

News Brief

Odisha Assembly elections: BJP declares last list of candidates

Bhubaneswar, May 3 (IANS) The Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) on Friday declared its last list of candidates for the upcoming Assembly elections in Odisha. On Friday, the BJP declared its nominee for the Nilgiri Assembly seat. Former Biju Janata Dal leader Santosh Khatua has been named as the party's candidate for the Nilgiri constituency. Khatua on Thursday resigned from BJD immediately after the ex-BJP leader and sitting MLA Sukanta Kumar Nayak was nominated by the ruling party for the Nilgiri seat. Khatua contested the last Assembly elections in 2019 from the same constituency as a BJD candidate. However, he lost to BJP candidate Nayak by a margin of only 1,577 votes.

Another hostage in the Gaza Strip has died: Israel

Gaza/Tel Aviv, May 3 (IANS/DPA) Another hostage being held in the Gaza Strip is dead, according to the Israeli government. Like dozens of others, the man had been kidnapped from Israel by Hamas in a terrorist attack on October 7.

The government announced late Thursday on the social media platform X that his body is still in the Gaza Strip. The cause and time of death were not specified. It was also unclear from what source Israel learnt of his death.

His wife was reportedly murdered during the massacre on October 7, and two of his three children were abducted to the Gaza Strip.

Gujarat Congress slams BJP for 'unethical practices' amid election season

Ahmedabad, May 3 (IANS) Media convener and spokesperson for the Gujarat Pradesh Congress Committee, Dr. Manish Doshi, on Friday, launched an attack on the BJP, accusing it of unethical practices.

He accused the BJP leaders in Rajkot of "attempting to tarnish the reputation of Khodaldham and the Congress to achieve their objectives."

Dr. Doshi alleged, "There is a conspiracy to ensnare workers of the Khodaldham Youth Committee by circulating anonymous newspapers spearheaded by an agitated former BJP page head."

Dr. Doshi further criticised the alleged "misuse of police to hinder fair election processes", claiming that the "police are acting under BJP directives to detain individuals arbitrarily to prevent any internal issues within the party from surfacing."

Telangana Cong functionaries get bail in HM Amit Shah's doctored video case

Hyderabad, May 3 (IANS) A city court on Friday granted conditional bail to five members of the social media unit of Telangana Pradesh Congress Committee (TPCC) arrested for circulating a doctored video of Union Home Minister, Amit Shah, on social media.

Hyderabad Cyber Crime Police on Friday announced the arrest of Pendyala Vamshi Krishna, Manne Sathish, Pettam Naveen, Asma Tasleem and Koya Geetha. Deputy Commissioner

TC govt wants to make Hindus second-class citizens: PM Modi

Kolkata, May 3 (IANS) Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Friday claimed that the Trinamool Congress-ruled West Bengal government wants to make the Hindus second-class citizens in the state.

"The entire country is aware of what happened with the women in Sand-

eshkhali. After that Trinamool Congress wanted to protect the principal accused since his name was Sheikh Shahjahan," the Prime Minister said while addressing a rally at Burdwan on Friday.

He also referred to a recent and controversial comment made by Trinamool Congress legis-

lator Humayun Kabir publicly without directly naming the latter. "I came to know that a Trinamool Congress MLA recently made a statement at a public meeting threatening that Hindus would be drowned in River Bhagirathi. What is happening in West Ben-

gal? Appeasement politics is the only aim of Trinamool Congress," the Prime Minister said.

He also referred to the recent order by a division bench of Calcutta High Court cancelling as many as 25,753 teaching and non-teaching jobs in state-run schools in West Bengal. "I understand that there were many innocent candidates who got their jobs honestly. I have advised our party's West Bengal unit to open a legal and social media cell and provide legal support to the genuine candidates

who have proper documents to prove they got their jobs honestly. Those who secured jobs through unfair means will have to suffer. But our party will be beside those who got their jobs honestly," the Prime Minister said.

Speaking on the occasion, PM Modi also said that he has not become the Prime Minister for his own enjoyment. My only dream is to fulfil the dreams of the people. I do not have an heir of mine. Only the people of the country are my heirs," the Prime Minister said.

Cong ka haath, desh ke dushmano ke saath: UP CM Yogi Adityanath

Lucknow, May 3 (IANS) In the wake of a former Pakistani minister praising MP Rahul Gandhi, Uttar Pradesh Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath tore into the party on Friday.

Talking to reporters on Friday, CM Adityanath said that it was evident that "Congress ka haath, desh ke dushmano ke saath (The Congress is with the nation's enemies)."

The Chief Minister's accusation came in the wake of reports that Fawad Hussain, a former minister in Pakistan's Cabinet under Imran Khan, shared a video featuring him praising Rahul Gandhi on social media. "If Modi and the BJP win, Diwali is celebrated in

the country, whereas if Congress wins, it is celebrated in Pakistan. The people of the country should understand this difference and reject anti-national elements," he claimed.

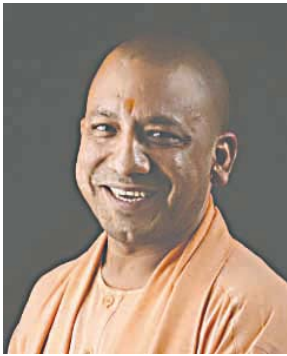
The UP CM said that the elections have reached their peak and those who are enemies of the country will make efforts to disrupt the atmosphere.

He further stated that this shows that the Congress and the enemies of the country are together. "If PM Modi emerges victorious, it will be akin to Diwali in India, but if Con-

gress achieves success, Pakistan appears pleased. It's crucial for the citizens to take note of these statements and comprehend the intentions of the anti-India forces involved," he alleged.

He claimed that the Congress strayed from its path post-Independence. "Motivated by self-interest, it initially fostered national division and pursued appeasement policies for political gain. The adverse effect of appeasement policies was that separatism and extremism reached their peak within the country. Additionally, the Congress government's corrupt practices led to the rapid spread of Naxalism," he claimed.

"Over the past decade, Prime Minister Narendra Modi's efforts have effectively curbed terrorism, Naxalism, and extremism," he pointed out.



NEW DELHI, Delhi Minister and AAP leader Atishi addresses a press conference, in New Delhi on Friday. UNI

Reluctant Rahul Gandhi finally steps in Raebareli to keep family flag high

New Delhi, May 3 (IANS) Fursatganj airstrip in Raebareli was buzzing with activity on Friday morning. Luxurious chartered flights touching down, one after another. It seemed like a venue for a family reunion -- Sonia Gandhi, Rahul Gandhi, Robert Vadra and Priyanka Gandhi Vadra hugging, patting and greeting each other after alighting from the aircraft with senior leaders Ashok Gehlot and K.C. Venugopal standing at a close distance, the aides hurriedly pacing to ensure that logistical arrangements were in order. The Congress had

kept the suspense going over whether or not Rahul Gandhi and Priyanka Gandhi Vadra would contest from Amethi and Raebareli, till the early morning of the last day of nomination filing. The declaration came with a twist, Rahul Gandhi opted out from Amethi, deciding not to take on a feisty sitting MP and Union Minister Smriti Irani and moving to his mother's erstwhile seat, an adjacent Raebareli. From Amethi, an old-time family loyalist, Sonia Gandhi's representative Kishori Lal Sharma was named as Congress candidate.

During election time, since it is actually people who choose their representative, it becomes important what people perceive, believe and talk about a leader.

It is being talked about in political circles, including Congress, that neither Rahul Gandhi nor Priyanka Gandhi was willing to take on Smriti Irani. It doesn't matter whether this is right or wrong because this is fast percolating in popular perception. Contesting from Amethi and losing to her for the

second time would have huge repercussions for Rahul Gandhi. The same applies to Priyanka Gandhi. What if she someone whom Congress has for long been projecting as their "Brahmastra", loses to Smriti Irani? This was something, which Congress would dread to even dream of. The problem with Congress is that the much-delayed decision, suspense, speculation and source-based information are giving the impression that Rahul Gan-

dhi is a reluctant candidate and was forced by the circumstances to contest from Raebareli. It now seems that Amethi is now a cakewalk for the BJP in Amethi, the only suspense for Amethi would be what voting percentage and margin Smriti Irani wins. Kishori Lal Sharma, originally from Punjab, has been the Gandhi family's representative in this region for decades but it is also a fact that he is not particularly liked by many Congress workers and supporters.

Delhi HC dismisses PIL on immediate notification to ECI on arrests of politicians

New Delhi, May 3 (IANS) The Delhi High Court has dismissed a public interest litigation (PIL) seeking that information about the arrest of politicians be immediately provided to the Election Commission of India (ECI) during the enforcement of the Model Code of Conduct. The court ruled that such a requirement lacks legal rationale and undermines existing legal safeguards.

The PIL, filed by a final-year Law student, was seen as indirectly challenging the arrest of Delhi Chief Minister, Arvind Kejriwal, who is currently in judicial custody. A bench of Acting Chief Justice Manmohan and Justice Manmeet P. S. Arora noted that Kejriwal is capable of pursuing legal recourse on his own, evidenced by his active cases in both Delhi High Court and the Supreme Court.



PATNA, A massive fire broke out at a slum near Bans Ghat, in Patna on Friday. UNI

'Shehzada' fears defeat in Wayanad, now finding escape route via Raebareli: PM Modi

Kolkata, May 3 (IANS) Taking another dig at the Congress party and its leader Rahul Gandhi on Friday, Prime Minister Narendra Modi said that the "Shehzada" fears defeat in Wayanad which is why he has also been fielded from the Raebareli constituency in Uttar Pradesh which will act as an "escape route."

"I said it before that the

'Shehzada' (prince) will be defeated from Wayanad and soon after the elections at Wayanad will be over, he will go in search of a second seat. His followers were claiming that he will fight from Amethi. But, it seems that he is scared of Amethi too. So now the 'prince' is trying to find an escape route from Raebareli," PM Modi said while addressing a

rally at Burdwan in West Bengal.

"I had already said in the Parliament that their (Congress) biggest leader will not dare to fight elections and she will run away. She ran away to Rajasthan and came to the Rajya Sabha.. Today, I am also telling them not to be scared. Do not escape," he added.

Prime Minister Modi

launched a scathing attack against Congress and other allies of the opposition INDIA bloc, accusing them of speaking about "vote-jihad" during the ongoing elections. "Previously they practised 'vote-jihad' silently. Now they are publicly announcing it. Their allies like Trinamool Congress and the Left parties are remaining silent in support," said PM Modi. He said that the only aim of Congress is to introduce religion-based reservation in India.

"As per the Indian Constitution, religion-based reservation is not permissible. But Congress is exactly trying to do that.

and upload them on their official and personal X handles.

HM Shah delivered a speech on April 23 during a public meeting at Medak. The police officer said Vamshi Krishna, who received a doctored video of the speech in WhatsApp, uploaded the same on the @INCTelangana X handle and shared it in various WhatsApp groups.

મધ્યમ વર્ગ માટે

આ છે મોદીની ગેરંટી

મધ્યમ વર્ગના પરિવારનું પોતાના ઘરનું સપનું પૂરું થશે

ભારતને મેન્યુફેક્ચરિંગનું વૈશ્વિક હબ બનાવીને લાખો રોજગારનું સર્જન કરીશું

70 વર્ષથી વધુ ઉંમરના દરેક વરિષ્ઠ નાગરિકોને આયુષ્માન ભારત યોજનામાં શામેલ કરીને નિ:શુલ્ક સ્વાસ્થ્ય સુવિધા આપીશું

રેલવે, એક્સપ્રેસ-વે, એરપોર્ટ અને મેટ્રોની સુવિધાઓ વધારીશું. રેલ ટિકિટોનું વેઈટિંગ લિસ્ટ ન્યૂનતમ કરીશું

પીએમ સૂર્ય ઘર યોજના તમારું વીજ બિલ ઝીરો કરશે

નિયત સારી તો પરિણામ સારા

ફરી એક વાર મોદી સરકાર

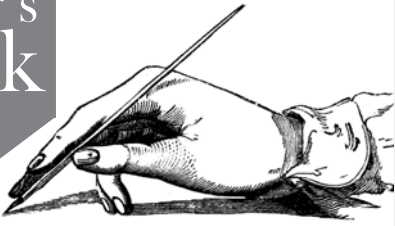
કમળનું ખરન દબાવો ભાજપને જીતાડો

ALUMINIUM FOIL CONTAINERS & MULTIPURPOSE NON-STICK FOOD PAPER

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From
Editor's
Desk

Let's not demonise white bread

Whether the slice one enjoys at breakfast is white or brown, the key to a healthy diet is not romanticisation of the past but moderation.

A group of scientists in the UK wants to have its bread and eat it too. White bread, that is. Using wheat that retains some of its bran and germ, along with other grains like quinoa, teff, sorghum and millet, the research project is in the process of developing loaves that look and taste like white bread, but are as nutritious as wholesome bread. Tasty and wholesome — perhaps not a combination as popular as white-bread-and-butter, but certainly a goal well worth pursuing in the larger interests of a healthy society.

Yet, like so many other kinds of food, white bread has been unfairly demonised. For example, the once-trendy "no-white" diet specifically prohibits the consumption of white bread, along with other foods, like white rice, sugar, and white potatoes. The rationale offered is that, devoid of nutrients like essential vitamins and fibre, all that such foods offer is "pure carbs", an oversimplification that fails to account for the fact that a truly healthy diet relies on a diversity of nutritional sources, rather than abjuration of a whole class of foods. Such an approach also flattens the complex social and economic history of food.

Take white bread, for example: Long reserved for the elites of bread-eating societies — because of the labour-intensive process of separating the grain's endosperm from the bran and germ — the Industrial Revolution and mechanisation of agriculture made it one of the cheapest, most accessible — and easily digestible — sources of nutrition. And, again, no small matter: The appearance of packaged white bread in grocery store aisles helped liberate women from the daily chore of baking bread. No doubt today's whole wheat bread is delicious, with its deep, earthy flavours, but before the invention of modern leavening agents and reliable electric ovens, the coarse bread eaten by most was just that — coarse. Whether the slice one enjoys at breakfast is white or brown, the key to a healthy diet is not romanticisation of the past but moderation.



RAEBARELI, Congress candidate for Raebareli Parliamentary seat Rahul Gandhi filing his nomination for the Lok Sabha Election-2024, in Raebareli on Friday. UNI

Ruchir Sharma's warning to West: Beware of bigger governments you wish for

New Delhi, May 03 (IANS) The 'New York Times'-listed bestselling author and head of the Rockefeller Capital Management's international business, Ruchir Sharma, will be out with his new book, 'What Went Wrong With Capitalism', on June 16.

It will be the 'Financial Times' columnist's fifth book after 'The 10 Rules of Successful Nations', published in 2020.

Making the announcement, the publishing house, Penguin Random House UK, said that in the upcoming book, Sharma "rewrites the standard histories, which trace today's popular anger to the anti-government rebellion that began under Margaret Thatcher and Ronald Reagan."

A book that promises to help us understand the growing popular anger in the capitalist world (at the moment expressing itself in the protests raging across US campuses), its fundamental argument, according to the press statement from the publisher, can be summed up in this statement: "Four decades of downsizing government -- cutting taxes, spending, and regulations -- left the financial markets free to run wild, fuelling inequality, slowing growth -- and alienating much of the population."

Sharma, a Shri Ram College of Commerce alumnus, first drew attention to the breadth of his vision with his debut book, Breakout Nations (2012), which made the journal 'Foreign Policy' rank him as one of the top global thinkers.

In his upcoming book, Sharma, according to the publisher's press statement, "exposes the

story of a shrinking government as a myth". The statement adds: "With a historical and global sweep, [Sharma] shows that the government has expanded steadily as a regulator, borrower, spender, and micro-manager of the business cycle for a century. Working with central banks, particularly in the last two decades, governments created a culture of

right that capitalism has morphed into 'socialism for the very rich'."

Sharma notes: "The broader issue, however, is socialised risk for the poor, the middle class and the rich; the government is trying to guarantee that no one ever suffers economic pain by borrowing heavily to prevent recessions, extend recoveries, and generate endless growth."

"The result," he adds, "is rapidly rising debt and declining competition -- exactly the environment in which oligopolies and billionaires do best."

Says the book's blurb, "This rare capitalist critique of capitalism offers a timely warning. To a surprising degree, politicians on both the right and left now assume that popular anger with capitalism arose in a period of shrinking government, and so offer answers that involve more government -- more spending, or regulation, or walls and barriers."

