



The Researchers'

News box

Justin Trudeau announces 'temporary' cut in intake of immigrants to Canada

World Canadian Prime Minister Justin Trudeau on Thursday announced that his government will "significantly reduce" the number of immigrants coming to the country for the next two years. Taking to X, Trudeau said that the decision was 'temporary' and to pause Canada's population growth.

"We're going to significantly reduce the number of immigrants coming to Canada for the next two years. This is temporary — to pause our population growth and let our economy catch up. We have to get the system working right for all Canadians," the Prime Minister said in a post. Canada will bring in 3,95,000 new permanent residents in 2025, 3,80,000 in 2026 and 3,65,000 in 2027, down from 4,85,000 in 2024, news agency Reuters quoted a source from the Trudeau government as saying. The number of temporary residents, meanwhile, will decrease by about 30,000 to around 300,000 in 2025, the source added. The recent announcement comes days after Trudeau limited the number of study permits for international students in Canada.

In a tweet, the Prime Minister had said his government would grant 35 per cent fewer international student permits this year, and the number would be reduced by an additional 10 per cent in 2025. Trudeau said that his government would allow 35 per cent fewer international student permits in 2024, and issued a stern warning to "bad actors" if they "abuse the immigration system and take advantage of students". Canada has long embraced immigration as a strategy to fuel economic growth, but in recent years, the Trudeau government has come under increasing pressure from Canadians as rising housing prices has raised concerns over the influx of foreigners into the country. In recent months, Justin Trudeau's Liberal Party has witnessed a significant decline in public opinion polls, as mounting pressure grows over the government's handling of immigration. The unchecked migration, many say, is placing increasing strain on Canada's housing market and social services.

Israeli spy agency chief in Doha on Sunday to revive stalled Gaza truce talks

World The chief of Israeli intelligence agency, Mossad, will travel to Doha in Qatar on Sunday to restart talks on a deal to release the Israeli hostages held in Gaza and to stop the Israel-Hamas war in Gaza. The attempt to restart the talks came days after Hamas chief Yahya Sinwar was killed in an Israeli airstrike. David Barnea is expected to meet with CIA chief Bill Burns and Qatari Prime Minister Sheikh Mohammed bin Abdulrahman Al Thani in Doha. US Secretary of State Antony Blinken is presently in the Qatari capital in a bid to restart the talks, news agency Reuters reported. Qatar and Egypt have mediated in the truce talks between Israel and Hamas that broke down without an agreement in August to end the fighting that began when Hamas launched attacks on southern Israel on October 7 last year. Blinken held talks with Qatar's Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Sheikh Mohammed bin Abdulrahman Al Thani and said he discussed options to take the process forward on achieving a truce. "I anticipate that our negotiators will be getting together in the coming days," he told reporters.

US elections: Obama, Springsteen boost Harris as she warns of 'brutally serious' consequences if Trump wins

CLARKSTON. Bruce Springsteen and Barack Obama lent their star power to Kamala Harris' quest for the presidency on Thursday, as the vice president implored Georgia voters to consider the "brutally serious" consequences if Donald Trump wins a second term in the White House. Harris asked voters to imagine who'll be sitting in the Oval Office just three months from now and think about the new president's priorities. "It's either Donald Trump in there stewing over his enemies list or me working for you, checking off my to-do list," she said. "You have the power to make that decision."

The presence of Springsteen, whose career spans five decades, and former President Obama, still one of the biggest names in Democratic politics, highlights how Harris is leaning on some of the most noteworthy names in the party to help her deliver her closing message and lambast her opponent. Obama, who got a rousing reception from the rally crowd at a packed high school football stadium outside Atlanta, told his audience, "I get why people are looking to shake things up, but what I cannot understand is why anybody would think that Donald Trump would shake things up in ways that are good for you." Harris echoed that message in her speech, warning that "the consequences of him being president again are brutally serious."

US Presidential Election: Harris and Trump in a Heated Final Stretch

Washington, DC: With less than three weeks until the U.S. Presidential election, the race between Vice President Kamala Harris and former President Donald Trump has tightened significantly, according to the media reports.

Polling data reveals that the candidates are nearly tied, with Harris slightly ahead in some polls while Trump holds a narrow lead in others, particularly in crucial swing states that are highly competitive.

A CNBC poll released Thursday shows Trump leading with 48% compared to Harris's 46% among registered voters, within a margin of error of 3.1%. Similarly, a Wall Street Journal survey published Wednesday indicates Trump is ahead 47% to 45%, a reversal from August when Harris enjoyed a two-point lead. In a HarrisX/Forbes poll also re-



leased Wednesday, Trump holds a two-point advantage among likely voters, with 51% to Harris's 49%. When excluding those leaning toward a candidate, Trump's lead narrows to just one point, at 49% to 48%. On the other hand, several polls show Harris gaining ground. A

Monmouth University poll conducted from October 17 to 21 shows her leading Trump 47% to 44% among likely voters, with 4% favoring other candidates and 5% undecided. Additionally, an Economist/YouGov poll reveals Harris with a 49% to 46% edge, despite a slight dip from

a previous four-point lead. Morning Consult's latest weekly poll places Harris ahead at 50% to 46%, consistent with the previous week but down from a six-point lead earlier in the campaign. A Reuters/Ipsos poll released the same day shows her leading by three points, 46% to 43%, which tightens to two points within the margin of error.

A USA Today/Suffolk University poll conducted from October 14 to 18 indicates Harris's lead has shrunk to just one point, 45% to 44%, as Trump has closed the gap since August when he trailed by five points. An Emerson College poll released Friday finds Harris ahead by a single point, 49% to 48%, down from her earlier two-point lead in September. Since announcing her candidacy on July 21, Harris has overtaken Trump's previous edge over Presi-

dent Joe Biden. However, her lead has slightly decreased from a peak of 3.7 points in late August, according to FiveThirtyEight's weighted polling average. The site's election forecast currently gives Trump a 51% chance of victory, compared to 49% for Harris.

Nate Silver's forecast offers Trump a slight advantage at 52.8% to 46.9%, noting that the race has consistently hovered around a near-even split. In terms of polling averages, Harris holds a narrow 0.2-point lead over Trump in RealClearPolitics' latest data, while FiveThirtyEight shows her ahead by 1.8 points, with Silver's own forecast placing her lead at 1.6 points.

As Election Day draws nearer, the contest between Harris and Trump is heating up, making the final weeks crucial for both candidates.

17 killed in Israeli strikes in Gaza as Antony Blinken looks to broker peace

UPDATED An Israeli strike on a school where displaced people were sheltering in the central Gaza Strip killed at least 17 people on Thursday, nearly all women and children, Palestinian medical officials said. The strike came as US Secretary of State Antony Blinken said Israel had accomplished its objective of "effectively dismantling" Hamas, and that negotiations over a cease-fire and the release of dozens of Israeli hostages would resume "in the coming days". Another 42 people were wounded in the strike in the built-up Nuseirat refugee camp, according to the Awda Hospital, which received the casualties. Among the dead were 13 children under the age of 18 and three women, according to the hospital's records. The Israeli military said it targeted Hamas militants inside the school, without providing evidence. Israel has carried out strikes on several schools-turned-shelters in recent months, saying it precisely targets militants hiding out among civilians. The strikes often kill women and children.

NEW TALKS IN QATAR PLANNED Blinken, speaking to reporters in Qatar, which has served as a key mediator between Israel and Hamas, said negotiators would return to Doha to renew the talks. "What we really have to



determine is whether Hamas is prepared to engage," Blinken said on his 11th visit to the region since the start of the war. Hamas's political representatives have not so far signalled a softer stance.

"There is no change in our position," senior Hamas official Osama Hamdan told Al Mayadeen, a Lebanese broadcaster seen as closely aligned with Iran and its allies. Hamdan said Hamas delegates heard from mediators in Cairo about the potential to revive cease-fire negotiations but reiterated that the group still insists on an end to Israel's offensive in Gaza, as well as its complete withdrawal from the territory. The Israeli prime minister's office said the head of the Mossad, the country's spy agency, would travel to Qatar on Sunday to meet with CIA director Bill Burns and the Qatari prime

minister. The US hoped to revive the negotiations after Israeli forces killed top Hamas leader Yahya Sinwar in Gaza last week, but neither side has shown signs of moderating its demands from months of negotiations that sputtered to a halt over the summer. Blinken also announced an additional \$135 million in US aid to the Palestinians, while again urging Israel to allow more assistance to enter the territory.

SUPPLIES RUN LOW IN NORTHERN GAZA

Health workers in besieged northern Gaza meanwhile warned of a catastrophic situation there, where Israel has been waging an air and ground offensive for over two weeks. Hundreds of people have been killed and tens of thousands have fled their homes in northern Gaza in recent days. The military says it is battling Hamas fighters who regrouped in the north, which was one of the first targets of the ground offensive at the start of the war. Dr Hossam Abu Safiyeh, the director of the Kamal Adwan Hospital in the north, said in a video message released Wednesday that some 150 wounded people were being treated there, including 14 children in intensive care or the neonatal department.

US elections: Trump claims China's Xi will bully Harris 'like a baby' as his allies try to infantilise her

WASHINGTON. Donald Trump said Thursday that China's leader would handle Vice President Kamala Harris "like a baby" if she's elected to the White House, as the former president and his top allies increasingly have moved to infantilise the Democratic nominee. "If somehow Kamala wins, she'd have to deal with Xi Jinping," conservative radio host Hugh Hewitt said of the Chinese president. "How would he handle her?" he asked. Trump replied, "Like a baby."

"He'd take all the candy away very quickly," Trump continued. "She wouldn't have any idea what happened. It would be like a grand chess master playing a beginner," he further claimed. Trump has built his political career around name-calling and

inventing jeers for his opponents, going back to his first run for president in 2016, when he slammed Republican primary rivals like "low energy" Jeb Bush, the former governor of Florida, and "little" Marco Rubio, the Florida senator. The former president also has a long history of belittling women. But Trump has unleashed a special array of personal—often condescending—attacks against Harris, from calling her "lazy"—a word long used to demean Black people in racist terms—to insisting she's a "stupid person" and asking whether she is "on drugs."

He's also called Harris, the first woman of colour to lead a major-party ticket, "slow" and has accused her of having a "low

IQ." The latest line of attack, combining sexism and deeply personal jeers with referring to Harris as a child, comes with Election Day now barely a week off. His campaign did not immediately respond to a request for comment about the remarks. The former president, who has escalated his already dark and inflammatory rhetoric in the race's final stretch, spoke at a rally later Thursday in Tempe, Arizona, where he criticised Harris' handling of immigration. He accused Harris of perpetrating "a wicked betrayal of America" and having "orchestrated the most egregious betrayal that any leader in American history has ever inflicted upon our people," even though crime is down.

King Charles says 'past can't be changed' as former colonies urge UK to confront its role in slavery

WELLINGTON. King Charles III told a summit of Commonwealth countries in Samoa on Friday that the past could not be changed as he indirectly acknowledged calls from some of Britain's former colonies for a reckoning over its role in the trans-Atlantic slave trade. The British royal understood "the most painful aspects of our past continue to resonate," he told leaders in Apia. But Charles stopped short of mentioning financial reparations that some leaders at the event have urged and instead exhorted them to find the "right language" and an understanding of history "to guide us towards making the right choices in the future where inequality exists." "None of us can change the past, but we can commit with all our hearts to learning its lessons and to finding creative ways to right the inequalities that endure," said Charles, who is attending his first Commonwealth Heads of Government Meeting, or CHOGM, as Britain's head of state. His remarks at the summit's official opening ceremony echoed comments a day earlier by British Prime Minister Keir Starmer that the meeting should avoid becoming mired in the past and "very, very long endless discussions about reparations." "The UK leader dismissed calls from Caribbean countries for leaders at the biennial event to explicitly discuss redress for Britain's role in the slave trade and mention the matter in its final joint statement. But Britain's handling of its involvement in the trans-Atlantic slave trade

is seen by many observers as a litmus test for the Commonwealth's adaptation to a modern-day world, as other European nations and some British institutions have started to own up to their role in the trade.

"I think the time has come for this to be taken seriously," said Jacqueline McKenzie, a partner at London law firm Leigh Day.

"Nobody expects people to pay every single penny for what happened. But I think there needs to be negotiations." Such a policy would be costly and divisive at home, McKenzie said. The UK has never formally apologised for its role in the trade, in which millions of African citizens were kidnapped and transported to plantations in the Caribbean and Americas over several centuries, enriching many individuals and companies. Studies estimate Britain would owe between hundreds of millions and trillions of dollars in compensation to descendants of slaves. The Bahamas Prime Minister Philip Davis on Thursday said he wanted a "frank" discussion with Starmer about the matter and would seek mention of the reparations issue in the leaders' final statement at the event. All three candidates to be the next Commonwealth Secretary-General—from Gambia, Ghana and Lesotho—have endorsed policies of reparatory justice for slavery. Starmer said Thursday in remarks to reporters that the matter would not be on the summit's agenda. But Commonwealth Secretary-General Patricia Scotland told The Associated Press

in an interview that leaders "will speak about absolutely anything they want to speak about" at an all-day private meeting



scheduled for Saturday. King Charles said in Friday's speech that nothing would right inequality "more decisively than to champion the principle that our Commonwealth is one of genuine opportunity for all." The monarch urged leaders to "choose within our Commonwealth family the language of community and respect, and reject the language of division." He has expressed "sorrow" over slavery at a CHOGM summit before in 2022 and last year endorsed a probe into the monarchy's ties to the industry. Charles—who is battling cancer—and his wife, Queen Camilla, will return to Britain tomorrow after visiting Samoa and

Australia—where his presence prompted a lawmaker's protest over his country's colonial legacy. He acknowledged Friday that the Commonwealth had mattered "a great deal" to his late mother, Queen Elizabeth II, who was seen as a unifying figure among the body's at times disparate and divergent states. The row over reparations threatened to overshadow a summit that Pacific leaders—and the Commonwealth secretariat—hoped would focus squarely on the ruinous effects of climate change. "We are well past believing it is a problem for the future since it is already undermining the development we have long fought for," the king said

Friday. "This year alone we have seen terrifying storms in the Caribbean, devastating flooding in East Africa and catastrophic wildfires in Canada. Lives, livelihood and human rights are at-risk across the Commonwealth." Charles offered "every encouragement for action with unequivocal determination to arrest rising temperatures" by cutting emissions, building resilience, and conserving and restoring nature on land and at sea, he said. Samoa is the first Pacific Island nation to host the event, and Prime Minister Fiame Naomi Mata'afa said in a speech Friday that it was "a great opportunity for all to experience our lived reality."

