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WNCL: The magic wand behind Australia's white ball success

PRICE - Rs 2 /-

Ranchi | Tuesday | December 10, 2024 | Page 08 | Daily | Volume - 09, Issue - 295

RNI Regn No. JHAMUL/2016/75465

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# The Researchers'

## NEWS BOX

### Sudan: 28 Killed, 37 Injured In Bombardment Of Fuel Station In Capital City Khartoum

**Khartoum.** At least 28 people were killed and 37 others injured in a bombardment targeting a fuel station south of the Sudanese capital Khartoum, according to a volunteer group and local media. "The ammonia fuel station, in the new Market 6 in Mayo neighborhood, north of Bashair Hospital, was bombed, resulting in significant human and material losses." South Khartoum Emergency Room, a local volunteer group, said in a statement on Sunday. The injuries included 29 burn cases, three of which were first-degree burns, and eight cases of shrapnel wounds, Xinhua news agency reported. The group said medical efforts were going on to deal with the incident, calling for additional medical assistance for the injured. The Sudanese news portal Al-Rakoba confirmed on Sunday that 28 people were killed and



37 others injured in the bombardment of the ammonia fuel station. So far, no party has yet claimed responsibility for the attack. Sudan has been gripped by a devastating conflict between the Sudanese Armed Forces and the paramilitary Rapid Support Forces since mid-April 2023. The deadly conflict has resulted in more than 27,120 deaths and displaced over 14 million people, either inside or outside Sudan, according to estimates by international organisations.

### If We Are Subsidising Canada, Mexico Let Them Become A State Of The US: Trump

**Washington.** Observing the US is subsidising its two neighbours Canada and Mexico to the tune of USD 100 billion and USD 300 billion, respectively, incoming US President Donald Trump on Sunday said that if that is the case then these two countries better be a part of America. Trump, 78, has threatened to impose hefty tariffs on both Canada and Mexico if they don't stop the flow of illegal immigrants into the US through their territories. "We're subsidising Canada to the tune of over USD 100 billion a year. We're subsidising Mexico for almost USD 300 billion. We shouldn't be subsidising. Why are we subsidising these countries? If we're going to subsidise them, let them become a state (of the US)," Trump told NBC News in an interview, his first on a Sunday talk show after winning the November 5 presidential elections. We're subsidising Mexico, we're subsidising Canada, and we're subsidising many countries all over the world. All I want to do is have a level, fast, but fair playing field," he asserted. Trump refuted the observations by some American CEOs that tariffs would cost the US and increase the cost of common commodities thus putting a strain on common people. They cost Americans nothing. They made a great economy for us. They also solve another problem. If we were going to have problems having to do with wars and having to do with other things, tariffs, I have stopped wars with tariffs by saying, you guys want to fight, it's great, but both of you are going to pay tariffs to the United States at 100 per cent. They have many purposes (for), tariffs if properly used. I don't say you use them like a madman. I say properly used," he said. "But it didn't cost this country anything. It made this country money. We never really got the chance to go all out because we had to fight COVID in the last part. We did it very successfully. When I handed it over to Biden, the stock market was higher than it was just previous to COVID coming in. It was higher. Tariffs, if properly used, are a very powerful tool, not only economically, but also for getting other things outside of economics," he said.

### NYPD releases new photos of suspected killer of UnitedHealthcare CEO Brian Thompson

**World.** The New York Police Department (NYPD) has released two new photographs of the suspected killer of UnitedHealthcare's CEO, with one photograph showing him seated in a taxi's back seat on the shooting day. The killer shot Brian Thompson outside Manhattan's New York Hilton Midtown on Wednesday and is still not arrested despite an extensive search operation extending beyond New York City's boundaries. A photograph shows the unknown suspect looking forward from the rear seat, wearing a blue surgical mask, dark headwear and black hood. The second photograph, taken through glass, shows him walking along the street wearing identical mask attire, a black puffer coat and hooded covering. The suspect boarded a taxi at approximately 7 am Wednesday in the Upper West Side shortly after Thompson's shooting, according to police reports. The suspect travelled northward to a coach station near the George Washington Bridge, potentially boarding an interstate coach. These photos are recent additions to evidence as authorities analyse thousands of surveillance footage hours to understand the suspect's movements. They also discovered bullet casings at the crime scene marked with "depose," "deny" and "delay" - potentially referencing insurance claim avoidance terminology.

## Ousted Syrian President Assad, His Family In Russia, Granted Asylum: Report

**World.** Ousted Syrian President Bashar al-Assad and his family have arrived in Russia's Moscow after the rebels took over the country's capital city Damascus on Sunday, Russian news agencies reported citing a Kremlin source. "Assad and members of his family have arrived in Moscow," the source told the Russian news agencies. Assad family has been granted asylum by the Russian authorities on "humanitarian grounds", the source added. Earlier in the day, Russia announced that Assad had resigned from the post of the President of Syria and left the country to an unknown destination. "As a result of negotiations between B Assad and a number of participants in the armed conflict in the SAR, he decided to leave the presidential post and left the country, giving instructions to transfer power peacefully," the Russian foreign ministry had said in a statement. Speculations swirled over the fate of Assad after the rebels advanced the capital city. It was

assumed that he might seek refuge in Russia or Iran. As reported earlier, the ousted leader was visiting Moscow just before the rebel offensive and Iranian news agencies published a photograph of him that showed him meeting a top Iranian official in Damascus. Assad has not spoken in public since the rebels advance a week ago, when insurgents seized northern Aleppo in a surprise attack before marching into a succession of cities as frontlines crumbled. Meanwhile, as per the sources, Moscow had received guarantees from Syrian insurgents of the security of Russian military bases and diplomatic posts in Syria. **Fled to Unknown Destination** The Syrian Observatory for Human Rights war monitor said Assad left on a private plane that took off from Damascus international airport at 10:00 pm (1900 GMT) on Saturday night, without specifying where he headed.



There were also the reports of Assad being killed in a plane crash after it abruptly reversed course and flew in the opposite direction for several minutes before vanishing from radar near the city of Homs, Reuters reported. **What Fueled Speculations Of Assad's Death?** Reuters cited data from the Flightradar website and reported that a Syrian plane took off from the Damascus airport around

the same time when the capital city was stormed by the anti-regime forces. The flight initially moved towards Syria's coastal region which is believed to be his stronghold. However, the plane made a U-turn abruptly and flew in the opposite direction for some time before it disappeared from the map. The abrupt U-turn and disappearance from the radar fueled speculations Assad might have been killed mid-air. **Syrians Celebrate Assad's Ouster** Celebrations erupted around Syria and crowds ransacked Assad's palace earlier today the HTS, formerly known as the Al-Nusra Front and affiliated with the terror group Al-Qaeda, along with allied factions, ended five decades of Baath party rule. **Who Is Bashar al-Assad?** Bashar Al-Assad came to power succeeding his father Hafez Al-Assad in 2000 and ruled Syria for over two decades till an armed rebellion overthrew his regime.

### Gaza health officials say latest Israeli airstrikes kill at least 14 including children

**DEIR AL BALAH.** Israeli airstrikes in central Gaza killed at least 14 people including children on Sunday, Palestinian health officials said, while the bombing of a hospital in northern Gaza wounded a half-dozen patients. Israel's military continues its latest offensive against Hamas militants in northern Gaza, whose remaining Palestinians have been almost completely cut off from the rest of the territory amid a growing humanitarian crisis. One airstrike flattened a residential building in the urban Bureij refugee camp Sunday afternoon, according to the Al-Aqsa Martyrs Hospital in the nearby city of Deir al-Balah, where the casualties were taken. At least nine people were killed including six children and a woman. Earlier on Sunday, another Israeli strike hit a tent in the Nuseirat refugee camp, killing at least five people including two parents and their two children. Al-Aqsa Martyrs Hospital said. In northern Gaza, the Health Ministry said a

bombing targeted the Indonesian Hospital wounding six patients, one of them seriously. It is the largest hospital north of Gaza City.



"We demand international protection for hospitals, patients and medical staff," the ministry said in a statement that also urged safe passage to and from hospitals, more medical supplies and fuel and safe evacuation of the wounded. The Israeli military Sunday evening said it was unaware of any attack on the Indonesian Hospital "in

the last three to four hours." Meanwhile, the military said it briefly closed the key Kerem Shalom crossing after fighters launched mortar shells several meters (feet) from the nearby humanitarian corridor toward its troops. It said Gaza's main cargo crossing was reopened after those who fired were "eliminated," though it added that the arrival and distribution of humanitarian aid was delayed. Kerem Shalom is the only crossing between Israel and Gaza that is designed for cargo shipments and has been the main artery for aid since the Rafah crossing with Egypt was shut in May. Last month, nearly two-thirds of aid entering Gaza came through Kerem Shalom. A second cold, rainy winter is beginning in Gaza, with hundreds of thousands of Palestinians in squalid tent camps and reliant on international aid.

### Damascus Spring': Reports say Assad arrives in Moscow after rebels seize Syria

**World.** Islamist-led rebels overran Damascus in a lightning assault on Sunday, driving President Bashar al-Assad out of the country and bringing the Assad family's 50-year grip on Syria to a dramatic end. Russian state news agencies were reporting that President Bashar Assad and his family had arrived in Moscow and were given asylum. Russia said Assad left the country after negotiations with rebel groups and that he had given instructions to transfer power peacefully. The Syrian capital woke up on Sunday to chanting, cheering and celebratory gunfire following the fall of Assad. Rebels led by the Islamist group Hayat Tahrir al-Sham (HTS) announced they had entered the city and toppled the longtime ruler. State media broadcast a declaration of his overthrow and reported a mass release of detainees. Abu Mohammed al-Jolani, a former al-Qaida commander who cut ties with the group years ago leads HTS, the biggest rebel faction in Syria, and is poised to chart the country's future. He made his first public appearance since fighters entered the Damascus suburbs, at the capital's sprawling Umayyad Mosque, and called himself by his given name, Ahmad al-Sharaa. He said Assad's fall was "a victory to the Islamic nation." Syrians around the country toppled and trampled on statues of Bashar al-Assad's late father Hafez, who founded the brutal system of government that his son inherited. In Damascus, people cheered as they stood on a toppled statue of former president Hafez al-Assad, in a highly symbolic moment for a country ruled with an iron fist by his clan. The scenes came as Islamist-led rebels wrested city after city from his control, culminating with their arrival in Damascus. After five decades in power, most Syrians are too young to remember a time when the country was not ruled by the Assads. Russia, a staunch ally of al-Assad, confirmed on Sunday that the Syrian president had resigned following negotiations with the sides involved in the conflict and had left the country, without saying where to. "As a result of talks between B Assad and a range of participants of the conflict on the territory of the Syrian Arab Republic, he took the decision to resign from his presidential post and leave the country, giving instructions to proceed with the peaceful transfer of power," Russia's foreign ministry said. "Russia did not take part in these talks." Meanwhile, dozens of Syrians explored Assad's luxurious Damascus home after it was looted on Sunday, an AFP correspondent said, following the fall of the capital to rebel forces. Women, children and men could be seen touring the home and its large garden, with the rooms completely empty, save some furniture and a portrait of Assad thrown on the floor. "I came for revenge; they oppressed us in incredible ways," Abu Omar, 44, told AFP. "I am taking pictures because I am so happy to be here in the middle of his house," he added, showing photographs on his mobile phone. The residence in the upscale al-Maliki neighbourhood comprises three six-storey buildings.

## Fall of Assad regime 'historic opportunity for people' of Syria: Biden

**WASHINGTON.** The fall of the Assad regime that brutalised, tortured and killed thousands of innocent Syrians over the past half a century is a historic opportunity for the people of the country, outgoing US President Joe Biden said on Sunday. Biden spoke at the White House hours after rebel groups took over the country following more than a dozen years of violent civil war and decades of leadership by Bashar Assad and his family. "After 13 years of civil war in Syria and more than half a century of brutal authoritarian rule by Bashar Assad and his father before him, rebel forces have forced Assad to resign his office and flee the country. We're not sure where he is, but there's word that he's in Moscow. At long last, the Assad regime has fallen," Biden said. "This regime brutalised, tortured and killed hundreds of thousands of innocent Syrians. The fall of the regime is a fundamental act of justice. It's a moment of historic opportunity for the long-suffering people of Syria to build a better future for their rood country," he said. It is also a moment of risk and uncertainty, Biden said, adding that over the past few weeks, the support of Hezbollah,

Iran and Russia to the Assad regime had collapsed. He observed a new opportunity for the people of Syria now. The Syrian opposition that brought down Assad is led by Hayat Tahrir al-Sham, which the US says is a terrorist organisation with links to al-Qaida. However, the group says it has since broken ties with al-Qaida. "Looking ahead, the United States will do the following. First, we'll support Syria's neighbours, including Jordan, Lebanon, Iraq, and Israel, should any threat arise from Syria during this period of transition. I will speak with leaders of the region in the coming days. I had long discussions with all of our people earlier this morning. I'll send senior officials from my administration to the region as well," he said. "Second, we will help ensure stability in eastern Syria, protecting our personnel against any threats, and our mission against ISIS will be maintained, including security of detention facilities, where ISIS fighters are being held as prisoners. We're clear-eyed about the fact that ISIS will try to take advantage of any vacuum to reestablish its capabilities and create a haven. We will not let that

happen," he said. "Just today, US forces conducted a dozen precision strikes, airstrikes, a toxin Syria, targeting ISIS camps and operatives. Third, we will engage with all Syrian groups, including within the process led by the United Nations to establish a transition away from the Assad regime towards independent and sovereign Syria, with a new constitution, and a new government that serves all Syrians. And this process will be determined by the Syrian people themselves." Biden said. A day earlier, Trump ruled out any role for the US in Syria. "In any event, Syria is a mess, but is not our friend and THE UNITED STATES SHOULD HAVE NOTHING TO DO WITH IT. THIS IS NOT OUR FIGHT. LET IT PLAY OUT. DO NOT GET INVOLVED!" he wrote on Truth Social. US Secretary of State Tony Blinken said the US would closely monitor developments as they unfold and engage with our partners in the region. "We will support international efforts to hold the Assad regime and its backers accountable for atrocities and abuses perpetrated against the Syrian people, including the use of chemical weapons and.

