इंडेक्स भी गिरावट के साथ बंद हुए। ब्रॉड मार्केट में भी आज आमतौर पर बिकवाली का दबाव बना रहा, जिसके कारण बीएसई का मिडकैप इंडेक्स 0.26 प्रतिशत की कमजोरी

के साथ बंद हुआ। इसी तरह स्मॉलकैप इंडेक्स ने 0.03 प्रतिशत की गिरावट के साथ आज के

नुकसान उठा कर लाल निशान में बंद हुए। इसी तरह सेंसेक्स में शामिल 30 शेयरों में से 16 शेयर बढ़त के साथ

तक पहुंच गया। पूरे दिन के कारोबार के बाद सेंसेक्स 712.44 अंक की तेजी के साथ ऑल टाइम हाई क्लोजिंग का नया रिकॉर्ड बनाते हुए 78,053.52 अंक के स्तर पर बंद हुआ। सेंसेक्स की तरह ही एनएसई के निफ्टी ने 39.25 अंक उछलकर 23,577.10 अंक के स्तर से कारोबार की शुरुआत की। दिन के पहले सत्र में इस सूचकांक की चाल में भी मामूली उतार चढ़ाव होता रहा। लेकिन दोपहर 12:30 बजे के बाद तेजिपट्टी पूरी तरह से बाजार पर हावी हो गए, जिसकी वजह से इस सूचकांक की चाल में तेजी आ गई। लगातार हो रही खरीदारी के सपोर्ट से निफ्टी 216.30 अंक की उछाल के साथ अभी तक के सर्वोच्च स्तर 23,754.15 अंक तक पहुंचने में सफल रहा। आखिरी वक्त में इंट्र-डे सेटलमेंट की वजह से हुई बिकवाली के कारण निफ्टी सर्वोच्च स्तर से करीब 33 अंक फिसल कर क्लोजिंग का नया रिकॉर्ड बनाते हुए 183.45 अंक की बढ़त के साथ 23,721.30 अंक के स्तर पर बंद हुआ। पूरे दिन के कारोबार के बाद स्टॉक मार्केट के दिग्गज शेयरों में से श्रीराम फाइनेंस 3.73 प्रतिशत, एक्सिस बैंक 3.53 प्रतिशत, आईसीआईसीआई बैंक 2.38 प्रतिशत, एचडीएफसी बैंक 2.33 प्रतिशत और एचडीएफसी लाइफ 1.98 प्रतिशत की मजबूती के साथ आज के टॉप 5 गेजर्स की सूची में शामिल हुए।

कारोबार का अंत किया। आज बाजार की तेजी के कारण स्टॉक मार्केट के निवेशकों की संपत्ति में 16 हजार करोड़ रुपये का इजाफा हो गया। बीएसई में लिस्टेड कंपनियों का मार्केट कैपिटलाइजेशन आज के कारोबार के बाद बढ़ कर 435.76 लाख करोड़ रुपये (अस्थायी) हो गया। पिछले कारोबारी दिन यानी सोमवार को इनका मार्केट कैपिटलाइजेशन 435.60 लाख करोड़ रुपये था। इस तरह निवेशकों को आज के कारोबार से करीब 16 हजार करोड़ रुपये की कमाई हो गई। आज दिन भर के कारोबार में बीएसई में 4,000 शेयरों में एक्टिव ट्रेडिंग हुई। इनमें 1,805 शेयर बढ़त के साथ बंद हुए, जबकि 2,077 शेयरों में गिरावट का रुख रहा और 118 शेयर बिना किसी उतार चढ़ाव के बंद हुए। एनएसई में आज 2,310 शेयरों में एक्टिव ट्रेडिंग हुई। इनमें से 993 शेयर मुनाफा कमा कर हरे निशान में और 1,317 शेयर

और 14 शेयर गिरावट के साथ बंद हुए। निफ्टी में शामिल शेयरों में से 26 शेयर हरे निशान में और 24 शेयर लाल निशान में बंद हुए। बीएसई का सेंसेक्स आज 188.11 अंक की मजबूती के साथ 77,529.19 अंक के स्तर पर खुला। कारोबार की शुरुआत होने के बाद बिकवाली के दबाव में ये सूचकांक मामूली गिरावट के साथ 77,459.60 अंक तक लुढ़का। लेकिन थोड़ी देर बाद ही खरीदारों ने मोर्चा संभाल लिया, जिससे इस सूचकांक की स्थिति में सुधार होने लगा। दोपहर 12 बजे के बाद खरीदारों ने चौतरफा लिवाली शुरू कर दी, जिसके कारण थोड़ी देर में ही इस सूचकांक ने 78 हजार अंक के स्तर को पार करने में सफलता हासिल कर ली। घरेलू शेयर बाजार में आज लगातार हो रही खरीदारी के सपोर्ट से कारोबार खत्म होने से थोड़ी देर पहले ये सूचकांक 823.63 अंक उछल कर अभी तक के सर्वोच्च स्तर 78,164.71 अंक

वित्त मंत्री ने व्यापार और सेवाओं के प्रतिनिधियों के साथ की बजट पूर्व बैठक

एजेंसी नई दिल्ली। केंद्रीय वित्त एवं कॉर्पोरेट मामलों की मंत्री निर्मला सीतारमण ने यहां आम बजट 2024-25 की तैयारियों के मद्देनजर व्यापार और सेवाओं के प्रतिनिधियों के साथ बजट-पूर्व परामर्श बैठक की। वित्त मंत्रालय ने 'एक्स' पर कहा कि आगामी आम बजट 2024-25 के लिए व्यापार और सेवाओं के प्रतिनिधियों ने वित्त मंत्री