US against long Israeli campaign in Lebanon as Gaza peace talks resume

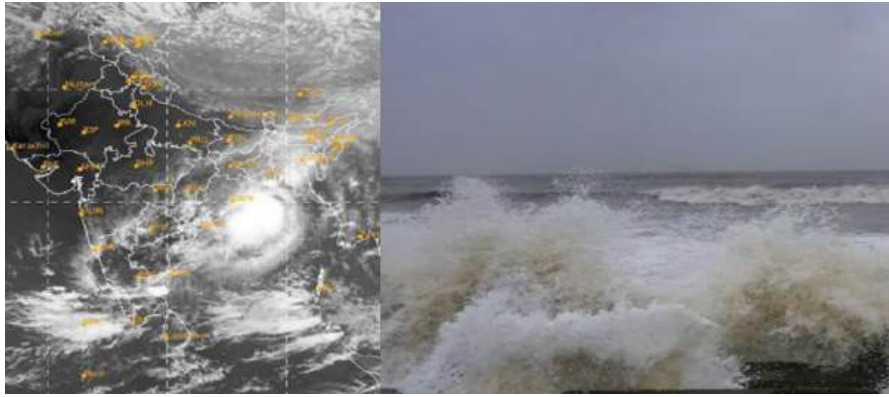
UPDATED. The US does not want a protracted Israeli campaign in Lebanon, Secretary of State Antony Blinken said on Thursday, as efforts got underway to hold fresh talks over a ceasefire and hostage deal in Gaza. A month into Israel's military onslaught against the Iranian-backed Lebanese group Hezbollah, Blinken said he hoped Iran was getting a clear message that any further attacks on Israel risked its own interests, with the region awaiting the retaliation Israel has vowed for an Iranian missile barrage on October 1. Israel's military chief said an end to the conflict with Hezbollah looked possible but gave few details. US and Israeli negotiators will gather in Doha to prepare the way for renewed talks on a Gaza ceasefire deal which would also entail the release of hostages in the Palestinian enclave, Qatar and Washington said.

Israel said its Mossad intelligence agency head David Barnea will travel to Doha on Sunday to try to restart the talks, and meet with CIA director William Burns and Qatar's prime minister.

"The parties will discuss the various options for starting negotiations for the release of the hostages from Hamas captivity, against the backdrop of the latest developments," Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu's office said. An Egyptian security delegation met with a delegation of Hamas leaders in Cairo as part of efforts to resume the Gaza ceasefire negotiations, Egypt's state-affiliated Al Qahera News TV said on Thursday. Hamas senior official Osama Hamdan told Lebanese pro-Iranian TV channel Al Mayadeen that there was no change in the group's position. "The hostages held by the resistance will only return by stopping the aggression and completely withdrawing," Hamdan said. Previous attempts to reach a Gaza ceasefire and hostage release deal have failed. Blinken, who held talks with Qatar's prime minister, has been on his first trip to the region since Israel killed Hamas leader Yahya Sinwar, a mastermind of the group's October 7, 2023 attack on Israel that triggered conflict across the Middle East. Washington, Israel's close ally, has expressed hope his death can provide an impetus for an end to the fighting. Israel unleashed its Lebanon offensive with the declared aim of securing the return home of tens of thousands of people evacuated from homes in northern Israel during a year of cross-border hostilities with Hezbollah. Israel has used airstrikes to pound southern Lebanon, Beirut's southern suburbs and the Bekaa Valley, and sent ground forces into areas near the border. Lebanese authorities say the campaign has killed more than 2,500 people and displaced more than 1 million people, spawning a humanitarian crisis. "As Israel conducts operations to remove the threat to Israel and its people along the border with Lebanon, we have been very clear that this cannot lead."

Cyclone Dana Completes Landfall with Zero Casualties in Odisha; Now Weakens in Jharkhand

Ranchi: Cyclonic storm 'Dana' weakened significantly after noon on October 25, 2024, in Jharkhand, bringing heavy rainfall to various regions, including Chaibasa. According to Abhishek Anand, head of the Ranchi Meteorological Center, residents can expect substantial relief starting Saturday.



The cyclone made landfall late Thursday night, hitting between Bhitarkanika and Dhamra with winds reaching up to 110 km/h. The storm began its landfall process around 12:10 AM and has since shown signs of weakening, as reported by the Meteorological Department.

Despite the severe weather, Odisha Chief Minister Mohan Majhi confirmed that there have been no reported casualties in the state. In a statement on the social media platform X, he mentioned, "I reviewed the post-storm situation at the Special Relief Commissioner's

office. The impact of the storm is gradually diminishing, and we are actively assessing and normalizing the situation." Majhi reiterated the government's focus on achieving "Zero Casualty" and directed officials to expedite relief efforts, with National Disaster Response Force (NDRF) teams deployed to clear uprooted trees in Dhamra. Heavy to very heavy rainfall is anticipated in several districts over the next 24 hours,

including Jagatsinghpur, Kendrapada, Cuttack, Bhadrak, Jajpur, Balasore, and Mayurbhanj. Flight operations at Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose International Airport in Kolkata and Biju Patnaik International Airport in Bhubaneswar have resumed after temporary closures due to the cyclone. Kolkata airport reopened at 8:00 AM following significant disruptions caused by the storm. In West Bengal, Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee remained vigilant throughout the night, closely monitoring conditions from her office in Nabanna. Reports indicate that heavy rainfall has caused waterlogging in parts of South 24 Parganas, complicating recovery efforts. Authorities are actively engaged in restoration and relief operations as communities begin to assess and recover from the impact of Cyclone Dana.

Bilateral Trade Reaches \$33 Billion in 2023; German Investments in India Near \$15 Billion

New Delhi: Relations between India and Germany have seen significant growth in recent years, with bilateral trade reaching \$33 billion in 2023 and cumulative German investments in India nearing \$15 billion. Foreign Secretary Vikram Misri highlighted these developments during a media briefing in New Delhi this afternoon, discussing the recent visit of the German Chancellor. Misri noted that the high point of the visit was the inter-governmental consultations co-chaired by both leaders. He emphasized that the bilateral relationship was reviewed across several key areas, including foreign policy, security, economy and commerce, green sustainable development, critical and emerging technolo-

gies, as well as mobility and migration. The Foreign Secretary pointed out that there is a strong desire across party lines in Germany to further enhance relations with India. He also acknowledged Germany's support in the ongoing negotiations for the India-EU Free Trade Agreement (FTA), stressing that an expedited conclusion of the FTA is seen as a strategic imperative given the current global environment. Additionally, Misri mentioned that approximately 50,000 Indian students represent the largest cohort of foreign students in Germany, underscoring the cultural and educational ties that further strengthen the relationship between the two nations.

Kashmir will never become a part of Pakistan: Farooq Abdullah



Srinagar: Former Chief Minister of Jammu and Kashmir, Farooq Abdullah, has strongly criticized Pakistan following a recent surge of terrorist attacks in the region. Abdullah, who leads the ruling National Conference (NC), asserted that Kashmir will never become part of Pakistan. Addressing the ongoing violence, Abdullah remarked, "These attacks will persist until a viable solution is found. I have witnessed this situation for the last 30 years, and innocent lives continue to be lost. Kashmir will never be a part of Pakistan." He emphasized that terrorism is a persistent issue and pointed out that those responsible for the attacks are misguided in their belief that such violence will unify Kashmir with Pakistan. "Kashmir decided to remain with India in 1947. All that Pakistan is achieving is its own destruction, which also impacts us," he stated. Drawing parallels with global conflicts, Abdullah warned Pakistan to be prepared for potential consequences. "If these attacks continue, there will come a day when conflict will escalate, leaving nothing behind. If Pakistan desires that, they must be ready for it. They should observe the devastation in Ukraine, Iran, and Palestine. Do they really want to suffer further and become even poorer? They need to halt these attacks," he cautioned.

Abdullah's comments come in the wake of two deadly attacks in the region, including an incident that resulted in the deaths of 20 individuals when terrorists targeted army trucks near the popular tourist spot of Gulmarg. Three soldiers were also among those killed in this incident. His remarks were made shortly after his son, Omar Abdullah, took office as Chief Minister of Jammu and Kashmir, following elections held five years after the special status was revoked by the Modi government.

CCL Hosts Student Competitions as Part of Vigilance Awareness Campaign



Ranchi: In an initiative to promote integrity and awareness, Central Coalfields Limited (CCL) organized a series of competitions for students today, October 24, 2024, at GMS, Kanke, and Adivasi Bal Vikas High School. The events included slogan writing, essay contests, painting, and quizzes. A total of 117 students participated in the day's activities, showcasing their creativity and knowledge. Officials from the Vigilance Department took the opportunity to educate students about the significance of Vigilance Awareness Week, encouraging them to adopt honesty and integrity in their daily lives.

This series of competitions is part of a broader effort by the Vigilance Department, CCL, which runs various activities in schools across Ranchi from October 17 to October 26. The campaign aims to instill values of vigilance and accountability among the youth.

Gua mines observes 'Mine Environment & Mineral Conservation Week'



Gua: The 31st Mine Environment and Mineral Conservation Week was celebrated at the Guwa Iron Ore Mine of SAIL, Bokaro Steel Plant, on Friday. The event featured the A-1 Group Inspection Team, led by Convener Jitendra Kumar, Senior Manager (Mining) at Pakhar Bauxite Mine, along with members PB Mishra from Tata Steel, Sanjay Sharma and Vangalapati Kumar from HINDALCO, and Abhishek Kumar from Hindustan Copper Ltd. The Indian Bureau of Mines (IBM), under the Ministry of Mines, Government of India, serves as the regulatory agency for mineral and mine environment protection. Its mission is to promote systematic and scientific development of the country's mineral resources—both onshore and offshore—through regulatory inspections, mining plan approvals, and environmental management strategies to minimize adverse environmental impacts.

Coal India Medical Conference 2024 Begins in Ranchi, Highlighting Future Health Priorities

Ranchi: Coal India Medical Conference 2024, organized by Central Coalfields Limited (CCL), officially commenced today at the Darbhanga House Convention Center. Running from October 25 to October 27, the three-day event focuses on the theme "Health Priorities - Present and Future." It features over 15 esteemed speakers from both India and abroad and is anticipated to attract around 250 medical professionals from Coal India Limited and its subsidiaries.



The inauguration began with a traditional lamp-lighting ceremony led by CCL's Chairman and Managing Director, Nilendu Kumar Singh, along with key dignitaries including Director (Finance) Pawan Kumar Mishra, Director Technical (Operations) Harish Duhan, Director Technical (Planning/Projects) Satish Jha, Chief Vigilance Of-

ficer Pankaj Kumar, and Dr. Rakesh Gupta, Chairman of Sarvodaya Group of Hospitals. In his opening remarks, Singh highlighted the crucial role of doctors in society and the importance of conferences like this for knowledge sharing and professional development. He encouraged attendees to learn from each other's experiences and to stay abreast

Not even Rahul Gandhi can defeat me...!

by Ashis Sinha

Bokaro, Jharkhand: In a bold statement following his nomination filing, Biranchi Narayan, the BJP MLA and NDA candidate for the Bokaro assembly constituency, asserted that even Congress leader Rahul Gandhi would struggle to defeat him in the upcoming elections. "If Rahul Gandhi contests against me, he won't just lose the election; he may also lose his security deposit," Narayan declared.

Speaking to reporters, Narayan emphasized his commitment to the constituency, claiming to have delivered on promises related to a medical college, hospital, engineering college, electricity, and road development. "The public stands with me for development," he said, highlighting the support he has garnered from party work-



ers and constituents. Narayan, who is seeking re-election for a third consecutive term, criticized the Congress party for its indecisiveness, noting that they have yet to finalize their candidates in an attempt to strategize against the BJP. In the 2019 Jharkhand Assembly Elections, Narayan secured

victory with a narrow margin of 13,313 votes, obtaining 1,12,333 votes and a vote share of 41.42%. He defeated Congress candidate Shweta Singh, who received 99,020 votes, while AJSUP candidate Rajendra Mahato trailed in third place with 14,517 votes. Previously, in the 2014 elec-

tions, Narayan won with a substantial margin, receiving 1,14,321 votes and a vote share of 43.38%, defeating independent candidate Samaresh Singh by 72,643 votes. As the election campaign heats up, all eyes will be on Narayan and his efforts to maintain his seat in the assembly.

IIT-ISM Dhanbad Concludes Five-Day Nurturing Future Leadership Program

Dhanbad: The five-day Nurturing Future Leadership Program, part of the Malviya Mission Teacher Training Program, concluded today at IIT-ISM Dhanbad with a valedictory ceremony highlighting the importance of leadership skills. The program, which began on October 21, brought together faculty members from various institutions across the country.

Professor Dheeraj Kumar, Deputy Director of IIT-ISM, served as the chief guest at the event. In his address, he emphasized the critical role that leadership skills play in effective teaching and problem-solving. Professor Mrinalini Pandey, Coordinator of the Nurturing Future Leadership Program, noted that the initiative suc-



cessfully fostered essential leadership qualities among participants from esteemed institutions, including IEST Shibpur, Central University of Kashmir, Jamia University, NIAMT Ranchi, EFLU Hyderabad, BHU Varanasi, Central Sanskrit University, and BIT Mesra.

Professor Pandey acknowledged the vital support from the Ministry of Education through the MMTP, which was instrumental in the program's success. She also expressed gratitude to the esteemed resource persons whose insightful sessions greatly impacted the participants' perspectives.

As the program wrapped up, participants were encouraged to apply the lessons learned and the connections made to inspire and innovate in their respective fields. Professor Pandey concluded by urging attendees to carry forward the knowledge gained during this transformative experience.

Mesmerizing Musical Evening Sets the Stage for Khanan-2024 at IIT (ISM)



Dhanbad: A captivating musical evening dedicated to Indian classical music took place this evening at the Penman Auditorium of IIT-ISM in anticipation of Khanan-2024, the annual techno-mining fest organized by the Department of Mining Engineering in collaboration with the SME IIT-ISM Student Chapter.

The event featured performances by The Novel Art Documentation & Development Foundation (the Naad Foundation), a group dedicated to promoting peace and cultural unity through classical music.

The evening began with a mesmerizing performance by Dr. Bipul Kumar Ray, a renowned Santoor exponent, who was accompanied by Pandit Ujawal Roy on tabla. Dr. Bipul, a disciple of the esteemed Santoor Maestro Padmashri Pandit Bhajan Sopori, showcased his exceptional talent, enchanting the audience with his skillful play.

Following this, Dr. Avinash Kumar, one of India's finest Hindustani classical vocalists, took the stage. He was accompanied by Pandit Durjoy Bhomik on tabla and Shree Suraj Sharma on harmonium, delivering a powerful performance that left the audience in awe.

Khanan-2024 will officially inaugurate tomorrow at the same venue, featuring a variety of events, workshops, and activities designed to provide students with opportunities to enhance their knowledge, skills, and networking in the fields of mining, geology, and related disciplines.

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Training Session Held for Polling Officers Ahead of Bihar Assembly By-Elections

by Suresh Pd Nikhar

Gaya: As Bihar prepares for the upcoming assembly by-elections on November 13, 2024, the District Election Officer and District Magistrate, Dr. Tyagarajan SM, along with Senior Superintendent of Police, Ashish Bharti, conducted a training session today at Haridas Seminary for sector officers, police officers, master trainers, and technical personnel involved in the polling process.

Dr. Tyagarajan emphasized the importance of understanding the roles and responsibilities at polling stations and the proper handling of Electronic Voting Machines (EVMs). "It is crucial that everyone knows their duties clearly to avoid any issues on voting day," he stated. He encouraged officers to seek additional training if needed, reinforcing the importance of being well-prepared. Key directives included ensuring that presiding officers transport EVMs directly to polling centers without detours and that they bring the



machines back to the strong room after voting concludes. He announced that party matching will take place on November 11 at Gaya College.

The training also provided hands-on experience with EVMs, ensuring that each sector officer has a backup machine ready in case of malfunctions at polling booths. Each sector officer has been assigned a master trainer to address any technical issues that may arise.