The blurb goes on to note, "If their historical assumptions are incorrect, their proposed fixes are likely to double down on what went wrong in the first place. There is no

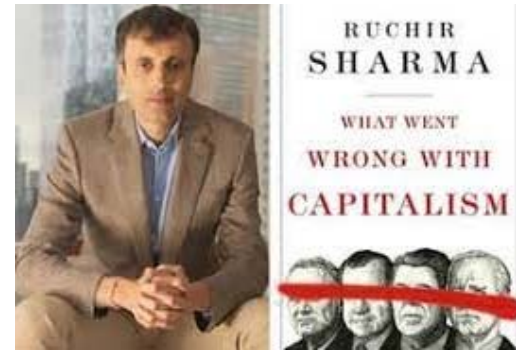
returning to the 19th century when the government did little more than deliver mail, but the balance has shifted too far towards state control, leaving too little room for economic competition."

No matter whether your politics are progressive or conservative, Sharma argues, the answer has to be less government and more cautious central banks.

Commenting on his "most ambitious book yet", Sharma says, "This book is a pandemic baby, conceived in that dark period when governments were both locking down businesses and spending trillions to support people shut in at home."

"Though many saw this crisis as entirely novel, what I saw was the logical culmination of all that has gone wrong with capitalism, namely, decades of increasingly interventionist government, narrowing the scope of individual freedom and initiative and economic freedom."

--IANS



easy money and bailouts that is making the rich richer, and big companies bigger."

In an observation that may explain the appeal of the left-of-centre US Senator Bernie Sanders among young Americans, Sharma says "progressive youth are partly

Cong rebel's entry may change equations for BJP & Sena-UBT in Sangli

Mumbai, (IANS) The BJP has stepped up its efforts to consolidate its position in the Sangli Lok Sabha constituency in Maharashtra, a vibrant cooperative sector, which until recently was a Congress bastion.

While the Congress retained the seat from 1962 to 2009, the BJP made inroads thereafter, winning back-to-back elections in 2014 and 2019.

Confident of a hat-trick, the BJP has renominated two-term sitting MP Sanjay Patil, who is locked in a triangular contest against Shiv Sena (UBT) nominee and award-winning wrestler Chandraraj Patil, and Congress rebel Vishal Patil, the grandson of former Chief Minister Vasantdada Patil, who is contesting as an Independent.

Sangli goes to the polls in the third phase on May 7.

Interestingly, Vishal Patil's entry is forcing the BJP and Shiv Sena (UBT) to slog due to the changed equations.

The BJP is confident that Patil will win by a huge margin riding on PM Modi's guarantees, The Hindutva card, especially in Miraj and Sangli Assembly segments, and the possible split in votes between the Sena (UBT) and the Congress rebel.

Sena's (UBT) unilateral move to claim Sangli and announce the

nomination of Chandraraj Patil stunned its allies NCP (SP) and the Congress, as till then, the seat-sharing arrangements were not finalised for any of the 48 Lok Sabha seats in Maharashtra.

It also derailed the Maha Vikas Aghadi's (MVA) initial plan for fielding a consensus candidate against the BJP.

Sena (UBT) chief Uddhav Thackeray and MP Sanjay Raut had defended the party's move, saying it had left Kolhapur to the Congress for the nomination of Chhatrapati Shahu Maharaj.

The Sena (UBT) also said that had it not staked its claim on Sangli, it would have been wiped out from the Western Maharashtra region.

Political observers, however, say the party has a little presence in Sangli with not more than 25,000 votes which Sanjay Patil got in the last two elections due to BJP's alliance with Shiv Sena (undivided).

They also point out that Chandraraj Patil has boarded the wrong train at the wrong time.

Moreover, Chandraraj Patil has no political background while the Congress, in particular, argues that he won't be able to get a political mileage for merely being a wrestler.

However, Thackeray has made it a prestige issue and hopes to cash



in on the reported undercurrent against the Modi government, particularly among the farmers, minorities, Dalits and tribals.

On its part, the Congress not only expressed strong displeasure, but also made repeated appeals to Thackeray to reconsider the decision as the party was keen to field Vishal Patil in a bid to encash the anti-incumbency against BJP MP Sanjay Patil.

But Sena (UBT) stuck to its stand.

Congress MLA Vishwaji Kadam held a series of meetings with the party high command and wrote letters for getting back the Sangli seat for Vishal Patil's nomination. A section of the Congress also made a

pitch for a friendly fight in Sangli to remain relevant in the constituency.

However, the demands were rejected by the Congress high command as also by the Maha Vikas Aghadi allies. The Congress was left with no option but to support Chandraraj Patil.

Even though the Congress has reluctantly joined Chandraraj Patil's campaign to adhere to the alliance dharma, it faces a huge challenge to mobilise the cadres as a large number of them are working for Vishal Patil.

While Vishwajeet Kadam, Congress MLA from Palus-Kadegaon, and Vikram Sawant, party legislator from the Jat Assembly constituency, are actively campaigning for

Chandraraj Patil, their vote bank is divided as a large section of it is sided with Vishal Patil.

In case of NCP (SP), party chief Sharad Pawar has said that he was also surprised after the Sena (UBT) announced to contest the Sangli seat.

However, he also said that as the decision has been made, his party is wholeheartedly working for Chandraraj Patil.

Pawar and state NCP (SP) chief Jayant Patil, who also hails from Sangli district and represents the Islampur Assembly seat, have addressed several rallies in support of Chandraraj Patil.

Meanwhile, Vishal Patil is busy mobilising support from the traditional Congress vote bank, and the disgruntled BJP supporters who expressed strong reservations against the renomination of Sanjay Patil.

To his advantage, former BJP legislator from Jat, Vilas Jagtap, resigned from the party and joined him.

In addition, former Sena leader and ex-minister Ajit Ghoshade has also joined hands with Vishal Patil.

The Congress rebel is also confident to lure the voters by playing the victim card.

Vishal Patil is also eyeing to woo the Maratha voters, who are reportedly not happy with the lack of im-

plementation of the 10 per cent reservation for the community. Also, Vanchit Bahujan Aghadi (VBA) founder Prakash Ambedkar's move to extend support to Vishal Patil has brightened the latter's prospects.

Prakash Ambedkar is set to address a rally in his support on May 5, the last day of campaigning. Against this backdrop, Sanjay Patil is trading quite cautiously, banking on the work he did in the last 10 years, and the development initiatives of the Modi government. He also got Deputy CM Devendra Fadnis to intervene and quell the resentment within the party fold after his renomination. This worked partially, as former legislator Prithviraj Deshmukh, who was one of the ticket aspirants and a strong critic, came on board and joined Sanjay Patil's campaign. This apart, BJP's increased presence in Sangli district, especially in the cooperative sector, is a big positive for Sanjay Patil. However, he still has to mobilise the cadres of the Shiv Sena led by Chief Minister Eknath Shinde. Although the Shiv Sena legislator from Khanapur, Anil Babar, is no more, his two sons and party supporters are still hesitant to join Sanjay Patil's campaign despite efforts to bring them on board. The reason being the rift between Anil Babar and Sanjay Patil over the latter's style of functioning.

Marriott Int. announces 150th Hotel in India with the opening of Katra Marriott and resort

Jammu, Marriott Hotels, the namesake brand of Marriott Bonvoy's extraordinary portfolio of over 30 hotel brands, today announced the opening of Katra Marriott Resort & Spa in the serene landscapes of Katra, Jammu & Kashmir. The brand's debut in the spiritually significant destination, marks a milestone as the 150th Marriott International hotel to open in the country. Nestled amidst the serene landscapes of the Trikuta hills, popularly known as the Vaishno Devi Hills, this purely vegetarian resort offers a captivating blend of heartfelt service and spirituality. Here, guests are invited to partake in leisurely nature walks, all while immersing themselves in the vibrant culture and culinary delights of Katra.

Commenting on this significant opening for India, Ranju Alex, Area Vice President, South Asia, Marriott International said "As we celebrate the milestone opening of our 150th Hotel in India, we acknowledge not just our prominent presence in the country, but also the unique and enriching experiences our hotels provide through their distinctive architecture and design, world-class food

and beverage offerings and curated amenities that provide exceptional, one-of-a-kind stays. We continue to have confidence in the resilience of our brands and our teams and remain steadfast in our commitment to advancing our growth through a strong pipeline of hotels."

Inspired by the natural beauty of its surroundings, the design of Katra Marriott Resort & Spa seamlessly transforms myth into mesmerizing reality. The Greatroom lobby, comprising an open and warm reception with an enigmatic central sculpture adorned with ancient inscriptions envelopes guests with a calm, mystic aura from the moment they enter the resort. The flower chandelier, reminiscent of shrine offerings, offers an immediate connection to the beautiful rituals of the land. Each element, from the mandala-inspired lounge seats to every intricate detail, embodies the hotel's unwavering commitment to seamlessly merging spirituality with breathtaking design, promising a transcendent experience for all who step through its doors.

Katra Marriott Resort & Spa features 100 modern, inviting guest rooms, suites and cottages, offering

breathtaking views of the Shri Mata Vaishno Devi Shrine and lush green landscapes. Each cottage offers a sanctuary of relaxation with natural sunlight, plush comfortable bedding and contemporary comforts. Some of the rooms open to private balconies, providing guests with space to unwind and relax over the harmonious symphony of birdsong and views of rolling green hills. The cottage suites also feature a private swimming pool, allowing guests to indulge in a refreshing dip within the comfort and privacy of their own space.

For those seeking relaxation and rejuvenation, the Quan Spa offers five therapy rooms with treatments that embrace the ancient wisdom of Ayurveda and contemporary wellness practices. Enriching experiences are also provided through the rich nature cover that envelopes the Katra Marriott Resort & Spa. Guests can start their day with revitalizing yoga sessions or guided-walks amidst the picturesque backdrop of Trikuta Hills. As twilight descends, serenity awaits to soothe the senses, with the evening rituals of hi-tea at Vat Vriksh, commonly known as the banyan tree.

All that is left for them now is to murder me: Former Pak PM Khan

Islamabad, May 3 (IANS) Former Pakistan Prime Minister and chief of Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) party, Imran Khan has said that the country's Chief of Army Staff (COAS) General Syed Asim Munir should be held directly responsible if anything happens to him or his wife. In an article written from the Adiala Jail in Rawalpindi, Khan alleged that Pakistan's powerful military leadership could make an attempt to eliminate him.

Serving a jail term in various cases of corruption, incitement to violence and matters of national security, Khan alleged in his piece written for the UK's Telegraph that all the charges levelled against him are politically motivated.

"All that is left for them now is to murder me," he wrote. Khan wrote that Pakistan has become a "laughing stock" in front of the whole world after conducting flawed elections on February 8. He also mentioned that the 240 million people of the country are angry over the way their voices and support, broadly represented through the power of vote, has been ridiculed.

"The people have shown in no uncertain terms their rejection of state electoral machinations and of the oppression, incarceration and torture of not just the PTI leadership but also of its workers," he wrote.

"The military leadership has been subjected to overt criticism at a level unseen before in our history. The government is a laughing stock," he added. Slamming Pakistan's military establishment, he stated specifically that the Army Chief General Asim Munir is doing everything to keep him out of politics. "The establishment has done all they could against me. All that is left for them is to now murder me. I have stated publicly that if anything happens to me or my wife, the Chief of Army Staff Gen Asim Munir will be responsible," he wrote.

"But I am not afraid because my faith is strong. I would prefer death over slavery," he added.

Khan said that the only way to get Pakistan out of the current crisis is "to restore the people's mandate and release all political prisoners including those being held for trial under military courts".

Khan's opinion piece has again established his strong and rigid opposition against the military establishment, especially against the current Army Chief General Asim Munir.

It is also a fact that the former PM was not in favor of the appointment of General Munir as the country's army chief and launched a long march from Lahore to Rawalpindi, smartly delaying it to assert political and public pressure while blocking Munir's appointment.

He has also blamed the previous military chief General (Retd) Qamar Javed Bajwa for facilitating his government's opposition alliance, which led to his ouster through a Vote of No Confidence (VONC). Since then, Pakistan's political outlook has been in shambles with ongoing protests, rallies and campaigns being launched by PTI against the military establishment and the ruling governments.

Last May, the PTI workers stormed military installations in Rawalpindi, Lahore, Karachi and other parts of the country, in protest against the arrest of their leader.

Alaya F: There are some films I chase and some that I get completely by luck

Mumbai, May 3 (IANS) Since her debut in 2020, Alaya F has portrayed diverse characters in several big-budget films.

The actress, who describes herself as a "work in progress," spoke about how there are some films that she chases while others come her way by luck. With a filmography boasting of myriad genres, is it a conscious choice to not be pigeonholed, Alaya told IANS: "Yeah, it's different, and I do try to do different things, but I think I just get offered all types of films. Then there are some films that I chase, and some films are completely by luck. It's a mixture of everything."

"I am very lucky enough to have very varied roles, and I hope that continues," said the actress, who has worked in films as different as chalk and cheese.

Alaya, the daughter of actress Pooja Bedi, made her debut in the Saif Ali Khan-starrer 'Jawaani Jaaneman'. She was then seen in the psychological thriller 'Freddy', followed by 'Almost Pyaar With DJ



Mohabbat' and 'Bade Miyan Chote Miyan'. She will next be seen in 'SRI'.

With big films coming her way, does she feel she has made it?

"I don't think any actor would say, 'Yes, I have made it. I am satisfied

now'. No, no, I have a long way to go before I remotely even feel that I have made it. I am always a work in progress, and I don't think that will ever end. But I think I'll do my best every day and hope people like it," she said.

'Saas, Bahu Aur Flamingo' turns one; Homi Adajania speaks about its 'unexpected' success

Mumbai, May 3 (IANS) As the crime drama series 'Saas, Bahu Aur Flamingo' has turned one, its creator, Homi Adajania, shared that it was unexpected the way it blew up and gained popularity. Adajania said: "It's been a year! Wow! I love the idea of presenting strong women whose existence holds the promise of chaos against the very system that has oppressed them. Vulnerable, complicated, but at the core, these characters are the warriors of 'Saas, Bahu aur Flamingo'."



The show features Dimple Kapadia, Radhika Madan, Angira Dhar, Isha Talwar, and Deepak Dobriyal. It narrates the story of a family led by a fearless matriarch who operates the largest drug business in South Asia. "Dimple (Kapadia) has been in all my projects, but I honestly believe that, as the matriarch Savitri, she showcased her best work till date! Surrounding her with a stellar, eclectic cast like Radhika Madan,

Angira Dhar, and Isha Talwar made it all the more exciting," he added. "There are too many others to mention, but I promise you that every single person involved, from actors to technicians, added something magical to the project," he added. Reflecting on the

overwhelming response to the series, Adajania shared: "When released, the way the show blew up was unexpected because we knew that we had created a world no one had seen before, so the reaction was unpredictable." "Even today, I'm enthusiastically hounded for the next season!" he added. 'Saas, Bahu Aur Flamingo' is streaming on Disney+ Hotstar.

'Superstar Singer 2' winner Mohd Faiz gifts lucky strap to contestant; duo sing 'Tu Milta Hai Mujhe'

Mumbai, May 3 (IANS) The winner of 'Superstar Singer 2' Mohammad Faiz expressed his appreciation for season three contestant Shubb Sutradhar's singing and presented his lucky strap, which he had received from Captain Pawandeep Rajan. In the 'RD 40 Special' episode, the 14-year-old Shubb from Siliguri, West Bengal, along with his captain, Arunika Kanjilal, mesmerised the audience with their beautiful renditions of 'Tumse Milke' and 'Is Mod Se Jate Hain'.



Milta Hai Mujhe'. Super Judge Neha Kakkar shared: "What an incredible performance by Arunika and Shubb. From the mesmerising rendition of 'Tumse Milke' to the beautiful and melodious 'Is Mod Se Jaate Hain', you both surpassed all expectations. Arunika, since your debut on 'Indian Idol 14', I've always believed you're one of the best talents on Sony

Entertainment Television." "Your versatility and melodious voice continue to amaze me. Shubb, you sang with such finesse, exceeding all limits. I remember your audition when you were told you couldn't become a singer. Look at you now, proving them wrong. I'm proud of the training you received and how you've flourished on 'Superstar Singer 3', she added.

Sanjay Dutt posts throwback pics of mother Nargis on her 43rd death anniversary

Mumbai, May 3 (IANS) On the 43rd death anniversary of Nargis Dutt on Friday, actor Sanjay Dutt remembered his mother and shared that he holds her close in his heart and memories. Sanjay took to Instagram on Friday morning and shared a motley of old pictures featuring him and his mother. The actor shared the pictures with the caption: "Miss you Maa! Even though you're not here, your presence is felt in every moment. We hold you close in our hearts and memories maa. Love you."