आर्थिक मामलों के विभाग और वाणिज्य एवं उद्योग मंत्रालय के सचिव तथा केंद्र सरकार के मुख्य आर्थिक सलाहकार भी शामिल हुए। उल्लेखनीय है कि वित्त मंत्री सीतारमण ने आम चुनाव से पहले चालू वित्त वर्ष 2024-25 के लिए अंतिम बजट पेश किया था। चुनाव के बाद उन्हें फिर से वित्त मंत्रालय की जिम्मेदारी दी गई है। उन्होंने अब पूर्ण बजट पेश करने के पहले उसकी तैयारी शुरू कर दी है।

सीतारमण को अपने सुझाव दिए। बजट पूर्व इस परामर्श बैठक में केंद्रीय वित्त राज्यमंत्री पंकज चौधरी, वित्त सचिव, व्यय विभाग के सचिव,



कहानी

बंदर क्या जाने

अदरक का स्वाद

अनंत भाई क्या आज कुछ सनाएँगे? बहुत दिनों से कुछ सुनाया नहीं। वैसे इस महीने आपकी जो कविता झरोखा पत्रिका में छपी है, वह बहुत अच्छी है। आप चाहें तो वही सुना दीजिए। अनंत नारायण बच्चों के कवि हैं अर्थात् बाल साहित्यकार हैं। बच्चों के लिए लिखी गई उनकी कविताएं मुझे बहुत पसंद हैं। वे अपनी कविताएं तो सुनाते ही हैं, दूसरों की बाल कविताएं भी सुनाते हैं। उनकी स्मरणशक्ति बहुत अच्छी है। मेरे साथ राजमणि भैया भी थे। ये मेरे बड़े भाई हैं। मेरे और राजमणि के कहने पर अनंत नारायण ने यह कविता सुनाई—

चुहिया लाई चावल चीनी बिल्ली लाई आटा हरी सब्जियाँ ताता लाया धोकर उनको काटा मुर्गी पूरा मटका भरकर दूध कहीं से लाई आग जलाकर मीठी मीठी उसने खीर पकाई पूड़ी बनी, बनी तरकारी सबने मिल जुलकर खाया कामचोर कौबे का मन भी देख देख ललचाया

वाह वाह खुब कविता सुनाई। पर यह कविता मेरी नहीं है। अनंतनारायण बोला। यह एक अन्य बाल साहित्यकार की कविता है। मैं राजमणि भैया अनंत नारायण बड़ी देर तक बातें करते रहे। छुट्टी का दिन था। गंभीर बातें भी हुईं और हंसी मजाक वाली बातें भी। थोड़ी ही देर बाद अनंतनारायण की बेटी ललितिका चाय लाई और अपने हाथ से बनाकर स्वादिष्ट पोहा। सबने चाय पी और पोहा खाया। अनंत नारायण ने कहा ललितिका अपने चाचा लोगों को कोई गीत नहीं सुनाओगी? संगीत तो तुम्हारा सबसे प्यारा विषय है। ललितिका सुनकर खुश हो गई। यह उसकी रूचि की बात थी। उसने कबीर का पद सुनाया

साधो यह तन टाट तंबूरे का ऐंचत तार मरेरत खूंटो निकलराग हूँरूँ का...

पद बड़ा था। पद सुनाते समय न केवल ललितिका की आंखें बंद थीं, बल्कि हम लोग भी इतने मगन होकर सुन रहे थे कि हम लोगों की भी आंखें बंद हो गईं। हम लोगों की आंखें तब खुलीं जब गीत पूरा हुआ। लगा जैसे हम लोग संगीत की धारा में बह रहे थे। बातें समाप्त कर जब कर जब चलने लगे तो अनंतनारायण बोले भाई कल विश्वविद्यालय की ओर से नहीं जाना। क्यों? मुझे विश्वविद्यालय में काम है। क्या काम है? काम कुछ नहीं वहाँ जो बैंक है, उससे पैसे निकालने हैं, पैसे ज्यादा हैं, पूरे पचास हजार। जरूरत ही ऐसी आ गई है। समय खराब है। इतनी रकम बैंक से निकालकर अकेले घर लाने में डर लगता है। मैं आडीह से आगे कुछ दूर तक एकांत हो जाता है। तुम साथ रहोगे तो अच्छा रहेगा। बात सही है। मैं तुम्हारे साथ चलूँगा और तुम्हारे साथ ही वापस आऊँगा। दूसरे दिन मैं और अनंत नारायण बैंक गये। भीड़ ज्यादा थी। अनंतनारायण ने रूपये लेकर बैग में रखे। भीड़ पूरी घट गई थी। क्लर्क कागज की पुड़िया मुंह में रखकर वह बगल के साथी से बातें करने लगा। अनंतनारायण ने अपनी पासबुक मांगी। उसने ऐसे पासबुक उछालकर दी जैसे फुटबाल हो। अनंतनारायण को बुरा लगा। पासबुक पटल पर रखे या हाथ में दें। उछालकर देना तो अनुचित है। उन्होंने विश्वविद्यालय में तीस वर्ष पढ़ाया है। प्रोफेसर के सम्मानित पद से रिटायर हुए हैं। उनके साथ एक क्लर्क ऐसा व्यवहार करें, यह दुःखद है। पर उन्होंने कुछ कहा नहीं। लेकिन जब पासबुक देखी तो उसमें रूपये चढ़ाये नहीं गये थे। उन्होंने कहा साहब पासबुक में रूपये चढ़ा दीजिए। आपको रूपये मिल गये न? अब आप जाइए। पासबुक में रकम चढ़वानी है तो पासबुक छोड़ जाइए। कल आकर ले जाइएगा। रकम चढ़ जाएगी। एक बार यहाँ आने में सौ रूपये लगते