Dr. Tyagarajan instructed the

officers to familiarize themselves with the EVM sealing process and the necessary forms to avoid complications on polling day. He stressed the importance of maintaining communication with senior officers and mandated that polling reports be collected from each booth every two hours, particularly during the last two hours of voting.

Furthermore, he directed sector officers to provide daily reports on law and order in their areas and to monitor

polling stations closely, especially those identified as vulnerable. Officers were tasked with identifying individuals who might disrupt the voting process and taking appropriate action.

In closing, the District Officer appealed to voters in the Imanganj and Belanganj constituencies to participate actively in the elections, assuring them of the administration's efforts to ensure a peaceful and fear-free voting environment.

Right time to join India's growth story: PM at key meet with German Chancellor

New Delhi: Prime Minister Narendra Modi, addressing the 18th Asia-Pacific Conference of German Business 2024 in Delhi on Friday, called it the "perfect time" for global businesses to participate in India's growth journey. The conference was inaugurated by PM Modi alongside German Chancellor Olaf Scholz. "This is the right time to be a part of India's growth story. When India's dynamism meets Germany's precision, when Germany's engineering pairs with India's innovation, and when Germany's technology combines with India's talent, it creates a brighter future for the world, especially the Indo-Pacific region," PM Modi said addressing the business leaders at the event. PM Modi encouraged attendees not only to explore business opportunities but also to experience India's rich culture, cuisine, and shopping. "If you don't take time to explore India beyond business, you'll miss out on many incredible things. I promise, you'll leave happy, and your family will be even happier when you return," he added. PM Modi also praised India-Germany relations and called German Chancellor Olaf Scholz his friend. "Today's day is very special. My friend Olaf Scholz has come to India for the fourth time. It shows his focus on India-Germany relations. After 12 years, India is hosting the Asia Pacific Conference of German Business. On one side, the CEO forums meeting is



going on, on the other side our Naval forces are doing exercise... At every level, India-Germany relations are strengthening. This is the 25th year of the India-Germany strategic partnership, the coming 25 years will give newer heights to this relationship," he said. The conference arrives at a pivotal time for Germany and India. Last week, Germany introduced its "Focus on India" policy, signaling a commitment to deepen strategic ties with India. Referencing this, PM Modi noted, "We have mapped a 'Viksit Bharat' roadmap for the next 25 years. I'm pleased that during this crucial period, Germany has launched its 'Focus on India' initiative. Germany has also decided to increase the annual visa cap for skilled Indian workers from 20,000 to 90,000, which will further

PM Modi encouraged attendees at the event not only to explore business opportunities but also to experience India's rich culture, cuisine, and shopping.

accelerate Germany's growth." Chancellor Olaf Scholz also spoke at the event, stressing the importance of global cooperation in an increasingly multipolar world that lacks a "global policeman" to maintain common rules. Highlighting tensions in the Middle East, Korean Peninsula, and the South and East China Seas, he urged global leaders to seek political solutions rooted in international law and the UN Charter principles.

Court rebukes Telangana minister Konda Surekha over defamatory comments on KTR

Hyderabad: The Hyderabad City Civil Court issued a strict directive on Friday, October 25, prohibiting Telangana Minister Konda Surekha from making further defamatory statements against Bharat Rashtra Samithi (BRS) Working President KT Rama Rao (KTR) in a 100-crore defamation case. KTR filed the

YouTube, Facebook, and Google to delete videos featuring Surekha's comments.

Media outlets that aired or published the statements were also directed to scrub all related content from their platforms. Expressing concern over the potential societal impact of such comments, the court underscored that all associated articles and videos should be removed from the public domain to prevent any harm. This case represents the first instance of such a strict stance on defamation involving a minister, marking a new precedent in judicial responses to statements by high-ranking officials.

This latest order follows prior criticisms of Surekha by the Election Commission for



lawsuit after claiming that Minister Surekha made derogatory remarks damaging his reputation.

The court strongly condemned Surekha's comments, describing them as "highly objectionable" and unexpected from a responsible government official. Orders were issued for the immediate removal of these remarks across all media, social media platforms, and digital channels, including specific instructions to

similar remarks. KTR has maintained a zero-tolerance stance toward defamatory allegations and previously warned that legal action would be taken against attempts to tarnish his reputation. The case is based on comments made by Minister Konda Surekha on Naga Chaitanya, Samantha, and K.T. Rama Rao earlier this month which sparked controversy in political and film circles.

Have stopped going on morning walk due to pollution in Delhi, says Chief Justice

Chief Justice DY Chandrachud said he used to go for a walk around 4 in the morning. He added that his doctor advised him to stay indoors as much as possible to avoid respiratory issues.

New Delhi: Chief Justice of India DY Chandrachud announced on October 24 that he had stopped his morning walks due to rising air pollution levels in Delhi due to the deteriorating air quality in the national capital. Speaking informally to journalists at the Supreme Court, he mentioned that his doctor advised him to stay indoors to avoid respiratory issues. "I have stopped going out for a morning walk from today. I usually walk around 4-4:15 am," said Chief Justice Chandrachud, highlighting the alarming spike in air pollution. Delhi's air quality has been deteriorating for the past few days. The air quality has consistently been in the 'very poor' category, with some areas in the 'severe' category. Stubble burning in neighbouring Haryana and Punjab is also



often blamed for the rise in pollution levels in Delhi, especially during the post-harvest season of October and November. Due to an increase in pollution, the Commission for Air Quality Management (CAQM) has invoked stage two of the anti-pollution plan GRAP. Under stage two of the GRAP or the Graded Response Action

Plan, there will be restrictions on the use of coal and firewood as well as diesel generator sets in the Delhi-NCR. Mechanical sweeping and water sprinkling on identified roads will also be carried out on a daily basis, and dust control measures will be enforced at construction and demolition sites. As he prepares to demit office on November 10, Chief Justice Chandrachud also made important announcements regarding media accreditation for journalists covering Supreme Court proceedings. He revealed that the mandatory requirement of holding a law degree for accreditation had been removed. Additionally, accredited journalists will now have access to parking within the Supreme Court premises.

J&K: LG Sinha Chairs Key Meet To Assess Security Situation In Wake Of Terror Attacks On Labourers

The meeting was held with an aim to devise a comprehensive strategy to prevent future attacks and ensure robust security at vital infrastructure sites across J&K.

New Delhi: Following the recent terrorist attack on labourers in Gagangeer in Jammu and Kashmir's Ganderbal, a crucial Unified Headquarters (UHQ) meeting convened at the Rajbhawan in Srinagar. The meeting was chaired by Jammu and Kashmir's Lieutenant Governor, Manoj Sinha. It aimed to devise a comprehensive strategy to prevent future attacks and ensure robust security at vital infrastructure sites across the Union Territory.

Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha asked the security grid to prepare a comprehensive strategy to eliminate the terrorists and their logistics network in Jammu and Kashmir to fulfill the government's commitment of ensuring a peaceful atmosphere in the Union territory.

Sinha told the top security brass to carry out a security audit of all vital projects in Jammu and Kashmir and plug the loopholes, if any. The Northern Army Commander, J&K Director General of Police, Corps Commanders, and representatives from various intelligence agencies and various other security and intelligence officers attended the meeting. The LG directed the security forces to take strong steps to get the terrorists involved in the Gagangeer attack and other attacks and brought them to justice at the earliest. He directed agencies to take proactive action to dismantle the network of overground workers, which enables the ultras to carry out such dastardly acts.

According to sources, J&K LG Sinha is particularly focused on enhancing security protocols at all critical installations and infrastructure projects, including ongoing railway developments. He has previously chaired two back-to-back security reviews, first at Gagangeer and then in Srinagar, calling for improved coordination among security agencies. Authorities are now conducting an extensive manhunt for the assailants involved in these attacks. Around fifty suspects have been interrogated recently, although no formal arrests have been made as investigations continue. As discussions unfold at the UHQ meeting, the focus remains on restoring peace and security in the Valley while safeguarding the rights and safety of non-local workers who contribute significantly to local development.



Baba Siddique's son joins Ajit Pawar's NCP, to contest from Bandra East

New Delhi: Zeeshan Siddique, son of former Maharashtra minister Baba Siddique, joined the NCP faction led by Maharashtra Deputy Chief Minister Ajit Pawar on Friday. He was expelled from the Congress in August for allegedly cross-voting in the Maharashtra legislative council elections, a charge he had earlier refuted.

Calling it an emotional moment, Zeeshan said that he will contest the Maharashtra Assembly elections from the Bandra East constituency, a seat he won in 2019 on a Congress ticket. This is an emotional day for me and my family. I am thankful to Ajit Pawar, Praful Patel, Sunil Tatkare for believing in me in these tough times. I have got the nomination from Bandra East, I am sure that with the love and support of all the people, I will definitely win Bandra East yet again," he said. NCP leader Baba Siddique was shot dead on October 12 outside Zeeshan's office. He was shot while bursting firecrackers on the occasion of Diwali. A member of the Bishnoi gang claimed responsibility for killing Baba Siddique, saying he was targeted due to his close association

with Salman Khan. The Bandra East seat has gone



to Congress ally Shiv Sena (UBT) as part of seat-sharing within the Maha Vikas Aghadi. The party has named Varun Sardesai, the nephew of Uddhav Thackeray, as its candidate for the seat.

Zeeshan said he wasn't valued by the Congress despite spending several years with the party. He accused Congress of coming under pressure from the Shiv Sena (UBT). "Several people spoke a lot

of things politically, they raised political issues. I lost my father and several people wrongfully used it politically... I would not like to say anything about Congress because they always come under the pressure of the Shiv Sena (UBT). I have spent years in Congress. I am disappointed that Congress didn't always value me," he said. Zeeshan asserted he would emerge victorious in the Maharashtra polls, saying it was his father's dream to see him defend the seat he won in 2019. Notably, Baba Siddique was the Congress MLA from the formerly undivided Bandra seat for two terms. He had quit Congress earlier this year and joined NCP. "It was an unfinished dream of my father that we win this seat again and fight for the rights of people. He was murdered while fighting for this. His blood runs in my veins. I will fight his fight and win by a record margin," Zeeshan Siddique said. He claimed that members of MVA were in touch with him and expressed interest in fielding him from the Bandra East constituency again. "It is in their nature to deceive," Zeeshan Siddique said.

Jharkhand Assembly Polls: JMM Releases 4th List Of Candidates

Jharkhand Assembly Elections: With this, the JMM has now announced candidates for 42 out of the 81 seats, having released three lists earlier for 41 seats.

New Delhi: Ranchi: The Jharkhand Mukti Morcha (JMM) on Thursday released its fourth list of candidates for the upcoming Jharkhand assembly elections, announcing Ganesh Mahli as its nominee for Seraikela seat. Mahli defected from the BJP and joined the JMM on October 22. Additionally, the party replaced its candidate for Khunti, selecting Ramsurya Munda instead of the previously announced Snehlata Kandulana. With this, the JMM has now announced candidates for 42 out of the 81 seats, having released three lists earlier for 41 seats.

Out of the 43 seats the JMM had contested in the 2019 elections, it won 30 and came second in five constituencies. Elections to the 81-member house will take place in two phases on November 13 and 20. Counting is scheduled on November 23. INDIA bloc partners will contest the upcoming assembly polls together, with the Congress and JMM competing for 70 of the 81



seats, while the remaining 11 will be contested by the RJD and Left parties. The RJD had announced candidates for six seats on Tuesday. In the opposition, the BJP will contest 68 seats, the AJSU Party will field candidates in 10 constituencies, the JD(U) in 2, and the LJP (Ram Vilas) in 1. In 2019, the JMM-led alliance won 47 seats, wresting power from the BJP. The BJP had secured 25 seats, JVM-P three, AJSU Party two, and the CPI (ML) and NCP one each,

besides two Independents emerging victorious.

Filing of nomination papers for 43 assembly constituencies, which are going to polls on November 13 in the first phase, began on Friday and will continue till October 25.

Altogether 2.60 crore electors, including 11.84 lakh first-time voters and 1.13 lakh persons with disabilities (PwD), third gender and senior citizens over 85 years of age, are eligible to exercise their franchise in the upcoming elections. PTI NAM VN The JMM on Thursday released its fourth list for the upcoming Jharkhand assembly polls, fielding from Seraikela seat Ganesh

Mahli, who recently joined the party defecting from the BJP. Mr Mahli along with other BJP leaders had joined JMM on October 22. The party also changed its candidate from Khunti and fielded Ramsurya Munda instead of earlier announced Snehlata Kandulana. JMM had earlier released three lists announcing candidature on 41 out of 81 seats. With one more candidate, it has so far announced candidature

on 42 seats. In 2019, it had contested 43 seats and won 30, ending as runner-up in five constituencies.

The assembly elections are set to take place in two phases on November 13 and 20, with results slated to be announced on November 23. The INDIA bloc partners will contest the upcoming assembly polls together, with the Congress and JMM competing for 70 of the 81 seats, while the remaining 11 will be contested by the RJD and Left parties. The RJD had announced candidates for six seats on Tuesday. In the opposition, the BJP will contest 68 seats, the AJSU Party will field candidates in 10 segments, the JD(U) in 2, and the LJP (Ram Vilas) in 1.

In 2019, the JMM-led alliance won 47 seats, wresting power from the BJP. The BJP had secured 25 seats, JVM-P three, AJSU Party two, and the CPI (ML) and NCP one each, besides two Independents emerging victorious. Filing of nomination papers for 43 assembly constituencies, which are going to polls on November 13 in the first phase, began on Friday and will continue till October 25.

Navigating the India-China trade dilemma

INDIA'S expanding trade ties with China have been an area of concern for the past few years, given the chilly political relations between the two countries. In 2020, following the border clash at Galwan, there were even calls to boycott goods and cut back investment from our northern neighbour. The fervour lasted for a while, but then market forces prevailed and consumers sought to purchase the cheapest products, which ended up being Chinese in many cases. The brouhaha at the time did force several high-profile unicorns like Paytm to scale down investments from their China-based venture capitalists. It was the issuance of Press Note 3, however, that gave a clear signal to corporates that funding from that source would be frowned upon. To recap, Press Note 3 specifies that investments from countries sharing a border with India will need government approval. The provision is largely aimed at China as prospective investors cannot then use the automatic approval route which is allowed in a wide swathe of sectors. While this put the brakes on investment flows, it had no impact on bilateral trade, which has reached \$118.4 billion, with imports far exceeding exports. The result is a trade deficit of \$85.07 billion in 2023-24. It looks set to be even higher in 2024-25 as the deficit in the first five months has already crossed \$40 billion.

In this backdrop, the searching questions raised by Indian diplomats during China's trade policy review at the World Trade Organisation make sense. The queries are reported to have been on the non-transparent nature of China's subsidy policy and cross-border data regulations and laws. The review took place in July, but more details have now emerged, indicating that policymakers are trying to use the multilateral agency to resolve the mounting concerns on trade issues. Such an initiative is needed to deal with the dumping of highly subsidised and inferior quality goods in the domestic market. It has gone on for far too long and already taken a heavy toll on the indigenous industry, especially small and medium enterprises. The well-known fact that enormous state subsidies support China's industries underpins the queries over the non-transparency. It is such support which enables products to be exported at rock-bottom rates to world markets. The concern voiced by India echoes that of the European Union and the US, which have already flagged the impact of subsidies and are now seeking to levy punitive tariffs on Chinese goods. The area of focus for them has been electric vehicles, while this country is looking at other areas, like electronics. The non-tariff barriers (NTBs) that are preventing Indian goods from accessing the Chinese market are also said to have been highlighted as well as the need for data on the scientific rationale for many of them. Concerns have been evinced, especially in the case of shrimp and bovine exports, for which regulatory norms have been made stringent. Pharma exports have similarly faced NTBs, which have restricted market access and ensured that the trade deficit would continue to widen.

