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Rajasthan DGP vows strict action against cops in uniform uploading videos on 'non-police **issues**'

Jaipur, May 14 (IANS) Strict action will be taken against policemen in uniform who upload videos, reels or stories, etc., on 'non-policing issues' on various social media platforms, Rajasthan police chief U.R. Sahu said on Tuesday.

Director General of Police (DGP) Sahu said that it is against police rules for cops to post or upload their videos, reels, etc. in uniform on social media. which have no connection with police work.

Such acts have an adverse effect on the dignity and image of the department, he said.

14 trapped as lift collapses in Rajasthan's Kolihan mine, rescue efforts underway

Jaipur, May 15 (IANS) At least 14 people were trapped after a lift used for transportation of personnel at Hindustan Copper Limited's Kolihan mine in Rajasthan's Neem Ka Thana district collapsed on Tuesday night.

According to initial reports, a vigilance team along with senior officials of the company had gone down for an inspection of the site. When they were coming back after con-



new voters, the free ration to the country's 80 crore

citizens has become a new rallying point for the latter. Congress President Mallikarjun Kharge, addressing a joint press con-ference with Samajwadi Party (SP) supremo Akhilesh Yadav on

Wednesday, said that the INDIA bloc will provide 10

kg free ration to people, as against NDA's 5 kg. "You are giving 5 kg ra-tion to poor, we will provide 10 kg free ration," Kharge said while scoffing at Modi govt's assertions on feeding the poor. Kharge cited the examples of Karnataka and Telangana and said that Congress governments have implemented the same, there. He also accused the Modi government of taking 'undue credit' over free ration and said that this was brought out by the Congress-led UPA gov-ernment under the Food

Security Act. Notably, the Congress manifesto for the 2024 elections didn't mention free ration and now has suddenly popped up after the culmination of the fourth phase of elections. The major thrust of the Congress poll manifesto was on empowering wom-

Interestingly, the Congress President's promise comes a day after Home MinisterAmit Shah's assertions that the BJP has already won 270 seats and the next three phases will only add numbers to its kitty.

If Congress forms the next The free ration to peogovernment and imple-

Fake Facebook profiles of two BJP MLAs surface in Vadodara

Vadodara, May 15 (IANS) Two BJP MLAs in Vadodara have been targeted with bogus Facebook accounts, following which both have urged the public through their official accounts not to engage in any way with these fake profiles and report them.

Former state minister Manisha Vakil, the BJP MLA from Wadi, and Sayajiganj legislator Keyur Rokadia have reported that their official social media accounts have been duplicated. Cyber expert Mayur Bhusawalkar said that

political leaders often connect with their constituents through social media, making it a prime target for those looking to exploit their popularity.

Creating fake profiles of leaders is easy as all their details, including photos, are readily available online. However, these fraudulent attempts are quickly recognised due to their public presence." This incident is not isolated, as similar attempts to create fake social media accounts of political leaders in Vadodara have occurred before as well.

per year. The slew of prom-ises in Congress' Nyay Patra including assistance also declared before the polls that this scheme would continue for anothto women and the unemer five years, in his third ployed and the formula to achieve it has already term. According to esticome under scrutiny from mates, the average yearly experts. If free ration also cost of this scheme comes at around Rs 2 lakh crore. gets included in the list, it will add further burden on the taxpayers.



RANCHI, Congress Leader Jai Ram Ramesh along with Jharkhand Pradesh Congress Committee (JPCC) President Rajesh Thakur address-ing a press conference in Ranchi, Jharkhand on Wednesday. UNI

Odisha: Kahul urges people to save Constitution Bhubaneswar, May 15 billionaires following the Mahatma Gandhi, and "After the INDIA blo "After the INDIA bloc

(IANS) Senior Congress leader Rahul Gandhi on Wednesday urged the voters in Odisha to save the Constitution by voting in large numbers for the IN-DIĂ bloc.

While addressing a public gathering at Bolan-gir constituency, Gandhi said that the biggest issue in this election is to save the Constitution and the ideas propounded by B.R. Ambedkar, and Mahatma Gandhi.

He said if the constitution ends then the rights of common people, their land, the reservation system, and public sector firms will also come to an end.

Gandhi warned the people that the country would be controlled by 22

"destruction" of the Constitution

"For the first time, a political party has said to the country that if it wins then it will destroy the Constitution. Whatever the poor, Dalits, minorities, tribals, farmers and labourers have secured, it was given because of the Constitution. BJP senior leaders are saying that they will tear this book (Constitution). I want to say to every BJP worker and leader that none in the world can dare to touch the Constitution," said Gandhi.