हैं। कल फिर इतने ही रूपये लगेंगे। सिर्फ पासबुक के लिए ही कल मुझे आना पड़ेगा। मैंने जो कह दिया सो कह दिया। बहस मत करिये। मैं बोला ये इस विश्वविद्यालय के सम्मानित प्रोफेसर रहे हैं। ये बहुत विद्वान हैं। आप इन्हें नहीं जानते। होंगे प्रोफेसर। मैं इन्हें नहीं जानता। यहाँ तो सब अपने को प्रोफेसर ही कहते हैं।

यह बात मुझे बुरी लगी और

हम लोग भी इतने मगन होकर सुन रहे थे कि हम लोगों की भी आंखें बंद ही थीं। हम लोगों की आंखें तब खुलीं जब गीत पूरा हुआ। लगा जैसे हम लोग संगीत की धारा में बह रहे थे। बातें समाप्त कर जब कर जब चलने लगे तो अनंतनारायण बोले भाई कल विश्वविद्यालय की ओर से नहीं जाना। क्यों? मुझे विश्वविद्यालय में काम है। क्या काम है? काम कुछ नहीं वहाँ जो बैंक है, उससे पैसे निकालने हैं, पैसे ज्यादा हैं, पूरे पचास हजार। जरूरत ही ऐसी आ गई है। समय खराब है। इतनी रकम बैंक से निकालकर अकेले घर लाने में डर लगता है।

अनंतनारायण को भी। हम दोनों मैनेजर के पास गये। मैंने अनंतनारायण का परिचय दिया और क्लर्क की शिकायत की। मैनेजर ने कहा, क्लर्क की शिकायतें औरों ने भी की हैं। पता नहीं यह कब सभ्य बनेगा। यह कहकर वे हम लोगों के साथ क्लर्क के पास आये, आप इस समय क्या कर रहे हैं? आराम फरमा रहे हैं। नहीं नहीं पान खाकर... थकान दूर कर रहे हैं। बैंक थकान दूर करने के लिए है या काम करने के लिए। इस समय आप कोई काम नहीं कर रहे हैं। फिर अनंतनारायण की ओर देखकर कहा आप पासबुक बिना रकम चढ़ाये वापस कर रहे हैं। सिर्फ पासबुक के लिए कल ये सौ रूपये फिर खर्च करेंगे। आप जानते हैं ये कौन हैं। ये विश्वविद्यालय के प्रतिष्ठित प्रोफेसर हैं और बहुत बड़े साहित्यकार हैं। आपके सामने इनका परिचय भी दिया गया। फिर भी कुछ समझ में नहीं आया। वे आगे बोले, अदरक बड़ी उपयोगी चीज होती है। भोजन में भी पड़ती है और दवा के काम भी आती है। पर बंदर को दे दी जाए तो वह दाँत से कुतरकर फेंक देगा। वह अदरक का गुर जानेगा ही नहीं। इसी पर कहावत है बंदर क्या जाने अदरक का स्वाद। यही हाल आपका है। आपके सामने एक महान व्यक्ति खड़े हैं। पर आपमें इतनी समझ नहीं है कि आप उन्हें सम्मान दें। मैं अभी पासबुक ठीक कर देता हूँ, कहकर एक मिनट में क्लर्क ने रकम चढ़ाकर पासबुक वापस कर दी। हम दोनों को मैनेजर साहब का व्यवहार तो अच्छा लगा ही, उनका हिंदी ज्ञान देखकर भी प्रसन्नता हुई। कहावत का उन्होंने बहुत सही प्रयोग किया था। पासबुक लेकर हम लोग साथ साथ वापस चले आये।



हंसगुल्ले

टीचर ने बच्चों की कॉपी पर नोट लिखकर भेजा - कृपया बच्चों को नहला कर भेजा करें। बच्चों की माँ ने नोट जवाब में लिखा - कृपया बच्चों को पढ़ाया करें, सूँघा न करें।

नया कर्मचारी, 'तुम इस दफ्तर में कब से काम कर रहे हो?'

पुराना कर्मचारी, 'जब से बॉस ने मुझे निकालने की धमकी दी है।'

दादी नाराज होकर पोते से बोली ज्यादा परेशान करोगे तो मैं भगवान के घर चली जाऊँगी।

पोता: दादी रिक्शा लेकर आऊँ क्या ?

एक चूहे ने हाथी से कहा, 'चार अपनी शर्ट दो दिनों के लिए देना।'

हाथी हंसकर बोला, 'त.हा.हा. पहनेगा क्या ?' चूहा, 'नहीं, घर में शादी है, तंबू लगवाना है।'

बैरा, इधर आओ! ग्राहक चिल्लाया। बैरा सहमता हुआ ग्राहक के पास आ खड़ा हुआ।

'देवो चाए के प्याले मे मक्खी पड़ी हुई है!' बैरे ने तर्जनी उंगली से मक्खी प्याले से निकाली और बहुत गौर से देखने लगा। फिर बड़ी गंभीरता से उतर दिया-- हमारे होटल की नहीं है।

मजदूर (मालिक से) : गधे की तरह काम कराया और मजदूरी सिर्फ बीस रुपया ... कृपु तो न्याय कीजिए। मालिक (मुनीम से) : ठीक है यह न्याय मांगता है तो इस के सामने घास डाल दो और रुपये ले लो।

एक व्यक्ति की अपने तोते से तबियत भर गई। उस ने उसे नीलाम किया। बोली 100 रुपये पर छूटी। खरीददार मुस्कराकर कहने लगा, खैर, ले लेता हूँ लेकिन इतना बताई कि यह बोलेगा भी? दुकानदार : अजी, यही तो आपके रिवलाफ बोली बढ़ा रहा था!

नया सिपाही (इंस्पेक्टर से) : 'सर ये बिलकुल गलत है कि मैं उस चोर से डर गया था।'

इंस्पेक्टर : 'तो तुम उस गाड़ी के पीछे क्यों छिपे थे?'