Hina Khan shares 'no filter' picture: 'Sleep deprived, exhausted, frustrated'

Mumbai, May 3 (IANS) Actress Hina Khan has shared that she is sleep-deprived and exhausted due to work but asserts that she is still "alive." Hina took to Instagram and shared that she had to travel a nine-hour road trip to a new destination. "Just packed up and on my way to a new destination by road, nine hours by road. uff exhausted... Have been shooting day and night lately... It's been really tough but worth it," Hina wrote alongside a time stamp of 3.13 a.m. Later, she shared a "no-filter selfie" where she looked extremely tired. "Sleep-deprived, exhausted, frustrated, but I am alive," she wrote. Hina did not disclose the destination or details about her current project. However, the actress has a film lined up for release on May 10 titled 'Shinda Shinda No Papa', marking her debut in Punjabi cinema. The film also features Gippy Grewal and Shinda Grewal.



Nagarjuna Akkineni amps up curiosity in his 1st look from 'Kubera'

Mumbai, (IANS) The first look of Telugu superstar Nagarjuna Akkineni from the upcoming Sekhar Kamula-directorial 'Kubera' has been unveiled. The first look made its way to the screens during the IPL match between Sunrisers Hyderabad vs Rajasthan Royals on Thursday. It showcases senior actor Nagarjuna standing in a downpour with an umbrella and an air of mystery. He is surrounded by trucks of liquid cash, symbolising the film's title 'Kubera'. He is sharply dressed in a blue shirt, pants and wears spectacles in the first look. Before this, Dhanush's first look from the film was unveiled, earning a thrilling response from the audience. 'Kubera' also stars Rashmika Mandanna and Jim Sarbh. The film, jointly produced by Suniel Narang and Puskur Ram Mohan Rao under the Sri Venkateswara Cinemas LLP and Amigos Creations Private Limited banner, is being shot simultaneously in Tamil, Telugu, and Hindi.

Neha Bhasin talking about 'Furqat', says creating poetic music videos is 'a passion'

Mumbai, May 3 (IANS) Singer Neha Bhasin has talked about her latest song, 'Furqat', expressing her passion for creating poetic music videos.

She shared that she lives to create music, and creating poetic music videos is a passion for her.

Neha said: "I live to make music, and creating iconic, poetic, and breathtaking music videos is a passion. Music for me is visual too."



'Furqat', shot at the picturesque locales of Wai in Maharashtra, is a neo-style power ballad with a strong dubstep backbeat mixed with ethereal ethnic elements like Dilruba (esraj). The lyrics, written by Juno, explore themes of separation and unrequited love. The location plays an important role, with barren mountains depicting feelings of desolation and separation poetically. The sun-kissed lake and vast landscape convey their

own heartache, with Neha emoting the song in her trademark high-fashion ensembles. The singer added: "It was a great experience to perform under Sameer Uddin's direction. For me, fashion is art, and the beautiful composition of 'Furqat' is awe-inspiring, and all the hard work is paying off." In addition to Neha, the song features young talent Saumya Kamble, the winner of 'India's Best Dancer' season 2, showcasing belly dancing. Talking about Kamble, Neha said: "Fans are happy, and it was a privilege to feature a young talent like Saumya."

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Gujarat CEO launches Virtual Reality-based Election Metaverse

Ahmedabad, May 3 (IANS) Gujarat Chief Electoral Officer, P Bharti on Friday unveiled a Virtual Reality-based Election Metaverse aimed at educating and engaging first-time voters in the state. This initiative targets over 13 million first-time voters set to participate in the forthcoming General Elections and Assembly bypolls. The Election Metaverse was launched to spread awareness as Gujarat goes to polls on May 7 and it marks a step in modernising the electoral process, especially for new voters. CEO Bharti expressed enthusiasm about the innovative use of technology to enhance voter education and participation. "Through this Virtual Reality platform, voters can navigate a simulated voting experience, providing them with a comprehensive understanding of the voting process. This immersive approach aims to make voting more accessible and convenient, leveraging computer and Android mobile technology," said the CEO of Election Metaverse. The platform can be accessed at https://learn2vote.ceogujaratgov.com/, offering voters a glimpse into the future of electoral engagement.

Video shows biomedical waste in open

Ahmedabad: A video doing the rounds on social media shows the city civic body's sanitation workers collection illegally dumped biowaste including used syringes, saline bottle and used bandages. Two-days ago similar videos and pictures, showing biomedical waste dumped along the road near the Khari River in Baraja and Kahwada areas, had gone viral. These social media posts alleged that hospitals were regularly disposing of biomedical waste in the open in violation of rules. Health department officials said they have not found any violation. "We have inspected hospitals and clinics in those areas. Most hospitals have tied up either biomedical waste collection agencies, three clinics are closed, and we have instructed them not to open their facilities without our permission," said AMC's additional health officer Dr bhavin joshi.

Kerala HC rules 'employees' cannot claim better terms of gratuity as a right

Kochi, May 2 (IANS) The Kerala High Court has dismissed a petition from retired employees which sought better terms of gratuity. It said extending benefits of better terms of gratuity has to be decided by the employer based on various factors and the employees cannot claim it as a matter of right. The Court said this after looking into whether retired employees of state-owned Kerala Minerals and Metals Ltd (KMML) were entitled to get the benefit of the amendment which increased the ceiling limit from Rs 3.5 lakh to Rs10 lakh. The Court pointed out that, "Section 4(5) of the Payment of Gratuity Act provides that 'nothing in this section shall affect the right of an employee to receive better terms of gratuity under any award or agreement or contract with the employer'. I am of the view that extending better terms of gratuity is matter to be decided by the employer taking into account several relevant factors. The employees cannot claim better benefits as of right. Of course, the employees can negotiate with the employer to persuade him/her to extend better benefits of gratuity to them," read the Court's order. The employees cannot claim better benefits as of right. Of course, the employees can negotiate with the employer to persuade him/her to extend better benefits of gratuity to them," read the Court's order. The petition pointed out that the amendment dated 24.5.2010 was not extended to them whereas several state-owned companies, PSUs and Central Government employees were given the benefit of amended provision retrospectively. The Court stated, "the petitioner's demand for retrospective implementation of the Amendment Act is not supported by any legal ground," and dismissed the writ petition.

LU allows students to change stream after passing entrance test

Lucknow, May 2 (IANS) Students seeking admission to postgraduate courses at Lucknow University will now have the option to change their stream from the new academic session 2024-25 if they succeed in the entrance examination. A candidate holding a graduation degree in humanities can pursue commerce or science, and vice versa, under the National Education Policy adopted by the university. Prof. Geetanjali Mishra, Dean of Academics, said: "A student who has a BA or BCom degree can apply for MSc, and similar will be the case with other streams. Also, if a student has studied humanities at the 10+2 level and graduation, he or she can study science at the PG level. The only eligibility we have set to attain this multidisciplinary education is that a candidate should have a UG degree in any stream and should crack the university's entrance test." "We have adopted it under NEP, which aims to provide students with the flexibility of transitioning between different fields of study. Instead of compulsion and rules for studies, LU has given priority to the choice of the student," she said.

58% Of GenZ Voters Want Sustainability

In what may tip political parties to grab Generation Z or the first time voter's attention in the Lok Sabha polls, a MICA student's dissertation has found that 58% of the sampled GenZ (those born after 1997 and 2012 and are eligible to vote) consider sustainability as one of the top 10 issues that should find place in party manifestos and advertisements. For the dissertation on the title- Scope of sustainability in political advertisement in the context of GenZ voters- Bhavya Gupta, a batch 2022-24 MICA student had interviewed 200 GenZ people, 40 of whom are from Gujarat. Gupta completed her dissertation under MICA professor Ashutosh Dutt. The two said that the idea was to understand not GenZ's preference of voting, but the issues they think are relevant like sustainability- be it green transportation, focus on renewable energy and conservation of biodiversity. "To analyse the responses, we followed the technique known as conjoint analysis. For this, we analysed the manifesto of top three parties- BJP, Congress and AAP- that have main focus on development (vikas), inclusivity and empowerment. While we found that Congress has included sustainability in the manifesto for the last three times, BJP too has started to include sustainability in its manifesto. However, addressing sustainability through policies if voted to power is pushed at the bottom of manifestos. "GenZ wants sustainability among the top 10 issues in India to be placed in political parties' manifestos.

GNLU registrar apologizes to HC for denying harassment

Ahmedabad: The registrar of the Gujarat National Law University (GNLU) on Wednesday tendered an unconditional apology to the Gujarat high court for not acknowledging incidents of sexual harassment and being in denial mode in his affidavit filed before the court in Oct 2023. Apart from the registrar submitting an apology, the GNLU director also filed an affidavit and assured the court that he would see to it that the student's confidence is won over and they feel safe their grievances. The bench of Chief Justice Sunita Agarwal and Mayee said that it would dispose of the suo motu PIL. During the hearing on Wednesday, the HC asked about the nature of the post of GNLU registrar and advocate general Kamal Trivedi the court that advertisement for the post had been issued twice, but the university did not get an adequate response for the job which entails a five-year term. The court was told that the current registrar, an assistant professor, would be relieved of this work and his services would be confined to teaching only. The court asked about the constitution of the internal complaints committee (ICC) and suggested the inclusion of more male members as the current ICC at GNLU has only one male member. The court also suggested that complaint boxes be placed on the campus, so a complainant's identity is not revealed. It also suggested a mechanism for anonymous complaints to reach the ICC. The judges said they will incorporate suggestions into their order and insisted that the present registrar should not get another term at the post. "This person should not be given the charge of registrar because he is not fit to be a registrar. He may be fit to be a professor," the court said. Hasish smuggling kingpin is filmmaker from Beed: ATS Ahmedabad: Two days after agencies including the Indian Coast Guard (ICG) in collaboration with the Narcotics Control Bureau (NCB) and the Gujarat antiterrorist squad (ATS) seized 173kg of hashish (cannabis resin), worth Rs 60.5 crore, from an Indian fishing boat off the Gujarat coast, Gujarat ATS officer on Wednesday said that the kingpin behind the smuggling was a film producer based in Pune. "Kailash Sanap, 33, who hails from Beed in Maharashtra and a resident of Pune, has produced a movie named Chavati in Marathi in 2019 with an investment of around Rs 2.50 crore. The movie was screened in a prestigious film festival in Mumbai. But due to the lockdown post the covid-19 pandemic, it was not released and Sanap suffered a set back," said an ATS officer. The officer said that Sanap was in contact with another accused named Dats Sukharam Andhale, also from Maharashtra, and they along with a few other from Gujarat had travelled to Dubai in 2022. In Dubai, they meet several drug dealers and decided to indulge in smuggling added the officer. The two and three other named magesh Aarote and Haridas Kula, both belonging to Ahmedabad and Ali Asghar Haleportra of Kutchin Gujarat decided to buy a boat to smuggle the hashish stoke. On the night of April 22, Andhale and Aarote left for deep waters in the hired boat. The probe further revealed that the two accused allegedly overpowered the boat staff and forcefully took in to Pansit, situated in Pakistan's waters where they received the hashish consignment. The team, led by Patel used technical surveillance and found Sanap used a satellite phone to allegedly coordinate with his two accomplices on the boat and drug supplier from Paistan. According to police, Andhale and Aarote were arrested immediately after landing the port. The duo broke down during questioning and revealed the names of their others- Sanap and Kula were arrested on Tuesday by the ATS. ATS is still probing about who going to get the drugs stoke.

Government on sticky ground over glue traps

Ahmedabad: The Gujarat high court on Wednesday sought a response from the state authority concerned over public interest litigation (PIL) that demands strict implementation of ban on glue traps and glue boards used to kill rodents, citing cruelty towards animals. Petitioner Narendra Rana filed a petition through advocate Darmsh Gujarat citing a circular issued by the Gujarat State Animal Welfare Boards on September 5, 2023, imposing the ban. Rana claimed that despite the use of glue traps and glue boards prevent in farm-house and industrial areas. He contended that glue traps are cruel and indiscriminate and don't eliminate the problem. Each year and countless animals, birds and reptiles too get caught in these traps intended to capture flying insects like wasps or flies and rodents. Insects or animals caught in glue traps die slowly painful death, succumbing to exhaustion from struggling to get free, or from starvation or dehydration. The petitioner cited Canada's Center for Disease Control and Prevention and Health, which warns against the use of glue traps by highlighting the threat of hantaviruses. The petitioner further contended that this practice of killing rodents, which unintentionally kills birds and other animals as well amounts to cruelty and should be stopped. A ban on such traps announced in Sept last year has not been enforced. The HC said that this matter requires consideration and gave two weeks to the authorities concerned besides directing the Animal Welfare Board and the director of animal husbandry to file affidavits listing steps taken to implement the ban. Next hearing is scheduled for July 5.

Man and daughter died as speaker explodes, his lover's husband detained

Ahmedabad, A man and his daughter were killed and two children sustained serious injuries after a speaker exploded at a house in Sabarkantha district's Vadali taluka on Thursday. The police have detained a man, whose wife was allegedly in an illicit relationship with the deceased man. The deceased were identified as Veda village residents Jitu alias Jitendra Vanzara (36) and Bhumika Vanzara (14). The police said explosive substances, including ammonium nitrate, were found at the explosion site. The incident prompted the government to rush a team of the National Security Guard to probe the matter, as the explosion took place a day after Prime Minister Narendra Modi addressed a rally in the district. According to the Sabarkantha district police, around 12.30 pm in the afternoon, an autorickshaw driver reached Jitu's house and delivered a parcel that had a sticker containing the name 'Jitendra Vanzara', his address and his cellphone number. "Jitu collected the box and in the presence of his daughters Bhumika and Chhaya as well as a girl from the neighbourhood, Shilpa (14), he started opening it," said a police officer. Speaking to The Indian Express, Inspector General of Police (Gandhinagar Range) Virendrasinh Yadav added, "As soon as he opened the box, there was an explosion injuring all four. They were rushed to the community health centre at Vadali by neighbours. While Jitu and Bhumika were declared brought dead on arrival by doctors, Chhaya and Shilpa were shifted to the civil hospital in Himmatnagar." "During investigation, it came to light found that Jitu was having an affair with a married woman from a neighbouring village. The woman's husband had also warned Jitu about it. He works in a mining company and somehow managed to procure ammonium nitrate. He filled a speaker from a music system with ammonium nitrate and connected the same to detonators. As soon as Jitu opened the parcel, the speaker exploded," he added. The police said the woman's husband and the autorickshaw driver have been detained. "The accused paid Rs 200 to the auto driver, also a resident of Veda village, to deliver the parcel to Jitu's house. We are in the process of registering an offence against both the accused," said an officer. While forensic teams from Gandhinagar were rushed in, Gujarat Anti-Terrorism Squad chief Sunil Joshi and Sabarkantha District Superintendent of Police Vijay Patel also visited the crime spot. One of the injured girls has been put on ventilator, said Assistant Resident Medical Officer Vipul Jani from the civil hospital.

Valsad, Ahmedabad collectors reach out to businesses to ensure high voter turnout

Anticipating a dip in voter turnout due to scorching heat, the collectors of Valsad and Ahmedabad, who are also the district election officers, are leaving no stone unturned to ensure a high voting percentage on May 7 when Gujarat goes to polls. The officials have roped in owners of various industries, associations, shopkeepers, hotels and restaurants, requesting their participation in an awareness drive to ensure a higher voter turnout. In Ahmedabad, Collector Praveena D.K. has signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with various companies such as Arvind Mills, Zedex Clothing, Zydrus Life Science, Nestle and Suzuki Limited so that the workers can exercise their voting right. During a meeting with owners of 690 industries in Vapi and Umargam, district election officials instructed them to give workers a paid holiday on May 7. The officials also requested the industrial units to make arrangements for buses if there are more than 50 voters for pick-up and drop to the polling stations. The officials also roped in school students to write a postcard addressed to their parents on the significance of voting. "The purpose is to create awareness among the people. We have entered into an MoU with the postal department. Till date more than three lakh postcards have been written by the students to their parents informing them on their right to vote." Valsad Collector and district election officer Ayush Oak said. Further, on the appeal of election officials, over 92 shopkeepers, grocery shops, hotels and restaurants, and malls, have offered discounts in the range of 10 to 15 per cent to customers who show the blue ink on their index finger. "In the past elections, there was a higher voter turnout in rural tribal areas but fewer people turned out in the urban and industrial areas. We have also made facilities such as tents outside the polling stations, even though fans have been installed. Water stations and medical teams have also been deployed at polling stations," Oak said.

Caregiver swindles 84-years-old of 3L

Ahmedabad: A 54-year-old man from the nava vadaj area of the city on Tuesday filed a police complaint alleging that his father's caregiver fraudulently transferred Rs 3 lakh from his father's bank account. The complainant, Samir Bhagat, a resident of yogeshwar Eminence, works as a court superintendent at the city civil and sessions court in Bhadra. His father Jayanti Parmar, 84, lives in Sector 22 in Gandhinagar. According to Bhagat's complaint with Vadaj police, on April 19, he hired Mahesh Vala as his father's caregiver through an agency but had no clue where he lived. Vala moved into Parmar's house to look after him and was paid Rs 1,000 everyday. On Monday, Vala told Parmar that his father-in-law passed away and that he needed leave to attend his last rites. On Tuesday, Parmar told Bhagat that his mobile was not working and had needed a new sim card. Bhagat got him a new card activated, Parmar began receiving text message regarding money withdrawn from his account. Bhagat found that Vala had transferred Rs 3.19 lakh from Parmar's account through UPI transaction between April 26 and 29. Vadaj police registered a complaint of breach of trust and cheating against Vala and began an investigation.