India has taken the opportunity of the review to question the China-led plurilateral Investment Facilitation Development (IFD) agreement at the WTO. This envisages a pre-investment review by an independent body that would screen all investments. Clearly, this expands the role of the multilateral body far beyond just trade and would impinge on the freedom of emerging economies like India to filter investments. For instance, it could raise questions over the existence of Press Note 3 on the grounds of discriminating against neighbouring countries. For the time being, the IFD remains a plurilateral agreement, which means it applies to only a subset of the countries on a voluntary basis. But efforts are being made to put it on the wider multilateral platform.

The issues of market access and dumping of cheap goods are, however, not the only problems facing India-China trade. Another is the continuing reliance on that country for components needed to make a wide variety of electronic products, including televisions, laptops and mobile phones. Over half of such imports have been coming from China and Hong Kong for the past five years.

Create a business-friendly ecosystem for youth

The creation of an ecosystem that does not depend on whom you know but on pure effort and publicly available information is needed.

VICE-PRESIDENT Jagdeep Dhankhar recently expressed concern at the large number of students going abroad from India. He mentioned the consequential drain of wealth amounted to about \$6 billion. This is nearly nine times the current Union budget for higher education. But — and this is important for us to notice — only a small fraction of students from India ever go abroad to study. The majority stay back in India, look for a job or set up a business. Unemployment is not an option.

Yet, there are far too few businesses in India, which continues to have a very narrow manufacturing base. Despite having nearly 13 million graduates, there are a mere 0.25 million formal manufacturing units (Annual Survey of Industries, 2021-22) and 36,359 registered members of key export organisations (Federation of Indian Export Organisations).

Most youngsters desperately look for a job. However, as there are very few jobs available, a large number of youth opt to set up their own business, usually a small one. As per the official data, at least 53 per cent Indian youth are self-employed and like to work in their own locality, preferring to remain within the family-fold. Most of them would rather take an income cut and work from their hometown than look for better opportunities elsewhere. Given their propensity to work locally, to be self-employed and productive, without breaking the law, the question is: can the government do something to improve the productivity of these young people and improve their quality of life? Some three decades ago, when the People's Republic of China faced a similar problem, the government took aggressive steps towards creating what might be called 'new public commons'. Across nearly 3,000 municipalities, it set up systems that provided cheap housing, quality food, reliable and affordable local transportation, improved law and order. Above all, the government ensured that laws pertaining to work and industry were framed in a simple language and implemented strictly. Many municipalities competed with one another to be better providers of common services and, thus, attract entrepreneurs. Over the years, only about 300 municipalities changed significantly, but that was enough to create the prosperity that China enjoys today. So how can one set up an enabling

ecosystem in India that does not depend on whom you know but purely on effort and publicly available information? Few people realise it, but knowledge underpins all actions that go into setting up a business and making it a success. To decide on the kind of products to make, it requires people to research all types of reports and data. Even after setting up a business, its smooth running requires systematic structures to process information about sales, markets, consumers, taxes, regulatory requirements etc.



Knowledge is also needed about the mechanics of actually setting up a business. What kind of permissions are needed; what forms are to be filled; how much margin money is needed for a business loan; what are the factors a banker might consider before extending a loan and so on and so forth.

Knowledge is as good as cash for any business. It would be helpful for everyone if the government could create unstructured spaces for businesses to interact with all kinds of people, especially the young, where relevant information can be exchanged. In olden days, such exchange of information and learning took place in clubs and inns and apprenticeships, often facilitated by universities and colleges. In India, in the absence of any structured learning, most of the time such practical knowledge comes to a young aspirant through family connections. It is not available easily enough otherwise. Hence, most youth prefer to start

local businesses to utilise existing business networks and connections.

To make matters worse, 72 per cent of the youth in India does not proceed for a college education. Under the circumstances, it is all the more important to create social mechanisms for functional knowledge exchange. They include platforms that connect youth to mentors; knowledge parks that provide unstructured spaces for youth, teachers and businesses to interact; formal industry internships. Other 'new-age commons' — because these are

common facilities open to all for free — could also include, inter alia, an enabling ecosystem that ideally provides safe public spaces with affordable means of connectivity. Free wi-fi and public transport would help enable people connect with one another. In the vast urban agglomerations of today, travelling to meet a person for business costs both time and money. Safe transport would mean a lot, especially for female entrepreneurs. If the low cost of data led to a transformation in communications in India, safe and cheap public transport would improve access exponentially. One part of an enabling ecosystem that matters almost as much as knowledge is zero tolerance of corruption. The main factor keeping our brightest people away from business is the distaste for having to bribe

all sorts of officials all the time.

So strongly is business associated with graft in India that an entirely new term has become popular to distance the one who sets up a non-graft-based business from the normal sort of business. It is called a 'start-up'. This term is usually used for businesses that are still out of the purview of government officials. Thus, a street vendor who sells food doesn't call his business a 'start-up' even though that is what it is, while a software service agency owner does. The former is under full control of officials and suffers the indignities heaped on him by the corrupt; the latter is not. China solved its problem of the all-pervasive corruption by publicly executing at least 20 senior public officials and jailing a few hundred minor ones. Perhaps, the time has come for India to learn from China and create an enabling environment for anyone aspiring to set up a business.

Hoax threat calls

Hold the perpetrators accountable

THE dramatic surge in hoax bomb threats targeting Indian airlines is testing the robustness of the civil aviation sector. In the past few days, scores of flights — domestic and international — have received threats that later turned out to be hoax calls. Diversions and delays have resulted in widespread disruption in flight schedules as well as significant losses for the airlines. With the use of virtual private networks complicating the tracking process, the Central agencies have a task at hand to get to the perpetrators. Some threatening posts, it is suspected, originated from the UK and Germany. Recently, the Mumbai Police detained a teenager from Chhattisgarh in connection with threats to three flights. Reassurances of safety of passengers and flight protocols being in place cannot sidestep the issue of holding the hoax callers accountable. They must not go unpunished.



The recurring nature of such threats is a matter of grave concern. It's not just airlines; in recent months, several

hospitals, malls and educational institutions have received threats. The unprecedented rise in these mischievous and unlawful actions in the aviation sector warrants a concerted counter-strategy. The implementation of stricter regulations is being planned. These include placing perpetrators on the no-fly list for five years and incorporating a legal regime with stricter bail provisions and stern punishment. More precise security checks are being considered so that not all threat messages lead to an immediate landing.

Instilling fear and uncertainty, hoax threats are often linked to malicious intent, as an attention-seeking device, mental health issues or a prank. Even fliers have proved to be culprits. There is ambiguity over whether the threats come from an individual, a group, or are copycat acts. Dedicated teams trained to deal with hoax calls and exemplary punishment can be an effective deterrent

Lessons, warnings on India-Pak front

Both nations must remember how Kargil war undid good work done during Vajpayee's Lahore visit

MIAN Nawaz Sharif, the Pakistan Muslim League (N) supremo who has thrice served as Pakistan's Prime Minister, recently met a group of Indian journalists in Lahore in the office of his daughter, Punjab Chief Minister Maryam Nawaz. Sharif urged India and Pakistan to begin talking and "live like good neighbours". One newspaper report quoted him as saying, "We should not go into the past, and should look to the future". However, he could not resist going into the past himself; he recalled his efforts to "mend" the relationship, but said his efforts were disrupted. He advised the two countries to pick up the threads from his interaction with PM Narendra Modi. Sharif turned nostalgic about then PM Atal Bihari Vajpayee's visit to Lahore in February 1999. He said, "Vajpayee's Lahore visit is still remembered very fondly... His speech was very good. I sometimes watch YouTube videos of the visit and the speech to revive good old memories". This writer was present in the Punjab governor's house lawns when Vajpayee delivered a truly memorable address to the Pakistani people. The objective of his speech was to convince them that India wanted to live in peace and harmony with them. It was the same aim which took him to visit the Minar-e-Pakistan in Lahore.

More than 25 years have passed since Vajpayee's Lahore visit. I will be betraying nothing of strategic value if I dwell on how the idea that Vajpayee should directly speak to the Pakistani people came to pass. Vajpayee's Lahore trip was decided in early February. I was then Joint Secretary in charge of the Iran-Pakistan-Afghanistan Division of the Ministry of External Affairs (MEA). I had, therefore, a role in preparing for the visit. The more I thought about the visit, the more I realised that India's greatest asset, in the context of the visit, was Vajpayee's oratorical prowess. And, the only way in which this asset could

be utilised was if he made a public speech on Pakistani soil. Naturally, this could not be in an open public meeting; it had to be in a setting where security could be guaranteed. I mentioned the idea to my superiors in the MEA. No one objected.

I was present when the idea was presented to Vajpayee. He was surprised and asked, "Kya wahan bolna bhi hoga?" Everyone kept quiet. Since it was initially my idea, I said, "Sir, iska bahut faida hoga." He turned to me and said, with some sharpness, "Bolna toh mujhe hai." That meant that he wanted time to mull over the idea. Before I accompanied the advance team to Lahore, I got the clearance that he had agreed, but the Pakistanis were not informed of his intention. I was asked where and whom should he address. I thought the right venue would be the Lahore University of Management Sciences (LUMS), where some of the best and brightest of the Pakistani youth studied and which was founded by Syed Babar Ali. Babar, now 98, is one of Pakistan's most respected industrialists and philanthropists. I got a nod to sound him out during the advance team's visit to Lahore. By the time I got free on the first day of the two-day visit, it was about 10 pm. I was leaving for Delhi the next evening, and the next day was also packed with meetings. I shared my predicament with Ghanashyam, who was a counsellor in our High Commission in Islamabad but was in Lahore then. He said he had the phone number of Babar's son, and that the father-son duo lived in the same house, close to the Punjab Government Guest House, where we were staying. Before he called the son, I told Ghanashyam to tell him that my uncle, who knew Babar, had instructed me to convey his regards to him in person and that I could not return to Delhi without doing so.

It was well past 10 when Ghanashyam called the son.



He told him who I was and that I needed to see Babar sahib that late evening itself. The son said Babar had retired for the day but that he would call back. He did so within minutes and said Babar would be happy to meet me. So, Ghanashyam and I went to his house.

As we reached Babar's beautiful home, it became clear that the family had retired for the evening. The lights in the reception room of the house were switched on, and the son was there to graciously welcome us. After some time, Babar came down in a dressing gown. He was the embodiment of courtesy and brushed aside my apologies. I conveyed my uncle's salaams and then broached the objective of my visit. He listened attentively and said Vajpayee sahib's visit to LUMS would be a great honour, but naturally he would have to consult the Pakistani Government. I do not know what Babar did, but the message that Vajpayee wanted to address the Pakistani people obviously went to the right quarters. In a few days came the response that Vajpayee was welcome to speak to a select but large group of persons at the Punjab governor's house. Naturally, that would be a secure

environment and easier to control than LUMS. As Vajpayee's speech would directly reach the Pakistani people, our purpose would be served, as it indeed was. The Lahore visit's promise died in Kargil. Gen Musharraf's misadventure is condemned by most thoughtful Pakistanis. The Indian Army, paying a great price in blood, recaptured most of the Kargil heights. Indian diplomacy did well too. Nawaz Sharif and Musharraf fell apart after the Kargil war, but there was a fleeting period, in the operation's early stage, when Sharif dreamt of becoming 'Fateh-e-Kashmir'. I write this with a sense of responsibility. In 1999, it had seemed that the Sharifs had gained substantial influence over the army. That proved false. Prime Minister Modi did not pay heed to the Kargil lesson.

The Pakistan army soon made that obvious to him after his visit to Lahore in 2015. Recently, the Pakistan army held back, allowing the J&K elections to be held peacefully. It did not want any issue to prevent the Shanghai Cooperation Organisation (SCO) Heads of Government meeting in Islamabad from proceeding smoothly. External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar's participation in the SCO event led to speculation among die-hard optimists that it may pave the way for the normalisation in ties, though no bilateral talks were held. The Ganderbal terror attack, in which six workers and a doctor were killed when an infrastructural project was targeted, is Gen Asim Munir's way of showing that the Pakistan army has violent intrusive capabilities which it can use to disrupt political progress in J&K. It is also a signal to ex-PM Imran Khan that he would not be given the opportunity to blame Gen Munir for being soft on India, whatever the Sharifs may want.

बेङ्गल सरकार पिछू हटेछे, बाड़खण्डा थैके बेङ्गले यानवाहनर प्रवेश शुरु

प्राय २८ घंटा पर, बेङ्गल सरकार पिछू हटेछे एबे बाड़खण्डा थैके बेङ्गले याग्या समस्त पण्यवाही यानवाहनर प्रवेश शुरु हयैछे। गत सभ्या १८टा पर बेङ्गल सरकारेर आदेशे बाड़खण्डा-बेङ्गल मथन सीमाछे पण्यवाही यानवाहनर प्रवेश निषिद्ध करी हयैछिल।

एर फले रात थैके दूपुर पर्यंत प्राय २० किमी दीर्घ यानजट सृष्टि हय। चालकदेर समस्यार कथा विवेचना करे, MASS बेङ्गल सरकारके चाप देय बाड़खण्डा सीमाछे थैके बेङ्गले प्रवेश करी समस्त यानवाहन बह करार जन्य। एर फले, बेङ्गल सरकार पिछू हटेछे बाध्य हय एबे अवशेषे भारी यानवाहनर प्रवेश आवार स्वाभाविक हय।

बेङ्गल सरकारेर एहि अनुमतिर पर, द्वीक चालकरा बख्तिर निश्चिन्त फेलन। प्राञ्चन निरसा विधायक अरुण च्याटर्जि बाड़खण्डा मुख्यामत्री हेमन्त सोरनेनेर एहि उद्योगेर प्रशंसा करेन। तनि बेलन, मुख्यामत्री हेमन्त सोरनेनेर एहि विषये क्रमागत शुरु हयैछेन।

बेङ्गल सरकारेर साथे इतिवाचक आलोचना करार पर बेङ्गल सरकार निषेधाज्ञा तुले नेय। एर पर, बारिते दौड़िये धाका समस्त पण्यवाही यानवाहन बीरे बीरे बेङ्गले प्रवेश करत शुरु करैछे। NH-१ दीर्घ यानजट एखन सीमित हछे एबे यानजट ७ भाँडेते शुरु करैछे।

सुरक्षित बाड़खण्डा प्रवल बख्तिर पर, माईथन एबे पाकेत बाधेर जनशुनर वेडे यय एबे बाध खुले जल बेङ्गलेर दिके छेडे देय हय, एर पर बेङ्गल सरकार टैबराचारी मनोभाव ग्रहण करे एबे बाड़खण्डा थैके बेङ्गले प्रवेश करी पण्यवाही यानवाहन सीमाछे धामानोर आदेश देय।