नया सिपाही : 'जी वह तो मैं कृता देख कर छिपा था।'

जानिए

30 साल में बनती है एक डाली

सगुआरो कैक्टस (कार्नेजिया जाइगैटिया) दुनिया का सबसे धीमी गति से बढ़नेवाला पौधा है। उसकी एक डाली पूरे 30 साल में तैयार होती है। सगुआरो उत्तरी अमरीका (अरिजोना) में पाया जाता है। उसकी बहुत धीमी गति से बढ़नेवाली डाली का ऊँचाई प्राप्त कर सकता है। इतना बड़ा होता है कि, इसकी अधिकांश जड़ें जमीन में कुछ ही सेंटीमीटर की गहराई में फैली होती हैं। केवल एक मुख्य जड़ जमीन में लगभग दो फुट की गहराई तक उतरता है। इस कारण सगुआरो तूफानों में आसानी से उखड़ जाता है। स्थानीय निवासी सुखे सगुआरो तने से घरों की छतें, फर्नीचर, बाड़ आदि बनाते हैं। वह एक दीर्घजीवी पौधा है, जो 200 साल तक जीवित रह सकता है। इसके फूल रात को खिलते हैं। यह रेगिस्तानी पौधा अनेक पशु-पक्षियों को सहारा देता है। इनमें शामिल है गिला कटफोइया, बैंगनी मार्टिन, घरेलू फिच, गिल्डेड फिलकर (एक प्रकार की चिड़िया), एल्फ आउल (बौना उल्लू), इत्यादि। ये इस पौधे के लंबे तने में छेद करके उनमें रहते हैं।



कविता

अगर पेड़ भी चलते होते

अगर पेड़ भी चलते होते कितने मजे हमारे होते बाँध तने में उसके रस्सी चाहे जहाँ कहीं ले जाते।

जहाँ कहीं भी घूँप सताती उसके नीचे झट सुस्ताते जहाँ कहीं वर्षा हो जाती उसके नीचे हम छिप जाते।

लगती भूख यदि अचानक तोड़ मधुर फल उसके खाते आती क्रीड-बाद कहीं तो झट उसके उपर चढ़ जाते।

अगर पेड़ भी चलते होते कितने मजे हमारे होते।



एक कहानी में सारे

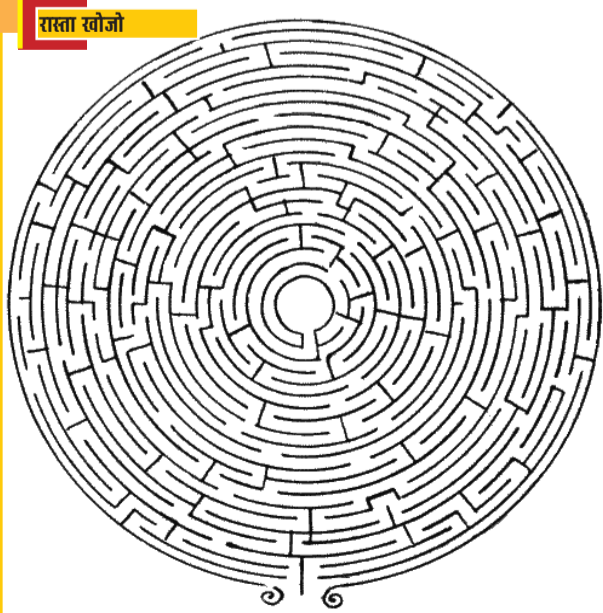
आसमान कितना ऊँचा है ! कितने ऊँचे हैं तारे ! पर आ जाते जाने कैसे ! एक कहानी में सारे !

दोस्त अगर बन जाएं मेरे आसमान के, माँ तारे ? तो मैं तेरे जन्म दिवस पर दूँगी सब को गुब्बारे

मजा आएगा तब तो कितना जाएगे जब घर तारे आसमान में तारों के संग होंगे कितने गुब्बारे !

मगर कौन से लाओगी माँ इतने सारे गुब्बारे ? बतला दूँगी, बतला दूँगी जब आएंगे घर तारे !

रास्ता खोजो



पहेलियाँ

लाल डिब्बिया में हैं पीले खाने, खानों में मोती के दाने ?

वह रहती नहीं बीमार, फिर भी खाती गोली, बच्चे, बूढ़े उर जाते, सुनकर उसकी बोली।

धनदौलत से बड़ी है वह, सब चीजों से ऊपर है वह, जो पाए पंडित बन जाए बिना पाए मूर्ख रह जाए ?

उत्तर - अनार, बंदूक, विद्या, पेड़, गुब्बारा।

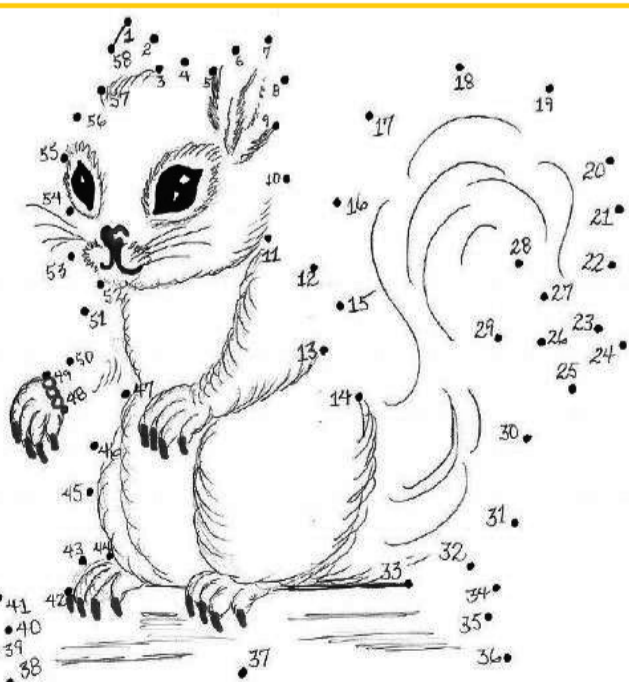
जो करता है वायु शुद्ध, फल देकर जो पेट भरे,

मानव बना है उसका दुश्मन, फिर भी वह उपकार करे ?