Faith Leaders Breakfast Strengthens Community Engagement at New Scotland Yard

Valsad, The Metropolitan Police Service hosted a pivotal Faith Leaders Breakfast on Thursday, May 2, 2024, at New Scotland Yard. The event, presided over by Sir Mark Rowley, Commissioner of the Metropolitan Police Service, convened esteemed leaders from diverse faith communities alongside high-ranking officers. Commander Colin Wingrove, Commander Lou Puddefoot, Commander Clair Kelland, Chief Superintendent Georgina Zumeris, and Senior Chaplain Reverend Jonathan Osborne were among the notable attendees, reflecting a commitment to fostering collaboration between law enforcement and community leaders. Highlighting inclusivity, the gathering welcomed HH Shri Rajrajeshwar Guruji, representing the Hindu community, alongside interfaith leaders from Greater London. Their participation underscored the importance of unity and mutual understanding in addressing shared challenges and promoting social cohesion. Commissioner Rowley emphasized the significance of ongoing dialogue and partnership between the police and faith communities in ensuring the safety and well-being of all Londoners. The Faith Leaders Breakfast served as a platform for meaningful exchanges, fostering trust and cooperation essential for building safer, more resilient communities. (Photo Ashok Joshi)



The MoU Signing Ceremony - GLS University The Financial Planning Standards Board India 3rd May 2024

Ahmedabad, Marching firmly on the path towards the academic excellence, GLS University entered yet another academic collaboration with an aim of strengthening further its knowledge environment. Through a rigorous process of discussions and deliberations, the MoU took place between the two academic giants of international reach and reputation, GLS University and The Financial Planning Standards Board India (FPSB India). GLS University is the Pioneering University in the State of Gujarat with whom The Financial Planning Standards Board India (FPSB India) has signed MoU. Mr. Krishnan Mishra, CEO, FPSB India and Ms. Teena Rawal, Head of Strategic Alliance, FPSB India visited GLS University on 3rd May 2024 for the MoU Signing Ceremony. FPSB India is the leading financial planning body in India and is dedicated to establishing, upholding and promoting professional standards in financial planning throughout India. The two academic institutes agreed to provide mutual support for creating and designing innovative and industry ready courses in the fields of Commerce and Finance, to establish and service accounting and finance education, grow skills and deliver through their mutual areas of expertise, to exchange information and expertise in order to support the development of financial planning expertise amongst the students of the institution and the wider profession as appropriate and to promote and facilitate quality research.



IITE Relieves HC Patel As Registrar

Ahmedabad, Indian Institute of Teacher's Education (IITE) on Wednesday relieved registrar HC Patel from the post and duties. The move comes after IITE took away registrar's responsibilities from Patel over allegations of malpractice, though he continued to hold the position. In-charge VC at IITE, Kalpesh Pathak said that Patel has been relieved from the post and Madhusudan Makwana, deputy registrar has been made in-charge registrar. Pathak said while Patel is relieved and will be assigned the next assignment by the state education department, Patel said that he had written a letter to IITE in-charge VC to relieve him. "I am not sure about my next move or assignment and I would like to get an official letter from the education department," he said. Patel came to IITE on lien from LD Engineering College, where he is a faculty member.

Gehlot Dares BJP For Debate Over Manifesto

Ahmedabad, Former Chief Minister of Rajasthan Ashok Gehlot on Wednesday challenged the BJP for a debate on the manifesto. The challenge came in the wake of the Prime Minister Narendra Modi's speech in Rajasthan wherein he stated that the Congress would take away people's properties and mangalsutra if voted to power. Gehlot, who was in Ahmedabad, spoke to the media at the Rajiv Gandhi Bhavan, Gujarat Congress' headquarters. "Congress party's manifesto 'Nyay

More than 50% of patients face delay in discharge due to time taken to process mediclaim: Study

New Delhi, 3 May 2024: A new study from healthcare provider Pristyn Care found that 5 out of 10 patients face delays in discharge due to the time taken to process medical insurance claims. To alleviate the hassle experienced by health insurance policyholders, the Insurance Regulatory and Development Authority of India (IRDAI) is likely to introduce a 100% cashless hospital network that will include both empanelled and non-empanelled hospitals. The study indicates that over 40% of individuals attribute delays in health insurance claims in India to hospital administrative processes, while 25% cite a lack of coordination between hospitals and insurance providers. Complex documentation procedures also significantly contribute to these delays. Furthermore, the survey underscores various challenges encountered by patient families throughout the insurance claims process, with nearly 4 out of 10 respondents reporting difficulties with customer support regarding the claims process. Commenting on the findings, Dr. Vaibhav Kapoor, Co-founder of Pristyn Care, said, "There is a huge gap between the intended ease of cashless health insurance and the reality experienced by policyholders.

Turkey announces suspension of trade activities with Israel

Ankara, May 3 (IANS) Turkey halted all trade activities with Israel due to the latter's "non-stop violence" against Palestinians in the Gaza Strip, the Turkish Trade Ministry said. The move follows Turkey's imposition of restrictions on an array of exports to Israel since last month, which Ankara said on Thursday would remain in effect until a ceasefire in Gaza is achieved. In a statement, the Ministry recalled that Ankara previously restricted the export of 54 product groups to Israel in April because the "massacre, humanitarian catastrophe, and physical destruction caused by Israel continued," and the Israeli government "ignored" international ceasefire efforts and blocked humanitarian aid, Xinhua news agency reported. "It is observed that

the Israeli government continues its aggressive behaviour and the humanitarian tragedy in Palestine worsens," the Ministry said. "In this respect, the second phase of the measures taken at the state level has been initiated and export and import transactions with Israel have been suspended for all products," said the statement. Turkey will strictly and decisively implement these new measures until the Israeli government allows the uninterrupted and sufficient flow of humanitarian aid to Gaza, it added. On the other hand, the Turkish Trade Ministry is coordinating with Palestinian authorities to ensure that Palestinian people "who are forced to live under occupation" are not affected by these restrictions, the Ministry noted.



Henry De Los Rios Polania, 35, is fighting for his life in hospital having suffered injuries when a knifeman broke into his family home, his sister Jessica De Los Rios, 31, said. Marcus Arduini Monzo, 36, appeared in court yesterday accused of being behind a 22-minute rampage that left schoolboy Daniel Anjorin dead and four others seriously wounded - including a policewoman who nearly lost a hand. But IT engineer Mr De Los Rios, from Hainault in North-East London, was able to protect his daughter and partner from the attacker, his sister said.

South Korea, US could explore possible 3-way energy cooperation with Japan

Seoul, May 3 (IANS) South Korea and the US could explore expanding bilateral energy cooperation dialogue to a trilateral format involving Japan in the future, given the importance Washington puts on its two Asian allies, a US official said on Friday. Geoffrey Pyatt, US assistant secretary of state for the Bureau of Energy Resources, made the remarks in response to a reporter's question on the prospects of expanding the talks to include other like-minded countries, such as Japan, Australia and New Zealand, Yonhap news agency reported.

The three countries or more, Pyatt struck a cautious note in that developing such possibilities would need "more work." "There are certainly some areas where I could imagine the US-Japan-Korea relationship meeting that test, but that's going to require more work by all of us, and we're not quite there yet," he said. "The relationships are different," Pyatt said. "I think we've got more work to do if we want to develop those opportunities for multilateral cooperation."

The discussions also included talks on ways to work together to accelerate the clean energy transition in Southeast Asia and across the Indo-Pacific, Pyatt added. On South Korea's energy dependence on Russia, such as coal imports, Pyatt noted that reducing the portion of fossil fuels is more of a broader goal to achieve the green energy transition than a matter concerning the ties with Russia. "Korea has already gone to zero on certain key fossil energy imports from Russia, its imports of Russian liquefied natural gas down by about half, compared to before the full-scale invasion began," he said. "It's less a matter of phasing out of Russia than phasing out of coal writ large. This is a goal which the Korean government shares...every country will have to manage this transition out of coal in a way that is sustainable."

"I think there is a possibility for us to do more, in the North Asia context, leveraging what the United States has strongly supported in terms of the deeper cooperation between Japan, Korea and the United States," Pyatt said during an online press briefing. While agreeing that the energy area certainly offers opportunities for

work. By enabling any off-the-shelf Bluetooth device with just a software update to connect to satellite network without cellular reception, we are "paving the way for a revolution in the Internet of Things (IoT)". "Imagine global coverage with 20 times less battery drain and 50 times lower operating costs. It's not just an improvement; it's a transformation," according to the startup. From agriculture, where farmers can harness more from existing low-power, low-cost sensors without the need for additional expensive space-enabled hardware, to defense, where secure and reliable communication is paramount, the implications are profound. Hubble Network said it is already working with pilot customers in sectors like consumer devices, construction, infrastructure, supply chain, logistics, oil and gas, and defense to explore more opportunities. A user will need to integrate their devices' chipsets with a piece of firmware to enable connection to Hubble's network.

China to launch Chang'e-6 lunar probe to Moon's far side on Friday

Beijing, May 3 (IANS) China is set to launch its Chang'e-6 lunar probe to the Moon's mysterious far side to Earth -- the first endeavour of its kind in the history of human lunar exploration, the China National Space Administration (CNSA) said on Friday. According to the CNSA, the Chang'e-6 lunar probe is scheduled to be launched between 5 p.m. and 6 p.m. (Beijing Time) (2.30 p.m. to 3.30 p.m. IST) on Friday, Xinhua news agency reported. The Chang'e-6 mission aims to collect and return samples from the Moon's mysterious far side to Earth. The Long March 5 Y8 rocket, which will carry the Chang'e-6 probe, has begun the process of taking on liquid oxygen cryogenic propellant at the Wenchang Space Launch Site on the coast of China's southern island province of Hainan, the CNSA added. This propellant will

serve as fuel for the carrier rocket. The Chang'e-6 spacecraft comprises an orbiter, a lander, an ascender and a returner. The mission will carry four payloads developed through international cooperation. In Hainan. An impact crater known as the Apollo Basin, located within the South Pole-Aitken Basin on the far side of the Moon, has been chosen as the primary target landing and sampling site for the Chang'e-6 mission. After the spacecraft reaches the Moon, it will make a soft landing. Within 48 hours after landing, a robotic arm will be extended to scoop rocks and soil from the lunar surface, while a drill will be used to bore into the ground. Scientific instruments from France, Italy, and the European Space Agency are aboard the Chang'e-6 lander, while a small satellite from Pakistan is aboard the orbiter. About 50 guests from 12 countries and international organisations have been invited by the CNSA to attend a workshop focusing on the international payloads carried by Chang'e-6 and witness the launch

ic detection work will be carried out simultaneously. After the samples are sealed in a container, the ascender will take off from the Moon and dock with the orbiter in lunar orbit. The returner will then carry back the samples to Earth, landing in Siziwang Banner in north China's Inner Mongolia Autonomous Region. The entire mission is expected to last about 53 days, the CNSA said.

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Hollywood News

'Mrs. Doubtfire' child stars reunite for pictures 30 years after film's release

Los Angeles, May 3 (IANS) Lisa Jakub, Matthew Lawrence, and Mara Wilson, who starred as siblings in the late Robin Williams-starrer 'Mrs. Doubtfire', reminisced about the 1993 film as they reunited for a picture some 31 years after its release. "The sisters had so much fun hanging out with the brothers. @marawilson and @matthewlawrence still feel like my siblings -- even 30 years after filming 'Mrs. Doubtfire,'" wrote Jakub, who portrayed the oldest child Lydia Hillard, on Instagram. Jakub added: "We had a little reunion. 30 years later, and my Mrs. Doubtfire family still feels like family." Wilson wrote: "So funny that the same week I went to San Francisco, I got to reunite with my Doubtfire siblings!" "It's always a joy to see @lisa.jakub and @matthewlawrence, and always so much fun to be on @officialbrotherlylovepod," she added, reports deadline.com. The reference seemed to be an appearance from herself and Jakub on the Lawrence brothers' podcast, as evidenced by a larger group photo that included Joey Lawrence and Andrew Lawrence.

Sia files to legally change her name after one year of marriage

Los Angeles, May 3 (IANS) 'Cheap Thrills' hitmaker Sia has decided to change her legal name and adopt the surname of her husband Dan Bernad. According to court documents obtained by TMZ.com, Sia wishes to change her name from "Sia Kate Furler" to "Sia Bernad", adopting the surname of her husband, Dan Bernad. The request comes as the couple are all set to celebrate their first wedding anniversary, marking a new chapter in Sia's life, reports aceshowbiz.com.

Sia and Bernad got married in a surprise ceremony held at Domenico Dolce and Stefano Gabbana's Villa Olivetta in Portofino, Italy.

Sia is known for her desire to keep her personal life private, and often performs wearing elaborate wigs that obscure her face. However, she made a departure from this norm at the 5th annual Daytime Beauty Awards, appearing publicly without her signature wigs. This marked the first time she showcased a facelift, expressing gratitude to her plastic surgeon onstage.

Priyanka says being part of 'Womb' has been nothing short of inspiring for her

Mumbai, May 3 (IANS) Priyanka Chopra feels inspired to be a part of the documentary 'Women of My Billion' (WOMB), directed by Ajitesh Sharma, which she described as "stories of courage, strength, and resilience." Priyanka shared a glimpse of the documentary on Instagram, highlighting its focus on the fight against all forms of violence faced by women in India. It also showcases the journey of Srishiti Bakshi as she walks from Kanyakumari to Kashmir, covering 3,800 km over 240 days to uncover and share stories about women. Captioning the post, Priyanka wrote: "Very rarely do you come across people whose strength leaves you in awe and ignites a fire within you to tell a story that can truly make a difference." "Presenting WOMB, a film created by these incredible women @srishitibakshi @apoorvab that features stories of courage, strength, and resilience. Being a part of this journey has been nothing short of inspiring. These stories of change belong to you now," she added.

The show, which began streaming on May 3, is produced by Apoorva Bakshi and Monisha Thyagarajan's Awedacious Originals in association with Priyanka Chopra Jonas' Purple Pebble Pictures.

Amruta Khanvilkar on working with Zakir Khan: 'Someone you should encounter at least once'

Mumbai, May 3 (IANS) Amruta Khanvilkar, who portrays the role of Surekha in the show 'Chacha Vidhayak Hain Humare' season three, shared that she was inspired to work on this project because of Zakir Khan, as she had always wanted to meet and chat with him. Amruta, who was last seen in 'Lootere', shared her experience of working with Zakir on the series.

"I was inspired to work on this project because I've always wanted to meet and chat with Zakir whenever I watched his shows. He is genuinely humble, and I'm not just saying this because everyone else does. Zakir is someone you should encounter at least once in your lifetime. I would say that just listen and follow what he has to say about life and art," she said. Speaking about her role, Amruta added: "Surekha's character is powerful and composed. She knows her path and it is focused on it. I have never portrayed a character like her before. Working on this series felt like returning home to lovely people. I've learned that you can make something amazing out of even the simplest things."

Ashutosh Rana, Vijay Raaz-starrer 'Murder in Mahim' digs deep into Mumbai's underbelly

Mumbai, May 3 (IANS) The makers of 'Murder in Mahim', starring Ashutosh Rana and Vijay Raaz, unveiled the trailer of the upcoming psychological thriller on Friday, which delves deep into the complexities of human nature and the grim realities of society. The one-minute, 56-second trailer takes viewers back to Mumbai in 2013. It features Vijay as a cop and Ashutosh as a journalist. The series serves as a social commentary, exploring a chilling murder mystery and the underbelly of Mumbai while also highlighting the reconciliation of a lost friendship between Peter (Ashutosh) and Jende (Vijay). Set against the backdrop of a gruesome murder at Mahim station, the series follows Peter as he becomes embroiled in the sinister investigation. The stakes escalate when his own son, Sunil, becomes a suspect. Amid this turmoil, Peter and Jende navigate a world of secret desires, blackmail, and unspoken love as they track down the killer, confronting their personal biases along the way. Discussing his role, Ashutosh shared: "When it comes to complex roles, I'm most excited. Peter is one such character. His inner struggle amid the complexities of the murder investigation allowed me to add depth to the character. It's not just a profound murder mystery; it's layered with so many significant plots that mirror social stigmas around caste, gender, and sexuality with rare sensitivity. That's the beauty of this show."