## Lara Trump steps down as RNC co-chair, addresses speculation about Florida Senate seat

**World.** Lara Trump will step down as co-chair of the Republican National Committee as she considers a number of potential options with her father-in-law, President-elect Donald Trump, set to return to the White House. Among those possibilities is replacing Florida Sen. Marco Rubio, whom Trump tapped to be the next secretary of state. If Rubio is confirmed, Florida Gov. Ron DeSantis will choose who takes the seat through the remainder of Rubio's term, which expires in 2026. "It is something I would seriously consider," she told The Associated Press in an interview. "If I'm being completely transparent, I don't know exactly what that would look like. And I certainly want to get all of the information possible if that is something that's real for me. But yeah, I would 100% consider it." Elected as RNC co-chair in March, Lara Trump was a key player in the Republicans retaking the White House and control of the Senate while maintaining a narrow House majority. What she does next could shape

Republican politics, given her elevated political profile and her ties to the incoming president. The idea of placing a Trump family member in the Senate has been lauded in some Republican circles. Among the people pushing for her to replace Rubio is Maye Musk, mother of Tesla and SpaceX CEO Elon Musk. "The Senate is an old man's club. We desperately need a smart, young, outspoken woman who will reveal their secrets," she posted on X. Lara Trump is 42. Elon Musk, who was with Lara Trump on election night at Trump's Mar-a-Lago estate in Florida, responded to his mother's post: "Lara Trump is genuinely great." Led by chairman Michael Whatley and Lara Trump, the RNC invested heavily in recruiting roughly 230,000 volunteers and an army of lawyers for what it called its "election integrity" effort, four years after Donald Trump lost his reelection bid to Democrat Joe Biden, citing false or unproven theories about voter fraud.



Outside groups such as Turning Point Action and Musk's America PAC took a greater responsibility for advertising and get-out-the-vote efforts. While Whatley will remain RNC chairman, Lara Trump said she felt she had accomplished her goals in the co-chair role.

"With that big win, I kind of feel like my time is up," she said. "What I intended to do has been done." Lara Trump praised Musk's new endeavor, the Department of Government Efficiency, or DOGE, a nongovernmental task force headed by Musk and fellow entrepreneur Vivek Ramaswamy. They've been tapped to fire federal workers, cut programs and slash federal regulations as part of Trump's "Save America" agenda for his second term. "I really don't think we've seen movement like this in our federal government since our country's founding in many ways," she said. "And I think if they are successful in what they plan to do, I think it is going to be transformative to America in a great way." She said she expects a different presidency this time, beginning with the structure of the administration: While Trump's daughter Ivanka and son-in-law Jared Kushner served as White House advisers in his last administration, Lara Trump said.



## INS Tushil: Multi-Role Stealth Guided Missile Frigate Commissioned into Indian Navy in Russia

**Kaliningrad:** The Indian Navy has officially inducted the INS Tushil, a state-of-the-art multi-role stealth guided missile frigate, into its fleet. The commissioning ceremony, held in Kaliningrad, Russia, was attended by Indian Defence Minister Rajnath Singh, who described the ship's induction as a major milestone for India's growing maritime power and a testament to the strong and enduring friendship between India and Russia.

**A Symbol of India-Russia Collaboration**  
Minister Singh highlighted that INS Tushil is a prime example of the growing collaboration between Indian and Russian industries. He emphasized that the ship features an increasing amount of "Made in India" content, reflecting India's ongoing efforts to strengthen its indigenous defence capabilities. Singh also acknowledged Rus-



sia's steadfast support for India's vision of Aatmanirbhar Bharat (Self-Reliant India), noting that the ship's creation is a product of successful cooperation between the two nations.

**India's Maritime Strategy and Regional Security**  
The Defence Minister underscored the significance of the ship's commissioning within the broader context of India's maritime strategy. He reiterated India's commitment to the vision of Security and Growth for All in the Region (SAGAR),

a cornerstone of India's maritime policy promoted by Prime Minister Narendra Modi. Singh explained that SAGAR symbolizes India's dedication to regional security, maritime cooperation, and sustainable development. He also pointed out that Russia has consistently supported this vision, further strengthening the bilateral maritime relationship.

**Recognition of Collaborative Efforts**  
Admiral Dinesh K Tripathi, Chief of the Naval Staff, ex-

pressed his congratulations to all those involved in the project, including the workers at the shipyard and the Russian and Indian Original Equipment Manufacturers (OEMs). He praised their exceptional work and the successful integration of Indian systems with Russian technologies, which significantly enhanced the ship's capabilities.

**Strengthening Naval Ties**  
The event was also attended by Russian Deputy Minister of Defence Alexander Vasilyevich Fomin, Governor of Kaliningrad Alexey Sergeevich Besprozvannykh, and senior officials from both Indian and Russian governments, as well as from the two navies and the defence industries. The commissioning of INS Tushil marks another significant step in the long-standing defence collaboration between India and Russia.

## Over 40 schools receive bomb threats, students sent back home



**New Delhi:** Over 40 schools across Delhi received bomb threats on Monday, prompting authorities to evacuate students as a precautionary measure. Among the schools targeted were DPS RK Puram and GD Goenka School in Paschim Vihar. According to police sources, GD Goenka School was the first to receive the threat, which arrived via email at 6:15 am, followed by DPS RK Puram at 7:06 am. The threatening email, cited by NDTV, read: "The bombs are small and hidden very well. It will not cause very much damage to the building, but many people will be injured when the bombs detonate. You all deserve to suffer and lose limbs."

In response, police, fire officials, and bomb detection units were quickly deployed to the affected schools. Delhi Police PRO Sanjay Tyagi confirmed that teams had immediately reached the locations after receiving the email alerts. He assured the public that the safety of students and staff was the top priority and that all necessary precautions were being taken. "The source of the email is currently under investigation," Tyagi added. "We are committed to ensuring the security of our educational institutions and will take appropriate action against those responsible." Situation closely.

## Jharkhand Governor Urges ISM Students to Contribute to India's Development



**Dhanbad:** Jharkhand Governor Santosh Kumar Gangwar, while addressing the 99th Foundation Day of the Indian Institute of Technology- Indian School of Mines (IIT-ISM) on Monday, called on students and alumni to embrace the spirit of "Vasudhaiva Kutumbakam," which means "the world is one family." He urged them to apply their education with a sense of responsibility towards building a developed and prosperous India.

As the chief guest at the event, Governor Gangwar highlighted that India's progress could only be realized when every citizen conscientiously fulfills their duties and responsibilities.

IIT-ISM, celebrating nearly a century of excellence, marked its 99th Foundation Day with a series of significant events. The day included recognizing distinguished researchers and long-serving employees for their vital contributions to the institute's legacy.

P.M. Prasad, an IIT-ISM alumnus and Chairman of Coal India Limited, expressed his confidence in the institute's bright future. Professor Prem Vrat, another key speaker, emphasized IIT-ISM's growth in emerging fields such as renewable energy and water management.

A significant moment during the event was the planting of 100 fruit-bearing trees on the campus, reinforcing IIT (ISM)'s commitment to sustainability.

Over 200 school students were also invited to explore the institute's advanced laboratories and geological museum, igniting their curiosity and inspiring future scientists and engineers.

The cultural program featured captivating performances by renowned musicians, including Pandit Partha Bose and Pandit Santosh Nehar, who played the Sitar, Violin, Tabla, and Ghatam, along with a classical dance performance of "Srita Kamla Kucha."

Founded in 1926, IIT (ISM) has evolved from a mining-focused institution to a national leader in research, particularly in critical minerals, clean coal technology, and sustainability. With 17 centers of excellence, IIT-ISM continues to play a pivotal role in technological and societal advancements.

As the institute approaches its centenary, it remains steadfast in its mission to foster knowledge and promote global unity through research and education.

## Uncertainty Surrounds Dalai Lama's Visit to Bodhgaya This Year

by Rahul Kumar

**Gaya, Bihar:** For the past decade, Buddhist spiritual leader Dalai Lama has made his annual visit to Bodhgaya in December, where he conducts teachings and sermons for thousands of devotees. However, this year, there is uncertainty regarding his arrival in Bodhgaya, as the schedule for his visit has not yet been confirmed.

In previous years, Dalai Lama's arrival schedule was typically prepared in October or November. But this year, the schedule has yet to be released, leaving many devotees in anticipation. Aamji Baba, the director of the Tibetan temple in Bodhgaya, stated that the schedule might be received by December 15. If the schedule does not arrive by then, it may not be possible for Dalai Lama to visit Bodhgaya this year.

The Dalai Lama, whose permanent residence is in Dharmshala, has been a regular presence in Bodhgaya, the sacred site where Lord Buddha attained enlightenment. During his visits, he holds teachings and sermons that attract large gatherings of Buddhists from across the globe.

While the temple has traditionally received information about the Dalai Lama's visit well in advance, no such details have been communicated this year. According to Aamji Baba, the schedule has not been prepared yet, and if it doesn't arrive by mid-December, it will be unclear whether Dalai Lama will be able to travel to Bodhgaya this year.

Devotees from both India and abroad are waiting eagerly for confirmation of his visit, hoping for the opportunity to hear his teachings in Bodhgaya, a center of Buddhist spirituality.

## DAV Sector-6, Bokaro, Shines at National Sports in New Delhi



**Bokaro:** DAV Public School Sector-6, Bokaro, has earned accolades at the DAV National Sports held in New Delhi, securing a total of 9 medals, including one gold, three silver, and five bronze. The school celebrated the achievement in a felicitation ceremony at the school's prayer hall.

Ayush Kumar Sahu made history by winning a gold medal in the boys' under-17 boxing category, while Manish Kumar claimed silver in the same category. Nishant Kumar added another bronze in the under-15 category. In judo, Nikita Soren won a bronze in the under-14 girls' category.

In team events, Abhay Kumar Singh and Shreyansh Parasar earned silver in boys' under-19 handball, while Roshan Kumar, Mohammad Atif, and Rohit Yadav won bronze in under-17 kho-kho. Principal Anuradha Singh congratulated the players, emphasizing the importance of sports in developing leadership, cooperation, and discipline. She praised the students for excelling in both sports and academics, acknowledging the support from coaches and parents.

The event also saw the presentation of 'Student of the Week' badges and certificates to students who participated in the painting competition. Teachers were also present to celebrate the achievements.

## PhonePe offers Insurance Plan against Dengue & Malaria @ Rs. 59 per year

**New Delhi:** PhonePe has introduced a new insurance plan on its platform offering coverage against dengue, malaria, and other vector-borne and air-borne diseases for just Rs. 59 annually.

The affordable health plan provides comprehensive coverage of up to ₹1 lakh for medical expenses related to diseases such as malaria, dengue, chikungunya, filariasis, Japanese encephalitis, swine flu, bird flu, typhoid, tuberculosis, and meningitis. The company stated that the plan is designed to protect users, particularly in Tier 2 and Tier 3 cities, from the financial burden of unexpected medical expenses due to these illnesses.

The coverage includes hospitalization, diagnostics, and ICU stays, ensuring year-round protection for PhonePe users. Unlike seasonal insurance plans that are limited to the monsoon period, this plan offers continuous coverage throughout the year.

Vishal Gupta, CEO of PhonePe Insurance Broking Services, commented, "Our goal is to provide tailor-made insurance solutions to underserved populations across the country by leveraging our expertise in digital distribution, thus ensuring peace of mind for millions of Indians."

## 'Sonia Gandhi-George Soros link'

\* Allegations Spark Political Controversy as BJP Links Opposition to Foreign Influence \*

**New Delhi:** The Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) has raised serious allegations against Sonia Gandhi, accusing the former Congress president of having connections to an organization funded by the George Soros Foundation. The BJP claims that this organization supports the notion of Kashmir as an independent nation and reflects foreign influence on India's domestic politics.

In a series of posts on social media platform X, the ruling party asserted that the links between Sonia Gandhi and the Forum of Democratic Leaders in Asia Pacific (FDL-AP) Foundation, where she serves as co-chair, were indicative of foreign entities meddling in India's internal affairs.

BJP's Allegations: Foreign Influence on India's Internal Affairs

The BJP has accused Sonia Gandhi of ties to the FDL-AP Foundation, which it claims is financially supported by the Soros Foundation. The BJP further alleges that the FDL-AP holds views promot-



ing Kashmir's independence, a stance that the ruling party says undermines India's sovereignty.

"This connection highlights the influence of foreign powers on India's political landscape," the BJP stated. "Sonia Gandhi's association with an organization that advocates for Kashmir as a separate nation is concerning, as it demonstrates the reach of foreign funding in India's politics."

The party also claimed that the Rajiv Gandhi Foundation, chaired by Sonia Gandhi, had partnered with the Soros Foundation in the past, adding weight to their accusations of foreign influence on Indian institutions. BJP MP to Question Rahul Gandhi in Parliament

Amid these allegations, BJP Member of Parliament Nishikant Dubey announced plans to question Congress leader Rahul Gandhi in the Lok Sabha. Dubey accused Hungarian-American financier George Soros and the Organized Crime and Corruption Reporting Project (OCCRP) of conspiring with the Opposition to harm India's economy and tarnish the image of the Modi government.

"Through the OCCRP's involvement in broadcasting Rahul Gandhi's press conference on businessman Gautam Adani, their ties to Soros-funded organizations are clear," Dubey alleged. "This coordination aims to destabilize India's economy." Kiren Rijiju Calls Allegations

"Serious" Union Parliamentary Affairs Minister Kiren Rijiju weighed in on the issue, calling the accusations against Sonia Gandhi "serious." Speaking to the media, Rijiju stated, "From the available reports, it is evident that the George Soros Foundation is known for working against India. We must all unite in opposing forces that undermine India's interests."

What is the OCCRP? The Organized Crime and Corruption Reporting Project (OCCRP) is an international network of investigative journalists founded in 2006. The organization focuses on exposing cases of corruption and organized crime, and it receives funding from groups including the George Soros-funded Open Society Foundations and the Rockefeller Fund.

These developments have sparked a political debate, with the BJP accusing the Opposition of colluding with foreign entities to destabilize India, while Congress has yet to respond to the latest allegations.

## Dr. Ramchandra Honored with EDC Research Fellowship Award

**Dhanbad:** Dr. Ramchandra Kumar, Assistant Professor in the B.Ed. Department at R.S.P. College, Jharia (Belgadia), Dhanbad, has been awarded the prestigious EDC Research Fellowship Award, 2024.

The award was presented to him by the Education Development Council (EDC), Patna, during a two-day international conference on "Sustainable Development" held at Fatima Degree College,



Patna. The EDC Research Fellowship Award recognizes exceptional achievements and contributions in the field of education.

Dr. Kumar has made significant strides in the education sector, authoring and editing 10 books on education and contempo-

rary issues. He is also actively involved in research and development.

On this achievement, Dr. Kumar received congratulations from the Principal of R.S.P. College, Dr. Nilesh Kumar Singh, and faculty members of the B.Ed. Department, who wished him continued success in his future endeavors.

## Leaders Ignoring Hindus Must Change Their Mindset



by Sanjay Saxena

In Bangladesh, Hindus, Buddhists, and other minority communities are facing horrific violence, including killings, property destruction, and sexual assaults. These atrocities are far worse than the incidents in Sambhal, Uttar Pradesh, and even the recent violence in Bahrach seems minor in comparison. While the opposition parties, particularly the Gandhi family and Akhilesh Yadav, are raising alarms over Sambhal and Bahrach, they remain silent on the ongoing bloodshed in Bangladesh, where Hindus and Dalits are enduring severe persecution.