गोल है पर गेंद नहीं, पूँछ है पर पशु नहीं, पूँछ पकड़कर खेलें बच्चे, फिर भी मेरे आसूँ न निकलते ?



रंग भरो



बिंदु मिलाओ

NEWS BOX

Euro 2024: England top group despite grab draw, Denmark, Slovenia wait to know fate

New Delhi. England finished top and Slovenia also advanced to the knockout stages of Euro 2024 after an uninspiring 0-0 draw in their final Group C match on Tuesday. England had already qualified for the round of 16 and, despite another flat performance, the draw leaves them in first place in the group on five points.

Slovenia finished level on three points with Denmark, who drew 0-0 with Serbia, and though they had the same goal difference, goals scored and disciplinary record, the Danes appeared to have advanced in second place due to their UEFA ranking, going through with Slovenia, subject to confirmation. England had the best of the action in a tepid game of few real chances, with Harry Kane and Phil Foden forcing easy saves from goalkeeper Jan Oblak and Bukayo Saka having a goal ruled out in the first half for offside. England dominated possession but had few shots on target as Slovenia defended resolutely and tried to crowd out every attack from their frustrated opponents.

Denmark, Slovenia wait

Denmark secured a place in the knockout phase of Euro 2024 with a nervy 0-0 draw in Munich on Tuesday against Serbia who head home after coming bottom of Group C. The Danes had most possession and chances, with Christian Eriksen pulling the strings from midfield, but were unable to turn that into a goal in their third draw of the tournament. They will await UEFA confirmation of whether they came second or third in the group - affecting who they face in the last 16 - depending on disciplinary points or rankings versus Slovenia. Serbia defended stoutly for long periods, but could not provide opportunities for veteran striker Aleksandar Mitrovic who appealed unsuccessfully for a penalty several times. They came fourth in the group with two points from two draws.

Mbappe, Lewandowski score penalties as France, Poland draw at Euro 2024

DORTMUND. Kylian Mbappe scored a penalty on his return after breaking his nose but Robert Lewandowski's reply meant France and Poland drew 1-1 in their final group game at Euro 2024 on Tuesday.

The result in Dortmund, combined with Austria's 3-2 victory over the Netherlands at the same time, saw France finish second in Group D with one win and two draws.

France will now head to Dusseldorf for a last-16 tie next Monday against the runners-up in Group E, which could be Belgium, Romania, Slovakia or Ukraine. "We have to appreciate what we did. We're qualified. We know when we're playing next (July 1), even if we don't know against who exactly," said France coach Didier Deschamps. "We've achieved our first objective. Even if we don't have the spot we were aiming for because we are second. A new competition is about to start."

Wearing a mask to protect his injured nose, Mbappe rolled in a spot-kick to put France ahead early in the second half after Ousmane Dembele was brought down. It was Mbappe's first ever goal at a European Championship, and the first scored by a France player at this year's tournament -- their only prior goal came when Austria's Maximilian Woeber put into his own net. Yet Lewandowski, Poland's all-time top scorer who was himself starting for the first time at Euro 2024 after a thigh injury, equalised from a penalty at the other end 11 minutes from time. His first kick was saved by Mike Maignan, but Lewandowski was allowed a retake as the France goalkeeper came off his line before the ball had been struck. France's result is all the more significant as they are now on the same side of the draw as Portugal, Spain and Germany, which they would have avoided by topping the group.

Often imprecise and lacking in intensity here, the 2022 World Cup runners-up will certainly need to improve on this performance, and their previous group outings, if they are to win the competition.

EFI picks Anush over Shruti for Paris Games

NEW DELHI. The Equestrian Federation of India (EFI) has picked Anush Agarwalla to represent the country at the upcoming Paris Games in the dressage event after he pipped close contender Shruti Vora on better average after a careful evaluation of their recent performances. The decision was taken unanimously by the Executive Council with the federation president handing his stamp of approval. It will be the first time the country



will be having a representation at the quadrennial event.

Anush has been a consistent operator since the qualification period began last year and had achieved Minimum Eligibility Requirement (MER) four times while veteran Shruti earned the required two MERs this month. According to the federation, Anush was given the nod as he had a better average score of 67.695%. Shruti's average was 67.163%.

As per the criteria set by the EFI, a rider-horse combination is required to achieve a minimum of 67% twice between January 1, 2023 and June 24, 2024 to be eligible for the Paris Games qualification. According to EFI selection criteria, if more than one athlete is eligible then the athlete with the highest average in Grand Prix out of the best four events in the past one year shall be chosen to participate. Scores at only FEI level competitions 3* and above are counted.