US spacetech startup establishes Bluetooth connection with a satellite for 1st time

New Delhi, May 3 (IANS) In a first, US-based spacetech startup Hubble Network has established a Bluetooth connection directly with a satellite 600 kilometres away — a development which can help connect millions of devices anywhere. The Seattle-based startup is backed by a \$20 million funding round from Transpose Platform and Y Combinator.

On March 4, 2024, from the grounds of Vandenberg Space Force Base in the US, Hubble Network successfully launched its first two satellites.

"These aren't just any satellites; they've successfully reached their orbits and managed to receive signals from a simple 3.5mm Bluetooth chip over an astonishing distance of 600 kms," the startup informed in a blog post. "We've disproved thousands of skeptics. By showcasing that we can send signals directly from Bluetooth chips and receive them in space 600 km away, we've opened a new realm of possibilities," said Alex Haro, co-founder and CEO of Hubble Net-

work. By enabling any off-the-shelf Bluetooth device with just a software update to connect to satellite network without cellular reception, we are "paving the way for a revolution in the Internet of Things (IoT)". "Imagine global coverage with 20 times less battery drain and 50 times lower operating costs. It's not just an improvement; it's a transformation," according to the startup. From agriculture, where farmers can harness more from existing low-power, low-cost sensors without the need for additional expensive space-enabled hardware, to defense, where secure and reliable communication is paramount, the implications are profound. Hubble Network said it is already working with pilot customers in sectors like consumer devices, construction, infrastructure, supply chain, logistics, oil and gas, and defense to explore more opportunities. A user will need to integrate their devices' chipsets with a piece of firmware to enable connection to Hubble's network.

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Russia responsible for cyber attack on governing party: Germany

Adelaide, Australia, May 3 (IANS/DPA) German Foreign Minister Annalena Baerbock on Friday said Berlin blames a unit of the Russian military intelligence service GRU for a 2023 cyber attack on the centre-left Social Democrats (SPD). "Russian state hackers attacked Germany in cyberspace," Baerbock said in Adelaide during a visit to Australia, adding there would be consequences. In June 2023, the SPD, the dominant party in Germany's ruling coalition, said that email accounts belonging to its executive had been the target of a cyber attack earlier that year. According to the SPD, this was made possible by a security vulnerability in software which was not known at the time of the attack. "It cannot be ruled out that data was leaked from individual email inboxes," a SPD spokesperson said.



Derbyshire Constabulary confirmed officers had been called to reports of a burglary at the remote Peak District farmhouse at 3.30pm on Tuesday. They attended the property, on a remote country lane, in Whaley Bridge, Derbyshire, and launched an investigation. That was ongoing when reports came in of the second raid at the farmhouse less than ten hours later, at around 1.20am the following day. A police spokesman said they were 'keeping an open mind' as to whether the two incidents were linked. The farmer arrested on suspicion of murder and attempted murder was named by locals as Rob Lomas (right), a 50-year-old divorcee.

North Korean economic delegation returns from Iran amid suspected military ties

Seoul, May 3 (IANS) A North Korean economic delegation has returned home from Iran, Pyongyang's state media said Friday, ending a rare trip that raised suspicions of possible weapons cooperation between the two nations. The delegation, headed by External Economic Relations Minister Yun Jong-ho, arrived in Pyongyang on Thursday after visiting Iran, the Korean Central News Agency (KCNA) said in a one-sentence dispatch. The latest dispatch marked the first state media report on the visit since an April 24 dispatch announcing the delegation's departure, Yonhap news agency reported. It is rare for a ranking North Korean official to visit Iran. The last such visit took place in 2019 when Pak Chol-min, then North Korean vice chairman of the Supreme People's Assembly, visited Iran to discuss cooperation. Having established diplomatic ties in 1973, Pyongyang and Tehran are known to have close ties while under international sanctions for their weapons programs. The countries have been sus-

pected of exchanging ballistic missile parts and technology, especially during the 1980-1988 Iran-Iraq war. The recent trip raised speculation that along with economic cooperation, North Korea may seek to deepen military ties with Iran amid Russia's war with Ukraine. Pyongyang and Tehran are known to be key providers of weapons to Moscow to support the war. The Iranian foreign ministry has dismissed such speculation as "biased," saying the North Korean delegation attended a trade show and held talks with officials from the government and private sector.

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Josh Baker, a talented Worcestershire spinner, had been playing in his county's second XI just yesterday, and was due back on the field in Bromsgrove today. After calls to his phone proved fruitless, a friend found him dead in his apartment, causing shockwaves through the close-knit cricket community. Baker took three wickets against Somerset on Wednesday, with the game abandoned as a draw on Thursday, and previously featured in two Vitality County Championship games last month. His club's chief executive Ashley Giles said the news of Baker's death has left 'us all devastated'.

Death toll in Brazil's worst storms rises to 29

Sao Paulo, May 3 (IANS) The death toll due to the worst storms mounted to 29 after four consecutive days of intense rainfall, floods and mudslides in Brazil's Rio Grande do Sul, Governor Eduardo Leite said. "Unfortunately, we know that these numbers will rise," said Leite on Thursday, describing the storms as the worst natural disaster in the history of the state, Xinhua news agency reported. Brazilian President Luiz Inacio Lula da Silva on Thursday visited Santa Maria, one of the state's worst-hit cities, and met with Leite. Lula offered federal funding and aid to address the emergency in

the state bordering Uruguay and Argentina. "There will be no shortage of help from the federal government to take care of health, there will be no shortage of money to take care of transportation and food, everything that is within reach. Whether through ministers, civil society or our military, we will dedicate round-the-clock effort so that we can satisfy the basic needs of the people who are stranded by the rains," said the President. With more rains forecast to come, the governor called on residents to head for higher ground and stay away from flood-prone areas identified by the civil defence agency.

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Pant would be the first choice wicketkeeper-batter over Samson, believes Ajay Ratna

New Delhi, (IANS) On April 30, Rishabh Pant and Sanju Samson were picked as the wicketkeeper-batters by India in their 15-member squad for the upcoming Men's T20 World Cup, to be held in West Indies and USA from June 1. While this is the first time Samson has been picked in an India squad for senior men's World Cups, Pant is returning to the national set-up for the first time since recovering from injuries suffered in a life-threatening car accident in December 2022. In IPL 2024, Samson has amassed 385 runs in nine innings at a strike rate of 161. On the other hand, Pant has scored 398 runs in 11 innings at a strike-rate of 159. While Samson has hit 36 fours compared to the 31 smashed by Pant, the latter has smacked 24 sixes compared to the former's 17 maximums. Ajay Ratna, the former India wicketkeeper-batter, believes Pant would be his first choice over Samson, citing his good returns on being back at playing competitive cricket.

The initial feeling wasn't great; doesn't look good, says Fleming on Chahar's injury

Chennai, May 2 (IANS) Stephen Fleming, the head coach of Chennai Super Kings, has said fast-bowling all-rounder Deepak Chahar's hamstring injury doesn't look good as the early signs to its extent weren't great. Chahar, who previously missed two matches in the IPL 2024 season due to a niggle, hobbled off the field after bowling just two deliveries, and would never return to the field for the remainder of the game. It meant CSK became a bowler short in dewy conditions at the MA Chidambaram Stadium, where Punjab Kings outclassed them by seven wickets. "The travelogue is pretty busy. There's a lot of ins and outs. So, Deepak Chahar doesn't look good. The initial feeling wasn't great. So, I'm hoping for a more positive report when the physio and the doctor have a look," said Fleming in post-match press conference.

Cyber extortion top concern for 37 pc Indian firms: Report

New Delhi, May 3 (IANS) About 37 per cent of Indian organisations cited cyber extortion as a top concern as compared to 24 per cent globally, a new report said on Friday.

According to the cybersecurity company Splunk, about 25 per cent of Indian firms also cited attacks on cloud-based infrastructure as a top concern.

"As businesses in India navigate a complex cyber threat landscape that evolves with advancements in AI, Splunk's latest State of Security report reveals that the country's security teams are ahead of the curve globally when it comes to establishing generative AI policies," said Dhiraj Goklani, Area Vice President, South Asia, Splunk.

The report surveyed 1,650 security leaders during December 2023 and January 2024. Respondents were in Australia, France, Germany, India, Japan, New Zealand, Singapore, the UK and the US.



ANGE LOSES HIS COOL

KIERAN GILL AT STAMFORD BRIDGE: Ange Postecoglou (pictured left) could not contain his rage as he watched Tottenham crumble at Chelsea, admitting afterwards that they have bigger problems than being vulnerable from set-pieces. Postecoglou questioned the mindset of his players after a pitiful performance at Stamford Bridge with the Spurs boss as angry as we have seen him on the touchline. Despite being decimated by injuries, Chelsea capitalised on two set-piece opportunities with headers from Trevoh Chalobah and Nicolas Jackson inflicting a third consecutive Premier League loss on Tottenham, who now face a fight to finish fourth above Aston Villa.

'I was thinking Super Over', says Cummins after SRH's one-run win over RR

Hyderabad, May 3 (IANS) After Sunrisers Hyderabad (SRH) sealed a one-run win over Rajasthan Royals (RR) in a nail-biting IPL 2024 match at the Rajiv Gandhi International Stadium, skipper Pat Cummins revealed he had thoughts of Super Over crossing in his mind.

SRH needed to defend 12 runs off the final over, which came down to two runs needed off the last ball. Morevoer, they could keep only four fielders outside 30-yard circle due to slow-over rate penalty. Bhuvneshwar Kumar, their veteran fast-bowler, trapped Rovman Powell plumb lbw with a low full toss on middle and leg to take 3-41 and complete a stunning win for SRH over the table-toppers, which now takes them to fourth place in the points table.

"Amazing game. That last ball I kind of forgot if we take a wicket, we could win. I was just thinking Super Over. It is T20 cricket, we get used to batters getting them over the line but when you get to that

last over, you do feel like anything can happen. Bhuvu (Bhuvneshwar) just nailed six yorkers pretty much," said Cummins after the match ended.

Apart from Bhuvneshwar, Cummins and T Natarajan, the new leading wicket-taker in the competition, took two vital wickets each. Previously, with the bat, SRH reaching 2017 was due to Nitish Kumar Reddy's scintillating 76 off 42 balls. Travis Head made 58 off 44 balls, while Heinrich Klaasen hit an unbeaten 42 off 19 deliveries.

"Natarajan is an awesome yorker bowler. He (Nitish) is fantastic. He sums up the conditions really well, took the first ten balls to get himself in and then hit the ball basically wherever he wanted. He is amazing, great in the field, and gives a couple of handy overs (with the ball) as well," added Cummins.

Sanju Samson, the RR captain, lauded SRH bowlers for stopping the visitors' from winning the match. "We have really

played some close games and won a couple of them. Lost one here, and we have to give credit to the SRH bowlers. We were going at 10 per over till the last over. Margin for error is very less in the IPL and you have to give SRH credit. Knowing the nature of the IPL, you never win the game until you actually win the game."

Despite losing Jos Buttler and Samson, Yashasvi Jaiswal's 40-ball 67 and Riyan Parag's 49-ball 77 helped RR be in the hunt of clinching an impressive win, as the duo shared 134-run stand for the third wicket.

"It was very tough to bat on with the new ball. We bowled well in the powerplay. When the ball got old, it was easier to bat and they capitalised really well. You have to give credit to both youngsters (Jaiswal and Parag). They took care of the innings, played responsibly to get there. You tend to take those chances and you tend to get out also. They played really well."

Salima to captain women's hockey team in FIH Pro League's Belgium, England legs

New Delhi, May 2 (IANS) Hockey India on Thursday announced the 24-member women's team that will participate in the Belgium and England legs of the FIH Pro League 2023-24.

Salima Tete, who was recently honoured with the prestigious Balbir Singh Sr. Award for Player of the Year 2023, will lead the charge. Meanwhile, midfielder Navneet Kaur has been named her deputy.

The Belgium leg will begin on May 22 and end on May 26. The England leg will commence on June 1 and conclude on June 9.

India will play against Argentina, Belgium, Spain, Great Britain and Germany twice each across both legs, beginning their campaign against Argentina on May 22. India are currently placed in 6th place, having eight points from eight matches.

Tennis: Lehecka advances to SF after Medvedev retires in Madrid

Madrid, May 3 (IANS) Jiri Lehecka claimed his first ATP Masters 1000 semifinal berth at the Madrid Open after Daniil Medvedev withdrew injured at one set down (6-4).

The world No. 31 Czech player's surprise run through the rounds has now produced his best result at a Masters 1000 event and his sixth semifinal on tour.

Lehecka is playing his first tournament of the clay swing after withdrawing from Monte-Carlo and Barcelona due to a right vertebra problem.

The first set was progressing at a lightning pace, with just 5 games completed in the first 15 minutes and just three points won on the return. However, the battle of serves was soon interrupted by a medical time-

out, requested by Medvedev when he was 3-2 ahead.

After his return from the locker room, Medvedev looked uncomfortable as he tried to fend off Lehecka, but somehow managed to take the game to 40-30.

However, the pain was clearly not going away and two unforced errors on his own serve (one on the forehand and the other on the backhand) gifted his opponent two break points. Jiri pounced on his opportunity, Madrid Open reports.

After Medvedev's double misstep, the match went with serve until the world No. 4 was unable to avoid another mishap in game nine, from which he never recovered. At 5-4 ahead, Lehecka was clinical as he sealed the set unchallenged (6-4).

I was so detached from the result', says Bhuvneshwar

Hyderabad, May 3 (IANS) Veteran India and Sunrisers Hyderabad's (SRH) seamer Bhuvneshwar Kumar revealed that "he was thoughtless" while defending 12 runs in the final over against Rajasthan Royals (RR), adding that he was "detached from the result" and was just focusing on the process. Bhuvneshwar was entrusted with the responsibility of defending 12 in the thrilling final over. When the equation came down to two runs needed off the last ball, the 34-year-old bowled a low full toss, which Powell looked to flick but missed and was hit on the pads. SRH went up on an appeal, and the umpire raised the finger. Then, Powell opted for a review, but replays showed all three reds. As a result, SRH pulled off a thrilling one-run win over table-toppers RR. "I told everyone the process is very important. I was literally thoughtless; I was not thinking about the result. I was just trying to do what I could. I was not thinking about the one extra fielder up, or whatever the restric-

tion was there, I was so detached from the result. I wasn't thinking about where the fielder is, where he is going to hit, or where I'm gonna bowl, I was so focused on the process, that was the only thing I was doing." Earling in the defence, Bhuvneshwar had set the tone with the crucial wickets of Impact Player Jos Buttler and skipper Sanju Samson with a new ball in the first over. He first had Buttler caught at slip off the second ball of the innings and then castled Samson three balls later off an inswinger. "It was the first match the ball swung so much. I can't really pinpoint where the ball swung last, but the way it swung I literally enjoyed it. When it swings, you are always on top of the game, you try to take wickets and luckily, I got wickets," he added. Bhuvneshwar picked a brilliant 3-41, while skipper Pat Cummins and T Natarajan took two wickets each as SRH came out of nowhere to clinch a thrilling win at the Rajiv Gandhi International Stadium on Thursday.



Business & Technology



e-learning course on rational medicine use launched for Indian pharmacists

New Delhi, Universal health coverage (UHC) is an important objective enshrined in the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). UHC includes appropriate access to affordable and quality assured medical products (medicines, vaccines, diagnostics and devices).

World Health Organization (WHO) India Country Office along with Translational Health Science & Technology Institute (THSTI), Govt of India in collaboration with Pharmacy Council of India (PCI) have co-developed and launched an e-learning course on Rational use of medicines for pharmacists.

Appropriate use of medicines is a key factor to achieve Universal health coverage WHO defines rational use of Medicines (RUM) as "patients receiving medications appropri-

ate to their clinical needs, in doses that meet their own individual requirements, for an adequate period of time, and at the lowest cost to them and their community".

Dr Rajeev Singh Rahuvanshi, Drugs Controller General (India), Central Drugs Standard Control Organization Govt of India highlighted during his Inaugural Address "I firmly advocate that the rational use of medicines is pivotal in preventing avoidable adverse drug effects, optimizing therapeutic outcomes by fostering patient adherence, and minimizing the overall expenditure on drug therapy.

The launch ceremony was attended by Course Advisory Group Members including the Chair Dr Gagandeep Kang, Director-Enterics, Diagnostics, Genomics & Epidemiology, Global Health, Bill &

Melinda Gates Foundation (BMGF); Dr Deependra Singh, Chairman - Education Regulation Committee, Pharmacy Council of India; Dr Sucheta Banerjee Kurundkar, Principal Scientist II, Translational Health Science and Technology Institute; Dr Dhyanjay K Sable, Deputy Drugs Controller (India) CDSCO, MoHFW; and Eminent Subject Experts from all over the country.