रिलायंस और एनवीडिया भारत में एआई इन्फ्रास्ट्रक्चर का करेंगे निर्माण

एजेंसी नई दिल्ली। मुकेश अंबानी की अगुवाई वाली रिलायंस इंडस्ट्रीज लिमिटेड (आरआईएल) और आर्टिफिशियल इंटेलिजेंस कंप्यूटिंग में अग्रणी अमेरिकी कंपनी एनवीडिया भारत में एआई इन्फ्रास्ट्रक्चर का निर्माण करेंगे। दोनों कंपनियों ने भारत में एआई कम्प्यूटिंग अवसंरचना और एक नवाचार केंद्र बनाने के लिए एक समझौता किया है। मुंबई में आयोजित एनवीडिया एआई समिट 2024 में मुकेश अंबानी के साथ चैट सेशन के दौरान एनवीडिया के मुख्य कार्यपालक अधिकारी (सीईओ) जेम्स हुआंग ने इसकी घोषणा की। जेम्स हुआंग ने कहा कि उनकी कंपनी ने भारत में एआई कम्प्यूटिंग अवसंरचना और एक नवाचार केंद्र बनाने के लिए मुकेश अंबानी की कंपनी रिलायंस इंडस्ट्रीज लिमिटेड के साथ एक समझौता किया है। आरआईएल

चेयरमैन ने कहा कि जियो अब दुनिया की सबसे बड़ी डेटा कंपनी बन चुकी है। उन्होंने कहा कि मजबूत एआई बुनियादी ढांचे का निर्माण करना है। कृत्रिम मेधा (एआई) चिप की प्रमुख वैश्विक समिट में अंबानी और हुआंग ने एआई में अंबानी की बदलावकारी क्षमता और इस क्षेत्र में वैश्विक अगुवा के रूप में इसकी उभरती भूमिका पर चर्चा की। रिलायंस प्रमुख मुकेश अंबानी ने इस अवसर पर आयोजित एक प्रेस कॉन्फ्रेंस में कहा कि भारत एनवीडिया के सर्वश्रेष्ठ उत्पाद के साथ शुरुआत करेगा। हुआंग ने कहा कि इस साझेदारी में एसे एप्लिकेशन भी बनाए जाएंगे जिन्हें रिलायंस भारत में उपभोक्ताओं को प्रदान कर सकती है। उन्होंने कहा कि इस गठजोड़ के तहत हम एक नवाचार केंद्र भी खोलेंगे। उल्लेखनीय है कि एनवीडिया की भारत में छह स्थानों पर पहले से मौजूदगी है। एनवीडिया की डिजायनिंग बेंगलूर, हैदराबाद, पुणे में की जाती है। चिप डिजायन करने में भारत पहले से ही विश्वस्तरीय है। एनवीडिया के इस ऐलान से इसमें और इजाफा हो सकता है।



सीबीआईसी अध्यक्ष ने व्यवहार संवेदीकरण कार्यक्रम का राष्ट्रव्यापी शुभारंभ किया

एजेंसी नई दिल्ली। केंद्रीय अप्रत्यक्ष कर एवं सीमा शुल्क बोर्ड (सीबीआईसी) के अध्यक्ष रवि अग्रवाल ने कर्मयोगी सप्ताह यानी राष्ट्रीय शिक्षण सप्ताह के दौरान सीबीआईसी में व्यवहार संवेदीकरण कार्यक्रम का राष्ट्रव्यापी शुभारंभ किया। इस पहल की शुरुआत सीबीआईसी के सभी 32 क्षेत्रों में 52 बैचों के साथ की गई है। वित्त मंत्रालय ने जारी एक बयान में बताया कि इस महत्वपूर्ण पहल का उद्देश्य व्यवहारिक संवेदनशीलता प्रशिक्षण कार्यक्रम के जरिए अपने कार्यबल की क्षमताओं को बढ़ाना है। इस कार्यक्रम की निरीक्षकों, अधीक्षकों, सहायक आयुक्तों और उप आयुक्तों सहित विभिन्न स्तरों पर करीब 35

हजार अधिकारियों को प्रशिक्षित करने के लिए तैयार किया गया है। सीबीआईसी अध्यक्ष रवि अग्रवाल ने कर एवं सीमा शुल्क बोर्ड (सीबीआईसी) के अध्यक्ष रवि अग्रवाल ने कर्मयोगी सप्ताह यानी राष्ट्रीय शिक्षण सप्ताह के दौरान सीबीआईसी में व्यवहार संवेदीकरण कार्यक्रम का राष्ट्रव्यापी शुभारंभ किया। इस पहल की शुरुआत सीबीआईसी के सभी 32 क्षेत्रों में 52 बैचों के साथ की गई है। वित्त मंत्रालय ने जारी एक बयान में बताया कि इस महत्वपूर्ण पहल का उद्देश्य व्यवहारिक संवेदनशीलता प्रशिक्षण कार्यक्रम के जरिए अपने कार्यबल की क्षमताओं को बढ़ाना है। इस कार्यक्रम की निरीक्षकों, अधीक्षकों, सहायक आयुक्तों और उप आयुक्तों सहित विभिन्न स्तरों पर करीब 35



बिहार में करें बिजनेस : बिहार सरकार ने लुधियाना में इन्वेस्टर समिट का किया आयोजन

एजेंसी पटना। बिहार सरकार ने लुधियाना में एक विशेष बिजनेस रोड शो का आयोजन आज किया, जो निवेश आकर्षित करने और औद्योगिक विकास को बढ़ावा देने के उद्देश्य से आयोजित किया गया था। यह समिट बिजनेस टू गवर्नमेंट (बी2जी) दृष्टिकोण के तहत आयोजित की गई, जिसमें उद्योग क्षेत्र के प्रमुख लीडर्स जैसे नाहर ग्रुप के प्रबंध निदेशक श्री कमल ओसवाल, कैडेक्स फिलामेंट के प्रबंध निदेशक राकेश गोयल इत्यादि ने भाग लिया। बिहार सरकार के उद्योग विभाग ने लुधियाना में इस प्रभावशाली

निवेशक समिट की मेजबानी की, जिसमें उद्योग विभाग की सचिव वंदना प्रेयसी और उद्योग निदेशक विवेक शर्मा शामिल थे। उद्योग निदेशक विवेक शर्मा ने कहा कि बिहार को बढ़ावा देने और बिहार की निवेशक-अनुकूल नीतियों को बताने के लिए आयोजित किया गया था। निवेशक सम्मेलन (बिहार की संभावनाओं को खोलना-Unlocking Bihar's Potential: Investor Summit) शीर्षक से आयोजित इस रोड शो का उद्देश्य उभरते अवसरों, इन्फ्रास्ट्रक्चर परियोजनाओं और आकर्षक नीतियों को प्रस्तुत करना था, जो बिहार को निवेशकों के लिए एक प्रमुख गंतव्य बनाते हैं। उद्योग विभाग की सचिव वंदना प्रेयसी ने निवेशकों के साथ बातचीत करके बिहार में निवेश के व्यापक लाभों पर चर्चा की। इसके साथ ही, उद्योग निदेशक और अन्य अधिकारियों ने मेगा फूड पार्क का दौरा भी किया। इस दौरान उन्होंने देखा कि मेगा फूड पार्क किस प्रकार से स्थानीय किसानों, उद्यमियों और उद्योगों को एक साथ लाकर कृषि-आधारित उद्योगों को प्रोत्साहित कर रहा है। साथ ही वहां की कार्य इकाइयों और पंजाब सरकार द्वारा दी



दिवाली के पहले सर्राफा बाजार की तेजी से छोटे कस्टमर्स में निराशा, जब पर और भारी पड़ने लगी सोने-चांदी की खरीदारी

एजेंसी नई दिल्ली। धनतेरस और दिवाली के मौके पर परंपरागत रूप से सोने और चांदी की खरीदारी करने वाले रिटेल कस्टमर्स को घरेलू सर्राफा बाजार में आई जोरदार तेजी ने मायूस कर दिया है। सोना और चांदी की कीमत में जिस गति से बढ़ोतरी हो रही है, उससे धीरे-धीरे ये चमकीली धातुएं छोटे ग्राहकों की पहुंच से दूर होती जा रही हैं। माना जा रहा है कि अगले 1 सप्ताह में यानी धनतेरस और दिवाली तक सोना 83 हजार से 84 हजार रुपये प्रति 10 ग्राम के स्तर तक पहुंच सकता है। इसी तरह चांदी की कीमत भी 1,10,000 रुपये प्रति किलोग्राम के स्तर तक पहुंच सकती है। देश के ज्यादातर सर्राफा बाजारों में सोना आज 80 हजार रुपये के स्तर को पार करके रिकॉर्ड ऊंचाई पर पहुंचा हुआ है। इसी तरह चांदी की कीमत भी आज 1,04,000 रुपये के स्तर के पार पहुंची हुई है। सर्राफा बाजार में आई इस तेजी के लिए मुख्य रूप से अंतरराष्ट्रीय बाजार में सोने और चांदी की कीमत में

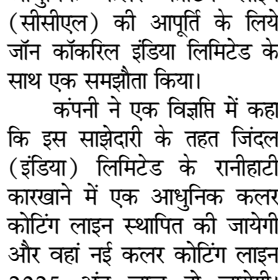
मजबूत लिस्टिंग से फ्रेशर एगो के निवेशक हुए गदगद, 16 प्रतिशत प्रीमियम के साथ हुई शुरुआत

एजेंसी नई दिल्ली। घरेलू शेयर बाजार में आज सिर्फ एक कंपनी ने ही लिस्टिंग के जरिये अपनी जगह बनाई। कृषि उत्पादों का निर्यात करने वाली कंपनी फ्रेशर एगो एक्सचेंज में आज घरेलू शेयर बाजार में एंट्री की। कंपनी के शेयर आज नेशनल स्टॉक एक्सचेंज के एसएमई प्लेटफॉर्म पर 16.38 प्रतिशत प्रीमियम के साथ लिस्ट हुए। हालांकि लिस्टिंग के बाद बिकवाली का दबाव बनने की वजह से फ्रेशर एगो एक्सचेंज के शेयरों में गिरावट भी आई, लेकिन थोड़ी ही देर बाद खरीदारी का सपोर्ट मिलने पर इस शेयर ने रिकवरी भी कर लिया। आईपीओ के तहत फ्रेशर एगो एक्सचेंज के शेयर 116 रुपये के भाव पर जारी किए गए थे। आज

नेशनल स्टॉक एक्सचेंज के एसएमई प्लेटफॉर्म पर इसकी लिस्टिंग 135 रुपये के स्तर पर हुई। हालांकि लिस्टिंग के बाद बिकवाली शुरू हो जाने के कारण ये प्रतिबन्धक कर 128.25 रुपये के स्तर पर आ गया लेकिन इस गिरावट के बाद एक बार फिर निवेशकों ने खरीदारी का जोर बना दिया, जिससे इस शेयर की रफ्तार में तेजी आने लगी। दोपहर 12 बजे फ्रेशर एगो एक्सचेंज का शेयर 18.95 रुपये यानी 16.37 प्रतिशत की तेजी के साथ 134.95 रुपये के स्तर पर कारोबार कर रहा था। फ्रेशर एगो एक्सचेंज का 75.39 करोड़ रुपये का आईपीओ 17 से 21 अक्टूबर के बीच सव्सक्रिप्शन के लिए खुला था। निवेशकों ने इस आईपीओ को हाथों-हाथ लिया, जिससे ये ओवरऑल 236.80 गुना सब्सक्राइब हो गया। इसमें क्रॉलिफाइड इंस्टीट्यूशनल बायर्स के लिए रिजर्व पोर्शन में 129.22 गुना सब्सक्रिप्शन आया, जबकि नॉन-इंस्टीट्यूशनल इन्वेस्टर के लिए रिजर्व पोर्शन 510.61 गुना सब्सक्राइब हुआ। इसी तरह रिटेल इन्वेस्टर्स के लिए रिजर्व पोर्शन में 180.80 गुना सब्सक्रिप्शन आया था।

जिंदल इंडिया ने स्टील उत्पादों पर रंग चढ़ाने की मशीनरी के लिये जॉन कॉकरिल इंडिया से किया करार

नयी दिल्ली। बी.सी. जिंदल ग्रुप की स्टील उत्पाद बनाने वाली कंपनी जिंदल (इंडिया) लिमिटेड ने आधुनिक कलर कोटिंग लाइन (सीसीएल) की आपूर्ति के लिये जॉन कॉकरिल इंडिया लिमिटेड के साथ एक समझौता किया। कंपनी ने एक विज्ञापन में कहा कि इस साझेदारी के तहत जिंदल (इंडिया) लिमिटेड के रानीहाटी कारखाने में एक आधुनिक कलर कोटिंग लाइन स्थापित की जायेगी और वहां नई कलर कोटिंग लाइन 2025 अंत चालू हो जायेगी। कंपनी को भरोसा है कि इससे कोटेड स्टील बाजार में जिंदल (इंडिया) की उपस्थिति सशक्त होगी। जिंदल (इंडिया) लिमिटेड के प्रवक्ता ने कहा, जिंदल (इंडिया) लिमिटेड द्वारा किया गया यह निवेश प्रीमियम स्टील उत्पाद बनाने और दक्षता एवं स्थायित्व बढ़ाने की दिशा में एक महत्वपूर्ण कदम है।



मईया के पूजन जायब

स्मिता मईया के पूजन जायब, मईया के लाल रंग चुनरी ओढ़ायब, मईया के प्रथम पूजब माँ शैलपुत्री घी के भोग लगायब, मईया के द्वितीय पूजा माँ ब्रह्मचारिणी शक्कर भोग लगायब, मईया के माँ चंद्रघंटा की पूजन तृतीय खीर के भोग लगायब, मईया के चतुर्थ पूजन माता कुष्मांडा मालपुआ चढ़ायब, मईया के पंचम पूजा माँ स्कंदमाता कदली फल भोग लगायब, मईया के षष्ठम रूप में माँ कात्यायनी शहद भोग लगायब, मईया के सप्तमी पुजब माँ कालरात्रि गुड़ के भोग लगायब, मईया के अष्टमी पुजब माँ महागौरी नारियल भोग लगायब, मईया के नवमी पूजन माँ सिद्धिदात्री तिल के भोग लगायब, मईया के लाल रंग फुलवा चढ़ायब, मईया के

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पेट्रोल और डीजल की कीमतों में टिकाव

नयी दिल्ली। अंतरराष्ट्रीय स्तर पर कच्चे तेल की कीमतों में उबाल आने के बावजूद घरेलू स्तर पर पेट्रोल और डीजल के दाम में आज टिकाव रहा, जिससे दिल्ली में पेट्रोल 94.72 रुपये प्रति लीटर तथा डीजल 87.62 रुपये प्रति लीटर पर पड़े रहे। तेल विपणन करने वाली प्रमुख कंपनी हिन्दुस्तान पेट्रोलियम कॉर्पोरेशन की वेबसाइट पर जारी दरों के अनुसार, देश में आज पेट्रोल और डीजल की कीमतों में कोई बदलाव नहीं हुआ है। दिल्ली में इनकी कीमतों के यथावत रहने के साथ ही मुंबई में पेट्रोल 104.21 रुपये प्रति लीटर पर और डीजल 92.15 रुपये प्रति लीटर पर रहा। वैश्विक स्तर पर साप्ताहिक पर अमेरिकी क्रूड 2.03 प्रतिशत की तेजी लेकर 72.21 डॉलर प्रति बैरल पर पहुंच गया। इसी तरह लंदन ब्रेंट क्रूड 1.92 प्रतिशत उबलकर 76.40 डॉलर प्रति बैरल पर रहा।