Akhilesh Yadav's Samajwadi Party (SP) and Rahul Gandhi's Congress Party are both accused of prioritizing the Muslim vote bank over the welfare of other communi-

ties. While they make public statements about Dalits and backward classes, their actions suggest otherwise, focusing more on appeasing Muslim voters. This political competition for the Muslim vote has caused tension between the two parties, even though they are allies in the INDIA alliance. In Uttar Pradesh, Akhilesh Yadav has maintained a firm grip on the Muslim voter base, distancing himself from Congress in recent elections, including during the Lok Sabha and assembly by-polls.

After the violence in Sambhal, Rahul Gandhi's planned visit was dismissed as a publicity stunt by SP leader Ramgopal Yadav. This turned out to be accurate when Congress remained silent on the issue during Parliament debates, focusing instead on unrelated topics like the Adani controversy. Meanwhile, leaders like Uttar Pradesh Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath and BSP chief Mayawati criticized the silence of Congress and SP on

the atrocities against Hindus, particularly in Bangladesh. Yogi Adityanath condemned their lack of action, linking it to historical silences on issues like the suffering of Dalits under the Nizam of Hyderabad.

Mayawati also questioned the opposition's focus on the Sambhal violence while ignoring the plight of Hindus and Dalits in Bangladesh, demanding that the Indian government help bring oppressed Dalits to India. She accused Congress and SP of using communal issues to gain Muslim votes while neglecting broader public welfare.

Meanwhile, BJP leader Shahnawaz Hussain pointed out the silence of Muslim organizations in India regarding the persecution of Hindus in Bangladesh. He called for a unified protest from the Muslim community against these atrocities, highlighting India's role as a model for minority rights and urging Muslim organizations to speak out.

## Hollywood Film "Mahayogi" Film Promotes Peace, Releases on 13 Dec.

**Mumbai:** The upcoming Hollywood film Mahayogi, which conveys a powerful message of peace and the need to end wars, will be released in theaters on December 13. The film, which encourages humanity to embrace love and mutual understanding, portrays the destructive nature of war and the importance of global unity.

A press conference for the film was held in Mumbai, where Rakesh Sabharwal from Prince Movies, the film's all-India distributor, and Narendera Sharma of Triloc Films Inc, USA, shared details about the film. Sabharwal clarified that despite the title, Mahayogi is not a spiritual film, but rather a portrayal of Shiva, who symbolizes the divine essence within every human being. The central character in the film is based on Shiva, embodying the message of universal love and peace. The 104-minute film will be dubbed and released in



several languages, including Hindi and Telugu. The Hindi version is slated for release on February 14, 2025. Initially, the film faced delays in obtaining a censor certificate, with the first attempt being rejected. After several cuts and revisions, it was finally approved after five and a half months.

The film's storyline reflects on the chaos and violence in the world, with a particular focus on the impact of religion, politics, casteism, and racial discrimination. It portrays how the world is engulfed in conflict, with neighboring countries on the brink of war. The film suggests that humanity must

wake up and abandon internal and external divisions, choosing instead to walk the path of love and peace. It conveys that only through collective harmony can the end of Kalyug (the age of darkness) and the dawn of Satyug (the age of truth) occur.

Producer-director Rajan Luthra, who wrote and directed Mahayogi, uses the film to communicate God's message of love and unity, filmed at scenic locations in San Francisco, Los Angeles, Haridwar, and Kedarnath. The film urges viewers to recognize that true divinity lies in love and mutual harmony, not in division or conflict.

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# "We Are Patriots, No Question Of Anti-India Stance": Congress Rebuts BJP

**Kiren Rijju said that such matters should not be viewed through a "political lens" and urged a united front against "anti-India forces."**

New Delhi. Union Minister Kiren Rijju today claimed that the alleged connections between Congress leader Sonia Gandhi and Hungarian-American businessman George Soros are a "serious" concern. Mr Rijju said that such matters should not be viewed through a "political lens" and urged a united front against "anti-India forces."

"It is an important issue that I want to raise without doing politics over it. The links between Sonia Gandhi and George Soros are serious. We do not want to see it by giving a political spin," he said. The BJP has alleged that Sonia Gandhi has ties with organisations financed by George Soros's foundation. The ruling party claims that these entities have supported controversial stances, such as treating Kashmir as a separate entity. The BJP claimed Sonia Gandhi's past role as co-president of the Forum of Democratic Leaders in Asia Pacific (FDL-AP) Foundation, which allegedly shared views favouring Kashmir's independence, is a matter of concern. Additionally, the party pointed to partnerships between the Rajiv Gandhi Foundation and Soros-linked



organisations as evidence of foreign influence in domestic affairs. "We want to run parliament. I want to clarify that some issues are politically driven but if powers outside India are trying to defy India and fight against India then there are serious concerns," Mr Rijju said.

Mr Rijju dismissed any intention to interfere in Congress's internal politics but noted that questions about Rahul Gandhi's leadership were being raised within the INDIA alliance.

"If Rahul Gandhi is not able to lead the INDIA bloc then it is their internal matter but we have heard that they are not on the same page," he

claimed. BJP MP Nishikant Dubey yesterday announced plans to confront Congress MP Rahul Gandhi in Parliament with 10 questions about these alleged ties. Mr Dubey accused Soros and the Organized Crime and Corruption Reporting Project (OCCRP) of working with opposition leaders to harm India's economy and defame Prime Minister Narendra Modi's government.

The BJP raised the issue in Parliament today, however, Rajya Sabha chairman and Vice President Jagdeep Dhankar said that there will not be any discussion on it. I have received 11 notices under Rule 267. I have decided not to admit them. Notices have been given to raise the issue of a rising threat to national security due to alleged nexus between a political party and some international organisations working against India," Mr Dhankar said.

### Opposition Reaction

Opposition leaders have rejected the BJP's allegations. Congress MP Karti Chidambaram dismissed the BJP's allegations, terming them "dark fantasies" that should be confined to the "dark web".

## RJD non-committal on Mamata Banerjee's willingness to lead INDIA bloc

Senior JD(U) leader K C Tyagi said that the regional leaders are not happy with Rahul Gandhi's leadership and there is also a dispute regarding leadership in the 'INDIA' bloc.

PATNA. The main opposition in Bihar the Rashtriya Janata Dal (RJD) is non-committal on the West Bengal chief minister and Trinamool Congress leader Mamta Banerjee's willingness to lead the 'INDIA' bloc.

RJD leader and former Bihar deputy chief minister Tejashwi Prasad Yadav said on Sunday that the matter has not been discussed as yet. "There has been no talks on the matter till date," he said in response to a media query. He hastened to add that such things will be decided when senior leaders of alliance partners will sit together and discuss the issue. "I don't think there will be any objection on the names of senior leaders to run the alliance," he said. RJD spokesperson Mritunjay Tiwari, however, admitted that Mamta Banerjee is a strong faction of the alliance and she has been fighting against BJP and communal forces. "What Mamta Banerjee is saying, the leaders of the INDIA bloc will meet and decide there is no controversy," Tiwari added.

However, he didn't forget to mention the role of the RJD chief and former Bihar chief minister Lalu Prasad in uniting the non-BJP parties across the country. Reacting to Mamta Banerjee's statement, Prashant

Kishor, political analyst and founder of Jan Suraj Party, said that Mamta Banerjee is a senior leader and the INDIA coalition knows who will lead them as it is the coalition's internal matter. "INDIA bloc, so far, is not being led by a person or party. Congress is leading the alliance by default



since it is the largest party" he added. On the other hand, senior JD(U) leader K C Tyagi said that the regional leaders are not happy with Rahul Gandhi's leadership and there is also a dispute regarding leadership in the 'INDIA' bloc.

While responding to a question on the latest friction in the 'INDIA' bloc involving Mamta Banerjee's statement, Tyagi said, "That's why JD(U) and Nitish Kumar came out of the alliance. We knew about its future that it can't work together."

## Describe your relationship: Rahul Gandhi to Congress MPs wearing PM-Adani masks

Since the Winter Session began on November 20, the two Houses have witnessed constant washouts over the Opposition continuing to attack the Central government for avoiding a discussion on the Adani bribery case.

New Delhi. Congress MPs Manickam Tagore and Saptagiri Sankar Ulaka on Monday wore face masks of Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Adani Group chairman Gautam Adani as Opposition leaders again protested in Parliament, demanding a probe into the bribery case in the US involving the billionaire industrialist. Congress MP and Leader of the Opposition, Rahul Gandhi, was seen clicking pictures of Tagore and Ulaka and also asked to describe their "relationship".

In response, they mockingly said, "Hum dono milke sab kareng (we will do everything together). We have had a relationship for years".

On Rahul Gandhi asking them why Parliament proceedings had stopped because of them, the MPs said, "He is



missing today. Amit bhai (Union Home Minister Amit Shah) did not come to the House today." The MP who pretended to be Adani said, "whatever I say, he does it", as he pointed to his colleague wearing PM Modi's mask.

Since the session began on November 20, the two Houses have witnessed constant washouts over the Opposition continuing to attack the Central

government for avoiding a discussion on the bribery charges in the US against Adani. Opposition MPs from the INDIA bloc, except from Trinamool Congress, Samajwadi Party and the Aam Aadmi Party, join the protests on Monday, seeking a joint parliamentary probe into the case.

The protesters stood outside the Makar Dwar of Parliament and raised slogans like "Modi, Adani ek hain" and "we want justice". On December 6, Rahul Gandhi took a potshot at PM Modi and asked the latter not to be afraid of the Adani probe and attend the Winter Session. Last month, US prosecutors charged Adani, his nephew Sagar and other defendants for paying over \$250 million in bribes between 2020 and 2024 to Indian government officials.

## High Court Judge Says Law Works According to Majority, A Owaisi Reacts

Justice Shekhar Kumar Yadav delivered a lecture on the Constitutional Necessity of a Uniform Civil Code in Prayagraj yesterday

New Delhi. An Allahabad High Court judge's remarks at an event organised by the Visva Hindu Parishad have sparked a massive row, with AIMIM leader Asaduddin Owaisi questioning how a minority party can expect justice from such a judge.

Justice Shekhar Kumar Yadav delivered a lecture on the Constitutional Necessity of a Uniform Civil Code in Prayagraj yesterday. The event was organised by the legal cell of Vishva Hindu Parishad. In remarks that have since triggered a controversy, the judge said the law in the country works according to the majority. "I have no hesitation in saying that this is Hindustan, this country would function as per the wishes of the bahusankhyak (majority) living in Hindustan. This is the law. You can't say you are saying this being a High Court Judge. The law works according to the majority. Look at it in the context of family or society... Only what benefits the welfare and happiness of the majority will be accepted," he said, according to Live Law.

Criticising the judge, Hyderabad MP Owaisi said the Constitution of India expects independence and impartiality of its judiciary. The VHP was banned on various occasions. It is associated with RSS, an organisation that Vallabhai Patel banned for being a 'force of hate and violence'. It is unfortunate that a High Court judge attended the conference of such an organisation. This 'speech' can be easily rebutted, but it's more important to remind his honour that the Constitution of India expects judicial independence and impartiality," the AIMIM chief posted on X. A barrister, Mr Owaisi said the Constitution of India is not a majoritarian but a democratic one. "In a democracy, the minority's rights are protected. As Ambedkar put it '...as a King has no Divine Right to rule, so also a majority has no Divine Right to rule'.

"This speech indicts the collegium system and raises questions on judicial impartiality. How can a minority party expect justice before someone who participates in VHP's programs?" he added. The VHP was banned on various occasions. It is associated with RSS, an organisation that Vallabhai Patel banned for being a 'force of hate and violence'. It is unfortunate that a High Court judge attended the conference of such an organisation.



## 'Accept defeat': CM Fadnavis counters Sharad Pawar's remark on vote-seat discrepancies

Pawar said NCP (SP) and Shiv Sena (UBT) won fewer seats despite receiving more votes than Ajit Pawar's NCP and Shinde's Shiv Sena. Fadnavis dismissed the comparison, citing data from the Lok Sabha elections.

MUMBAI. Maharashtra Chief Minister Devendra Fadnavis and NCP (SP) president Sharad Pawar were embroiled in a war of words on Sunday over the results of the state assembly elections. Pawar argued that his faction, despite receiving more votes than the Ajit Pawar-led NCP, only secured 10 seats, while Aji's NCP won 41 seats. In response, Fadnavis dismissed the comparison of total votes with seat victories, citing data from the recent Lok Sabha elections to make his case. The accusation comes amid the NCP (SP) leader's visit to Markadwadi village on Sunday, where the veteran leader extended his support to the villagers who raised doubts over the EVMs.

Notably, the villagers had tried conducted mock polls using ballot papers to verify their votes with the EVMs. However, local administration and police prohibited the mock polls, citing law and order concerns. More than 200 people from the Markadwadi village and nearby areas were



booked for allegedly trying to conduct a re-poll. "We have collected some data about EVMs. People cast their votes, but in the end, the results were unexpected. You raised awareness about the issue, and the process needs to change," Pawar told the villagers. The BJP hit back at Pawar with the state party president Chandrashekhar Bawankule asking the senior politician to accept the people's mandate gracefully instead of misleading them.

He posted voting data from previous elections on X to reject Pawar's claim of fewer seats won by opposition MVA allies despite securing more votes in the assembly polls. Pawar also pointed out that developed countries such as the United States and those in Europe conduct elections using ballot papers, while India continues to use EVMs despite the doubts raised about their usage and potential manipulation. The NCP (SP) chief said that in the recent state elections, his party secured a total of 72 lakh votes but only 10 candidates were elected, while Aji's NCP received 58 lakh votes and won 41 seats. He also added that Uddhav Thackeray-led Shiv Sena (UBT), which garnered 80 lakh votes, only won 20 seats, while the Shiv Sena led by Deputy Chief Minister Eknath Shinde secured 79 lakh votes and won 57 seats. "If you calculate the received votes and the won seats, it's very confusing and surprising. We are collecting the data and analysing it.

## AAP's 2nd list out, Manish Sisodia moved to Jangpura, Avadh Ojha gets Patparganj

Manish Sisodia has represented the Patparganj seat, which is part of the East Delhi Lok Sabha constituency, since 2013. He was first elected to the seat in the December 2013 Delhi Assembly election, when he defeated his BJP rival Nakul Bhardwaj.

The Aam Aadmi Party (AAP) on Monday announced its second list of candidates for the Delhi Assembly elections scheduled to take place early next year. Manish Sisodia, the incumbent MLA from Patparganj, has been moved to Jangpura, while new inductee Avadh Ojha will contest from the former Delhi Minister's constituency. Sisodia was first elected to the Patparganj seat, which is part of the East Delhi Lok Sabha constituency, in the December 2013 Delhi Assembly election, after defeating his BJP rival Nakul Bhardwaj. In the February 2015 polls, Sisodia defeated the BJP's Vinod Kumar Binny and in the last 2020 elections, he emerged victorious against the saffron party's Ravinder Singh Negi.