Copa America: Lautaro Martinez' late goal helps Argentina reach quarters with Chile win

Argentina defeated Chile 1-0 to make to the quarters

Lautaro scored the match-winner in the 88th minute

Argentina play Peru in Miami in their final group game

New Delhi. Argentina became the first side to book passage into the Copa America quarter-finals after a late strike from Lautaro Martinez earned them a 1-0 Group A victory over Chile on Tuesday. The defending champions had to wait until the 88th minute for the winner. Giovanni Lo Celso's shot was saved by Chile's Claudio Bravo after a Lionel Messi corner kick but Martinez was on hand to fire home the rebound. The goal stood after a lengthy VAR review for offside. Argentina top the group with six points after two matches, with Canada in second on three following their 1-0 win over Peru earlier on Tuesday. Chile and Peru have one point each. "These matches are always like this, we have to continue in the same way, treating the matches in this way, as they are all going to be complicated," Martinez told TyC



Sports. "Everything was tight, they set up lines of five at times ... but we are happy that at the end of the day we ended up taking the three points, which is what we wanted to start with." The loss extended Chile's winless streak against Argentina in the Copa America to 30 matches. Chile have won the Copa twice but have never beaten Argentina in regulation time at the tournament, getting

the better of them on penalties in the final of the 2015 and 2016 editions. There was little to separate the two in a cautious opening spell at MetLife Stadium but once Argentina got going it quickly turned into a one-sided contest. Julian Alvarez and Nicolas Gonzalez tested keeper Bravo with tame efforts, while Rodrigo de Paul smashed a swerving right-foot effort just over the

crossbar. Captain Messi, who played a role in both of Argentina's goals in their opening win over Canada, was once again at his brilliant best and nearly opened the scoring in the 36th minute with a powerful low drive that hit the post. Argentina kept up the pressure in the second half and Alexis Mac Allister was unable to connect with a pinpoint free kick from Messi to spurn a gilt-edged opportunity. Rodrigo Echeverria recorded Chile's first shot of the match in the 72nd minute, a powerful strike from distance which was kept out by Emiliano Martinez. The Argentine goalkeeper, who barely had anything to do for over an hour, found himself called into action twice more over the next few minutes, keeping out efforts from Echeverria and Marcelino Nunez.

Just as it looked like the 15-times Copa America champions would be made to rue their missed chances, substitute Martinez's goal ensured victory and a top-two spot in the group. The defending champions had the chance to kill the game off in stoppage time with a two-on-one break but Martinez fired a close range shot straight at Bravo. "We have a tough group, very evenly matched, we had chances to score," Bravo said. "The next opponent is going to be tough like these two we've had." In the group's final fixtures on Saturday, Argentina play Peru in Miami while Chile take on Canada in Orlando.

Jasprit Bumrah bowling like it's a video game: Arshdeep on help from star pacer

New Delhi. Arshdeep Singh has revealed how Jasprit Bumrah's 'video game' type economical bowling has helped him get more wickets during the T20 World Cup 2024 as India reached the semi-final once again. Bumrah and Arshdeep have been the main pacers for India with the latter being amongst the leading wicket-takers in the tournament.

Speaking after the Australia win, Arshdeep had credited Bumrah for his success and the pacer continued to sing the praises of his senior partner. In an interaction with Kuldeep Yadav, Arshdeep said that things haven't been that difficult for him with Bumrah operating from the other end. The left-arm pacer feels the pressure from Bumrah forces the batters to go hard at him and play high-risk shots, which helps him get wickets. "I don't think it has been that difficult for me. The way



Jasprit (Bumrah) bhai is bowling, it's like it's from a video game, especially with the economy he is bowling at." "So all the pressure that is on the batters, they try to take it out on me. They try to play high-risk shots, and I end up getting wickets. So a lot of credit goes to him," said Arshdeep.

Arshdeep also feels he is getting a lot of support from the rest of the bowling, who

have been doing well in partnerships.

"And all the other bowlers we have is also helping me out. They're bowling in partnerships. One is stopping runs from one end and the other is getting wickets. So as a bowling unit, everyone is clicking well and the support is good," said Arshdeep.

Bumrah-Arshdeep connection in T20 World Cup 2024

Both Bumrah and Arshdeep have been sensational for India, especially in the powerplay overs. Bumrah produced Player Of The Match performances in the first two matches against Ireland and Pakistan, with an exceptional economy-rate. Bumrah has picked up 11 wickets from 6 matches with an economy rate of 4.08. Arshdeep, on the other hand, has picked up 15 wickets from 6 matches and

England top Euros group but disappoint again in Slovenia stalemate

COLOGNE. England manager Gareth Southgate was met with boos and beer cups thrown by his own fans despite his team topping Group C as Slovenia also progressed to the knockout stages of Euro 2024 thanks to a 0-0 draw in Cologne.

The Three Lions were already assured of a place in the last 16 but can expect more criticism after failing to improve on underwhelming performances in edging past Serbia and drawing with Denmark.

"I get it that they are not happy with me, that is the reality. I am not going to back away from that. I need them behind the team," Southgate said of the supporters' reaction.

"I was not going to back away from going over to thank people for coming and giving the support that they did, but I know that this is causing an issue for the group."

England will have to wait until Wednesday's final group games to find out which of the four best third-placed teams they will face in the last 16. But more questions will be asked over one of the favourites' ability to end a 58-year wait for major tournament glory as a

star-studded forward line was snuffed out by Slovenia. "I thought we played a lot better than the other games. We couldn't just find that finish but we look forward to the next one," said England captain Harry Kane. Southgate made a statement with his team selection, resisting the calls to make mass changes as Conor Gallagher replaced Trent Alexander-Arnold in the only alteration from the opening two games. If the England boss was looking for a reaction by showing faith in the other 10 who have started all three matches in Germany, he was left disappointed. Slovenia are now nine games unbeaten, which included beating Portugal 2-0 in a pre-tournament friendly. Declan Rice had highlighted Benjamin Sesko as their big threat on Monday. Sesko could have been lining up alongside Rice at Arsenal next season had he not shown interest to extend his contract at RB Leipzig. The 21-year-old shrugged off a thigh injury to start and had the first chance of the game when he tamely headed straight at Jordan Pickford four minutes

in. Slovenian celebrations It took 20 minutes for England to pose a serious threat and only the offside flag denied them a slick opening goal. Rice picked out Phil Foden's run but the Manchester City midfielder had strayed beyond the Slovenian defence before squaring for Bukayo Saka to tap in. Southgate took action at the break as Gallagher was replaced by Kobbie Mainoo. The 19-year-old added some much needed thrust to the England midfield but they still struggled to turn dominance in possession into chances. Kane saw a header cleared by Sesko from a corner and Rice flashed a shot wide from the edge of the box. Southgate answered the call to give Cole Palmer his first minutes of the tournament in the final 20 minutes. The Chelsea midfielder, who scored 26 goals at club level this season, had England's only shot on target of the second half but failed to seriously test veteran goalkeeper Jan Oblak.