सरकार अगले पांच साल में 50 और एयरपोर्ट विकसित करेगी : राममोहन नायडू

एजेंसी नई दिल्ली। नागरिक उड्डयन मंत्री के. राममोहन नायडू ने कहा कि केंद्र सरकार का इरादा अगले पांच साल में 50 अतिरिक्त एयरपोर्ट विकसित करने का है। नायडू ने राजधानी नई दिल्ली में एयरबस इंडिया और दक्षिण एशिया मुख्यालय पर प्रशिक्षण केंद्र के उद्घाटन कार्यक्रम में यह बात कही। इस मौके पर नागर विमानन सचिव वृमलमुनमंग बुअल्लम ने कहा कि देश में हवाई यात्रियों की संख्या अगले 5 साल में दोगुनी होने की उम्मीद है, पिछले साल यह संख्या 22 करोड़ रही थी। केंद्रीय नागरिक उड्डयन मंत्री ने इस अवसर पर अपने संबोधन में कहा कि सरकार का इरादा अगले पांच वर्षों में 50 नए एयरपोर्ट को विकसित करने का

पूर्ण स्वामित्व वाले मुख्यालय और प्रशिक्षण केंद्र का उद्घाटन करने का सौभाग्य मिला। उन्होंने कहा कि यह है। उन्होंने कहा कि यह संख्या अगले 20 वर्षों में 200 अतिरिक्त हवाई अड्डों तक हो जाने की उम्मीद है। नायडू ने कहा कि मुझे नई दिल्ली अंतरराष्ट्रीय हवाई अड्डे के पास एशिया में एयरबस के पहले अत्याधुनिक प्रशिक्षण केंद्र हर साल 800 पायलटों के साथ-साथ 200 तकनीशियनों को प्रशिक्षित करेगी।



सीतारमण ने विश्व बैंक अध्यक्ष से मुलाकात में एमडीबी सुधारों पर की चर्चा

एजेंसी वाशिंगटन/नई दिल्ली। केंद्रीय वित्त एवं कॉर्पोरेट मामलों की मंत्री निर्मला सीतारमण ने विश्व बैंक के अध्यक्ष अजय बंगा से मुलाकात की। इस दौरान दोनों ने यहां वैश्विक सार्वजनिक वस्तुओं में निजी पूंजी की भागीदारी से संबंधित मुद्दों, ऊर्जा सुरक्षा और बहुपक्षीय विकास बैंकों (एमडीबीएफ) में सुधार पर चर्चा की। वित्त मंत्री निर्मला सीतारमण ने बुधवार को यहां विश्व बैंक और अंतरराष्ट्रीय मुद्रा कोष (आइएमएफ) की वार्षिक बैठकों से इतर विश्व बैंक के अध्यक्ष अजय बंगा से मुलाकात की और अन्य मुद्दों के अलावा एमडीबीएफ में सुधार पर चर्चा की। वित्त मंत्री ने कहा कि वह विश्व बैंक द्वारा भारत की जी-20 अध्यक्षता से एमडीबी सुधारों पर आईजी की सिफारिशों को आगे बढ़ाने की उत्सुकता से प्रतीक्षा कर रही है।

उन्होंने भविष्य में सिफारिशों के कार्यान्वयन पर नियमित निगरानी का भी अनुरोध किया। सीतारमण ने बैठक के दौरान ब्रेटन वुड्स संस्थानों के 80 साल पूरा होने पर चर्चा के लिए विश्व बैंक तथा आईएमएफ द्वारा संयुक्त रूप से आयोजित सलाहकार तंत्र पर व्यापक परामर्श प्रक्रिया की जरूरतों को रेखांकित किया। ब्रेटन वुड्स संस्थान, आईएमएफ और विश्व बैंक का एक समूह है। इस संस्था की स्थापना 1944 में अमेरिका के न्यू हैम्पशायर के ब्रेटन वुड्स में एक सम्मेलन में की गई थी। विश्व बैंक के अध्यक्ष अजय बंगा ने बैठक के दौरान आईजी सिफारिशों पर पर्याप्त प्रगति का उल्लेख किया, जिन्हें जी20 में प्रस्तुत किया जाना है। उन्होंने डब्ल्यूबीजी के रोजगार, ज्ञान, ढांचे, बैंक योग्य परियोजनाओं पर ध्यान केंद्रित करने पर जोर दिया। इसके साथ ही उन्होंने कौशल, जल और स्वच्छता तथा शहरी विकास सहित भारत की बजट प्राथमिकताओं के साथ सहयोग करने पर जोर दिया। भारत की जी-20 अध्यक्षता के दौरान 2023 में गठित स्वतंत्र विशेषज्ञ समूह (आईजी) ने एमडीबी सुधारों के 'ट्रिपल एजेंडे' की सिफारिश की थी। इस एजेंडे के तीन तत्व अर्थव्यवस्था को खत्म करना, सद्दा समृद्धि को बढ़ावा देना और 2030 तक वैश्विक सार्वजनिक वस्तुओं के लिए सतत ऋण स्तर को तीन गुना बढ़ाने में योगदान देना तथा नया वित्तपोषण तंत्र बनाना शामिल है।



शुरुआती उतार-चढ़ाव के बाद सपाट स्तर पर बंद हुआ शेयर बाजार, सेंसेक्स और निफ्टी में मामूली गिरावट

एजेंसी नई दिल्ली। घरेलू शेयर बाजार आज शुरुआती घंटे में जोरदार उतार-चढ़ाव का सामना करने के बाद पूरे दिन सीमित दायरे में कारोबार करने के बाद मामूली गिरावट के साथ बंद हुआ। आज के कारोबार की सपाट स्तर पर मिली-जुली शुरुआत हुई थी। बाजार खुलने के बाद पहले एक घंटे के दौरान जोरदार उतार-चढ़ाव होता रहा, लेकिन उसके बाद खरीदारी और बिकवाली का स्तर लगभग

आंदोलन रहने के कारण शेयर बाजार सीमित दायरे में कारोबार करने लगा। दिनभर के कारोबार के बाद सेंसेक्स 0.02 प्रतिशत और निफ्टी 0.15 प्रतिशत की गिरावट के साथ बंद हुआ। आज के कारोबार में पब्लिक सेक्टर एंटरप्राइज, बैंकिंग और फार्मास्यूटिकल सेक्टर के शेयरों में गिरावट होती रही। इसी तरह कैपिटल गिड्स और ऑयल एंड गैस इंडेक्स भी मजबूती के साथ बंद हुए। दूसरी ओर, एफएमसीजी

करोड़ रुपये था। इस तरह निवेशकों को आज के कारोबार से करीब 1.33 लाख करोड़ रुपये की नुकसान हो गया। आज दिनभर के कारोबार में बीएसई में 4,033 शेयरों में एक्टिव ट्रेडिंग हुई। इनमें 1,587 शेयर बढ़त के साथ बंद हुए, जबकि 2,345 शेयरों में गिरावट का रिकार्ड रहा, वहीं 101 शेयर बिना किसी उतार-चढ़ाव के बंद हुए। एनएसई में आज 2,499 शेयरों में एक्टिव ट्रेडिंग हुई। इनमें से 892 शेयर

मुनाफा कमा कर रहे निशान में और 1,607 शेयर नुकसान उठा कर लाल निशान में बंद हुए। इसी तरह सेंसेक्स में शामिल 30 शेयरों में से 18 शेयर बढ़त के साथ और 12 शेयर गिरावट के साथ बंद हुए। जबकि निफ्टी में शामिल 50 शेयरों में से 24 शेयर हरे निशान में और 26 शेयर लाल निशान में बंद हुए। बीएसई का सेंसेक्स आज 16.32 अंक की मामूली बढ़त के साथ 80,098.30 अंक के स्तर पर

घर में सबको स्वस्थ रख सकती है

गृहणी



करने वाले कुछ लोग भोजन के नाम पर उबला हुआ खाना खाते हैं पर वास्तव में ऐसे भोजन का क्या फायदा जो न तो हमें स्वाद दे और न ही संतुष्टि। हमारे भोजन का संबंध हमारे शरीर के साथ-साथ मस्तिष्क से भी जुड़ा हुआ है। इसलिए अगर हमें भोजन से आनंद और संतुष्टि नहीं मिलेगी तो मानसिक तनाव पैदा होगा जिसका विपरीत असर हमारे स्वास्थ्य पर पड़ेगा।

महिलाओं को चाहिए कि वह अपने घर में सभी सदस्यों को दिन में एक बार फ्रेश फ्रूट खाने की आदत डालें। खाने में जिस तरह से क्या खाना चाहिए का महत्व है उसी तरह कब, कैसे और किस स्थिति में क्या खाना चाहिए, जैसी बातों का भी महत्व है। अगर समय पर भोजन नहीं किया जाए तो बदहजमी, गैस, एसिडिटी जैसी समस्याएं पैदा हो सकती हैं क्योंकि आहार के साथ हमारी पाचन क्रिया का संबंध है।

महिलाओं को इस बात का ध्यान रखना चाहिए कि घर का कोई भी सदस्य खाने में जल्दबाजी नहीं करे। खाने में पूरा समय देना चाहिए तथा संपूर्ण ध्यान खाने पर ही केंद्रित होना चाहिए। अगर हम गुस्से में खाना खाते हैं तो खाना हुआ सारा खाना जल जाता है।

दिन की शुरुआत से लेकर दिन ढलने तक हमारी शारीरिक क्रियाएं बदलती रहती हैं। सूर्योदय से दोपहर तक हमारी पाचन शक्ति तीव्र रहती है। बाद में जैसे-जैसे दिन ढलता है, सूर्यास्त होता है वैसे-वैसे शरीर के अंग आराम चाहते हैं। पाचक रस भी मंद होने लगते हैं इसलिए तो पुराने समय में लोग सूर्यास्त तक रात्रि भोजन कर लिया करते थे। सोते समय खाने से रक्त को आक्सीजन कम मिलती है जिससे हृदय रोग का खतरा बढ़ जाता है।

स्वस्थ जीवन के लिए मात्र संतुलित भोजन ही जरूरी नहीं है इसके साथ ही हमारी आदतें भी अच्छी होनी चाहिए जिसकी तरफ लोग अक्सर ध्यान नहीं देते। स्वस्थ रहने के लिए खाने का पूरा मजा लूटना भी जरूरी है। इसलिए घर की महिलाओं को चाहिए कि वह एक तो तेल या घी का ज्यादा इस्तेमाल नहीं करें साथ ही मिर्च-मसालों पर नियंत्रण रखते हुए कुछ घरेलू नुस्खों का इस्तेमाल कर स्वादिष्ट भोजन बनाएं। साथ ही घर के सभी सदस्यों को एक साथ ही खाने के लिए प्रेरित करें नहीं तो कम से कम खाने का समय तो निश्चित कर ही दें ताकि वक्त-वेकत खाना खाकर स्वास्थ्य खराब नहीं हो।

वैसे तो हमारे स्वास्थ्य की चाबी हमारे ही हाथ में होती है। फिर भी पूरे परिवार की तंदुरुस्ती का आधार घर की स्त्री पर ही निर्भर होता है। अगर वह घर के बुजुर्गों से लेकर बच्चों तक में पौष्टिक आहार खाने की आदत डालती है तो शारीरिक स्वस्थता के साथ-साथ उम्र भी बढ़ती है।

सामान्य रूप से आज की लाइफ स्टाइल ऐसी हो गई है कि हम क्या खा रहे हैं इस पर ज्यादा ध्यान ही नहीं देते। हमें कोल्ड ड्रिंक्स, पीजा, सैंडविच, पकौड़े और तली हुई चीजें ज्यादा पसंद आती हैं। कहीं पार्टी का निमंत्रण हो तब भी हमें ऐसी ही चीजें ज्यादा पसंद आती हैं जबकि ऐसी जगहों पर

सलाद, जूस, सूप, नींबू पानी, पुलाव, सब्जियां, रायता आदि भी होता है।

जैसे-जैसे लोगों के मन में स्वास्थ्य के प्रति जागरूकता आती जा रही है वैसे-वैसे लोग डाइटिंग की ओर भी आकर्षित हो रहे हैं। डाइटिंग

कहाँ जा रहे हैं हम ?

चमकदार आवरण में लपेटकर परोसे जा रहे भ्रम को हम बिना किसी प्रतिक्रिया के ग्रहण कर रहे हैं। हम सम्मोहित हैं, उस चकाचौंध से जो बाजार हमारे सामने उपजा रहा है। और यह चकाचौंध जन्म दे रही है बीमार समाज को। बाजार ने नारी को प्रचार साधन बना डाला है और वह बेधड़क उसे प्रचारित कर लोगों की मानसिकता को बीमार बना रहा है। एक धार्मिक-सांस्कृतिक नगर का व्यस्त चौराहा। समय दिन के 11 बजे। किसी ब्राइक कंपनी का प्रचार वाहन आकर चौराहे पर आकर रुकता है। वाहन पर लगे स्पीकर से फिल्मी धुन बजने लगती है। धुन के साथ ही वाहन पर सवार युवतियाँ थिरकने लगती हैं।

इस नजारे को देखने के लिए लोगों का हुजूम जुटने लगता है। यह सब कुछ चल ही रहा होता है कि जमावड़े को चीरता हुआ एक अज्ञात युवक आता है। लपककर वाहन पर चढ़ता है और डांस कर रही एक युवती का चुंबन लेकर बिजली की गति से भाग निकलता है। जिस युवती का चुंबन लिया गया, वह इस अप्रत्याशित घटना से सकपका जाती है। मौजूदा जनसमुदाय स्तब्ध रह जाता है। खैर, घटना के बाद प्रचार वाहन चल देता है और लोगों का जमावड़ा बिखर जाता है। उपरोक्त वर्णित प्रसंग महज दुस्साहस की ही घटना नहीं है। यह घटना बहुत से प्रश्नचिह्न खड़े करती है।

मसलान, उस युवक ने यह दुस्साहस कैसे किया? कंपनी को अपने उत्पाद प्रचार हेतु चौराहे-चौराहे फिल्मी धुनों पर युवतियों को नचवाना क्यों उचित लगा? होड़ की यह धुन हमेंकहाँ लेकर आ गई?