As per the candidates' list, 18 of the total 20 seats have new faces, including Ojha, a renowned UPSC coach and educator who joined the AAP on December 2. He originally hails from Gonda, Uttar Pradesh. According to sources, the decision to field Ojha from Patparganj was



on the basis of the changed demography of the seat with a focus on the Purvanchali community, which makes up roughly 42 per cent of the city's electorate. This community has the power to sway results in nearly half of Delhi's 70 Assembly constituencies, including key areas such as Burari, Laxmi Nagar, and Dwarka. The Purvanchali region comprises the eastern end of Uttar Pradesh and the western

- Second candidates' list comprises 20 names
- Manish Sisodia gets Jangpura after representing Patparganj since 2013
- AAP gives tickets to ex-BJP, Congress leaders

end of Bihar. Some of the other names on the list include Mukesh Goel, sitting councillor and AAP's key strategist in the Municipal Corporation of Delhi, from Adarsh Nagar; and Punardeep Singh Sawhney, son of sitting MLA Parlad Singh Sawhney, from Chandni Chowk. The list also includes the names of Jintender Singh Shunty (Shahdara) and Surinder Pal Singh Bittu (Timarpur), who recently quit the BJP to join the AAP. Shunty replaces sitting MLA and Speaker in the outgoing Assembly Ram Niwas Goel, while

Bittu has been fielded in place of Dilip Pandey, AAP's chief whip in the House. Today's announcement came weeks after the party unveiled the first list of 11 candidates, which prominently featured six leaders who recently joined AAP from the BJP and Congress. Former BJP leaders Brahm Singh Tanwar, Anil Jha, and BB Tyagi, along with ex-Congress leaders Chaudhry Zubair Ahmad, Veer Dhinan, and Sumesh Shokeen, have been given tickets to contest the upcoming polls. Elections to the 70-member Delhi Assembly is expected in January 2025.



## How to decongest the City Beautiful and why

A FEW weeks ago, the unthinkable happened. Flying back to Chandigarh from the smog-laden dystopia of Delhi, I looked forward to getting back to the blue skies of my 'Garden City' hometown. But as the plane descended for landing, the erstwhile panorama of green fields and the azure-blue Shivalik mountain range was cloaked in a gloomy shawl of grey.

Media reports raised serious concerns about the unprecedented rise in the AQI levels of the city. The figures were matching those of Delhi and were even worse at times. The usual suspects were being blamed: 'western disturbances', farm fires, poor wind speed, dust, construction. But the elephant in the room was the increase in vehicular emissions.

Chandigarh not only has the distinction of the highest per capita income but also the highest number of cars per person car in the country. From being a pedestrians paradise, its roads are crammed with automobiles today. In 2023, Chandigarh registered a record-breaking 53,220 vehicles, much above the average 45,697 vehicles registered per year over the last decade. The 'oxygen capital of India' has now among the highest AQI figures in the country.

Another development — about Haryana wanting to build its own Assembly complex in Chandigarh to accommodate its growing spatial needs — also reflects the congestion and paucity of space occurring in the city, and specially in the Capitol Complex, which is listed as a UNESCO property. The other edifices of the Capitol — the Secretariat and high court — face similar constraints. Perhaps, all three need to shift some of their functions to other locations. The constant struggle to balance the two forces — the ever-expanding needs of a 'living heritage city' and saving the work of genius architect and planner Le Corbusier — needs a nuanced approach. With unplanned expansions will come threats to its authenticity that could jeopardise its UNESCO tag. Designed for a population of half a million, today is home to nearly 1.3 million. The Chandigarh Master Plan 2031 has estimated that the projected population of Chandigarh could touch between 16 and 20 lakh by 2030 and that of the entire Tricity region could shoot up to 45 lakh. And only seven decades ago, when the new capital project of Chandigarh was launched by the Government of Punjab, there were some apprehensions that India's first planned city would never be inhabited; it would be like the historic follies of Daulatabad and Fatehpur Sikri.

The success story of Chandigarh has now, quite ironically, become its problem. 'Brand Chandigarh' as an urban product has not been bettered or even matched by the new satellite towns or other capital cities in the post-Independence India. The trifurcation of Chandigarh in 1966 made it not only the joint capital of Punjab and Haryana but also a centrally administered city. With three governments functioning out of a 114-sq km Union Territory (out of which only 70-sq km constitute the planned urban grid), it leaves it open for encroachments and violations. As such, the city needs to decompress and decentralise some facilities to the adjoining satellite towns to its advantage. A larger Chandigarh Urban Complex (CUC), on the lines of the National Capital Region (NCR) of Delhi needs to be considered. Like the NCR Planning Board, there ought to be a well-empowered CUC to undertake common interlinked infrastructure projects. All congestion points in Chandigarh need to be decongested. Instead of permitting mega shopping malls in its industrial area, which are leading to traffic jams, the sub city centre of Sector 34 should be made more attractive for investment as it has more space. Similarly, the 'urban villages' in Chandigarh are no more traditional villages engaged in agricultural activities but hubs for low rental accommodation or low tariff hotels. With very little control over their expansion and an absence of bye-laws, they are growing in a chaotic manner.

## The idea of Viksit Bharat is facing huge challenges

Structural reforms, especially at the state and local levels of governance, can make India's growth rate sustainable.

INDIA is dreaming of becoming a developed country by 2047. Recently, the CEO of NITI Aayog BVR Subrahmanyam recently predicted that India was on track to achieving the targeted \$30-trillion economy by 2047. Arvind Subramanian, former chief economic adviser, has projected that even a \$50-trillion economy is well within India's reach.

The claims are supplemented by various global governance institutions and corporate think tank organisations that have thrown up a variety of arguments and presumptions. It seems that India is poised to become a developed country by the stipulated date. This projection is reinforced by the media, warding off critics. However, some business leaders and policymakers have started questioning the current model of governance and fixing long-term targets without facing the real challenges. Infosys founder Narayana Murthy recently said that India's governance system has failed to be innovative. Problems are recurring with no viable and sustainable solutions in sight. Murthy used Delhi's pollution to vindicate his point. He urged the government to change its system of management and take the challenges of the Indian economy head on. The Indian rupee, in comparison to the US dollar, has depreciated and the growth rate in the second quarter of 2024-25 nose-dived. Chief Economic Adviser V Anantha Nageswaran has warned businessmen against being complacent. He has cautioned them to not take advantage of the depreciation of the rupee in increasing their exports. Rather, they should concentrate on increasing productivity and innovations to be competitive in the international markets. He also proposed some structural reforms, especially at the state and local levels of governance, to make India's growth rate sustainable. Pertinently, the Commerce and Industry has proposed to dismantle the facility of ease-of-doing business's single-window system because captains of the Indian industry have not shown much interest in this policy instrument. This clearly brings out the fact that the idea of a developed India (Viksit Bharat) is facing gigantic challenges. There is need to clear the long bumpy road ahead. The first and foremost challenge lies in the evolution of the economic structure and its

disconnect among the three sectors of economy. One must keep in view the development experience of the developed countries, including East Asian countries, which have had a dynamic and leading industrial sector at the centre of transformation of their economies. The industry, as an engine of growth and transformation of these economies, had provided new products to the world, raising productivity and was the main source of

instead, has remained predominant, standalone, adding low value and not much employment opportunities. Instead of providing new products to the world, it has remained a subservient service office of the western developed countries.

These structural weaknesses have resulted in a long-term chronic deficit in the balance of trade and a stressed foreign exchange rate. This deficit has forced for the compensation to be derived from the capital account. This has further burdened the economy with a rising debt-GDP ratio. These challenges are formidable and can act as a stumbling block in the realisation of India's goal of becoming developed. The recently published World Development Report 2024 has examined the causes of why countries fall in low- or middle-income traps. The report has also attempted to provide some way forward. The most important factor that allowed the smooth transition of a country to become developed has been the discipline on 'capital'. The second most important factor has been investment in research and development and become a leader in innovation.

On both counts, India has remained not only deficit but also lagging. A large number of billionaires has emerged in India in a short span of time, but their contribution in introducing new products in the world is almost nil. Low investment in innovation is a violation of the expected ethics/code of conduct of capital for a developed country.

Studies on domestic innovations since the July 1991 economic reforms show a decline in domestic share of innovations. This supports the fact that the Indian polity and policymakers have failed to make the Indian capitalists to invest in innovations to become a leader in high productivity and competitive globally. If the dynamics are changed, they can generate higher job opportunities and more income in the hands of the workforce. This will ensure upward mobility of the workers and generate adequate demand for goods and services. This multiplier impact is needed for the business as an incentive to be innovative for a sustained economic activity.



employment. It is the services sector that has remained predominant for generating income. But the largest proportion of the workforce continues to derive livelihood from the agriculture sector. The agriculture sector, during the last three decades of economic reforms, has borne the burden of the promised transformation of the Indian economy. The workforce currently employed in this sector is as high as 45 per cent. This work engagement comprises low productivity and subsistence wage income, making the agriculture sector as one in distress. Another feature of the developed countries' experience has been the strong intersectoral linkages during the process of structural transformation, including the agriculture, industry and services sectors. Studies examining the sectoral linkages of the developed economies and the Indian economy show that weak intersectoral linkages have prevented the Indian industry from realising the economies of scale. The services sector of India,

## Groundwater crisis

PUNJAB and Haryana are on the brink of a groundwater crisis that could jeopardise not only the region's agricultural backbone but also the nation's food security. Recent data from the Central Ground Water Board paints a grim picture: Punjab's Stage...

PUNJAB and Haryana are on the brink of a groundwater crisis that could jeopardise not only the region's agricultural backbone but also the nation's food security. Recent data from the Central Ground Water Board paints a grim picture: Punjab's Stage of Groundwater Extraction (SoE) stands at a staggering 163.76%, while Haryana follows closely with 135.74%. These figures indicate that groundwater extraction in these states far exceeds natural recharge, pushing aquifers to critical depletion levels.

The crisis is primarily driven by the cultivation of paddy, a water-guzzling crop that dominates Punjab's agricultural landscape due to assured procurement and subsidies. Despite efforts to promote alternatives like maize or pulses, farmers remain hesitant, citing inadequate minimum support prices (MSP) and procurement guarantees. As groundwater levels plummet — they are expected to drop below 300 metres by 2039 in Punjab — the quality of water deteriorates,



rendering it unfit for both irrigation and drinking. In addition to agricultural practices, rapid urbanisation and industrial growth have exacerbated the crisis. Cities like

Gurugram and Faridabad in Haryana have been drawing more than double their extractable groundwater, highlighting the unsustainable pressure on this vital resource. The state governments, along with the Centre, must urgently implement measures such as expanding canal-based irrigation, incentivising crop diversification and ensuring robust water pricing mechanisms to discourage over-extraction.

The Jal Shakti Abhiyan and Atal Bhujal Yojana have laid the groundwork for rainwater harvesting and aquifer management. But, unfortunately, their impact remains limited. It raises questions over the ability of the two states to reverse the alarming decline. Without immediate and concerted action, the groundwater crisis could spiral into a national emergency, threatening livelihoods and food security. It is time for policymakers to act decisively to protect this irreplaceable resource even as the affected states face impending barrenness.

## Playing fast & loose with secularism

A communal frenzy that feeds off each other is alive and well in parts of India and Bangladesh

FOREIGN Secretary Vikram Misri's visit to Bangladesh for foreign office consultations early next week is not one second late in coming. Between Dhaka's arrest of the ISKCON-related Hindu monk, Chinmoy Krishna Das, on trumped-up sedition charges and Uttar Pradesh Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath's absurd remarks on the "same DNA" that connects the Mughal king Babur's destruction of temples in Ayodhya, Sambhal and today's Bangladesh, it's fair to say that a communal feeding frenzy that feeds off each other is alive and well in parts of both India and Bangladesh.

Adityanath's remarks are hardly unique. The RSS recently called on the "government of Bharat" to prevent atrocities on Hindus and other minorities in Bangladesh, while BJP leader in West Bengal Suwendu Adhikari has threatened a trade embargo if Muhammad Yunus' government doesn't stop attacking Hindus. Nor is Adityanath the first big BJP leader to speak his mind. Back in 2018, then BJP president and current Home Minister Amit Shah described Bangladeshi migrants into India as "termites" — he used the Hindi word "deemak" — and promised that each of them would be struck off the electoral rolls. It is another matter that 43 per cent of "foreigners" in Assam between 1971 and 2014 (20,613/47,928 people), the Assam Government conceded this August, are Hindus.

Shah's undiplomatic remarks were probably made with the full force of foresight and are testimony to the unhealthy mixing of Hindutva politics with a strategic insensitivity, especially since India's all-important neighbourhood is in question. At the time, the Ministry of External Affairs held its peace, but it took a lot of effort to assuage then Bangladeshi Prime

Minister Sheikh Hasina that she shouldn't take the politician's remarks personally.

At the time, PM Modi had been fully involved in revamping India's relations with its eastern neighbour — Shah's comments constituted a great setback. Modi well understood that Bangladesh is certainly far too important a country to take for granted at any time. That's why Misri's visit to Dhaka is so important. Ever since Hasina fled to Delhi in early August, bilateral ties have plummeted. The two countries have been at loggerheads over most things, including why the so-called revolution was allowed to reach a crescendo of violence, which ended in Hasina's dramatic flight to safety. Dhaka believes that India deliberately refuses to understand Hasina's starring role in the degradation of Bangladesh, while Delhi for the life of itself cannot comprehend why Bangladesh wants to wilfully erase today the memory of icons like Mujibur Rahman and dump it in the ignominious dustbin of history.

The problem, of course, is far more confounded. When Adityanath and Shah are seen as spokespersons of the ruling party, in this case by Bangladesh, and when Delhi refuses to either publicly censure them or privately call upon them to refrain from making the statements they do, the fallout escalates and snowballs and often acquires a life of its own.

Worse, when Indian politicians accuse Bangladeshi politicians of doing what they often do at home — for example, Adityanath's "bulldozer justice" has often meant that houses owned by Muslims have been disproportionately demolished, as compared to houses owned by Hindus — or when Indian politicians openly call for the so-called "return" of disputed sites of worship, for eg in Varanasi and

Mathura, even if it violates the Places of Worship Act, 1991, they sanction the communal politics in neighbouring countries like Bangladesh.