Congratulating THSTI, PCI and WHO India Office, for launch of the E-Learning Course on Rational use of Medicines, Dr Roderico H Ofirin, WHO Representative to India said, "I am certain this course will enhance the knowledge of pharmacists in the promotion of rational use of medicines across healthcare delivery system in the nation and ultimately contribute to providing quality health care to patients".

ETS Launches TOEFL India Championship for Study Abroad Aspirants

New Delhi, ETS, a global education and talent solutions organization, is excited to introduce the TOEFL India Championship, a national level competition that is offering prize money to Indian study abroad aspirants. With total prize money of INR 15 lacs to be won, the TOEFL India Championship, designed specifically for Indian students, provides participants a platform to demonstrate English proficiency and academic excellence. This nationwide competition consists of two rounds: Round 1 involves a 20-minute quiz while Round 2 requires participants to take the TOEFL iBT test up to July 31, 2024, offering the opportunity to compete for total prize money of INR 11 lacs to further their study abroad ambitions. Speaking at the launch of TOEFL Championship, Sachin Jain - Country Manager, India & South Asia, ETS said: "The TOEFL competition is an opportunity for participants to showcase their English proficiency skills and win prize money that could support part cost of their overseas education journey. TOEFL iBT is a world-leading test accepted by more than 12,500 universities and institutions across 160 countries, and a growing number of Indians are taking TOEFL iBT test year on year." He added "The competition is an endeavor from ETS to encourage and support young scholars in fulfilling their study abroad dreams. Being a mission driven organization, ETS has always been at the forefront of supporting the learning & development of test takers around the world." The TOEFL India Championship is open for a diverse range of participants, includes eligible candidates from 3rd or 4th year college students currently pursuing undergraduate programs at accredited Indian Higher Education Institutions.

Limca launched exciting new campaign

#Travel With Limca On An Exhilarating Exploration Of Your City

Mumbai, Coca-Cola India's homegrown heritage brand Limca, India's favorite lemony flavored drink, has launched its exciting new campaign, #TravelWithLimca. Launching Triptii Dimri as the Limca girl, the campaign is built on the idea that there is a whole world waiting to be discovered right in our neighborhoods. The #TravelWithLimca campaign encourages people to discover new hotspots within their cities.

Conceptualized by Studio X, the campaign film takes viewers on a vibrant journey alongside Triptii Dimri as she embarks on a bus ride that takes her on a delightful city exploration. As the bus rattles through the streets, with the first sip of the ultimate thirst quencher,

Limca, a layer of happiness envelops her, igniting a sense of excitement and curiosity. Energized by the refreshing taste, Triptii's journey takes an enchanting turn, setting out to traverse through the hidden gems of her city.

Expressing her excitement about joining the Limca family, Triptii Dimri said, "I am very happy and excited to be a part of Limca. Exploring new places and experiencing different cultures has always been my passion, and I am thrilled to encourage others to do the same. Together with Limca, I look forward to embarking on this exciting journey of discovery." Ruchira Bhattacharya, Senior Director, Marketing - Hydration, Sports and Tea Category, India and South-West Asia Operating Unit at The Coca-

Cola Company, said, "With its legacy of lime and lemony credentials, Limca has been rejuvenating consumers with its unique taste for 5 decades. We are thrilled to launch the #TravelWithLimca campaign featuring Triptii Dimri as our new Limca face. With this campaign, we hope to encourage people to get out there and discover the beauty of their own cities and refresh themselves with a chilled Limca!"

"Mukund VML, Chief Strategy Officer, Studio X said, "There are so many places in one's own city that are waiting to be discovered. The #Travel with Limca campaign encourages you to live your city to the fullest. Everything in the commercial is localized to the city - from the name of the bus stop to the illustrations.

Nissan Motor registers consolidated wholesales of 3043 units in April 2024

Gurugram, Nissan Motor India Pvt. Ltd. (NMPL) has registered consolidated wholesales figures of 3043 units for April 2024. Of these, domestic wholesales were 2404 units while export wholesales stood at 639 units. Nissan Motor India recently celebrated its third consecutive year of achieving 30,000+ sales with the Nissan Magnite, reaffirming its position as a game-changer in India's automotive market.

Mr. Saurabh Vatsa, Managing Director, Nissan Motor India, said, "We are driven by our strong commitment to putting our customers first and the fiscal year has begun well for us. Our recent network expansion through new dealerships at New Delhi and Durgapur underlines our dedication to providing accessible and exceptional automotive experiences across regions. The numbers reflect the efforts and dedication of our dealers & our teams, and we look forward to attract & welcome more customers to the Nissan family which will enable us to increase our share in the B SUV segment." Since its debut in December 2020, the Magnite has captured the hearts of Indian consumers, with over 100,000 cars sold in the domestic market and more than 30,000 units exported to other countries. The Magnite, blending design excellence from Japan with efficient production in India, embodies Nissan Motor India's 'Make-in-India, Make for the World' manufacturing philosophy. Nissan also recently announced the expansion of its network in India to 270 touchpoints with the launch of multiple new showrooms and service workshops. The latest expansion brings Nissan's quality sales and service experience to Delhi and Durgapur, extending the brand's reach and reinforcing its commitment to delivering exceptional value.

Samsung Eyes Rs. 10,000 cr Sales from TV business with the Launch of 2024 Neo QLED and AI Televisions in India

GURUGRAM, Samsung, India's largest consumer electronics brand, is aiming to hit the INR 10,000 crore sales milestone for its television business in India, with the launch of its 2024 line-up of AI televisions. According to analysts, no television brand has achieved this significant milestone in India so far.

"With the launch of our new range of AI-powered 8K Neo QLEDs, 4K Neo QLEDs and OLED TVs, we are confident of driving our revenues and extending our market leadership in India this year. In 2024, we are looking at achieving a milestone of INR 10000 crore in revenue from our TV business in India. Our Neo QLED 8K AI TVs promise an immersive viewing experience with lifelike picture quality and premium audio," said Mo-

handeep Singh, Senior Vice President, Visual Display Business, Samsung India. Citing data from research firm Omdia, Samsung said it is India's number one television brand



with 21% volume market share as of 2023. Samsung said it is the biggest TV brand in India for the last five years, according to Omdia.

The newly-launched Neo QLED 8K, Neo QLED 4K and glare-free OLED TVs come with transformative power of Artificial Intelligence (AI), helping improve consumers' lifestyles, Samsung said. The new AI-powered Neo

QLED 8K, Neo QLED 4K and OLED TVs redefine the home entertainment experience and offer new innovations across accessibility, sustainability and enhanced security with the power of AI.

Samsung's new AI-powered televisions come with several AI features such as AI Picture Technology, AI Upscaling Pro and AI Motion Enhancer Pro. With the AI Energy Mode, consumers can save power without compromising picture quality.

Samsung Neo QLED 8K is available in two models, QN900D and QN800D, and in sizes of 65, 75, and 85 inches. The Neo QLED 4K is available in two models, QN85D and QN90D, and in sizes of 55, 65, 75, 85 and 98 inches. Samsung OLED TV will be available in two models - S95D and S90D - in sizes of 55, 65, 77 and 83 inches.

AGL Raises the Bar with 'Premium ka Pappa' Campaign, Fronted by Ranbir Kapoor in Style

Ahmedabad, Get Ready to Luxuriate as Asian Granito India Limited (AGL) unleashes its latest advertising juggernaut, "Premium ka Pappa," featuring Bollywood's charming heartthrob, Ranbir Kapoor.

Recognized for his charm, versatility, and youthfulness, Ranbir Kapoor perfectly embodies the spirit of Asian Granito - innovative, dynamic, and constantly evolving brand. The campaign that centers around the theme of luxury and premium feel with AGL products, has captivated audiences nationwide, with fans expressing immense excitement and curiosity for more details. The company has launched two TV commercials as part of the campaign "Premium ka Pappa." In its initial stages, the campaign has already garnered over 7 million views

on YouTube.

"Premium ka Pappa" offers a glimpse into the premium lifestyle that AGL products bring into homes, with Kapoor himself showcased as a believer in the brand's innovative sophistication. In first TV commercial - In a refreshing twist with a pinch of humor, Kapoor is seen personally driving the premium collection from AGL Exclusive Showroom in a super luxury car.

Much like how Ranbir Kapoor has captivated audiences with his acting prowess and dedication, Asian Granito too has carved out a similar niche in the hearts and minds of its customers globally.

Ranbir Kapoor, celebrated as a Bollywood icon, rose to prominence through his roles in acclaimed coming-of-age movies like Wake Up Sid, Raajneeti, Rockstar, Barfi, and Sanju, culminating

with his latest ventures such as Brahmastra: Part One - Shiva and the action thriller Animal.

"We are thrilled to unveil 'Premium ka Pappa,' our latest campaign featuring the dynamic Ranbir Kapoor," said, Mr. Kamlesh Patel, Chairman and Managing Director of Asian Granito India Ltd.

"With this campaign, we aim to showcase how AGL products redefine luxury and elegance in everyday living. Kapoor's association further solidifies our commitment to delivering unmatched quality and sophistication."

Mr. Anurag Agnihotri, Chief Creative Officer, Ogilvy - West, said, "Many people think about which titles to buy only once or twice in their lives. So if a tile ad gets just one chance to make impact, it better be off the grid, slightly mad. And we tried to do that with the new AGL campaign."

Motilal Oswal Flexicap Fund Celebrates a Decade of High Conviction Investing

Mumbai, Motilal Oswal Flexicap Fund, a flagship offering from Motilal Oswal Asset Management Company, marks a significant milestone on 28 April 2024, as it completes ten years of journey with steadfast commitment to investors. Since its inception, the fund has consistently delivered returns, positioning itself as one of the popular choice for investors seeking diversified exposure across market capitalisations.

"At Motilal Oswal AMC, we believe in the quality of business, quality of management, and growth prospects. Our fund manager follows an active investing style and runs focused high-conviction portfolios. We are a process-driven AMC and follow a team-based approach towards chiselling out narrowly defined long-period sustaining growth themes. The

process is the key to a high earnings growth quotient for our portfolios. The consistent growth in our AUM demonstrates the confidence investors have in Motilal Oswal Group and our 'Skin In The Game' approach. We are excited to continue being a partner with our investors in their wealth creation journey," shared Mr Prateek Agrawal, MD & CEO of Motilal Oswal Asset Management Company.

The fund's portfolio is actively managed with precision by Niket Shah as a lead fund manager for MO Flexicap fund. Niket Shah and the investment committee's unique investment strategy has played a crucial role in the Flexicap fund's turnaround.

"As a fund manager, seeing Motilal Oswal Flexicap Fund achieve this 10 years' milestone is immensely gratifying. Our

high-conviction portfolio has enabled the fund to show noticeable growth in the last two years. We will continue to identify businesses and sectors that have the potential of offer high value. The strategic decision to reallocate funds between mid-cap and large-cap will help us achieve the required growth, which we aim to sustain in the coming years. Our Flexicap fund has been investors' preference for a very long time," said Mr. Niket Shah, Fund Manager & Chief Investment Officer at Motilal Oswal Mutual Fund.

With an impressive Assets Under Management (AUM) of over INR 9660 crore, the Motilal Oswal Flexicap Fund has not only garnered trust and confidence from a vast investor base, but also demonstrated a strong growth trajectory.

Aadhar Housing Finance IPO to open on May 8: Price band Rs.300-315 per share

Ahmedabad, Aadhar Housing Finance Limited (the "Company"), proposes to open the initial public offering of its Equity Shares on Wednesday, May 8, 2024. ("Offer")

The initial public offering comprises a fresh issue of Equity Shares aggregating to 10,000 million ("Fresh Issue") and an offer of sale of up to such number of Equity Shares aggregating up to 20,000 million by BCP Topco VII Pte. Ltd. (the "Promoter Selling Shareholder") ("Offer for Sale") and together with the Fresh Issue, the "Offer".

The Equity Shares are being offered through the Red Herring Prospectus dated April 30, 2024 ("RHP") filed with the Registrar of Companies, Karnataka at Bangalore ("RoC").

Amit Dixit, Head of Private Equity Asia, Black-



stone, said, "The listing is a significant milestone for Aadhar Housing Finance Limited, and its transformation is a great example of what we do best: Building businesses that build India.

Mukesh Mehta, Senior Managing Director in Blackstone Private Equity, said, "It is rewarding to be a part of Aadhar Housing Finance Limited's mission to enable underserved Indians to own homes and play a role in the company's transformation and growth. Our priority has been to build through close alignment with the Company's leadership and using Blackstone's access to capital, resources, and our technology expertise."

Rishi Anand, Managing Director & Chief Executive Officer, Aadhar Housing Finance Limited, said, "This is a significant milestone in our journey towards empowering individuals and families with the keys to their own homes. With the true meaning of 'Ghar Banega, Toh Desh Banega', we embrace the responsibility of nation-building and laying a foundation for stronger communities."

Adani Green reports 30 pc EBITDA growth in FY24, revises target to 50 GW for 2030

Ahmedabad, May 3 (IANS) Adani Green Energy Ltd (AGEL) on Friday reported 30 per cent EBITDA growth at Rs 7,222 crore in FY24, as the renewable energy (RE) major revised its target for 2030 to 50 gigawatt (GW) from 45 GW.

The robust growth in revenue, EBITDA and cash profit was driven by capacity addition of over 2.8 GW over the last year, representing 15 per cent of the country's total renewable energy capacity addition, the company said in a statement.

The run-rate EBITDA stood at Rs 10,462 crore,

with net debt to run-rate EBITDA at 4 times (as of March 2024) compared to 5.4 times last year.

"I am immensely proud of the team for successfully deploying the first 2 GW of the 30 GW of renewable capacity under construction at Khavda in just 12 months of breaking ground," said Amit Singh, Chief Executive Officer, Adani Green Energy Ltd.

While cash profit increased 25 per cent (year-on-year) to Rs 3,986 crore, operational capacity went up 35 per cent YoY to reach 10.9 GW in FY24.

On Thursday, Adani Green secured \$400 mil-

lion from a consortium of five leading international banks for its under-construction 750 MW solar projects in Rajasthan and Gujarat. "We remain steadfast in our commitment to deliver affordable clean energy at an unprecedented scale and velocity and have set a higher target of 50GW by 2030, which will contribute towards India's non-fossil fuel capacity target of 500 GW," he added. The operational capacity grew at 35 per cent YoY to 10,934 MW (or 10.9 GW), with greenfield addition of 2,848 MW renewable capacity including 2,418 MW

solar and 430 MW wind projects. With this, the AGEL became the first company in India to cross the 10,000 MW renewable energy capacity.

The 10,934 MW operational portfolio will power more than 5.8 million homes and avoid about 21 million tonnes of CO2 emissions annually, according to the company.

AGEL is developing the world's largest renewable energy project of 30,000 MW on barren land at Khavda in Gujarat. Within just 12 months of breaking ground, the company has operationalised 2,000 MW.

Hyundai Motor to raise stake in autonomous driving JV Motional in US

Seoul, May 3 (IANS) Hyundai Motor Group said on Friday that it will raise its stake in Motional, the group's autonomous driving joint venture in the United States, through a paid-in capital increase, as well as invest in the local venture partner Aptiv. Hyundai Motor Group said the decision for the paid-in capital increase and the acquisition of an 11 per cent stake in the U.S. mobility startup Aptiv was reached to secure stable management authority in Motional to actively develop autonomous driving technology and internalise core technologies. The South Korean automaker group's capital increase in Motional will be worth 663 billion won, reports Yonhap news agency. Together with the acquisition of the 11 per cent stake in Aptiv, Hyundai Motor Group's stake in the joint venture will increase from the existing 50 per cent to 55.8 per cent. Hyundai Motor Group said it aims to accelerate autonomous driving technology development through its participation in the capital increase while also pursuing stable revenue generation strategies. "By establishing the direction of Motional's technology development, we expect to enhance our technological competitiveness and lay the groundwork for expanding synergies between autonomous driving divisions within the group," a group official said.

Business Brief III

VLCC Plans to Launch of 100+ Beauty and Wellness Clinics

New Delhi, VLCC, one of the largest beauty and wellness brands in the world has announced their plans for expansion of its retail presence with the opening of 100+ beauty and wellness clinics nationwide.

Deepening its pan-India presence, this marks a strategic move for VLCC as it continues to strengthen its position in the wellness industry and cater to the growing demand for premium beauty products and services.

The plans to open these clinics reflect the company's strategy to develop 'phygital' channels to serve its customers and build a true omnichannel approach. Furthermore, the company has also grown the retail reach for their personal care products business in India in the general trade and modern trade/assisted channels through a weighted distribution strategy to cover over 100+ clinics.