He said that the BJP leaders also boast about ending reservation, the weapon provided to Dalits, Adivasis, and backward people by Ambedkar,

Jawaharlal Nehru.

Gandhi said that as soon as the INDIA alliance forms the government at the Centre on June 4, wages under the MGN-REGS will be increased to Rs 400, salaries of Anganwadi and Asha workers will be doubled, 30 lakh vacant government sector posts will be filled by the Congress. He also reiterates the

party's promise to ensure a guaranteed job to every fresh graduate and diploma holder in the first year. Besides, a total of Rs 1 lakh, Rs 8500 every month, will be deposited in the account of unemployed youths along with world-class skill training facilities, and the loans of farmers will be waived off.

forms government, a list of poor people including Dalits, Adivasis, minorities, poor general caste people, farmers, and labourers will be prepared. One woman member will be selected from each of the poor families from the list and the woman member of the family will find Rs 8,500, as monthly instalments of a total of Rs 1 lakh, deposited in their bank accounts from July 4 onwards," he said. The senior Congress leader said that the 50 per cent backward class people, 15 per cent Dalits, eight per cent adivasis, 15 per cent minorities, and five per cent poor general caste people don't have any share in any sector, business, media, or government.

Woman stabbed to death at busy Howrah railway station

Kolkata, May 15 (IANS) A woman was stabbed to death in broad daylight at the busy Howrah railway station on Wednesday. The woman, Rivu Biswas, was shifted to the Howrah District Hospital and on arrival there the doctors declared her brought dead. The killer, Mungesh Yadav, after



aucting the in ecuon the rope of the lift broke, due to which they stuck at a depth of several hundred metres.

Nine killed in two road accidents in TN

Chennai, May 15 (IANS) At least nine people were killed in two sep-arate road accidents in Tamil Nadu, said officials on Wednesday.

Five youths died when the car in which they were travelling lost control while trying to save cattle and hit a tree.

The tragedy occurred at Kalpakkam and the five men were returning from Puducherry. Four of the deceased were identified as Ezhumalai, Rajesh, Vignesh and Yuvaraj. The identity of the fifth person was not known.

Mammootty will always be held closely by **Keralites: KC** Venugopal

Thiruvananthapuram, May 15 (IANS) Coming to the defence of actor Mammootty after a cy-berattack from Right Wing forces, AICC Gen-Wing forces, AICC Gen-eral Secretary, KC Venugopal on Wednes-day said that Kerala would always hold the legendary superstar tightly and closely. "Mammootty is al-ways seen as one who

ways seen as one who has taken Malayalam cinema to greater heights due to his hard work in the last five decades and all who know him are aware of what material he is made of. We condemn the present needless cyberattack on the highly-decorated actor," said Venugopal.

The legendary actor has come under attack on account of his 2022 film 'Puzhu' that has been perceived as being anti-Brahmanical.

GUWAHATI, All Assam Students' Union (AASU) raising slogans during a demonstration in protest against the price hike of essential commodities, in Guwahati on Wednesday. UN

stabbing Rivu Biswas also tried to attack the RP personnel and other passengers as they attempted to snatch the knife from his hand. However, finally, he was overpowered and handed over to the police. The police took him into custody and interrogated him. It is learnt that Yadav was known to both the deceased woman and her husband, Pin-tu Biswas. Both Pintu and Yadav used to work at the same office in Mumbai. District police officials said that on Wednesday afternoon, Yadav and the Biswas couple came together to Howrah station. After some time, Yadav requested Pintu Biswas to buy some medicines for him from a nearby shop.

ED 'eye' on key Sena Vs Sena battle for supremacy in Mumbai, Mumbai, May 15 stunned, Waikar said that Waikar's statement, say-

in Afghanistan

12 others injured as a heli-

copter crashed in Firoz Koah, the provincial capital of west

Afghanistan's Ghor provincial government spokesperson Abdul Wahid Hamas said.

The MI-17 model helicopter

of the air force, which was

busy in a rescue operation to

recover bodies from a river

in Firoz Koah city this morn-

ing, made an émergency

landing due to technical problems," Hamas said, re-

ports Xinhua news agency. He added: "As a result,

one on board was killed and

Without providing more details, the official added that

an investigation has been ini-

12 others were injured.'

tiated into the incident.