The difference between the Indian secular state and the rest of the neighbourhood has been plain to see for decades — in fact, the neighbourhood has often held up India's democratic sensibility as a role model. It is nobody's case that Indians of all political colours never wreaked vengeance on their minorities, or that



justice was denied to these minorities, often for long periods of time — both the Congress and the BJP have been guilty of perpetrating riots. The difference is that India's judiciary more often than not spoke truth to power. Democracy was more than just a word. Even when compromises were finely wrought, as in the Ram Janmabhoomi dispute which ended with a mediated Supreme Court verdict in 2019 — in which the Muslim side gave up the claim to the sanctum

sanctum real estate on which the Ram temple had once been destroyed in 1529 and the Babri Masjid built by a lieutenant of Babur — it was hoped that the Hindu side wouldn't thump its chest and flaunt its victory. That hasn't quite happened, of course. Instead of being satisfied with wresting the Ram temple back, aggressive Hindu litigants have targeted more and more sites, from the Gyanvapi mosque to the Krishna Janmabhoomi to the Sambhal mosque. It's as if they are thirsting to wreak vengeance on past injustice, no matter they have no first-person experience of the injustice in question. Imagine how the playbook plays out in Bangladesh, already seething with anger over the despotic Hasina fleeing to India. The Bangladeshi media rejects the charge that the Yunus government is not targeting minorities at home, but it is clear that the ISKCON monk is a lightning rod. He has become a fall guy. It will be easy to sacrifice him.

Imagine, too, what the BJP's politics of Hindutva does to the BJP's own foreign policy — it undermines India, of course, but it also undermines Modi, who in his third term certainly wants to leave a mark, even a legacy. The irony is that Modi has creditably held his own elsewhere. He has held India steady against Joe Biden's sanctions against Russia, he is preparing to deal with Trump, he has agreed to swallow his pride vis-à-vis China and he has reached out even to the Taliban in an effort to stabilise the neighbourhood. And then there is Bangladesh — a country that India helped midwife back in 1971 and assisted with giving it an identity of its own. It would be truly tragic if India were to lose Bangladesh today because some short-sighted Indians are intent on playing fast and loose with one of the greatest ideas of our times — an idea called secularism.



## बेजल सरकार पिछू हटेछे, बाड़खण्डा थके बेजले यानवाहन प्रवेश शुरू

प्राय २४ घण्टा पर, बेजल सरकार पिछू हटेछे एबं बाड़खण्डा थके बेजले यागना समस्त पण्यवाही यानवाहन प्रवेश शुरू हयैछे। गत सक्ता १८टा पर बेजल सरकार आदेशे बाड़खण्डा-बेजल मखन सीमाछे पण्यवाही यानवाहन प्रवेश निषिद्ध करा हयैछिन। एर फले रात थके दूपुर पर्यंत प्राय २० किमी दीर्घ यानजट स्ट्रि हय। चालकदेर समस्यार कथा विवेचना करे, MASS बेजल सरकारके चाप देय बाड़खण्डा सीमाछे थके बेजले प्रवेश करा समस्त यानवाहन बन्द करार जन्य। एर फले, बेजल सरकार पिछू हटेते बाध्य हय एबं अवशेषे भारी यानवाहन प्रवेश आवाय स्वाभाविक हय।

बेजल सरकार एहि अनुमति पर, द्वाक चालकरा बन्तिर निश्चय फेलेन। प्राखन निरसा विधायक अरूप च्याटर्जि बाड़खण्डा मुख्याम्बि हेमज सोरनेर एहि उद्योगे प्रशंसा करेन। तनि बलेन, मुख्याम्बि हेमज सोरनेर एहि विषये क्रमागत शुरुकृ दिऐछेन। बेजल सरकार साथे इतिबाचक आलोचना करार पर, बेजल सरकार निषेधाज्ञा तुले न्येय। एर पर, सारिते दौड़िये बाका समस्त पण्यवाही यानवाहन बीरे बीरे बेजले प्रवेश करते शुरु करेछे। NH-९ दीर्घ यानजट एखन सीमित ह्छे एबं यानजट ७ भाङते शुरु करेछे।

## भोजपुरी

### देश क बरवकत

- श्याम कुंवर भारती (राजभर)

सीमा पर सटला त कटला बाबू तोहके खबरदार करके बा।  
मित जाई नाम आतंक भारत से नारा असरदार करे के बा।  
चुन चुन के मारेले जवान सेना के मांद आतंकी घुस घुस के।  
शेर ए हिन्द के दहाड़ से देश के दुमन के दु चार करके बा।

राजनीत ना ई दलदल ह जे भी आइल ऊ कीचड़ से सनाइल।  
कुर्सी खातिर मिलावे हाथ बैरी से उनके शर्मसार करके बा।

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चाहे कुछ भी करे केहु बचावे खातिर देश पहरेदार बने के बा।  
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## सरता हुआ सोना, चांदी की भी घटी चमक

एजेंसी नयी दिल्ली। घरेलू सराफा बाजार में आज मामूली गिरावट दर्ज की गई है। इस गिरावट के कारण देश के ज्यादातर सराफा बाजारों में 24 कैरेट सोना आज 77,760 रुपये से लेकर 77,610 रुपये प्रति 10 ग्राम के दायरे में कारोबार कर रहा है। इसी तरह 22 कैरेट सोना 71,290 रुपये से लेकर 71,140 रुपये प्रति 10 ग्राम के बीच बना हुआ है। चांदी के भाव में भी आज मामूली गिरावट आई है, जिसके कारण दिल्ली सराफा बाजार में इसकी कीमत 91,900 रुपये प्रति किलोग्राम के स्तर पर आ गई है। देश की राजधानी दिल्ली में 24 कैरेट सोना आज 77,760 रुपये प्रति 10 ग्राम के स्तर पर कारोबार कर रहा है, जबकि 22 कैरेट सोने की कीमत 71,290 रुपये प्रति 10 ग्राम दर्ज की गई है। वहीं देश की

आर्थिक राजधानी मुंबई में 24 कैरेट सोना 77,610 रुपये प्रति 10 ग्राम सोना आज 77,610 रुपये प्रति 10 ग्राम की कीमत पर और 22 कैरेट सोना 71,140 रुपये प्रति 10 ग्राम की कीमत पर बिक रहा है। इसी तरह अहमदाबाद में 24 कैरेट सोने की रिटेल कीमत 77,660 रुपये प्रति 10 ग्राम और 22 कैरेट सोने की कीमत 71,190 रुपये प्रति 10 ग्राम दर्ज की गई है। इन प्रमुख शहरों के अलावा चेन्नई में 24 कैरेट सोना 71,140 रुपये प्रति 10 ग्राम की कीमत पर बिक रहा है। इसी तरह कोलकाता में भी 24 कैरेट सोना 77,610 रुपये प्रति 10 ग्राम और 22 कैरेट सोना 71,140 रुपये प्रति 10 ग्राम के स्तर पर कारोबार कर रहा है। लखनऊ के सराफा बाजार में 24 कैरेट सोना आज 77,760 रुपये प्रति 10 ग्राम के स्तर पर और 22 कैरेट सोना 71,290 रुपये प्रति 10 ग्राम के स्तर पर बिक रहा है। वहीं पटना में 24 कैरेट सोने की कीमत 77,660 रुपये प्रति 10 ग्राम हो गई है, जबकि 22 कैरेट सोना 71,190 रुपये प्रति 10 ग्राम के स्तर पर बिक रहा है। इसी तरह जयपुर में 24 कैरेट सोना 77,760 रुपये प्रति 10 ग्राम और 22 कैरेट सोना 71,290 रुपये प्रति 10 ग्राम के स्तर पर बिक रहा है। देश के अन्य राज्यों की तरह कर्नाटक, तेलंगाणा और ओडिशा के सराफा बाजार में भी आज सोने के भाव में मामूली गिरावट आई है। इन तीनों राज्यों की राजधानियों बंगलुरु, हैदराबाद और भुवनेश्वर में 24 कैरेट सोना आज भी 77,610 रुपये प्रति 10 ग्राम के स्तर पर कारोबार कर रहा है। इसी तरह इन तीनों शहरों के सराफा बाजारों में 22 कैरेट सोना भी 71,140 रुपये प्रति 10 ग्राम के स्तर पर बिक रहा है।



## स्टॉक मार्केट में विदेशी निवेशकों की वापसी, पहले सप्ताह 24,454 करोड़ रुपये का किया निवेश

एजेंसी नई दिल्ली। लगातार 2 महीने तक बिकवाली करने के बाद विदेशी पोर्टफोलियो निवेशक (एफपीआई) अब घरेलू शेयर बाजार में वापसी करते हुए नजर आने लगे हैं। दिसंबर के पहले सप्ताह में विदेशी निवेशकों ने 24,454 करोड़ रुपये की शुद्ध लिवाली की है? इस लिवाली से इस बात की उम्मीद बनने लगी है कि 2 महीने की गिरावट के बाद अब घरेलू शेयर बाजार एक बार फिर सरपट चाल में चलना शुरू कर सकता है। जानकारों का कहना है कि वैश्विक माहौल में आ रही स्थिरता और अमेरिकी फेडरल रिजर्व द्वारा ब्याज दरों में कटौती करने की संभावना की वजह से अनिश्चितता का खतरा कम होने लगा है। इसी वजह से विदेशी पोर्टफोलियो निवेशकों ने भारत जैसे मजबूत अर्थव्यवस्था वाले देशों के स्टॉक मार्केट में एक बार फिर लिवाली शुरू कर दी है।

बिकवाली की थी? नवंबर में विदेशी निवेशकों ने भारतीय बाजार से 21,612 करोड़ रुपये की और अक्टूबर में 94,017 करोड़ रुपये



के प्रमुख देशों के केंद्रीय बैंकों द्वारा लागू की जाने वाली ब्याज दर और जियो-पॉलिटिकल जोखिम पर विदेशी निवेशकों का रुख निर्भर करेगा। भारत के संदर्भ में तीसरी तिमाही के दौरान कंपनियों की आय और उनके लाभ या हानि की स्थिति पर भी विदेशी निवेशकों की नजर रहने वाली है। इसके साथ ही आर्थिक वृद्धि के मोर्चे पर देश की प्रगति भी विदेशी निवेशकों को प्रभावित करने में महत्वपूर्ण भूमिका निभाएगी।

## रामगढ़ एसपी ने वॉलकन बजाज शोरूम में सीएनजी बाइक किया लॉन्च

एजेंसी रामगढ़। विश्व की पहली सीएनजी बाइक बजाज कंपनी ने लॉन्च की है। रामगढ़ शहर के वॉलकन बाजार शोरूम में एसपी अजय कुमार ने पल्सर एन-25 के नए मॉडल को लॉन्च किया। इस दौरान उन्होंने कंपनी और शोरूम के कर्मियों को बधाई दी। एसपी ने कहा कि ग्लोबल वॉर्मिंग और प्रदूषण की वजह से हमारा समाज बीमार हो रहा है। सीएनजी बाइक इन सब प्रदूषण को तो दूर करेगी ही, साथ ही इसका बेहतरीन मॉडल और लुक ग्राहकों को भी पसंद आएगा। एसपी ने बताया कि पूरी दुनिया अब कृत्रिम चिजों से हटकर प्राकृतिक चीजों पर निर्भर हो रही है। पहले थ्री व्हीलर और फोर व्हीलर में सीएनजी का इस्तेमाल होता था। लेकिन अब टू व्हीलर भी सीएनजी के साथ सुरक्षित साबित

होगा। उन्होंने बताया कि कंपनी का यह बेहतरीन फीचर लोगों को अच्छा लगेगा। उन्होंने कहा कि सीएनजी टैंक किसी भी परिस्थिति में विस्फोट नहीं करेगा, चाहे दुर्घटना कितनी भी बड़ी हो। कंपनी इस मानक पर अगर खरी उतरती है, तो सीएनजी बाइक की सड़कों पर एक नई पहचान बन सकती है। इस मौके पर शोरूम के मालिक दिनेश पोद्दार, वत्सल पोद्दार, विवेक पोद्दार, शोरूम मैनेजर अभिजीत कुमार सिंह, मोहित सिंह सहित अन्य लोग मौजूद थे।



## इलेक्ट्रिक थर्मामीटर के लिए प्रस्ताव नियमों पर सार्वजनिक टिप्पणी आमंत्रित

एजेंसी नई दिल्ली। उपभोक्ता कार्य, खाद्य एवं सार्वजनिक वितरण मंत्रालय ने मानव एवं पशुओं का ज्वर मापने के लिए बिजली के थर्मामीटरों के संबंध में रूप से जारी नियमों के मसौदे पर सार्वजनिक रूप से लोगों के सुझाव आमंत्रित किए हैं। मंत्रालय की जारी एक विज्ञापन के अनुसार ये सुझाव 30 दिसंबर, 2024 तक सरकार के पास भेजे जा सकते हैं। बयान में कहा गया, 'केंद्र ने क्लिनिकल (नैदानिक) इलेक्ट्रिकल थर्मामीटर के प्रस्तावित नियमों पर 30 दिसंबर, 2024 तक सार्वजनिक टिप्पणी आमंत्रित की है। केंद्र सरकार के उपभोक्ता मामले विभाग ने ओआरएमएल

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नियम, 2011 के अंतर्गत क्लिनिकल थर्मामीटर संशोधन का प्रस्ताव रखा है। इसका उद्देश्य यह सुनिश्चित करना है कि यंत्र

उपभोक्ताओं के हित सुरक्षित रहें। मानव और पशु शरीर के तापमान को मापने के लिए बनाए गए क्लिनिकल इलेक्ट्रिकल

## केंद्र ने क्लिनिकल इलेक्ट्रिकल थर्मामीटर के प्रस्तावित नियमों पर 30 दिसंबर तक मांगे सुझाव

एजेंसी नई दिल्ली। केंद्र सरकार ने क्लिनिकल इलेक्ट्रिकल थर्मामीटर के लिए प्रस्तावित नियमों पर 30 दिसंबर तक सुझाव मांगे हैं। इन नियमों का उद्देश्य बुखार और हृदयधमनियां जैसी स्थितियों के निदान में महत्वपूर्ण भूमिका निभाने वाले उपकरणों के लिए मौजूदा नियमों को संशोधित करना है। हितधारकों और जनता को 30 दिसंबर, 2024 तक अपनी टिप्पणियां और सुझाव देने हैं। उपभोक्ता कार्य, खाद्य एवं सार्वजनिक वितरण मामलों के मंत्रालय ने जारी एक बयान में कहा गया है कि मानव और पशु शरीर के तापमान को मापने के लिए डिजाइन किए गए क्लिनिकल