Our dedication extends beyond just services; it's about empowering Indians to look good, feel good, and live healthy. We believe in fostering a culture of well-being, and our comprehensive offerings are designed to support individuals on their journey to optimal health and beauty," said Mr. Anand Wasker, President of Global Services, VLCC. "Our ambitious expansion plans reinforce our commitment to redefine beauty and wellness across India.

Ajooni Biotech Receives Upgraded Credit Rating & Right Issue Details

Mumbai, Ajooni Biotech Limited is thrilled to share that CRISIL Limited has raised company's long-term credit facilities ratings to "CRISIL BB+/Stable". This upgrade underscores company's ongoing efforts to improve risk profile, revenue streams, and operational profitability. It highlights the significant expertise of company's promoters, strong customer partnerships, and favourable financial risk position. Although company recognize the potential impact of fluctuating raw material prices, they are fully committed to managing and minimizing such risks.

The Rights Issue details include a record date of May 7, 2024, with the Issue Opening Date set for May 21, 2024, and the Issue Closing Date slated for May 31, 2024. Market Renunciations can be made until May 27, 2024. The ratio for this Rights Issue stands at One Equity Share for every One Equity Share held (1:1), with an Issue Price of Rs. 5 per Rights Equity Share. The issue size amounts to Rs. 4,000.00 Lakhs, and the terms of payment require the full amount of Rs. 5.00 per equity share to be paid upon application. Company's promoter is also equally participating in the rights issue.

Adani Port & SEZ clocks 50 pc jump in net profit in FY24, to reach 500 MMT cargo volumes in 2025

Ahmedabad, May 2 (IANS) Adani Ports and Special Economic Zone (APSEZ) on Thursday announced a 50 per cent jump in net profit at Rs 8,104 crore for FY24, reaching a record volume of 420 MMT (million metric tonnes) in the period which is 24 per cent growth (year-on-year).

"FY24 has been a year of many new milestones for APSEZ on both operational and financial metrics. APSEZ outperformed its upper end of guidance provided at the beginning of the financial year on cargo, revenue, and EBITDA by 6-8 per cent, while closing the year with net debt to EBITDA ratio of 2.3 times vs its guidance of 2.5 times," said Ashwani Gupta, Whole-Time Director and CEO, APSEZ.

With incremental cargo volumes of 100 MMT achieved in less than two years, APSEZ is well poised to achieve 500 MMT of cargo volumes in 2025, aided by recently acquired Gopalpur Port, and the scheduled commissioning of Vizhinjam Port in the current year and West Container Terminal (WCT) in Sri Lanka next year.

"We continue to invest heavily in the business to drive growth, particularly in the logistics segment.

Sensex rises over 200 points on strong domestic cues

New Delhi, May 2 (IANS) The Bombay Stock Exchange (BSE) Sensex gained more than 200 points on Thursday on strong domestic cues.

Among the Sensex stocks, Powergrid was up more than 3 per cent while Tata Motors, Asian Paints, Sun Pharma, Tata Steel, M&M, Nestle India, HDFC Bank were up more than 1 per cent. BSE Senses was trading at 74,739 points, up by 256 points. V. K. Vijayakumar, Chief Investment Strategist, Geojit Financial Services said as trading for May begins there are mixed cues for the market, but broadly positives outweigh negatives.

The Fed commentary is cautious. "It is certain that the number of rate cuts this year, if at all that happens, will be far lower than initially expected. This is a headwind for global equity markets," he said. He added that the domestic cues are strongly positive. The GST collection for April setting a record of Rs 2.1 trillion indicates a booming economy. India's GDP is estimated to have grown by 7.6 per cent in FY24 and is expected to continue the growth momentum with above 7 per cent growth in FY25, too, he said.

Report on CEO & MD Sandeep Bakhshi wanting to quit is baseless: ICICI Bank

New Delhi, May 2 (IANS) ICICI Bank on Thursday denied a media report that its CEO and MD Sandeep Bakhshi wants to quit his position.

In a stock exchange filing, ICICI Bank said the report about Bakhshi wanting to be relieved as MD and CEO owing to a personal emergency is "baseless". "We would like to categorically deny the information published in the article regarding ICICI Bank's MD allegedly expressing willingness to leave his position due to personal reasons," the bank said in its filing.

ICICI Bank added that this information is a "figment of imagination" and therefore, "completely baseless and misleading". "It appears that this rumour is being spread with an ulterior motive and malicious intent in order to harm the Bank and its stakeholders," the filing read.

Late last month, the country's second-largest private sector lender reported a 17.38 per cent increase in net profit to Rs 10,707 crore for Q4 FY24, compared to the corresponding figure of Rs 9,122 crore in the year-ago period. ICICI Bank registered an 8 per cent increase in net interest income (NII) at Rs 19,093 crore for the January-March period, compared to Rs 17,667 crore reported in the same quarter in FY23.

Sensex down 300 points on selling in heavyweights

New Delhi, May 3 (IANS) BSE Sensex fell 300 points on Friday, amid selling in heavyweight stocks.

BSE Sensex was trading at 74,310 points, down 300 points.

Bharti Airtel is down more than 1 per cent. L&T, Tech Mahindra, Nestle India, Maruti, Infosys were also trading in the red. Bajaj Finance is up more than 4 per cent after RBI lifted restrictions on some of its products.

Several sectoral indices including technology, private banks, capital goods, real estate are trading in the red. IT stock Coforge is down more than 8 per cent.

Coforge also announced acquisition of Cigniti Tech, an assurance

(testing) company. Management believes Cigniti complements Coforge's verticals, geo footprint and client relationships, JM Financial Institutional Securities said in a report.

Coforge has done comprehensive audit (financial and forensic) of the target and finds comfort in scaled relationships and in-place contracts. "We estimate that at current price, the acquisition will be EPS accretive. Synergies are difficult to realise, especially in large acquisitions. But we are willing to give the benefit of doubt to Coforge's clinical execution track record," the brokerage said.

V. K. Vijayakumar, Chief Investment Strategist, Geojit Financial Ser-

vices said that global and domestic cues are positive for the markets. The decline in dollar index to 105.3, correction in the US 10-year bond yield to around 4.5 per cent and Brent crude below \$84 will further strengthen the bulls. The strong pillar of support for this market is the strong buying by DIIs facilitated by the sustained flow of funds. This trend is unlikely to change anytime soon.

"RBI lifting restrictions on some of Bajaj Finance's products is highly positive for the stock. Short covering in the stock has the potential to trigger a surge in the stock. Bank Nifty has further room to move up. Delivery-based buying in this segment is likely to continue," he said.

Global smartphone market up 6 per cent in Q1, revenue at highest level: Report

New Delhi, May 3 (IANS) The global smartphone market grew by 6 per cent (year-on-year) to reach 296.9 million unit shipments in the first quarter this year, as Samsung dethroned Apple to become the top player globally, garnering 20 per cent shipment share, a report showed on Friday.

The growth is mostly attributed to the strong performance in key regions such as Europe, Middle East and Africa (MEA) and Caribbean and Latin America (CALA), according to Counterpoint Research.

"The India market also saw growth thanks

to exiting 2023 with healthy inventory levels. The mature markets of North America and Japan declined relative to the same period in 2023," said senior analyst Prachir Singh.

Apple's shipments declined 13 per cent (YoY) owing to high inventory build-up during the last quarter.

However, the brand's average selling price (ASP) grew 2 per cent YoY, the report noted.

Global smartphone revenues grew by 7 per cent in Q1 2024 and reached the highest-ever in the first quarter of the year.

Among the top five original equipment manufacturers (OEMs),

Xiaomi's revenue growth was the fastest due to strong performance in its key markets. "Tough competition in China, record low upgrades in the US and a difficult compare from last year due to iPhone 14 Pro's supply shifting to Q1 2023 all weighed on iPhone performance," said research director Jeff Fieldhack.

Samsung re-captured the top spot and led global smartphone shipments during the quarter, driven by the early refresh of the Galaxy-A series and strong performance of the Galaxy S24 series. The company reached its highest-ever ASP during the quarter as well.

PhonePe showcases its services powered by UPI at a special event in Nepal

Kathmandu, May 3 (IANS) PhonePe India on Friday showcased its services powered by the Unified Payments Interface (UPI) platform at a special event held in Nepal.

The event brought together key stakeholders from the Nepalese financial landscape, including senior representatives from Banking sectors, Payment System Providers, UPI-accepting merchants and representatives from business associations. The event was supported by Nepal's largest

payment system operator, Fonepay Payment Service Limited, which is also NIPIL's counterpart for Nepal. The event saw a keynote address from Diwas Sapkota, CEO of FonePay Network, outlining the potential of UPI for Nepal's digital economy. This was followed by an engaging panel discussion on the influence of cross-border payments on Nepal's economy and the financial landscape. The panel included esteemed panelists like Kumar Bank Chief Digital Banking Of-

ficer Anish Tamrakar, Nepal Tourism Board Manager Shradha Shrestha, e-Sewa CEO Jagdish Khadka, and Asian Development Bank (ADB) ICT/MIS Consultant Vivek Rana. The panel discussion addressed a range of issues related to cross-border payments and their impact on Nepal's economy and financial landscape, as well as regulatory hurdles and compliance demands in facilitating international transactions. The panelists highlighted the positive influence of UPI on Nepal's tourism sector, particularly by enhancing

the overall tourist experience through convenient cashless payments. "This gathering has brought together key players from Nepal's financial landscape, including Fonepay, leading business figures, and representatives from hospitality and tourism. It is a testament to the collaborative spirit that will ensure UPI's success in Nepal," said Ritesh Pai, CEO of International Payments, PhonePe. "Nepal is

a popular tourist destination, particularly for travellers from India. With UPI, Indian tourists can now enjoy the same convenient cashless payment experience they are accustomed to back home, using UPI-powered apps such as PhonePe. This will not only enhance their travel experience but also encourage digital transactions," he added. The discussion further explored how cross-border payments impact the revenue streams and business models of financial institutions. Additionally, panelists examined the influence of UPI on consumer experience in Nepal, focusing on factors like convenience, interoperability, security, and cost-effectiveness.

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Your first & only warning: Founder gets threat from rival firm

New Delhi, May 3 (IANS) Sharing a screenshot of the threat received from a CEO of the rival firm, warning not to "poach" employees, the founder of a US-based marketing and sales company, Simple Strat, said: "Instead of being pitch slapped, now LinkedIn comes with threats." The screenshot, shared by Ali Schwanke, the founder of Simple Strat on X, shows a LinkedIn message from the CEO of Optima Solutions asking her not to poach employees from their company. Poaching is an act of actively recruiting an employee who already works for another company, usually by providing higher pay or more incentives.

CHANGE OF NAME
I have changed my old name from **CHAMAR SACHINKUMAR KANUBHAI** to new name **RATHOD SACHINKUMAR KANUBHAI**
Add. Gam: Mahiyapur Ta-Malpur, Dist. Arvalli
1021A

CHANGE OF NAME
I have changed my old name from **VAGHELA JEET DHARMENDRAKUMAR** to new name **VAGHELA JEET**
Add. 27, Shaktidham Row House, Shahwadi, Ahmedabad
387

CHANGE OF NAME
I have changed my old name from **VYAS YOGINIBEN CHANDRAKANT** to new name **RAVAL ASHABEN NAYANKUMAR**
Add. 473, Dairy valo Vas, Balva, Ta-Mansa, Dist-Gandhinagar
V045

WESTERN RAILWAY - VADODARA DIVISION
OHE MODIFICATION WORK
Tenders for and on behalf of The President of India are invited by Divisional Railway Manager (Electrical Tr.D) Western Railway, Pratapnagar, Vadodara-390 004 for the following works. Sr.No.1: Tender No. EL/TRD/Tender/24-25/01. Name of Work: OHE modification work in connection with repairing of culvert and construction of Road Over Bridge in Anand-Godhra section of Vadodara division. Approximate Cost of the work (In Rs.): ₹ 46,56,997/- Bid security (In Rs.): ₹ 93,100/- Cost of Tender documents and Completion period: Completion period 12 months. Tender scheduled on: Tender closing date 30/05/2024 and time of closing at 15:00 hrs. on the same date. Web page particulars and notice for location where complete details can be seen & address of the office and clarification: Website @ www.reps.gov.in Divisional Railway Manager (Electrical Tr.D), Western Railway, Pratapnagar, Vadodara-390 004. BRC-026

CHANGE OF NAME
I have changed my old name from **RUHHANBANU IQBALBHAI MANSURI** to new name **RUHHANNAZ IQBALHUSAIN MANSURI**
Add. G Block T.F.301, Tahura Residency, Juhapura, Sarkhej Road-380055
389

WESTERN RAILWAY
CONSTRUCTION WORK
Deputy Chief Engineer (construction) II, Western Railway, Indore Invites E-Tender Notice No.: IND/DIN/By.CE/III/128 Date: 01/05/2024 Name of Work: Earthwork & Blanketing in embankment/cutting in formation of new BG line including yards, Bridge approaches etc., Construction of bridge work (Major/Minor/RUB - foundation, sub structure and super structure including Steel Girders) as per Railway approved Design and Drawing, construction of Retaining/Boundary/Toe wall and Supply & spreading of machine crushed stone ballast, Laying and linking of BG track for Mainline, loop lines and Points & Crossing etc in section/yards, Transportation of P. Way materials, Welding of Rails, and other incidental miscellaneous works etc. between Amhera (excluding)-Sardarpur (including) section (18.46 Km) in connection with new BG line project between Dahod-Indore of Ratlam Division - Western Railway. Approximate cost of work: Rs.298,05,18,783.22/- Bid Security: 5.96% of Bid amount. Date of Submission of bid and opening: 29-05-2024 upto 15:00 Hrs. Date and time of opening of Technical Bid: 29-05-2024 at 15:30 Hrs.For further details please visit Western Railway Website: www.reps.gov.in 0993

CHANGE OF NAME
I have changed my old name from **KIRTI NANDWANNA** to new name **KIRTI MNANDWANNA**
Add. 402, C-Block Arjun Spacia Sola, Ahmedabad
388A

CHANGE OF NAME
I have changed my old name from **GHANCHI ASMINABAHEN FAKIRMAHAMMAD** to new name **MANSURI YASMINBEN SIKANDARBHAI**
Add. 65, Alfesna Society, At.Po.Ta: Modasa, Dist. Arvalli-383315
1021

CHANGE OF NAME
I have changed my minor son old name from **ANSARURFEMATIN IRFANBHAI SHAH** to new name **MATIN IRFANBHAI SHAH**
Add. Nariya Sheri, Plot Vistar Chavand, Lathi Amreli
388

WESTERN RAILWAY
CONSTRUCTION WORK
Deputy Chief Engineer (construction) II, Western Railway, Indore Invites E-Tender Notice No.: IND/DIN/By.CE/III/128 Date: 01/05/2024 Name of Work: Earthwork & Blanketing in embankment/cutting in formation of new BG line including yards, Bridge approaches etc., Construction of bridge work (Major/Minor/RUB - foundation, sub structure and super structure including Steel Girders) as per Railway approved Design and Drawing, construction of Retaining/Boundary/Toe wall and Supply & spreading of machine crushed stone ballast, Laying and linking of BG track for Mainline, loop lines and Points & Crossing etc in section/yards, Transportation of P. Way materials, Welding of Rails, and other incidental miscellaneous works etc. between Amhera (excluding)-Sardarpur (including) section (18.46 Km) in connection with new BG line project between Dahod-Indore of Ratlam Division - Western Railway. Approximate cost of work: Rs.298,05,18,783.22/- Bid Security: 5.96% of Bid amount. Date of Submission of bid and opening: 29-05-2024 upto 15:00 Hrs. Date and time of opening of Technical Bid: 29-05-2024 at 15:30 Hrs.For further details please visit Western Railway Website: www.reps.gov.in 0993

VACANCY FACULTY POSITIONS
SHREE SWMINARAYAN SANSKAR PHARMACY COLLEGE ZUNDAL
(Approved by PCI, Affiliated to GTU)
1. B. Pharmacy 2) M. Pharm. Pharmaceutics 3) M. Pharm. Pharmaceutical Quality Assurance 4) Pharm. D. Courses

| Department/Post | Principal | Professor | Associate Professor | Assistant Professor |
|-------------------|-----------|-----------|---------------------|---------------------|
| Pharmaceutics | | 02 | 01 | 03 |
| Pharm. Chem/QA | | 01 | 01 | 09 |
| Pharmacognosy | 01 | 01 | 00 | 01 |
| Pharmacology | | 01 | 01 | 03 |
| Pharmacy Practice | | 01 | 01 | 05 |
| Total Number | 01 | 06 | 04 | 19 |

*Number of posts may be varying
Age, Qualification and Eligibility criteria must be as per Norms of GTU, PCI and UGC-2010 guidelines. Interested Candidate are requested to send their complete application with their resume and all self-attested certificate/testimonials on the following address on or before 30/05/2024.
Managing Trustee, Shree Swminarayan Sanskar Pharmacy College,
At & Post - Zundal, Near Zundal Circle, S. P. Ring Road, Chandkheda-Adalaj Highway, Tal. & Dist. Gandhinagar, Gujarat -382421.
Email : principal@sspczundal.com (M) 9099063160, 9824913130

News
in a Nutshell

X briefly blocks Indian user's account, Musk says 'we must respect the laws of a country'

New Delhi, May 2 (IANS) Elon Musk said on Thursday that we must respect the laws of a country else his X platform will be blocked, as an Indian user criticised the billionaire for locking her account over a post. Anu Bishnoi (@Anitabishnoi09) posted that her account got locked for an hour and she "had to delete the main post to get access to my account". "It's a hypocrisy of Elon Musk who talks about free speech but on the other side, he is forcing people to delete posts," she commented. In a reply, the X owner said that if "we get a court order and that court order appears to be in compliance with a country's laws, then we take the action required, even if we disagree with the laws". "Only if the court order appears to violate a country's laws, as has happened for example in Brazil, do we fight it," said Musk.