जहाँ लेकर आई है, वहाँ सिर्फ और सिर्फ यही सवाल पैदा होता है-ये कहीं आ गए हम? इसका जवाब यही है कि हम जहाँ आ गए हैं, वहाँ हमारा नैतिक पतन गंभीर मोड़ पर आ गया है। उस मोड़ पर, जिस पर लिखा है- आगे खतरा है। इस खतरे को हम भाँप नहीं पा रहे हैं। समझ भी रहे हैं तो नासमझ होने का स्वांग कर रहे हैं।

इसकी वजह यह है कि बाजारवाद के इस दौर में हमें सिर्फ लाभ, लाभ और केवल लाभ ही दिखाई दे रहा है। प्रतियोगिता के अर्जुन की निगाहें सिर्फ लाभ की चिड़िया की आँख पर टिकी हुई हैं। पूँजी और मुनाफे को लेकर मार्क्स ने लिखा है, पूँजी रत्तीभर मुनाफा भी हाथ से नहीं जाने देती। सौ प्रतिशत मुनाफे के लिए पूँजी सीनाजोरी पर उतरकर इंसानियत के हर नियम को रौंद देगी।

जाहिर है, बाजारवाद के वर्तमान दौर में इंसानियत और नैतिकता के सारे नियम पूँजी और मुनाफे के कदमों तले रौंदे जा रहे हैं। उत्पादकों ने उत्पादों की बिक्री के लिए विज्ञापनों का निर्बाध दुरुपयोग खुलेआम किया है। इसके लिए मानव मन की दमित भावनाओं को कुरेदा जा रहा है। यही वजह है कि विज्ञापनों के जरिए, पत्र-पत्रिकाओं के चिकने पन्नों पर, छोटे-बड़े रुपहले पर्दों पर दिखने वाले विज्ञापनों पर उत्तेजक अदाओं वाली औरतों की बाढ़ आई हुई। ऐसा कौन-सा उत्पादन है जिसे खरीदने की सलाह ये माँडल नहीं देती हैं? इन विज्ञापनों और माँडलों ने लोगों को बावला बना दिया। बावला बना देने में कुछ कसर बाकी रही तो मध्यम दर्जे के शहरों के चौराहों पर प्रचार वाहनों में फिल्मी धुनों पर लड़कियाँ नाचने लगीं। बात यहीं तक सीमित नहीं है, अब हालात इतने बेकाबू हो गए हैं कि धार्मिक और राष्ट्रीय त्योहारों के अवसर पर आयोजित होने वाले कार्यक्रमों में भी अश्लील और भेदे डांस होना जरूरी हो गया है। पारंपरिक मेलों-ठेलों में भी अश्लील मुद्राओं वाले नृत्य अनिवार्य हो गए हैं। इन अवसरों पर मंच के सामने अगर सामान्यजन हो-हल्ला मचाते हैं, तो विशिष्टजन हाथों में शराब की बोतल थामे डांसरों के साथ कमर मटकाते हुए सारी मर्यादाओं को लौंघ जाते हैं।

गरज यह कि बात उत्पादों की बिक्री में अश्लील विज्ञापनों की हो या आयोजनों में भेदे डांस की- मूल में जो भावना है, वह येन-केन-प्रकारेण अपने को, अपने प्रतिष्ठान को और अपने उत्पाद को प्रस्तुत करने की ही है। इस भावना के चलते एक प्रतियोगिता चल रही है, अंधीप्रतियोगिता। यह प्रतियोगिता उस सौंड की तरह है, जो उन्मत्त होकर दौड़ रहा है। फलतः उसके सामने जो भी आ रहा है, उसे वह सींगों में उठाकर उछाल-उछालकर फेंक रहा है या पैरों तले रौंद रहा है। यह बहुत खराब हालात हैं। हमें सोचना है कि आखिर हम कहीं आ

गए हैं? इसके नतीजे आगे चलकर क्या होंगे? जिन नैतिक मूल्यों, जिन परंपराओं, जिन सांस्कृतिक गरिमाओं पर हम गर्व करते हैं, वे कितने दिन जिंदा रह पाएँगे?

ग्लिटर मेहँदी वेडिंग अट्रैक्शन

मेहँदी है रचने वाली, हाथों में गहरी लाली शादी या किसी भी पारंपरिक त्योहारों की बात हो या जाना हो किसी पार्टी में, मेहँदी के बिना मेकअप पूरा नहीं होता। सोलह श्रृंगार में प्रतिष्ठित मेहँदी की रंगत भी समय के साथ काफी बदली है। अब तो मेहँदी लगाने से लेकर उसे तैयार करने के तरीके में खासा बदलाव आ गया है।

बदलाव को इस दौड़ में ग्लिटर और टैटू भी मेहँदी की लिस्ट में शामिल हो गए हैं। मेहँदी परंपरा से अधिक अब फैशन बन गई है और जरूरत, रचने के लिए मेहँदी उपलब्ध समय, समारोह के प्रकार के हिसाब से अलग-अलग रूपों में लगाई जाने लगी है। मेहँदी के क्षेत्र में हुए सारे परिवर्तन आज की महिलाओं ने न सिर्फ अपना लिए हैं बल्कि अब ये सब फैशन के अंग हो गए हैं। ग्लिटर मेहँदी का ग्लो फैशनेबल मेहँदी के रूप में ग्लिटर मशहूर है। नूँ ग्लिटर मेहँदी में मेहँदी का कोई उपयोग नहीं होता। यह शुद्धरूप से केमिकल से बनी होती है, पर तुरन्त लग जाने और ग्लो करने के साथ ही यह हर कलर में उपलब्ध होती है। इसलिए मैचिंग के दिवाने इसका खूब उपयोग करते हैं। जिस कलर की ड्रेस पहनी हो उसी कलर की मेहँदी भी लगानी हो तो ग्लिटर मेहँदी सबसे अधिक उपयुक्त होती है। अब इसके साथ स्टोन का भी चलन है। ग्लिटर के साथ ही मैचिंग स्टोन या कंट्रास्ट स्टोन लगाकर मेहँदी को आकर्षक बनाया जाता है। टैटू मेहँदी, झटपट मेहँदी नूँ टैटू मेहँदी से काफी अलग है पर इसने मेहँदी का स्थान ले लिया है। इसे झटपट मेहँदी भी कहते हैं। मेहँदी के रूप में

प्रयुक्त टैटू मेहँदी वाली डिजाइन में मिलने लगे हैं।

बस पाँच मिनट में तैयार इस मेहँदी का प्रयोग हाथों से अधिक पेट, कमर, गले और बाजू में किया जाता है। टैटू पारंपरिक और अरेबियन दोनों प्रकार के डिजाइनों में उपलब्ध होते हैं। पेड़ से पत्ते तोड़कर सिल पर पीसने और हाथों में रचाने का सिलसिला तो पुराना हो ही चुका है अब तो पैक मेहँदी पाउडर की जगह तैयार कौन भी मिलने लगी है। बस कौन खरीदे और लगाना शुरू करें।

पारंपरिक का जलवा वैसे तो फैशन के हिसाब से मेहँदी की डिजाइनों में काफी बदलाव आया है। जब बात त्योहारों और शादियों की हो तो पारंपरिक डिजाइन ही पसंद किए जाते हैं। शादियों में दुल्हन अभी भी पारंपरिक मेहँदी ही प्रयोग में लाती हैं।

पारंपरिक मेहँदी भरावट वाली होती है और इससे हाथ या पैर पूरे भरे-भरे दिखते हैं। रचने के बाद भरावट वाला हिस्सा अधिक सुन्दर दिखता है। इस डिजाइन में आजकल सजावट के लिए ऊपर से ग्लिटर या स्टोन का भी उपयोग होता है, पर बेस-मेहँदी डिजाइन में पारंपरिक डिजाइन होती

हैं।

राजस्थानी का राज राजस्थानी शैली की मेहँदी एक प्रकार से पारंपरिक मेहँदी डिजाइनों का ही एक भाग है। इसके कुछ प्रतीक काफी लोकप्रिय हैं जो कि अन्य डिजाइनों के साथ भी मर्ज करके रचाए जाते हैं। इन प्रतीकों में मोर सबसे अधिक प्रचलित है। इसके अलावा नगाड़े, ढोल, दुल्हन, दूल्हा, तुरही, कलश आदि प्रतीकों के कारण राजस्थानी मेहँदी लोगों की पसंद में शामिल है।

अरेबियन का आकर्षण कॉलेज गोइंग गर्ल्स और टिनएजर्स के बीच लोकप्रिय इस डिजाइन ने फैशन को बदलने में सबसे बड़ी भूमिका निभाई है। एक ओर जहाँ पारंपरिक और राजस्थानी डिजाइनों शादी और पारंपरिक समारोहों के लिए आरक्षित सी हैं वहीं अरेबियन डिजाइन युवाओं की पहली पसंद में शामिल है।

इस डिजाइन की खासियत यह है कि इसे भरे-भरे रूप में और पूरे हाथ में एक सा नहीं लगाया जाता। बल्कि डिजाइन को आकर्षक मोड़ देकर एक पतली लकीर के रूप में डिजाइन बनाई जाती है।

NEWS BOX

Pune Test: Reckless India batters clueless against spin in horror morning session

New Delhi India was in disarray on the second morning of their second Test against New Zealand in Pune. In a shocking session of Test-match batting, India lost as many as six wickets, all of them to spin. None of the Indian batters, including Shubman Gill and Virat Kohli, looked comfortable against the New Zealand bowling attack, which was at its confidence best. Mithcell Santner ran through the Indian batting line-up, picking up four wickets after bowling 14 overs on the trot. Part-time off-spinner Glenn Phillips also joined in on the party as he took two wickets to leave India reeling at 107 for 7 at Lunch on Day 2, trailing New Zealand's first innings total of 259 by 152 runs. India lost six wickets for 91 runs on a disappointing morning session in which they lost all their big guns in the batting unit.

Pune Test, Day 2 updates

While India's batters were bundled out for 46 in the first innings of the Bengaluru Test after New Zealand rattled them with pace in overcast conditions, India failed the trial by spin in Bengaluru. There were quite a few rash shots as none of the Indian batters looked to spend time in the middle on a pitch that was offering the spinners plenty of help. Santner kept it simple, allowing the pitch to do its job and create the seed of uncertainty



in the Indian batters' minds. Decorated commentator Ian Smith was critical of India's approach, opining that none of the Indian batters tried to hang around and get used to the conditions. "None of them have prepared to bat it out. They believed they could just plunder these New Zealand attack and hit their way out of trouble. This is only Day 2 of this Test match. There is aeons of time to go. But, the way India were playing, none of them will be here by then," Smith said.

'DIDN'T EXPECT INDIA TO LOSE SIX'

Former India captain Anil Kumble said he was surprised by India's inability to survive the spin threat, adding that he didn't expect India would lose as many as six wickets in a session on Day 2 of the Test match.

"I don't think anyone of us expected this kind of a capitulation of the Indian batting on a surface like this.

Worst shot of his career: Virat Kohli faces flak after Pune Test dismissal

New Delhi. It was not the sight that the thousands who turned up at the Maharashtra Cricket Association Stadium in Pune as Virat Kohli managed to stay in the middle for just nine deliveries. The batting superstar was dismissed for 1 in the morning session, much to the disappointment of the batter himself, the dressing room and the fans.

Virat Kohli played an uncharacteristic shot, missing a full toss from Mitchell Santner in the 24th over of the Indian innings. The left-arm spinner beat Kohli with drift during a sensational spell in the morning session. Kohli looked to sweep the full toss, but missed the line and saw the ball shattering into the stumps. It was a shocking dismissal as Virat Kohli rarely employs the sweep early on in his innings. Kohli strode out to the middle with a lot of intent after Santner had got the first wicket of the morning, dismissing India's No. 3 Shubman Gill for 30 in the 22nd over of the contest. Former India batter Sanjay Manjrekar was a harsh critic of Virat Kohli's shot when he called it the 'worst



shot' of the star batter's career. On the broadcast, former India head coach Ravi Shastri explained that Virat Kohli got off the mark by playing a similar delivery from Santner with a straighter bat and his decision to play across the line brought the dismissal. Very similar delivery, he could have taken it on the full and hit it towards mid-on. This was an easier ball to put away because this was on the full. Instead, he went far too across. He could have played it with a straighter bat and put it in the gap. It was four for the taking," Shastri noted.

India were in a spot of bother in the morning session as they lost three wickets, adding to the overnight wicket of India captain Rohit Sharma. While Tim Southee got the first wicket on Thursday evening, Santner got two before part-time off-spinner Glenn Phillips got the wicket of Yashasvi Jaiswal, turning one away from the left-hander. Rishabh Pant and Sarfaraz Khan were once again tasked with the job of rescuing the team after their valiant show in the Bengaluru Test. India were under pressure after losing the first Test in which they were bundled out for 46 in the first innings.

Bayern coach Kompany vows 'no excuses' after Champions League loss at Barcelona

Even after the high point of a 9-2 demolition of Dinamo Zagreb last month, Harry Kane warned Bayern had a tendency to lose focus and "against the top opposition we could get punished for that".

DUESSELDORF. Vincent Kompany is facing his biggest challenge yet in his short stint as Bayern Munich coach. He says it's time to learn. Kompany's Bayern was comprehensively outplayed in the 4-1 loss to Barcelona on Wednesday as Raphinha picked holes in the backline to score a hat trick. Kompany tried to respond with a

quadruple substitution in the second half, but it had little impact.

Kompany told broadcaster DAZN that there could be "no excuses" and emphasised unity at a club which was notorious for its locker-room drama under his predecessors. "We will of course stick together and learn from this game," he said. It was part of a broader slump by German clubs in the Champions League this week. Borussia Dortmund gave up a 2-0 lead in its 5-2 loss at Real Madrid, while Leipzig's loss to Liverpool left it with no points so far. Bayer Leverkusen seemed to have one eye on its Bundesliga title defense after making eight changes in a 1-1 draw at Brest, while Stuttgart was the only team with much to celebrate after beating Juventus.

For Bayern, at least, the signs had been there earlier. Even after the high point of a 9-2 demolition of Dinamo Zagreb last month, Harry Kane warned Bayern had a tendency to lose focus and "against the top opposition we could get punished for that."

"We had a spell in the first half when we looked really dangerous, but Barcelona played well, and we didn't exploit the time when we were better. Then we got punished



in transitions," Kane said this week. "We have to go away and learn from this. There was a moment for us when we looked dangerous, but perhaps we got a bit carried away trying to play the final ball too quickly." Bayern remains top of the Bundesliga but has one win from its last five games in all competitions — though that was by an impressive 4-0 over Stuttgart last week. Kompany's team will be expected to win on Sunday against Bochum, which is without a win and has two coaches sharing the top job after Peter Zeidler was fired last week. Still, Bochum's loud, compact, old-

fashioned stadium can be a tricky place to visit, as Bayern found out in a 3-2 loss there in February. Dortmund's road woes

Dortmund coach Nuri Sahin's approach is under scrutiny, too.

The loss at Real Madrid on Tuesday — after leading 2-0 — not only raised questions about Sahin's tactical approach, but also continued a worrying trend away from home. Consecutive away losses to Madrid, Union Berlin and Stuttgart have seen Dortmund concede a total of 12

goals, even as Dortmund kept up a perfect record of five wins from five at home under Sahin. Saturday's trip to Augsburg in the Bundesliga is a chance for a valuable away win. One tactical switch brought particular criticism. When Sahin took off attacking midfielder Jamie Gittens, scorer of Dortmund's second goal, for defender Waldemar Anton in the 55th minute, Dortmund was leading Madrid 2-0. Seven minutes after that, it was 2-2.

"If you lose and concede five goals," Sahin said, "you can obviously say that the change of system was incorrect."