थर्मामीटर के मानकीकरण और सटीकता को बढ़ाने के लिए

मुताबिक सार्वजनिक और हितधारकों के फीडबैक की समीक्षा के बाद अंतिम रूप दिए जाने के बाद ये नियम क्लिनिकल इलेक्ट्रिकल थर्मामीटर की सटीकता और विश्वसनीयता को मानक बना देंगे। इन प्रावधानों में इन उपकरणों के सत्यापन और मुहर लगाने को अनिवार्य किया गया है, ताकि यह सुनिश्चित किया जा सके कि वे निर्धारित मानकों के अनुरूप हैं, जिससे मनुष्यों और जानवरों के स्वास्थ्य और कल्याण की रक्षा हो सके। दरअसल, उपभोक्ता मामले विभाग के तहत विधिक माप विज्ञान विभाग, तैल और माप उपकरणों में सटीकता और विश्वसनीयता सुनिश्चित करता है, जिससे उपभोक्ता हितों की रक्षा होती है।



प्रकाशित किया गया था। प्रस्तावित मसौदा नियमों को निम्नलिखित लिंक पर ऑनलाइन देखा जा सकता है। ज्ञालय के

## टॉप 10 में शामिल 6 कंपनियों का मार्केट कैप 2.03 लाख करोड़ बढ़ा, टीसीएस को सबसे ज्यादा फायदा

एजेंसी नई दिल्ली। घरेलू शेयर बाजार में सोमवार से शुक्रवार के कारोबारी सप्ताह के दौरान हल्के खरीद-बिक्री के कारण देश की टॉप 10 मोस्ट वैल्यूड कंपनियों में से 6 कंपनियों के मार्केट कैप में कुल मिलाकर 2,03,116.81 करोड़ रुपये की बढ़ोतरी हो गई। इस दौरान टाटा कंसल्टेंसी सर्विसेज (टीसीएस) और एचडीएफसी बैंक के मार्केट कैप में सबसे ज्यादा

बढ़ोतरी हुई। टॉप 10 की 4 कंपनियों के मार्केट कैप में कुल मिला कर 28,084.38 करोड़ रुपये की कमी हो गई। टॉप 10 में शामिल कंपनियों के मार्केट कैप की ये स्थिति तब हुई, जब पिछले कारोबारी सप्ताह के दौरान बीएसई का सेंसेक्स 1,906.33 अंक यानी 2.38 प्रतिशत और एनएसई का निफ्टी 546.70 अंक यानी 2.26 प्रतिशत मजबूत हो गया। सोमवार से शुक्रवार के बीच हुए

कारोबार के दौरान टाटा कंसल्टेंसी सर्विसेज (टीसीएस) का मार्केट कैप 62,574.82 करोड़ रुपये बढ़ कर 16,08,782.61 करोड़ रुपये के स्तर तक पहुंच गया। इसी तरह एचडीएफसी बैंक का मार्केट कैप 45,338.17 करोड़ रुपये बढ़ कर 14,19,270.28 करोड़ रुपये के स्तर पर आ गया। इसके अलावा इंफोसिस का मार्केट कैप सोमवार से शुक्रवार तक हुए

कारोबार के दौरान 26,885.80 करोड़ रुपये बढ़ कर 7,98,560.13 करोड़ रुपये के स्तर पर, रिलायंस इंडस्ट्रीज का मार्केट कैप 26,185.14 करोड़ रुपये बढ़ कर 17,75,176.68 करोड़ रुपये के स्तर पर, स्टेट बैंक ऑफ इंडिया (एसबीआई) का मार्केट कैप 22,311.55 करोड़ रुपये बढ़ कर 7,71,087.17 करोड़ रुपये के स्तर पर और आईसीआईसीआई

बैंक का मार्केट कैप 19,821.33 करोड़ रुपये उछल कर 9,37,545.57 करोड़ रुपये के स्तर पर पहुंच गया। दूसरी ओर, भारतीय एयरटेल का मार्केट कैप 16,720.10 करोड़ रुपये घट कर 9,10,005.80 करोड़ रुपये के स्तर तक गिर गया। इसी तरह आईटीसी का मार्केट कैप 7,256.27 करोड़ रुपये की गिरावट के साथ 5,89,572.01 करोड़ रुपये के स्तर पर पहुंच

गया। इसके अलावा हिंदुस्तान यूनिटीवर का मार्केट कैप 2,843.01 करोड़ रुपये घट कर 5,83,673.71 करोड़ रुपये के स्तर पर और भारतीय जीवन बीमा निगम (एलआईसी) का मार्केट कैप 1,265 करोड़ रुपये कम होकर 6,21,937.02 करोड़ रुपये के स्तर पर पहुंच गया। मार्केट कैप के लिहाज से इंडस्ट्रीज

बाजार पूंजीकरण (मार्केट कैप) के साथ देश की सबसे अधिक मार्केट कैप वाली कंपनी रही। इसके बाद टीसीएस (कुल मार्केट कैप 16,08,782.61 करोड़ रुपये), एचडीएफसी बैंक (कुल मार्केट कैप 14,19,270.28 करोड़ रुपये), आईसीआईसीआई बैंक (कुल मार्केट कैप 9,37,545.57 करोड़ रुपये), भारतीय एयरटेल (कुल मार्केट कैप 9,10,005.80 करोड़ रुपये), इंफोसिस (कुल

मार्केट कैप 7,98,560.13 करोड़ रुपये), स्टेट बैंक ऑफ इंडिया (कुल मार्केट कैप 7,71,087.17 करोड़ रुपये), एलआईसी (कुल मार्केट कैप 6,21,937.02 करोड़ रुपये), आईटीसी (कुल मार्केट कैप 5,89,572.01 करोड़ रुपये) और हिंदुस्तान यूनिटीवर (कुल मार्केट कैप 5,83,673.71 करोड़ रुपये) के नाम सबसे मूल्यवान टॉप 10 कंपनियों के लिस्ट में दूसरे से दसवें स्थान पर बने।



संचार कार्य का समर्थन करते हैं, जिसमें ऐप के माध्यम से कॉन्फ्रेंस कॉल शामिल हैं। आमतौर पर इनका इस्तेमाल व्यावसायिक संगठनों में किया जाता है। कंपनी ने आईपी फोन बनाने के लिए डीसीएम श्रीराम के साथ साझेदारी की है भारत में अपनी विनिर्माण योजना की घोषणा करते हुए टडीएन टेलीकॉम में आईपी मोबाइल से एक कार्यक्रम में कहा कि कंपनी उत्पादन विस्तार के दूसरे चरण में हर साल निवेश बढ़ाएगी। उन्होंने कहा कि कंपनी की योजना भारत में हर साल एक लाख आईपी टेलीफोन बनाने की है।

## खाद्य तेलों में टिकाव; दालों में मिलाजुला रुख

भाव में कोई बदलाव नहीं हुआ और वे पिछले दिवस के स्तर पर पड़े रहे। सप्ताहांत पर सरसों तेल 17215 रुपये प्रति क्विंटल, मूंगफली तेल 19047 रुपये प्रति क्विंटल, सूरजमुखी तेल 15751 रुपये प्रति क्विंटल, सोया रिफाईंड 15531 रुपये प्रति क्विंटल, पाम ऑयल 13187 रुपये प्रति क्विंटल और वनस्पति तेल 16116 रुपये प्रति क्विंटल पर रहा।



## अगले सप्ताह 11 नए आईपीओ से प्राइमरी मार्केट में रहेगी हलचल, 3 शेयरों की होगी लिस्टिंग

कॉइन का 9.17 करोड़ रुपये का आईपीओ सब्सक्रिप्शन के लिए ओपन होगा। इस आईपीओ में 12 दिसंबर तक बोली लगाई जा सकेगी। आईपीओ के तहत बोली लगाने के

शेयरों की बीएसई के एसएमई प्लेटफॉर्म पर 17 दिसंबर को लिस्टिंग होगी। सप्ताह के तीसरे कारोबार दिन 11 दिसंबर को मौखिक का 572 करोड़ रुपये का



लिए 172 से 182 रुपये प्रति शेयर का प्राइस बैंड तय किया गया है, जबकि लॉट साइज 600 शेयर का है। कंपनी के शेयर 17 दिसंबर को बीएसई के एसएमई प्लेटफॉर्म पर लिस्ट होंगे। 10 दिसंबर को ही जल कैंप इंडिया का 29.42 करोड़ रुपये का आईपीओ ओपन होने वाला है। ये आईपीओ भी 12 दिसंबर को क्लोज होगा। आईपीओ के तहत 68 से 72 रुपये प्रति शेयर का प्राइस बैंड तय किया गया है, जबकि लॉट साइज 1,600 शेयर का है। कंपनी के

आईपीओ सब्सक्रिप्शन के लिए खुल रहा है। इश्यू में 13 दिसंबर तक बोली लगाई जा सकेगी। आईपीओ के तहत बोली लगाने के लिए 265 से 279 रुपये प्रति शेयर का प्राइस बैंड तय किया गया है, जबकि लॉट साइज 53 शेयर का है। कंपनी के शेयरों की 18 दिसंबर को बीएसई और एनएसई पर लिस्टिंग होगी। 11 दिसंबर को ही सुप्रिम फेसिलिटी मैनेजमेंट का 50 करोड़ रुपये का आईपीओ सब्सक्रिप्शन के लिए खुलगा।



# दुनिया के सबसे रोमांचक एडवेंचर सीडार प्वाइंट

अमेरिका में ओहियो राज्य के सेंडस्की स्थित लेक ऐली प्रायद्वीप में सीडार प्वाइंट 364 एकड़ में बना विशाल अम्यूजमेंट पार्क है। तरह-तरह की मनोरंजक विशेषताएं लिए यह पार्क वर्ष 1870 में खुला था। यह दुनिया का दूसरा सबसे पुराना अम्यूजमेंट पार्क है। इससे पहला पार्क लेक कंपाउंस है। इसका निर्माण सीडार फेयर इंटरटेनमेंट कंपनी द्वारा किया गया जो इसका संचालन करती है। यही कंपनी इसकी मालिक भी है।

दिन जरूरी हैं। हर साल सीडार पहुंचने वाले पर्यटकों की संख्या करोड़ों से भी ऊपर है। सीडार प्वाइंट में दुनिया के कई सबसे ऊंचे और तेज झूले भी हैं जैसे कि टॉप थ्रिल ड्रैगस्टर और मिलेनियम फोर्स। इनके बारे में कहा जाता है कि इनसे मिलने वाला अनुभव और कहीं नहीं मिलता। जो लोग रोमांच और एडवेंचर की तलाश में रहते हैं, उनके लिए सीडार प्वाइंट से बेहतर जगह और कोई नहीं।

सीडार प्वाइंट को अमेरिका का रोलर कोस्ट भी कहा जाता है क्योंकि यहीं दुनिया के सबसे ज्यादा रोलर कोस्ट और झूले (राइड्स) हैं। इनकी संख्या 72 है जो कि एक विश्व कीर्तिमान है। इसमें 17 रोलर कोस्टर्स भी शामिल हैं जो इसे दुनिया का सबसे ज्यादा रोलर कोस्टर्स वाला तीसरा पार्क बनाता है। चार रोलर कोस्टर्स की ऊंचाई 200 फुट से भी ज्यादा है। मुख्य सीडार प्वाइंट को देखने के लिए एक पूरा दिन चाहिए। यदि यहां मौजूद सभी आकर्षणों को देखना हो तो कम से कम दो



## खून का प्यासा पिस्सू

पिस्सू बिना पंखवाले छोटे कीट हैं जिनकी औसत लंबाई 2 मिलीमीटर होती है। पिस्सू गरम खूनवाले जीवों में परजीवी के रूप में रहकर उनका खून चूसते हैं। मनुष्यों के अलावा वे चूहों, पक्षियों, सूअरों, कुत्तों तथा अन्य जानवरों पर अपनी कृपा ढूँढ़ि बरसाते हैं। उनके शरीर की रचना इस भूमिका के लिए खास उपयुक्त होती है। मेजबान जीव की खाल अथवा परो के बीच से आने-जाने में सहूलियत के लिए उनका शरीर दोनों बगलों से चपटा होता है, यानी लंबाई और ऊंचाई की तुलना में उनकी चौड़ाई बहुत ही कम होती है। बहादुर से बहादुर आदमी भी मामूली-सा पिस्सू देखकर पसीना-पसीना हो जाएगा क्योंकि प्लेग महामारी इसी तुच्छ कीट की सवारी पर चढ़कर मनुष्यों में तांडव मचाती है। पिस्सू की सैंकड़ों जातियां ज्ञात हैं। ये बिना पंखवाले छोटे कीट हैं जिनकी औसत लंबाई 2 मिलीमीटर होती है। पिस्सू गरम खूनवाले जीवों में परजीवी के रूप में रहकर उनका खून चूसते हैं। मनुष्यों के अलावा वे चूहों, पक्षियों, सूअरों, कुत्तों तथा अन्य जानवरों पर अपनी कृपा ढूँढ़ि बरसाते हैं। उनके शरीर की रचना इस भूमिका के लिए खास उपयुक्त होती है। मेजबान जीव की खाल अथवा परो के बीच से आने-जाने में सहूलियत के लिए उनका शरीर दोनों बगलों से चपटा होता है, यानी लंबाई और ऊंचाई की तुलना में उनकी चौड़ाई बहुत ही कम होती है। इस कारण वे दो बालों के बीच के कम फासले में से भी आसानी से गुजर सकते हैं। उनके शरीर पर बहुत से कांटे होते हैं जो बालों अथवा परो में उलझकर पिस्सू को मेजबान जीव के शरीर से गिरने नहीं देते। उनका चपटा शरीर अत्यंत कठोर होता है जो उन्हें मेजबान जीव द्वारा काटे या खुजलाए जाने से बचाता है। उनका मुंह त्वचा को भेदने और खून चूसने के लिए बना होता है। पिस्सूओं का जीवन-चक्र काफी रोचक होता है। मादा पिस्सू मेजबान जीव के मल-मूत्र या उसकी मांस में इकट्ठी गंदगी में अंडे देती है। ये अंडे दो-चार दिनों में फूट जाते हैं। उनसे निकले डिम्बक अंधे होते हैं। वे मल-मूत्र और गंदगी खाकर बढ़ते हैं। मौका मिलने पर अन्य छोटे कीटों का भी वे शिकार कर लेते हैं। समय आने पर ये डिम्बक रेशम जैसे घागे से एक कोष बुनकर उसमें प्रविष्ट हो जाते हैं। इस निष्क्रिय अवस्था में उनका आगे का विकास होता है। वयस्क कीट कोष से बाहर तभी निकलते हैं जब उन्हें कोई जीवित प्राणी का संकेत मिले। यह संकेत है उस प्राणी के चलने-फिरने से होनेवाले कंपन। इसे सुनते ही पिस्सू झट से कोष से निकल आते हैं और उस अभाग्य प्राणी का खून चूसने लगते हैं। इसी कारण से बहुत दिनों से खाली पड़े मकान में घुसने पर एकाएक पिस्सू निकल आते हैं। आप सोचते होंगे कि खाली मकान में पिस्सू कहां से आए। वास्तव में पिस्सू अपने कोषों में आपके ही इंतजार में बैठे थे!