and the Caribbean. Only two players from the 2015 World Cup squad feature in the current side -- David Miller and Quinton de Kock -- with both of them being serial winners of franchise-based T20 titles. South Africa have shown enough signs that they are mentally geared up to close out tight games this time around. Out of the 10 meetings in the World Cup knockout matches, South Africa have gone down thrice against Australia -- including the infamous tied game of the 1999 World Cup semifinal. The Proteas, now, have the advantage of not facing Australia, thanks to Afghanistan and India, who knocked Mitchell Marsh's side out of the competition in the Super 8 stage.

Leading from the front: How Rohit Sharma has inspired a new Indian approach

Rohit Sharma is making a run for the T20 World Cup trophy with his aggressive approach. But the Indian captain is making sure that none of his teammates are left behind and making them run alongside him with the new Indian team approach.

NEW DELHI. In T20 I don't believe we need to get fifties and hundreds, what matters is the pressure you put on the bowlers. All the batters from the world go played like that and that's how we want to play as well. "These were the words of a proud and happy Rohit Sharma after India outclassed Bangladesh in a Super 8 clash on June 22. The Indian skipper that day led from the front and was in

5th gear from the get-go. He scored 23 off 11 balls, with a strike-rate of 209.09. Fans were left wanting more from the India captain, and a few days later he delivered in the biggest match of the tournament so far. Rohit scored 92 runs against Australia off just 41 balls, and with a strike-rate of over 224.

This was the same intent he showed in the ODI World Cup, but the team couldn't keep the pace up with him during that time. Now, Rohit is making his team run alongside him in the race as India gear up for another semi-final in the T20 World Cup 2024. The remarkable change in the batting unit has been the fact that no one of the batters are trying to wait and settle in. This was seen even in the US as Indian batters followed the simple mantra, "see ball, hit ball." And the message has quite literally come from the top of the order with Rohit showing the way. But how has the rest of the side started to run along with their skipper? Paul Collingwood seemingly knows how Rohit has been able to make this change.

All about strike-rate and impact



Speaking in the Star Sports Press Room, Collingwood said that the message in the changing room and the ones outside it from the captain has been pretty clear. The former all-rounder feels that Rohit wants his players to focus on the strike-rate and create an impact on the game. "The messaging is pretty clear from Rohit Sharma. Be it the messaging in the change room, but some of the messages I have seen in the press conferences where he said it's not about personal milestones, it's about strike rate and about having an impact on the game. All these things are huge when it comes to the

players having the belief that the captain and the coaches are 100 percent behind them to have an impact on the game," said Collingwood. Collingwood feels that India has had a massive change because of this as they have gone from best chasers in the game to a dangerous unit when it comes to setting targets. He further commented that India are now following what England used to do under Eoin Morgan and trying to attack from ball one. I think it's been a massive change in the Indian cricket team. They have always been one of the best chasers in T20 cricket. Virat Kohli, at the top of the order, once he knows what rhythm and tempo he is going to play, he has been one of the best chasers. "But I have seen a massive switch in the approach, especially when they are setting targets. They really want to be aggressive from the first ball. England have been doing this for 6-7 years since Eoin Morgan took over back in 2016. They have this kind of really go out and be aggressive from Ball 1 kind of stuff. It seems that they set the benchmark and other teams are trying to follow that and India is no different.



Neha Sharma

Turns Up The Heat In A Crop Top, Hot Video Goes Viral

Neha Sharma surely knows how to raise temperatures! The actress, known for her impeccable fashion sense, recently made heads turn in her latest social media post. She looked stunning in a classic white crop top and blue jeans combo. She captioned her post, "Ain't no Monday blues here." The actress smiled for the camera and played with her hair to shun away her Monday blues. Neha looked ravishing in her video and left her friends gasping for breath. Check out the hot video here:

Neha Sharma remains grapevine's darling because of her strong and on-point social media and paparazzi game. Her appearances outside gyms and airports with her sister Aisha Sharma frequently catch the attention of the shutterbugs and needless to say, go viral on social media within minutes. Apart from her social media posts and sartorial sensibilities, the actor often makes headlines for her strong opinions on the film industry.



And in a recent interaction with News18 Showsha, Neha makes a bold statement on how an actor is sometimes forced to play de-glam roles to be taken seriously. Known for her glamorous avatars on and off-screen, Neha too has sometimes been seen shunning the sheen and taking on parts that go against her image. "No offense to anyone but I feel that to be taken seriously in this industry, you need to de-glam yourself. If you look a certain way, they'll call you a bad actor. I think it's just a stereotype," she states. According to Neha, actors like her often resort to a 'ploy' like this so as to change the perception that they've in the industry. "And if you aren't a very good looking person, people start seeing the acting and performance in your eyes and suddenly, the little nuances in your act are appreciated a lot more. This has become a ploy for all actors including me to de-glam so that we're taken a bit more seriously," she adds.