(IANS) The coveted Mumbai North West (MNW) Lok Sabha constituency is a fight between the two rival Senas – Chief Minis-ter Eknath Shinde's Shiv Sena and ex-CM Uddhav Thackeray-led Shiv Sena (UBT) – and the dreaded Enforcement Directorate was reserved for a public park. Accordingly, he de-cided to join the Shiv Sena and was named a Mah-ayuti candidate for MNW LS seat, against Amol G. Kirtikar the son of his close (ED) lurking around the candidates of both parties. Barely hours after the

SS(UBT) named Amol Kirtikar as Maha Vikas Aghadi (MVA) nominee for the seat, the ED popped a notice on him for his alleged role in the Brihanmumbai Municipal Corpo-ration (BMC)'s 'khichdi

scam'. In fact, ruling Shiv Se-na's sitting MP Gajanan Kirtikar – father of Amol G. Kirtikar - even publicly expressed his strong displeasure on the purported misuse' of the ED, embarrassing the Mahayuti al-

lies. As Amol Kirtikar complied with the ED notice and went for a probe, a prominent SS(UBT) lead-er Ravindra D Waikar suddenly defected to the Shiv Sena – and was reward-ed with a LS ticket.

Just a few days ago, Waikar let the cat out of the bag when quizzed on his abrupt party-hopping, as he morosely replied, " had only two avenues - go to jail, or change sides ... Besides, there was no support from my party..." Leaving the Mahayuti

he and his wife were falseing this confirms the Opposition parties' allega-tions on how the ED, CBI, ly implicated in the alleged luxury hotel scam in Jogeshwari, in which he is IT. and other central invesaccused of flouting BMC tigation agencies are be-ing used to target political agreements as the plot

opponents. The MNW seat created upheaval even else-where with former Congress leader Sanjay Nirupam dumping the party to join Shiv Sena after he associate Gajanan Kirwas denied a ticket, even tikar. The INDIA-MVA as Shinde briefly toyed leaders beat the Mahayuwith the idea of fielding ti-BJP-NDA allies with Bollywood actor Govinda.

Bengaluru, May 15 (IANS) Special Investiga-tion Team (SIT), probing the sex video scandal, is on high alert following reports that the prime ac-cused JD(S) MP Prajwal Revanna`is planning to return to Bengaluru from Germany on Wednesday. Sources said that Prajwal Revanna had booked a Rs 3.5 lakh business class ticket for a Deutsche Lufthansa flight which will depart from Germany. The SIT has also re-

ceived information that he

Sex video scandal: SIT on high alert amid reports of Revanna's return from Germany cancelled the ticket, but did not request a refund. This leaves open the pos-sibility for Prajwal Revanna to board the flight at the last moment, as per SIT

sources. On Wednesday, Prajwal Revanna again rebooked the ticket from Munich to KempeGowda International Airport in Bengaluru. He is likely to board and the flight will depart from Munich at 2 p.m. and land in Bengalu-ru between 1 a.m. and 2 a.m.

The flight is likely to arrive at Terminal 2 while the SIT is preparing to take him into custody. The SIT has also gath-

ered information about Prajwal Revanna booking flight tickets to Bengaluru twice and subsequently cancelling them.

On Tuesday, Prajwal Revanna's father, JD(S) MLA H.D. Revanna was released from jail on con-ditional bail. He was arrested on charges of kidnapping a victim of the sex video scandal.

The SIT has regis-tered cases under IPC Sections 376 (2) N (committing rape repeatedly on same woman), 506 (crim-inal intimidation), 354 (A) (1) (behaving in unwel-come way, explicit sexual behaviour, demanding sexual favours), 354 (B) (using criminal force on woman) and 354 (C) (voyeurism, capturing image of a woman in a private act without her consent) and Under Sections of the Information Technology Act.

Sisodia's judicial custody extended Helicopter crash kills one, injures 12 Kabul, May 15 (IANS) One person was killed with

New Delhi, May 15 (IANS) A Delhi court on Wednesday extended till May 30 the judicial custo-dy of AAP leader and former Deputy Chief Minister of Delhi Manish Sisodia in the liquor policy case.

Special Judge Kaveri Baweja of the Rouse Avenue Court passed the orders upon the expiry of the previously granted judicial custody.