## बर्फ में बर्फ-सा खरगोश

बच्चों, जब हम आर्कटिक की बात करते हैं तो हमारे के जेहन में दूर-दूर तक फैला बर्फ और पेंग्विन, ध्रुवीय भालू और डॉल्फिन जैसे पानी और समतल दोनों पर रहनेवाले जीवों के नाम याद आते हैं, पर क्या आपने कभी सोचा है कि माइंस 40 डिग्री की ठंड में कोई थ्यारा-सा, छोटा खरगोश भी रह सकता है। चौक गये न कि बर्फ में खरगोश! आओ, हम तुम्हें बताते हैं खरगोश की ऐसी ही प्रजाति के बारे में, जो आर्कटिक के ध्रुवीय प्रदेश में रहता है। यह ध्रुवीय खरगोश देखने में तो अन्य खरगोशों की तरह ही दिखता है, पर शरीर की बनावट और इसका रहन-सहन इसे विपरीत परिस्थितियों में भी आसानी से जीवित रखता है। ध्रुवीय खरगोश के बाल काफी मोटे और घने होते हैं, जो इसके लिए कंबल का काम करते हैं।

**साथ रहने की कला**  
ध्रुवीय खरगोश बर्फ के अंदर गड़वा खोद कर रहते हैं। सर्दी से बचने के लिए, ये एक-दूसरे से सटकर रहते हैं, जिससे इनका शरीर एक दूसरे को ताप दे सके। इनके कान अन्य खरगोशों की अपेक्षा छोटे होने के कारण बर्फीली हवाओं से ये बच जाते हैं। ऐसे तो ये आपको अकेले मिल जाएंगे, पर आप इन्हें दर्जन या सैकड़ों के झुंड में देख सकते हैं। इनका झुंड कुछ आपके रकूल की सुबह के प्रार्थना के जैसा ही होता है। एक नर खरगोश एक से अधिक मादाओं के साथ रहता है। मादा खरगोश साल में एक बार लगभग 6-8 बच्चों को जन्म देती है। वसंत ऋतु या गर्मी के शुरुआती दिनों में ये बच्चे देती हैं। सितंबर के महीने तक 2-8 बच्चे बड़े होकर फिर से अगले नस्ल को तैयार करने लायक हो जाते हैं।

**क्या खाते हैं ध्रुवीय खरगोश**  
ध्रुवीय खरगोश ज्यादातर कॉपल, पेड़ों के पत्ते, काई और बेर खाते हैं। सर्दियों में जब खाने की कमी होती है, तो ये समुद्री शैवाल, पेड़ की मुलायम छाल और जड़ भी खा जाते हैं। बच्चों यह बड़े अफसोस की बात है कि बहुत ही कम संख्या में पाए जाने वाले इस थ्यारे से जीव का शिकार इंसान इसके गोशत के लिए करते हैं। अगर इनका शिकार इसी तरह जारी रहा, तो वह दिन दूर नहीं जब यह थ्यारा जीव विलुप्त हो जाएगा।



## पी-50 खिलौने जैसी कार

पील पी50, पुराने जमाने के डिजाइन वाली कार है। इसमें छोटे-छोटे पहिए हैं, एक हेडलाइट, एक दरवाजा और यहां तक कि इसमें खिड़की के शीशे को साफ करने वाला एक वाइपर भी है। यह महज 54 इंच लंबी है। यह पहली सबसे छोटी कार है, जो सड़कों पर दौड़ी। पी50 कार इतनी छोटी है कि अगर इसे पीछे ले जाना हो तो दरवाजा खोलकर बाहर आना पड़ता है और इसे हाथ से खींचकर पीछे कर सकते हैं। इसे कोवेंट्री यूनिवर्सिटी के छात्रों ने मिलकर बनाया। पील पी50 कार और पील ट्राइडेंट कार, बिल्कुल बच्चों के खिलौने की तरह दिखती है। यह भरोसा करना मुश्किल होता है कि यह सड़क पर भी चलती है। ब्रिटेन और अमेरिका में इसे सड़क पर देखा जा सकता है। जब पी50 को पहली बार 1960 के दशक में पेश किया गया था तो तब किसी ने यह नहीं सोचा था कि कभी यह लोगों के आकर्षण का केंद्र होगी। पी50 कार को दुनिया की कुछ अनोखी कारों में शामिल किया गया है। इसे बनाने वाली पील इंजीनियरिंग लिमिटेड नामक कंपनी ने फाइबर ग्लास की नाव (बोट) और मोटरसाइकिल भी बनाई हैं। कंपनी ने वर्ष 1962 में पहली पील पी50 कार पेश की थी। इसे इसलिए बनाया गया था ताकि एक आदमी खरीदारी बैग को लेकर कहीं भी आसानी से आ-जा सके।

## एंटीक सोवियत वाहनों का विशाल संग्रह

जर्मनी की राजधानी बर्लिन में सोवियत दौर में बने पुराने वक्त के वाहनों का अनोखा संग्रह मौजूद है जिन्हें अब एंटीक कारों तथा अन्य प्रकार के वाहनों का दर्जा मिल चुका है। वहां ब्रनर परिवार के पास ऐसे वाहनों का सबसे बड़ा संग्रह है जो चाहता है कि उनके संग्रह को किसी विशिष्ट संग्रहालय में स्थान मिले। उनके संग्रह में छोटी कारों से लेकर सोवियत सेना द्वारा इस्तेमाल किए जाने वाले बड़े ट्रक भी शामिल हैं। इसमें 75 कारें तथा 90 मोटरसाइकिल भी शामिल हैं। खास बात है कि उनके पास मौजूद सभी एंटीक वाहन चालू हालत में हैं। फिलहाल इन्हें एक पूर्व सोवियत बंकर के प्रांगण में रखा गया है। इस संग्रह की शुरुआत लोथर ब्रनर ने की थी। 1990 में पश्चिम तथा पूर्व जर्मनी के एकीकरण तथा सोवियत संघ के खात्मे के बाद वह इन्हें खरीदने लगे। उनकी मौत के बाद अब उनका परिवार उनके संग्रह की देखभाल कर रहा है। वे चाहते हैं कि इन वाहनों के लिए एक खास संग्रहालय तैयार करवाया जाए जहां लोग इन्हें देख सकें तथा इनका संरक्षण भी संभव हो सके।





NEWS BOX

### 1st ODI: Sherfane Rutherford century steers West Indies to victory over Bangladesh

**NEW DELHI.** Sherfane Rutherford's outstanding debut century guided the West Indies to a five-wicket victory against Bangladesh in the opening one-day international at Warner Park on Sunday. In his 10th ODI appearance, Rutherford's spectacular innings of 113 from 80 deliveries, featuring seven fours and eight sixes, brought West Indies close to achieving the ground's highest successful chase. The 26-year-old entered at 94-3 as West Indies pursued Bangladesh's total of 294-6 from their allocated 50 overs. He formed a crucial 99-run partnership for the fourth wicket with skipper Shai Hope, who contributed 86 runs from 88 balls, before being caught by Jaker Ali at midwicket off Mehidy Hasan Miraz's bowling. Rutherford then collaborated with Justin Greaves (41 not out) in a 95-run stand for the sixth wicket, steering West Indies towards victory. "I think he's really improved his batting," said Hope of his match-winner.



"We ask for consistency, we always speak about it, and he's showing that. He strikes the ball really well and the hard work is paying off in the middle. He was disappointed not to finish the game."

Bangladesh, having opted to bat first, established a solid foundation through Tanzid Hasan (60) and captain Mehidy Hasan Miraz (74). Mahmudullah remained unbeaten on 50, whilst Jaker Ali (48) contributed to a 96-run partnership for the sixth wicket, but their efforts proved insufficient against Rutherford's brilliance.

### Pakistan Prime Minister PCB's Stance As Pakistan Prepares For Historic Champions Trophy 2025

**New Delhi.** In a highly anticipated meeting, Prime Minister Mian Muhammad Shehbaz Sharif extended his unwavering support to Pakistan Cricket Board (PCB) Chairman Syed Mohsin Raza Naqvi as the country readies itself to host the prestigious ICC Champions Trophy in 2025. With the tournament's preparation and venue planning still in flux, the meeting highlighted Pakistan's resolve to maintain its dignity and the PCB's unyielding stance in the face of challenges, particularly the ongoing dispute over the participation of India. The meeting between PM Shehbaz and PCB Chairman Naqvi was crucial, as it came at a time when the fate of the tournament hung in the balance. Despite looming uncertainties, including India's refusal to travel to Pakistan for the event, the Prime Minister expressed full confidence in Naqvi's leadership and his diplomatic negotiations at the ICC. "The stance you have adopted regarding the



Champions Trophy resonates with the sentiments of 240 million Pakistanis," said PM Shehbaz, emphasizing the significance of this moment for the nation. His words reflected the collective pride of the Pakistani people, underscoring the importance of hosting the event as a symbol of national honor. Naqvi reassured the Prime Minister of the PCB's preparedness, stating, "We are fully ready to host the Champions Trophy in Pakistan. Our commitment is to ensure that both Pakistan and cricket emerge victorious." His statement was met with a sense of optimism, despite the challenges that continue to surround the event.

**The Hybrid Formula and India's Reluctance**  
One of the most significant points discussed during the meeting was the ongoing debate over the "hybrid model" for the Champions Trophy 2025. India, citing security concerns, has refused to play in Pakistan, which has prompted the PCB to propose a compromise. According to this plan, India would play its matches in the United Arab Emirates (UAE).

# WNCL: The magic wand behind Australia's white ball success

Annabel Sutherland, who initially played the second fiddle to Perry soon took over and scored a century of her own.

**CHENNAI.** It was the opening day of one of the least talked about tournaments in women's cricket. With all the T20 franchise leagues getting more and more attention every passing month, the domestic 50-over competitions don't become the talk of the town unless something extraordinary happens in the course of them. Australia's Women's National Cricket League is one of them. On the opening day of the regular season in 2022, with most of the national team players representing their respective states, there was nothing eye-catching in general about the 50-over competition. In Melbourne, some three kilometers away from the iconic Adelaide Oval, at the Karen Rolton Oval, named after her first

international captain, Ellyse Perry had to walk in early after losing Sophie Molinuex early. While this wasn't Perry's first season as a Victorian, after finishing the previous season with only one win, she had a responsibility on her shoulders. In true Perry fashion, she slowly took charge of the innings with her drives, backfoot punches and pull shots and scored a brilliant century against the South Australian team led by Tahlia McGrath. Annabel Sutherland, who initially played the second fiddle to Perry soon took over and scored a century of her own. In the tall chase of 262, McGrath stepped up to hit three back-to-back sixes in the final over of the day to take South Australia over the line - en route scoring a century of her own. If that wasn't enough, Alana King, another Australian national player, took five wickets for Western Australia against the Australian Capital Territory team. It was one of the impressive performances from the players who had already made it to the international level. Then there was Georgia Voll. At North Sydney Oval, which might one day get renamed after Ellyse Perry, Voll went after New South Wales bowlers like a veteran. She forged meaningful partnerships with Georgia Redmayne, Mikayla Hinkley and Laura



Harris on her way to a magnificent century, which set the perfect tone for Queensland as they defeated 17-time WNCL champions NSW by a whopping 111 runs. If Perry was elegant, Sutherland was calculative and McGrath was all flash and bang, Voll was a perfect mixture of all of that. One could see the enormous impact of another Australian player — Beth Mooney on the way the youngster batted. The footwork was spot on so was her immaculate wristwork. There were textbook on-drives and beautiful looking pull shots. While she got a lifeline batting on 48 from none other

than her close friend, Phoebe Litchfield, there was no stopping Voll that day. She was smart about her shot selection and did not flinch even when she lost partners at the other end. Once she got past three figures, she even threw a few ramp shots off Sammy-Jo Johnson, which would have even made Mooney proud. By the time she finally got out, she had batted for close to 46 overs to smash 145 off 161 deliveries, which ultimately led to Queensland putting a mammoth 307 for nine on the board. That was the day Perry, the two players considered her heir apparent, and one 19-year-old player from Toowoomba, Queensland, scored centuries.

From the outside looking in, it was yet another day of domestic cricket in Australia. Not many outside the country even paid attention to it, but believe it or not, that is where the seeds of Australia's highest score against India were sown. On Sunday, when most of India was waking up with the hope of their men's team staying alive in the pink-ball test in Adelaide, the women's team was looking for answers of their own against Australia. In due course, Voll scored a century on her second international outing. Perry broke multiple records in ODIs while adding another 100 to her name.

### Sherfane Rutherford's maiden hundred helps Windies seal 1st ODI vs Bangladesh

**New Delhi.** West Indies broke a 11-match losing streak against Bangladesh by winning the 1st ODI match of the series. Playing in St Kitts on Sunday, December 8, Windies chased down a 295-run target against Mehidy Hasan Miraz's team. Sherfane Rutherford was the start of the show, smashing 113 runs in 80 balls as West Indies secured a five-wicket win over Bangladesh with 14 balls remaining. Rutherford struck eight sixes and seven boundaries at Basseterre's Warner Park before he was caught by Nahid Rana off Soumya Sarkar in the 47th over with only seven more runs needed. West Indies finished on 295-5. Rutherford found good support from Shai Hope after struggling early in the game. The batter was hit on the helmet twice by Bangladesh pacers early in the innings but found his range later in the game. Once Rutherford started striking the ball well, there was no stopping him. "The key is working hard. I have been working hard on my game. Just be disciplined and give myself the best chance to do well. I tried to hit the gaps and



run hard. I always knew I could make up in the end. It's part of the game to get a hit. Took a few blows for the team. Always good batting with Hope. We were batting in small partnerships. I am looking to be consistent," Sherfane Rutherford said after his maiden ODI century.

**West Indies vs Bangladesh: 1st ODI Highlights**  
Earlier, Bangladesh had won the toss and chose to bat first, posting a respectable 294-6 in 50 overs with captain Mehidy Hasan Miraz top scoring with 74 runs in 101 balls. Opener Tanzid Hasan hit a run-a-ball 60 which featured three sixes and six fours. Mahmudullah was 50 not out off 44 deliveries, and Jaker Ali hit a 40-ball 48, with both hitting three sixes each. Ali was out to fast-medium Romario Shepherd (3-51 in 10 overs) off the penultimate ball of the innings. In reply, West Indies were 100-3 after 23 overs. When captain Shai Hope was dismissed by Mehidy for an 88-ball 86, including four sixes, West Indies was 193-4 after 37.1 overs. Rutherford and Justin Greaves (41 not out off 31) were up to the task and secured a statement win for the side..

## Uber cool Gukesh sacrifices Queen in a master stroke at Chess Championship

Gukesh's brilliant novelty in Game 11 forced Ding Liren into a shocking blunder, turning a likely draw into a decisive win. The Indian prodigy now stands on the brink of becoming the youngest World Chess Champion.