'Rohit-Gambhir combo doing wonders': Fans slam India's shambolic batting collapse

New Delhi. India suffered another batting collapse on Day 2 of the Pune Test as Mitchell Santner and Glenn Phillips were nearly unplayable, reducing the hosts to a paltry 107/7 by lunch, trailing New Zealand by 152 runs. Disgruntled fans quickly took to social media, questioning India's batting strategy and the "Rohit-Gambhir combo," a reference to the Indian team management for their attacking intent approach. India started day two with Shubman Gill and Yashasvi Jaiswal at the crease, hoping to build a steady partnership. New Zealand, however, had other plans and deployed Santner from the get-go. Santner's control and precision troubled the batters, almost claiming Gill early on through an LBW shout, though Gill survived momentarily. The duo managed a cautious 49-run stand before Santner struck, trapping Gill for 30. It was just the beginning of India's batting woes. Virat



Kohli's arrival at the crease, a moment of high anticipation, quickly turned disappointing as Santner bowled him for a solitary run. Shortly after, Glenn Phillips joined the action, and with his very first delivery, had Jaiswal caught at slip for 30. India's collapse continued as Phillips and Santner relentlessly pressured the hosts. Sarfaraz Khan and Rishabh Pant, tasked with steadying the innings, briefly resisted but ultimately succumbed—Pant bowled by Phillips for 18 and Sarfaraz falling to Santner for 11 after a loose shot. By the time Ravindra Jadeja and Ravichandran Ashwin were tasked with repair work, India had lost five wickets for just 83 runs. Ashwin soon fell to Santner, leaving India in dire straits at 107/7. The sole hope for fans now rests on Jadeja and Washington Sundar, who were still at the crease with India trailing by 152 runs. Cricket fans voiced their frustration on social media, pointing fingers at team management decisions and strategies. Sarcastic posts about the "Rohit-Gambhir combo doing wonders" filled timelines, as fans vented about India's lackluster batting against spin in home conditions. With New Zealand in full control, India faces an uphill battle to avoid further collapse in the afternoon se

From 52 for 2 to 53-all out: Western Australia lose 8 wickets for just one

Defending champions Western Australia lost eight wickets for just one run coming from a wide before being bowled out for 53, marking the second-lowest team total in the history of Australia's domestic one-day cup.

New Delhi. In one of the most bizarre batting collapses in recent history, Western Australia crumbled from a stable 52/2 to 53 all-out, losing eight wickets for just one run in their fourth match of the ongoing One-Day Cup against Tasmania at the WACA Ground in Perth. The defending champions suffered a total batting collapse, marking the second-lowest team total in Australia's domestic one-day cup history. After being sent in to bat, Western Australia seemed to

be building a steady foundation, reaching 52/2 in the 16th over. However, in a sudden and dramatic turn, their middle and lower order completely disintegrated. Within a mere 28 deliveries, they lost eight wickets for just one run, which came from a wide. This collapse saw six players



dismissed without scoring, including some of Australia's white-ball hopefuls like Hilton Cartwright, Ashton Turner, Ashton Agar, and Josh Inglis. The devastating bowling performance from Tasmania was led by Beau Webster, who ripped through

the Western Australian lineup, taking 6 for 17—his career-best figures. He was supported by Billy Stanlake, who finished with 3 for 17. D'Arcy Short was the top scorer for Western Australia with 22 runs, while Cameron Bancroft was the only other player to reach double digits, scoring 14. In response, Tasmania chased down the modest target of 54 runs with ease, completing the job in just 8.3 overs to secure a seven-wicket victory. Although Tasmania lost three wickets in their pursuit, Mitchell Owen top-scored with 29 to ensure a comfortable win for his side. For Western Australia, Joel Paris (2/10) and Lance Morris (1/10) picked up wickets, but it was too little too late after the shocking batting collapse. This isn't the first time Western Australia has experienced a dramatic collapse in this year's competition. In an earlier match, they went from 133/3 to 164 all-out while chasing 167 against South Australia, ultimately losing that game as well. With three losses in four matches so far, the defending champions now find themselves struggling to retain their title.

Roberto Mancini leaves Saudi Arabia national team after termination of contract

Riyadh. Roberto Mancini has stepped down as head coach of Saudi Arabia's national football team, the Saudi Arabian Football Federation (SAFF) announced on Thursday. The decision, reached by mutual consent, comes just three weeks before Saudi Arabia's vital 2026 World Cup qualifier against Australia.

Mancini, who famously guided Italy to a European Championship victory in 2021, was appointed head coach of Saudi Arabia in August 2023, only two weeks after resigning as Italy's manager. Despite his decorated career, which includes winning three Serie A titles with Inter Milan and a Premier League title with Manchester City, Mancini's time with the Saudi national team was underwhelming. During his 14-month tenure, the 59-year-old oversaw seven wins in 18 matches. Saudi Arabia's World Cup qualifying campaign has been rocky, with the team currently sitting third in Group C of Asia's third round of qualifiers, outside the automatic qualification spots. Following a 2-0 home defeat to Japan and a goalless draw with Bahrain, Saudi Arabia have five points from four matches, trailing both Japan and

Australia, who are tied with 10 points. Only the top two teams in each group will qualify directly for the 2026 World Cup, while third and fourth-place teams must navigate additional qualifying



rounds. Mancini also faced disappointment in the 2023 Asian Cup, where Saudi Arabia were eliminated in the round of 16 after a penalty shootout loss to South Korea. His decision to leave the pitch before South Korea's final penalty sparked controversy, though he later apologized for the incident. Saudi Arabia's next challenge will be a World Cup qualifier against Australia in

Roberto Mancini has left his role as head coach of Saudi Arabia's national team, the country's football federation said Thursday.

Melbourne on November 14, followed by a match against Indonesia in Jakarta on November 19. The SAFF will now look to quickly appoint a new coach to guide the team through these critical fixtures.

"The board of directors of the Saudi Football Federation and Roberto Mancini have reached a joint agreement, which includes the end of the contractual relationship," the SAFF confirmed in a statement shared on social media platform X (formerly Twitter). Mancini's departure leaves Saudi Arabia searching for stability as they aim to secure a spot in the 2026 World Cup amid growing pressure in the qualification race.

IND vs NZ: Yashasvi Jaiswal joins Joe Root in 1000-run Test club in 2024

IND vs NZ, 2nd Test: Indian youngster Yashasvi Jaiswal joined England batter Joe Root in the list of batters to have scored 1000 runs in Test cricket in 2024.

New Delhi. Yashasvi Jaiswal has become only the second batter to score 1000 runs in Test

cricket in 2024. The left-handed batter achieved the feat on Day 2 of India's second Test against Tom Latham's New Zealand at the Maharashtra Cricket Association Stadium in Pune.

IND vs NZ, 2nd Test Day 2 Updates

Joe Root stands on top of the list with 1305 runs from 14 Tests at an average of 59.31 with five centuries and four fifties. Root's top score of 262 came in England's opening Test against Pakistan at the Multan Cricket Stadium. In 10 Tests until now in 2024, Jaiswal has scored 1007 runs at an average of 59.23 and a strike-rate of 75.88 with a top score of 214 earlier this year against the Three Lions at the Saurashtra Cricket Association Stadium in Rajkot. Prior to that, the left-handed batter also notched a double hundred in the Vizag Test against England. It



goes without saying that Jaiswal has had a dream run in Tests this year. After scoring 171 runs on debut last year against the West Indies, Jaiswal has not taken a step

backwards. Yashasvi Jaiswal looking for a big score

In the ongoing series against the Kiwis, Jaiswal has got off to starts, but a big score has eluded him. In the opening Test at the M Chinnaswamy Stadium in Bengaluru, the youngster scored 13 and 35. India went on to lose the match by eight wickets to go 1-0 down in the three-match series. Jaiswal looked promising in the first innings of the second Test, before again getting out. He made 30 runs off 60 balls with four fours. Glenn Phillips accounted for his wickets after Jaiswal found an outside edge straight into the hands of Daryl Mitchell in the slip cordon. Jaiswal is expected to play a key role in India's upcoming Border-Gavaskar Trophy.

Seema Sajdeh

Recalls Getting Creepy Message From '100 Year-Old' Man



Since the release of Netflix's reality show *Fabulous Lives of Bollywood Wives*, it has become a hot topic of conversation. This season, Seema Sajdeh, a fashion designer and ex-wife of Sohail Khan, revealed that she has moved on from her difficult divorce and is currently dating her ex-fiance, businessman Vikram Ahuja. In addition to this surprising revelation, Seema made headlines for another reason. Recently, the cast of *Fabulous Lives of Bollywood Wives*, including Maheep Kapoor, Bhavana Pandey and Neelam Kothari, participated in an interview with Fever FM. During a light-hearted rapid-fire segment, Seema was asked to share the weirdest or creepiest direct message (DM) she had ever received. After a moment of reflection, she recalled a bizarre incident where an unknown sender reached out with an unusual proposal, stating that they wanted to "keep" her and even quoted a budget for it.

"This dude offered to... basically, he had given me the budget for a month," revealed Seema, which left her friends in utter shock. She mentioned that the guy looked like he was '100 years old.' "It was creepy... He basically said, 'I will be happy to keep you, but this would be the budget'. The budget was around \$7000 -8000... I saw the face and had a heart attack," Seema mentioned. The conversation took a hilarious turn when Maheep asked if the man was offering that amount for a day or a month. Seema said, "Maheep! I didn't have a conversation with him." Speaking of Seema Sajdeh, she eloped with Sohail Khan and married him in 1998. After welcoming two sons, Nirvaan and Yohan, and spending two decades together, the couple ultimately decided to part ways. In one of the episodes of the latest season of *Fabulous Lives of Bollywood Wives*, the fashion designer confided in her elder son about her new chapter in life, revealing that she is dating someone. Seema confirmed that she is seeing her ex-fiance, Vikram Ahuja, whom she was engaged to before her decision to elope with Khan.



Dalljiet Kaur Denies Stirring Up Controversy In Personal Life For Bigg Boss: 'Maine Apni Zindagi Tabah...'



Dalljiet Kaur found herself at the center of controversy following her separation from Nikhil Patel. Their messy breakup included a slew of accusations and some whispers suggest she's been trying to grab headlines for her potential appearance on *Bigg Boss 18*. In a cheeky response to the rumours, Dalljiet laughed off the idea that she would sabotage her own life just to get on a show she's already done. In a chat with Pinkvilla, Dalljiet said, "Dude, I went to *Bigg Boss*. Maine socha ye achha hain, maine apne zindagi ko tabah kiya taa ki mein *Bigg Boss* jau, bhool gaye kya mein gayi thi. Aur mein actor achhi hu. Mein kahi ro deti, cheekh deti, mein aaj tak apni details nahi di. Agar galti se de du... (I will ruin my life so that I can go to *Bigg Boss*? Did you forget that I went there? And I am a good actress. I could have easily cried or shouted, but till now, I haven't shared my details. If I accidentally do...)

Dalljiet said that if she wanted to create drama on *Bigg Boss 13*, she totally could have, but she stayed quiet then, and is still quiet now. "The point is mein chup hu, waha pe bhi chup thi chaha mein nikli aur jo bhi ho, matlab jane ke liye kuch facade karna, mere paas toh golden opportunity thi, mein jaake aa gayi, mein *Bigg Boss 13* mein thi aur mere friends bhi the. Taab *Bigg Boss 13* kitna hit hone wala bahar nahi pata tha. Arti meri dost thi pehle, Rashami thi, mere paas toh safety net tha. Mein wahi pe kisiko pakad ke shuru kar deti aapna dukh gaane."

Dalljiet Kaur and Nikhil Patel confirmed their separation amid accusations from Dalljiet that Nikhil cheated on her. The couple faced challenges with their blended family dynamic after Dalljiet returned to India with their son, Jaydon, leaving Nikhil in Kenya. Their relationship had begun to deteriorate, leading to this decision.

Raghav Chadha Drops Unseen Photos On Parineeti Chopra's Birthday, Calls Her 'Most Precious Gift'



Parineeti Chopra is celebrating her birthday today and getting wishes from all corners. Priyanka Chopra also wished the actress on social media. But her husband Raghav Chadha's birthday wish grabbed our attention. He dropped unseen photos on her birthday and penned a special note. Taking to his Instagram handle, Raghav Chadha wrote, "Your laughter, your voice, your beauty, your grace —sometimes I wonder how God fit so much magic into one person... As you grow more stunning and wiser on your birthday today, I hope all your dreams come true. You, Paru, are my most precious gift and I'll keep doing everything I can to make you smile even more. Happy birthday, my princess!" Parineeti also reacted and wrote, "Ragiiiiiiii!" Parineeti shared a picture of Parineeti and wished her on her birthday. Taking to her Instagram Stories, Priyanka Chopra shared a selfie of Parineeti Chopra. The picture showed Parineeti donning a black swimsuit and was clicked after she took a dip in the ocean. Parineeti had let her hair loose and she wore sunglasses as she enjoyed her beach holiday. Fondly calling her 'Tisha', Priyanka wrote, "Happy birthday Tisha. Sending you lots of love on your special day." She also added a heart and kiss emoji along with tagging Parineeti.

Parineeti was recently in Delhi to celebrate her first Karva Chauth with her husband and family. On the work front, she was last seen in Imtiaz Ali's *Amar Singh Chamkila* where she starred alongside Diljit Dosanjh. She played the role of Chamkila's wife, Amarjot. She has not announced any new project as of now. This year, Parineeti headlined numerous articles because of her critically acclaimed performance in the Netflix original *Amar Singh Chamkila* (2024), starring opposite Diljit Dosanjh. Earlier this year, in an interview with *Bollywood Hungama*, Parineeti talked about how getting work in Bollywood does not depend only on merit. "Getting work in Bollywood doesn't only depend on merit or acting, you have to be in cliques and camps to get roles. I am not present at the right place at the right time. I am not getting papped every day," she said. She further talked about how B-town parties are a big stage for casting opportunities.

Shruti Haasan

Exits Adivi Sesh's *Dacoit*: A Love Story Amid Creative Differences



Shruti Haasan is currently making headlines for his upcoming projects like *Salaar 2*, *Coolie* and *Chennai Story*. A recent report suggests that the actress has walked away from one of her other upcoming projects, titled *Dacoit: A Love Story*. The upcoming action drama film is directed by Shaneil Deo and is said to feature Shruti alongside Adivi Sesh as the main lead. The latest buzz indicates that the actress has reportedly walked away from the project, with creative differences between Shruti and the makers cited as the main reason for this major decision.

Some other reports have also claimed it was Adivi Sesh's alleged control of the project's dimensions led Shruti Haasan to exit it. There has been no official confirmation from either Shruti Haasan or the filmmakers regarding these claims. The film had already built excitement among the viewers with the teaser, released in December last year. The film is said to revolve around two estranged lovers who are forcibly reunited, setting off a chain of events involving a series of robberies that ultimately change their lives. A recent report says the scenes involving Shruti Haasan and Adivi Sesh are going to be scrapped and the *Dacoit* team will freshly shoot the scenes on Sesh and another actress (replacement). Shruti never had any issues creatively or with the production house; the actress even said that she has the highest regard for Sesh, but the reason for her exit from the film remains a mystery. Meanwhile, the makers of *Dacoit* have already approached a couple of actresses as replacements. They are also considering Bollywood actresses and the name would be out very soon. Despite losing out on *Dacoit*, Shruti's other projects remain in the pipeline, including the promising film *Coolie*, starring Rajinikanth and others. The film's cast was announced recently. It appears to be on track for its release.

Apart from her professional life, Shruti Haasan often grabs attention for her personal life. For the uninform, she dated Shantanu Hazarika for several years before news of their breakup surfaced on social media. The actress has not publicly commented on the matter.