CPI leader Atul Kumar Anjaan passes away

Lucknow, May 3 (IANS) Atul Kumar Anjaan, the National Secretary of the Communist Party of India (CPI), passed away here on Friday morning after a prolonged battle with cancer. He was 70-years-old and had been admitted to a private hospital for the past one month. Atul Anjaan began his political career in 1977 when he was elected President of the Lucknow University Students Union. He was one of the most vocal and active Communist leaders, who also made a name for himself as a social activist. His steadfast commitment to the interests of farmers and workers had won wide admiration and respect from people from all walks of life. He was known for his oratory skills and had achieved a distinct position in politics.

Delhi Police catch juvenile after hoax bomb threat

New Delhi, May 3 (IANS) Delhi Police headquarters on Jai Singh Marg received a bomb threat email, however, it turned out to be a hoax, an official said on Friday, adding that a juvenile was identified. The email mentioned the threat to the Nangloi area of the national capital. Sharing the details, a senior police official said that an email threat of a bomb was received via email in PHQ and the sender of this email was traced. "He is an immature child and therefore, in his interest and in compliance with the mandate of the JJ Act, details of his identity cannot be shared," said the official. "The mail was sent as an act of mischief; the juvenile, after proper counselling, has been handed over to his parents," the official added. This comes days after a total of 125 bomb threat calls were received from different schools at emergency helpline number 112 from 5.47 a.m. to 2.13 p.m. on Wednesday.



NEW DELHI, Defence Secretary Giridhar Aramane and Secretary General of MoD, Indonesia Air Marshal Donny Ermawan Taufantogree at the 7th India-Indonesia Joint Defence Cooperation Committee meeting, in New Delhi on Friday. UNI

Newborn hurled to death from apartment in Kerala's Kochi, police question family

Kochi, May 3 (IANS) In a shocking case, a one-day-old baby was thrown out of an apartment in Kerala's Kochi, said police on Friday, adding that a family is being questioned in the connection.

The CCTV visuals which went viral, show the baby, wrapped in a packet falling.

It was a passerby who first spotted the body lying on the road.

"Only a probe will reveal if the baby was killed and then thrown out, or did it die on the impact of the throw," said the locals who reached the spot.

The apartment block from which the infant was flung onto the road consists of 21 apartments of which three are vacant.

The security official in the apartment block had gone for breakfast around 8 a.m. and this incident took place soon after that.

The local health worker said to the best of her knowledge there were no pregnant women in the apartment block.

A special team led by Assistant Commissioner of Police Rajkumar has been constituted to probe the case and they have started examining CCTVs at the locality.

The police have started to question a family living in the apartment. The family includes parents

and their daughter.

The security official of the apartment told the media that the family hails from the city itself and has been living here for a while.

"He runs a business and yesterday also I saw the family," said the security official.

Will bring back politics of 'sewa' in Amethi: Priyanka

Raebareli (UP), May 3 (IANS) Congress leader Priyanka Gandhi Vadra said on Friday that the grand old party would bring back the politics of "sewa" to Amethi, where the party has fielded Kishori Lal Sharma. Priyanka, who joined in the roadshow for Sharma for his nomination filing, acknowledged greetings from people and said that she was happy to see old and new faces in the crowd. "I will be here in Raebareli from May 6 till the end of the elections and we will work together," she said. She also posted a message for Kishori Lal Sharma on social media conveying her best wishes. Hailing Sharma's candidature, Priyanka said he has served the people of Raebareli and Amethi with dedication for years. Priyanka wrote that she was happy that the Congress had chosen Sharma to contest the election from Amethi.

Delhi HC issues notice to CBI, ED on Manish Sisodia's bail pleas after trial court's rejection

New Delhi, May 3 (IANS) The Delhi High Court on Friday issued a notice on petitions by former Deputy Chief Minister and AAP leader Manish Sisodia seeking bail after a trial court denied him regular bail in cases by CBI and ED related to the excise policy.

Justice Swarana Kanta Sharma sought replies from both the agencies — the CBI and the ED.

While Sisodia remains under custody, the judge allowed him to meet his wife once a week after noting that the ED has no objection to it.

Meanwhile, the matter will come up for hearing next on May 8.

Special Judge Kaveri Baweja of Rouse Avenue Court had on April 30, refused to grant bail to Sisodia who was seeking regular bail a second time.

On Thursday, the case was urgently brought before a Division Bench of Acting Chief Justice Manmohan and Justice Man-

Elusive leopard finally trapped near Hyderabad Airport

Hyderabad, May 3 (IANS) A leopard which was moving around Rajiv Gandhi International Airport (RGIA) at Shamshabad on the outskirts of Hyderabad for the last five days was finally trapped by the Forest authorities in the early hours of Friday, officials said. The leopard, whose presence had created panic in villages around the airport, was trapped in a cage set up by the Forest officials. This brought a sense of relief to people who were worried about their safety since the big cat was sighted on April 28. The trapped leopard has been shifted to Nehru Zoological Park in the city. Forest officials said after the check-up and monitoring its condition, the animal will be released to Amrabad Tiger Reserve. The Forest Department, which was on its toes for the last five days, had set up five cages and 20 trap cameras as part of the operation to catch the elusive big cat. It got trapped in one of the cages, falling for bait. The leopard was sighted in the airport area near the aircraft repair centre in the early hours of the day near Gollapalli under Shamshabad municipality in Ranga Reddy district. The airport staff saw the leopard jumping over the boundary wall of the airport near Gollapalli. They immediately alerted the Forest Department, which launched an operation to catch it. There have been a few instances of leopards straying in areas close to human habitations in the city outskirts. In 2020, a leopard strayed in Rajendranagar area and was seen resting in the middle of the road. It was later trapped by the Forest Department.

Man flees after pronouncing triple talaq to wife in moving train

Jhansi, May 3 (IANS) In a shocking incident, a man gave triple talaq to his wife in a moving train and then fled, the police said.

The incident occurred just before the Jhansi Junction on April 29 when Mohammad Arshad, 28, was travelling with his wife Afsana, 26.

As the train chugged into the Jhansi station, Arshad gave triple talaq to his wife and got off the

train. He also beat his wife before fleeing.

Shocked by the sudden turn of events, Afsana contacted the Government Railway Police, which sent her back to Pukhrayan in Kanpur Dehat, from where she had boarded the train for Bhopal, earlier that day.

An FIR was finally lodged and a manhunt launched for the accused. Arshad, a computer

engineer employed with a private firm in Bhopal, had married Afsana, a graduate hailing from Kota in Rajasthan, on January 12 this year.

The match was made through a matrimonial advertisement.

When the couple visited Arshad's ancestral house in the Pukhrayan last week, Afsana was shocked to find that Arshad was already married.

When she confronted him, he and his mother began to harass her for dowry, according to the complaint.

This continued until Arshad finally pronounced the triple talaq and dis-

appeared after abandoning her on the train.

In a video that has since gone viral, Afsana has appealed to Uttar Pradesh Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath to help her and also take action against such people who divorce women and abandon them.

Circle Officer (CO) Priya Singh said that based on the woman's complaint, a case has been registered against her husband Arshad, his maternal uncle Aqeel, father Nafeesul Hasan, and mother Parveen.

"The matter will be investigated, and action will be taken," the CO added.

20 killed as bus plunges into ravine in Pak.

Islamabad, May 3 (IANS) At least 20 people were killed and 21 others injured after a passenger bus fell into a ravine in Pakistan's Daimir district on Friday.

The incident occurred around 5.30 a.m. as the driver of the bus lost control over the wheels, Dawn reported. The bus carrying 43 people was proceeding towards Gilgit from Rawalpindi. The injured have been rushed to hospital.

Pakistan Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif and Interior Minister Mohsin Naqvi have expressed grief over the loss of lives and extended condolences.

Trans-border narcotics network busted in Punjab, 4kg ice seized

Chandigarh, May 3 (IANS) In an intelligence-led operation against trans-border narcotics smuggling networks, Punjab Police has apprehended one person and seized four kg ice (methamphetamine) and one kg heroin, Director General of Police Gaurav Yadav said.

He said that drones were used to transport drugs from a Pakistan-based drug smuggler.

An FIR under the Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances Act has been registered in Amritsar and investigations are going on to establish backward and forward linkages, he added.

Earlier, Commission-

erate Police Jalandhar busted an international drugs syndicate spread over five countries with the arrest of three persons of a family, while also recovering 48 kg heroin and Rs 21 lakh from their possession.

Those arrested have been identified as Satnam Singh, alias Babbi, a native of Dhandiyan village in Nawanshahr, his daughter Aman Rozi, and his son-in-law Hardeep Singh.

Apart from seizing heroin and drug money, the police also impounded three high-end cars from their possession.

DGP Yadav had said that the drugs syndicate

spread across five countries -- Iran, Afghanistan, Turkey, Pakistan and Canada -- was actively involved in trans-border and interstate drug smuggling using their domestic network spanning two states -- Gujarat and Jammu and Kashmir.

He had said preliminary investigation has suggested that Gujarat's sea route and Jammu and Kashmir's land route were used to push this heroin consignment into the territory of India.

The DGP said that a Turkey-based heroin smuggler, Navpreet Singh, alias Nav, is the mastermind of the syndicate.

My remark on BJP leader Imarti Devi twisted, misrepresented: MP Congress chief

Bhopal, May 3 (IANS) Madhya Pradesh Congress President Jitu Patwari on Friday claimed that his remark on BJP leader Imarti Devi has been twisted and misrepresented. "My statement on Imarti Devi is misrepresented. My intent was just to ignore the question. Imarti ji is like my elder sister and elder sister is equivalent to a mother," Patwari posted on X. "I had no intention to hurt anyone. If anyone was hurt, I apologise," Patwari said. During the poll campaign in Guna Lok Sabha seat on Thursday, Patwari had made objectionable remarks against her Imarti Devi, a staunch supporter of Union Minister Jyotiraditya Scindia, was a minister in ex-CM Shivraj Singh Chouhan's government.


People of Raebareli will end Rahul's political career: BJP

New Delhi, May 3 (IANS) Hours after the Congress announced that party's former president Rahul Gandhi will contest the Lok Sabha polls from Raebareli, the BJP on Friday said that the "people of Raebareli will end his political career". Slamming the Congress leader, BJP National Secretary Manjinder Singh Sirsa said, "After accepting defeat in Amethi, he has accepted defeat from Wayanad too and will


face defeat in Raebareli as well." He said, "Rahul is contesting from Raebareli as he is losing elections from Wayanad". Citing Rahul Gandhi's "inability to manage" his constituencies, the BJP leader emphasised that the people of Raebareli will "teach him a lesson and defeat him with a huge number of votes because someone who cannot manage their constituency has no right to talk about the country."

Helicopter crashes en route to pick up Shiv Sena leader in Maha's Raigad

Raigad (Maharashtra), May 3 (IANS) In a shocker, a private helicopter which was flying to pick up Shiv Sena Deputy Leader Sushma Andhare, suddenly crashed on landing, officials said here on Friday. As per a live video recording shared by Andhare, the chopper was making a landing attempt at an unidentified location and suddenly it seemed to swerve, wobble, lose balance and then crash with a loud sound in a cloud of dust on an open ground. The pilot of the chopper managed to jump off the ill-fated chopper and survived, but the white-and-blue rotary-winged was badly damaged in the crash that occurred at Mahad town in Raigad. Police and rescue teams rushed to the spot to probe the incident while the shaken Andhare — who was scheduled to fly by the same chopper — proceeded in a car for her scheduled election meetings in different parts of the district.



Aadhar
Housing Finance Ltd
GHAR BANEGA, TOH DESH BANEGA.
www.aadharhousing.com



Gross Assets Under Management of ₹198,652* million
worth of accounts, serviced from 487 branches.**

GHAR BANEGA, TOH DESH BANEGA.

(*As of December 31, 2023). ^Gross AUM of Aadhar Housing Finance Limited (Rs. Million): 133,271.0; 147,777.9; 172,228.3; 198,651.6 and Net Worth (Rs. Million): 26,927.6; 31,466.3; 36,976.0; 42,491.0 as on Fiscal 2021, Fiscal 2022, Fiscal 2023, and nine month ended December 31, 2023 respectively. As per CRISIL Report, Aadhar Housing Finance Limited has the highest AUM and net worth amongst select peers in India analysed, as on Fiscal 2021, Fiscal 2022, Fiscal 2023, and nine month ended December 31, 2022 and December 31, 2023. (** LIVE ACCOUNTS: (including assigned and co-lent accounts) 182,471; 204,135; 233,228; 255,683 as of March 31, 2021, 2022, 2023 and December 31, 2023, respectively). #The number of branches does not include regional and corporate offices.

Top 5 Risk Factors: 1.Our Erstwhile Promoters are subject to ongoing regulatory investigations by enforcement agencies including the Enforcement Directorate and the outcome of such investigations may adversely impact us and the Equity Shares held by our Promoter, BCP Topco and the market price of the Equity Shares of our Company. 2.We are party to certain legal proceedings and any adverse outcome in these or other proceedings may adversely affect our business. 3.We depend on the accuracy and completeness of information provided by our potential borrowers and third-party service providers. Our reliance on any misleading information given by potential borrowers may affect our judgment of credit worthiness of potential borrowers, and the value of and title to the collateral, which may affect our business, results of operations, cash flows and financial condition. 4.We have had negative net cash flows in the past and may continue to have negative cash flows in the future. 5.Any increase in the levels of non-performing assets in our AUM would adversely affect our business, results of operations, cash flows and financial condition.

Aadhar Housing Finance Limited is proposing, subject to receipt of requisite approvals, market conditions and other considerations, an initial public offering of its equity shares ("Equity Shares") and has filed the red herring prospectus dated April 30, 2024 (the "RHP") with the ROC. The RHP is available on the website of SEBI at www.sebi.gov.in, website of stock exchanges i.e. NSE at www.nseindia.com, BSE at www.bseindia.com and on the website of the Company at https://aadharhousing.com/ and on the websites of the BRLMs, i.e. IICI Securities Limited, Citigroup Global Markets India Private Limited, Kotak Mahindra Capital Company Limited, Nomura Financial Advisory and Securities (India) Private Limited and SBI Capital Markets Limited at www.iicisecurities.com, www.online.citibank.co.in/rhtm/citigroupglobalaiscreen1.htm, https://investmentbank.kotak.com, www.nomuraholdings.com/company/group/asia/india/index.html and www.sbicaps.com, respectively. Any potential investors should note that investment in equity shares involves a high degree of risk. For details, potential investors should refer to the RHP including the section titled "Risk Factors" beginning on page 24 of the RHP. Potential investors should not rely on the DRHP for making any investment decision. Specific attention of the investors is invited to "Risk Factors" on page 24 of the RHP.

This announcement is not an offer of securities for sale in the United States or elsewhere. This announcement has been prepared for publication in India only and is not for publication or distribution, directly or indirectly, in or into the United States. The Equity Shares have not been, and will not be, registered under the United States Securities Act of 1933, as amended (the "U.S. Securities Act") and may not be offered or sold within the United States, except pursuant to an exemption from, or in a transaction not subject to, the registration requirements of the U.S. Securities Act. Accordingly, the Equity Shares are only being offered and sold (a) within the United States solely to persons who are reasonably believed to be "qualified institutional buyers" (as defined in Rule 144A under the U.S. Securities Act) in transactions exempt from or not subject to the registration requirements of the U.S. Securities Act, and (b) outside the United States in "offshore transactions" as defined in and in reliance on Regulation S under the U.S. Securities Act and the applicable laws of the jurisdiction where those offers and sales occur.