**New Delhi.** Gukesh D channelled his 'uber cool' avatar in the 11th game of the World Chess Championship against Ding Liren. In a dramatic turn of events, Ding Liren's blunder under mutual time pressure handed Gukesh a crucial victory in their world title match on Sunday. The win propelled the 18-year-old Indian challenger to a 6-5 lead, marking his first time ahead on the scoreboard with just three games remaining. The abrupt end to an intensely complex battle has brought Gukesh tantalizingly

close to breaking Garry Kasparov's record as the youngest undisputed chess world champion, a feat that now seems within reach for the prodigy from Chennai. In a



tense finish with both players low on time, Ding Liren made a critical blunder that left Gukesh Dommaraju visibly shocked. Seizing the moment, Gukesh responded with a brilliant Queen's sacrifice, forcing Ding to resign and securing a remarkable victory. The dramatic sequence not only highlighted

Gukesh's composure under pressure but also shifted the momentum decisively in his favor. Indian teenage Grandmaster D. Gukesh has credited his team's preparation after taking a decisive step toward his maiden World Chess Championship title by defeating reigning champion Ding Liren. Gukesh praised his team for the remarkable opening advantage in the game, stating, "My team did some amazing work in this line. I looked at the line; I felt it was very interesting, and the risk-reward ratio was quite nice because I would surprise him for sure." The 18-year-old Indian also dismissed speculation that Liren was playing conservatively for a draw. "I don't think my opponent was playing for draws - he had some better positions in the match. It's a 14-game-long match and you can't plan from the start to take the match to the tie-breaks, because in chess mistakes always happen," Gukesh remarked.

## Devon Conway set to miss 3rd Test vs England due to birth of his child

New Zealand's Devon Conway will miss the 3rd Test vs England due to the birth of his first child. England already lead the 3-match Test series 2-0 vs the hosts.

**New Delhi.** New Zealand opener Devon Conway is all set to miss the 3rd Test vs England due to the birth of his child. Conway and his wife are all set to welcome their first child and hence the opener won't be there with the squad. The third and the final Test of the 3-match series will be played in Wellington itself, where New Zealand lost by 323 runs vs England. Mark Chapman has been drafted in as a replacement for Conway. Squad News | Devon Conway will miss the third Tegel

Test against England as he awaits the birth of his first child in Wellington this week. Conway will be replaced in the Test squad by @aucklandcricket Aces batter



Mark Chapman who will join-up with the team in Hamilton ahead of Saturday's third and final Tegel Test. Coach Gary Stead said the team supported Conway's decision. The BLACKCAPS arrive in Hamilton on Wednesday," the official social media of the BlackCaps posted.

New Zealand's coach Gary Stead also supported Conway's decision to be with his

family. "Family comes first in this environment and we're all really excited for Dev and his wife Kim to welcome their first child," said Stead. "Mark was with the Test squad in India recently and returned to the Plunket Shield by scoring an impressive 276 - so it's a good time for him to be joining us." Conway to become father Will Young to comeback? With Devon Conway absent, Will Young is expected to return to the playing XI. Young, who was named Player of the Series during New Zealand's historic tour of India last month, amassed 244 runs at an average of 48.40. However, he has been sidelined for the past two weeks as England secured a dominant 2-0 series lead. Young lost his spot to Kane Williamson, who returned from a hamstring injury that had kept him out of the India series. Williamson has been in fine form since his comeback, scoring two half-centuries and leading the team's batting charts with 195 runs at an average of 48.75.

## Border-Gavaskar Trophy: Adelaide not so pretty in pink for the visitors

The good thing is that India has ample time to come back from this deficit in the five-match series. Their next stop is Brisbane and in less than a week, they will be on the field again.

**CHENNAI.** "We were not good enough with the bat." That was India captain Rohit Sharma on Sunday afternoon attempting to sum up their ten-wicket loss against Australia in the pink ball Test at Adelaide. At this point, it is a phrase Rohit had to repeat

after every Test he has captained since October 16. It all began on that gloomy Bengaluru day where he chose to face the media after India crumbled for 46 runs in the first innings against New Zealand. From day two evening till day three at the Adelaide Oval, there hasn't been a day where Rohit has walked back off the field at stumps knowing that they had a good day at work. From admitting that he was wrong in Bengaluru, to acknowledging that they were not good enough in Adelaide, Rohit had accepted the defeat on the face of it in a very pragmatic, matter-of-fact manner. While it looked good to hear the captain own his mistakes in Bengaluru, hearing very similar things after every match since has led to a perception of whether he and the team are not learning from the things that they did wrong. Come back to Adelaide again. After opting to bat first on day one, India did not last more than



two sessions. The challenge of playing pink ball is well established, but the manner in which India's batting failed — similar kinds of dismissals among some of them, captain's poor form with the bat this time in a new position — meant there was a clear pattern. Jasprit Bumrah cannot conjure magic every time the team gets out for a below-par score and that is exactly what happened here. India were all out in 44.1

overs, but barring Bumrah, others could not replicate a similar kind of success and that cost them dearly. The second innings was also the same story, except this time they were staring down a barrel (read the 157-run lead Australia had on them). If you are not going to spend more than 81 overs in the middle across both innings (44.1 and 36.5), there is no way on earth you can come back into the contest. So when Rishabh Pant and Nitish K Reddy started day three, they were living on borrowed time. For them, to pull India out of that hole, they would have had to replicate something similar to Kolkata 2001 or Adelaide 2003. In the end, Pat Cummins took five wickets and Australia walked away with a win, levelling the series 1-1. The good thing is that India has ample time to come back from this deficit in the five-match series. Their next stop is Brisbane and in less than a week, they will be on the field again.





# Alia Bhatt

**Wears A Mask, Keeps It Stylish In Comfy Casuals As She Gets Papped In The City**

Alia Bhatt is one of the most loved actresses and she has always impressed fans with her fashion sense. Today, she was spotted in the city, effortlessly blending style and comfort in her casual attire. The Rocky Aur Rani Ki Prem Kahani actress was papped by shutterbugs as she stepped out wearing a mask. The video of her outing has gone viral on social media. In the video, shared by Filmygyan, we can see Alia Bhatt coming out of a jetty ride. She looks cool in pants and a top. She is holding her bottle and also greeted paps. One of the fans wrote, "Pretty." Many have dropped heart emojis in the comment. Recently, she was spotted with Ranbir Kapoor at the airport. Both were twinning in a white colour outfit.

Recently, Alia Bhatt and Ranbir Kapoor were spotted enjoying an exciting evening at the Indian Super League on Saturday, cheering for Ranbir's team, Mumbai City FC as it played against Hyderabad FC, in Mumbai. Both actors kept their outfits casual yet stylish — Ranbir opted for a Mumbai City FC jersey, while Alia sported a chic black oversized shirt layered over a white tank top.

But the real scene-stealer was their little one, baby Raha, who joined in on the fun dressed in her own mini Mumbai City FC jersey paired with denim and white sneakers. Her adorable game-day look captured hearts as she cheered alongside her parents. Alia Bhatt and Vedang Raina's latest release Jigra is all set to release on OTT. The film will be released on Netflix on December 6, 2024. The OTT platform shared the announcement along with the poster. Fans also reacted to the news and expressed their excitement.

Taking to their Instagram handle, Netflix wrote, "Phoolon aur taaron ne kaha hai, ulti ginti shuru karlo Jigra is arriving tomorrow on Netflix." One of the fans wrote, "One of the finest movies of 2024, watched it in theatres two times.. Alia Bhatt and Vasan Bala made a masterpiece, the genre is quite new in Bollywood, looking forward to see again in Netflix." Another wrote, "hopefully this film gets it rightfully deserved due now.. cause it hurts to see such a well made film not getting the recognition. it's made like a hollywood movie with the heart of Indian story telling."

Jigra is an action-packed prison-break thriller that centres on the relationship between siblings. Alia Bhatt takes the role of Satya, while Vedang Raina plays her brother, Ankur. The film is directed by Vasan Bala, with a script by Debashish Irengbam and Vasan Bala. Despite the controversies, Jigra has faced a dismal box office performance. This is the worst opening for an Alia film since 2014, leading many to question its viability in theatres. In comparison, her previous solo hits Raazi and Gangubai Kathiawadi garnered significantly higher opening day collections, between Rs 7.5 crore and Rs 10.5 crore.



**Salman Khan, Sanjay Dutt And Sachin Tendulkar Pose For A Rare Photo At Devendra Fadnavis' Swearing-In**



A viral photo featuring cricket legend Sachin Tendulkar, Bollywood stars Salman Khan and Sanjay Dutt at the swearing-in ceremony of Devendra Fadnavis in Mumbai has captured the nation's attention. It's a rare frame that combines the worlds of sports, cinema, and politics in one moment. In the photo, Salman Khan is seen flanked by cricket legend Sachin Tendulkar on one side and actor Sanjay Dutt on the other. Salman opted for a sharp look, donning a black suit paired with a maroon shirt underneath. Meanwhile, the Master Blaster kept it casual in a powder-blue shirt. Right behind the trio, actors Arjun Kapoor and Vicky Kaushal can also be spotted, adding more star power to the already iconic frame. Check it out here:

Mumbai's iconic Azad Maidan buzzed with activity on Thursday as business tycoons, Bollywood stars, and key political figures gathered for Devendra Fadnavis' swearing-in as Maharashtra Chief Minister. Fadnavis, who famously said "I'll be back" after the BJP lost power in 2019, was sworn in for his third term. In a significant development, Eknath Shinde took on the role of Deputy Chief Minister, while Ajit Pawar also took the oath for the same position.

Prime Minister Narendra Modi, alongside Chief Ministers from BJP-ruled states and Union Ministers, graced the occasion. The guest list included Bollywood icons like Shah Rukh Khan, Madhuri Dixit, Ranbir Kapoor, and Ranveer Singh, as well as business leaders like Pranav Adani and Kumaramangalam Birla. In another video that is going viral on the internet, one can see Salman Khan greeting Shah Rukh Khan with a warm hug. Mukesh Ambani and his family were seen at the ceremony in the first row. Ranveer Singh was also spotted greeting Shah Rukh Khan and Sachin Tendulkar.

**Keerthy Suresh's Wedding Invite LEAKED; Actress To Marry Boyfriend Antony Thattil On THIS Date**



Keerthy Suresh recently hit the headlines after she made her relationship with longtime boyfriend Antony Thattil Instagram official. The two are all set to get married in a few days, and speculations about their upcoming wedding in Goa have been swirling on the Internet. They will tie the knot on December 12, according to a wedding invite that has been leaked on social media. A wedding invite with the first names of Keerthy and Antony has gone viral on social media. The note, written by Keerthy's parents G Suresh Kumar and Menaka Suresh on the invitation card, reads, "It is our great pleasure to inform you that our daughter is getting married on December 12 in an intimate gathering. We hold your blessings in high regard and sincerely hope you will keep them in your thoughts and prayers. We would be grateful if you could shower your blessings upon them as they begin a new chapter of their lives together. With warm regards and lots of love G Suresh Kumar and Menaka Suresh Kumar." Check out the viral wedding invite below.

It was on November 27 that the actress shared her first picture with boyfriend Antony Thattil on Instagram. She dropped a throwback photo from their Diwali celebrations and wrote, "15 years and counting It has always been.. ANTONY x KEERTHY (Iykyk)." A few days later, Keerthy was seen visiting the Tirupati temple. In an interaction with the media outside the temple, she confirmed that she is getting married in December, which is why she came for the darshan of Srivaru. She also revealed that she and Antony will tie the knot in Goa.

Keerthy Suresh and Antony Thattil have been dating for 15 years. Antony is a Dubai-based businessman who reportedly owns a chain of resorts in Kochi. He also owns a couple of companies registered in Chennai, Keerthy's hometown. Meanwhile, on the professional front, Keerthy Suresh was last seen in the Tamil political comedy film 'Raghu Thatha', which released in August. She will soon make her Bollywood debut with the upcoming action thriller 'Baby John', alongside Varun Dhawan. Also starring Wamiqa Gabbi and Jackie Shroff, the film is presented by Jio Studios in association with Atlee and Cine1 Studios. Reportedly, Salman Khan will also make a cameo in Baby John. The film will hit theatres on December 25, 2024.

# Taapsee Pannu's

**Interaction With Paparazzi Is Trending: 'Meri Image Achchi Mat Karo'**

Taapsee Pannu is known for her acting chops and sartorial fashion. She has mesmerised fans with her performances in films such as Thappad, Haseen Dillruba, and Dunki. Well, Taapsee also makes headlines with her witty remarks and hilarious banter with the paparazzi. Yet again, the actress' interaction with the paparazzi caught the internet's attention. In a video making rounds on the internet, Taapsee was seen leaving a building when paparazzi approached her for photos and videos. However, the actress, who was seemingly in a hurry, said, "Ati hui di thi nah photo. (I had posed before the event.)" Then, one of the paps behind the camera said, "Main nhi aya tha nah. (I wasn't there at that time)" To this, she replied, "Abhi late comers ke liye main kuch nhi kar sakti." (I cannot do anything for the latecomers). In the middle of this, a person added, "Uski gari kho gyi. (His car got towed.)" But the actress was still reluctant to pose for the shutterbugs, and replied, "Toh main kya karu bhai? Meri gaari aa rahi hai piche, hat jao, main kehe rahi hu lag jayegi." (What can I do in that case. My car is coming, please move aside, otherwise you may get hurt.)



One of the shutterbugs, determined to get a better glimpse of Taapsee, complimented her saying, "Aap itna achcha bolti hain." (You speak so well). To this, the actress sarcastically replied, "Mai nhi achcha bolti yaar, kaun bola main achchi bolti hu, main bilkul achcha nhi bolti, meri image achchi mat karo, consistent raho." (I do not speak well friend, who said that I speak well, I do not speak well at all, do not improve my image, be consistent).

This is not the first time when Taapsee indulged in a witty conversation with the paps. Earlier, after an awards night in Mumbai, Taapsee interacted with

the paps while exiting the venue with a trophy in her hand. When a paparazzo warmly greeted her and asked how she was, the actress replied, "Main bahut sundar hu. Tum bataao? Aaj kal kaise chal raha hai." (I am very beautiful. Tell me? How are you doing these days?) The light-hearted exchange continued with the pap responding, "Aapko miss kar rahe hain. Aap ek dum cutie ho." (I am missing you. You are so cute). On this, Taapsee responded, "Aur 2-3 achi cheezein bolo. But caption kharab hi likhna, meri image achi mat karna, warna meri unique image kharab ho jaayegi." (Say 2-3 good things. But write a bad caption, don't make my image good. Otherwise my unique image will be ruined). On the work front, Taapsee was last seen in the film Khel Khel Mein. Next, reports suggest that she will portray the role of ACP Komal Sharma in an upcoming comedy movie titled Woh Ladki Hai Kahaan.