'It's Really Relaxing': Mouli Ganguly On Working With Husband Mazhar Sayed



Mouli Ganguly is currently playing the role of Ira in the Hindi serial, Janani – Ai Ki Kahani. The actress recently opened up about playing the lead role along with her husband, actor Mazhar Sayed in the show after two decades. She calls it refreshing. The duo is playing the role of a scientist couple in the show. Talking about her previous work, Mouli Ganguly said, "In Kaahin Kissii Roz, we were not opposite each other, so this experience is completely new and exciting." The show is airing on Danga TV. Mazhar and Mouli are playing a couple on screen that is expected to add new dynamism to their professional and personal lives. Mouli expressed her happiness to IANS and she is enjoying the time on sets with her husband. The chemistry between the two on and off-screen has added authenticity to their characters, making the show even more appealing to the audience. Working with a life partner can be a unique experience, and for Mouli and Mazhar, it is nothing less than a joy. "It's really relaxing because coming together, going home together, and getting to spend time together is so much fun. Otherwise, we usually share each other's set stories. This time, it's the same story," she said in an interview. Mouli Ganguly is known for her works in serials like Saakshi, Aathvaan Vachhan and Laagi Tujhse Lagan. She was also seen in films like Kissebaaz, Raincoat, 68 Pages and others.

The couple appeared in the dance reality show Nach Baliye 4. It showed their strong partnership and chemistry. Mazhar and Mouli got married in the year 2010. Mazhar plays the role of Virat Sharma in this show. It also stars Prapti Shukla, Nitin Guleria, Sumit Kaul, Priyank Tataria and Aashika Bhatia. It is produced by MAJ Productions.

Mouli Ganguly has previously appeared in television shows like Baal Shiv-Mahadev Ki Andekhi Gatha, Jamai Raja, Shakti-Astitva Ke Ehsaas Ki, Aasman Se Aage and Mano Ya Naa Mano 2. She started her film career with the Bengali serial Baksho Rahashya. She shot to fame with Ekta Kapoor's serial Kaahin Kissii Roz. She also played the titular role in Saakshi.

Ishq Vishk Rebound Box Office Day 3: Rohit Saraf, Jibraan Khan's Film Earns Close Rs 4 Crores



Ishq Vishk Rebound, directed by Nipun Avinash Dharmadhikari and part of the Ishq Vishk franchise, is having a slow start at the box office. According to Sacnilk.com, the film earned Rs 1 crore net on its opening day in India. On Sunday, i.e. day 3, the movie minted over Rs 1.40 crores. With this, the film's total earnings stand at Rs 3.55 Crores. According to a report in Sacnilk, Ishq Vishk Rebound had an overall 17.69% Hindi Occupancy on Sunday, June 23, 2024. While the morning shows had 7.66% attendance, afternoon shows had 22.36%, evening shows had 25.40% and night shows had around 15.35%. News18 Showsha's review of the film read, "The disappointing camera work bogs down the film's viewing experience. But fortunately, the actors manage to hold our hands until the end. Ishq Vishk Rebound is out and out Rohit Saraf's film. He is the narrator of the film. His character, Raghav, often breaks the fourth wall to talk to the audience and share his thoughts. The approach is heavily inspired from Phoebe Waller-Bridge's Emmy-award winning show Fleabag. In India, Kader Khan had done it in the 1980s with Ghar Ho Toh Aisa." Hrithik Roshan's cousin Pashmina has made her acting debut in the film. At the trailer launch, producer Ramesh Taurani had revealed she had auditioned for the role and had not revealed her background until her family name popped up when she was signing the contract. In an interview with News18, Dharmadhikari said that though the role was tough to cast, when he found Pashmina, he knew she was a perfect fit. Pashmina was my only choice to play Samiya, nobody else came close. In that list of shortlisted names, there was only one name when it came to Samiya," the filmmaker said. "I think Pashmina's character was the toughest to cast, she plays a different character. Once you see the film you will understand."

Kareena Kapoor, Saif Ali Khan Wish 'Lifetime Of Laughter And Joy' To Sonakshi Sinha-Zaheer Iqbal

Sonakshi Sinha and Zaheer Iqbal married in an intimate ceremony on June 23. The couple has been trending since they shared the first photos. Wishes have been pouring in from all corners. Alia Bhatt to Athiya Shetty, everyone has showered love on the newlywed. Kareena Kapoor Khan and Saif Ali Khan also extended their wishes and shared the couple's photo on social media. Taking to her Instagram stories, Kareena shared the photo and wrote, "Congratulations you two @aslisona @iazhaerhero. Wishing you both a lifetime of laughter and joy.-Saif and Kareena." Alia shared the photos on her Instagram story and wrote, "Congratulations! Sona and Zaheer! You two look so full of love and joy!! Big, big hug and welcome to the club." She also tagged Sonakshi and Zaheer in the photo. Sonakshi Sinha has made her first appearance post-wedding with Zaheer Iqbal, stunning in a beautiful traditional red silk saree. She accessorized with a striking beaded green and gold necklace, matching drop earrings, and red bangles. Her hair bun was adorned with a garland of jasmine tied around it. Sporting winged eyeliner and a blush pink lip colour, Sonakshi beamed with joy on her special day.



She also sported sindoor and held Zaheer close. The groom complemented her look in a white kurta and jacket. They happily posed as man and wife for the paps at the wedding reception.

Sharing photos from their low-key wedding ceremony, the newlyweds wrote on Instagram, "On this very day, seven years back (23.06.2017) in each others eyes, we saw love in its purest form and decided to hold on to it. Today that love has guided us through all the challenges and triumphs... leading up to this moment... where with the blessings of both our families and both our gods... we are now man and wife. Here's to love, hope and all things beautiful with each other, from now until forever. Sonakshi ?? Zaheer 23.06.2024." Sonakshi and Zaheer dated for seven years before taking their relationship to the next level. While they got hitched in an intimate ceremony, the couple hosted a grand reception for their friends from the film industry.