On Tuesday, a bench of Justice Swarana Kanta Sharma of the Delhi High Court reserved its verdict on the bail plea filed by Sisodia, who remains behind bars on corruption and money laundering charges. During the hearing, ED counsel advocate Zoheb Hossain submitted before the high court that the probe agency will soon file a supplementary charge sheet in the excise policy case arraying the Aam Aadmi Party (AAP) as an accused.

In its probe, the probe agency found that the pro-ceeds of crime to the tune of Rs 45 crore, which was part of the 'bribes' received from the 'South Group', were used by the AAP for campaigning in the 2021-22 Assembly elections in Goa.

Earlier, the trial court had refused to grant bail to the former deputy CM. Sisodia's bail application has been pending since February.



GAZA, People gather at the site of an Israeli airstrike in the Nuseirat refugee camp, central Gaza Strip, on May 14, 2024. At least 40 people were killed and others injured after midnight Monday by Israeli bom-bardment in the Nuseirat refugee camp in the central Gaza Strip, the Palestine TV reported. UNI







View on Chabahar contract with Iran: **Looking West**

It is an indication of India's diplomatic maturity, ability to negotiate complex alobal landscape

The 2003 visit to Delhi by the then-president Syed Mohammad Khatami was hailed as a landmark moment for India-Iran ties. The centrepiece of the slew of agreements was cooperation on the development of Chabahar Port, which could open up access to the Persian Gulf, Afghanistan, Central Asia and Europe. In the 21 years since, as animosity deepened between Washington and Takapa and Dabi Tehran, and Delhi grew closer to the former, the development of the port slowed down. Since 2015 - to the credit of the current government - there has been consistent forward movement. While the coordination between Iran, India and Afghanistan may have been dampened by the Taliban's return in Kabul, the strategic importance of Chabahar is intact. In this context, the announcement of har is intact. In this context, the announcement of a 10-year contract between the government's In-dia Ports Global LTD (IPGL) and the Ports and Maritime Organisation of Iran for the operation of a terminal at Chabahar is significant and welcome. IPGL will directly invest about \$120 million while India has offered credit in rupees equiva-lent to \$250 million. There is concern over US sanctions on Iran affecting India's strategic bet

sanctions on Iran affecting India's strategic bet with Chabahar, but these may be exaggerated. It was, after all, under Donald Trump's tenure in 2017 — the former US president took a hawkish stance on Iran — that Delhi was able to get a waiver from sanctions on the Chabahar project, citing access to Afghanistan. On the commercial front, however, things are more complicated. Which products can be traded with and through Which products can be traded with and through Iran, and at what volume, may become a bone of contention for some of India's friends in the West. Then there's the fact that China is deeply en-trenched in Central Asia and its markets, includ-ing through its Belt and Road Initiative. The Chabahar project is a potential compo-nent of the International North-South Transport Corridor, envisioned by Russia, Iran and India to link South Asia with Central Asia and Europe Ten-

link South Asia with Central Asia and Europe. Tensions within Europe, as well as between Iran and the West, make this important project a challeng-ing one. The India-Middle East-Europe Economic Corridor, announced at the G20 summit in Delhi last year, has great potential as well. Formulat-ed as a counter to BRI, it seeks to build road, rail and shipping networks through India's near-West to Western Europe.



New Delhi, May 15 (IANS) Extreme temperatures above 40 degrees Celsius that impacted billions of people across Asia in April were made hotter and people across Asia in April were made notter and more likely by human-caused climate change, ac-cording to rapid attribution analysis by an interna-tional team of leading climate scientists from the World Weather Attribution group. The study highlights how heatwaves intensified by climate change are making life much tougher for people living in poverty across Asia and the 1.7 mil-lion displaced Palestinians in Gaza

lion displaced Palestinians in Gaza.

Asia was hit by severe heatwaves this April. In South and Southeast Asia, Myanmar, Laos and Vietnam broke records for their hottest April day, and the

Climate change made extreme April temperatures hotter affecting billions in Asia: Study

Philippines experienced its hottest night ever.In India, temperatures reached as high as 46 degrees. The heat was also extreme in West Asia, with Palestine and Israel experiencing temperatures above 40 degrees. The month was the hottest April on record globally and the eleventh consecutive month in a row a hottest month record was broken.

Heat-related deaths were widely reported, with at least 28 in Bangladesh, five in India and three in Gaza during April, while surges in heat deaths have also been report-ed in Thailand and the Philippines

this year. These are only preliminary fig-ures and because heat-related deaths are notoriously underreported, it is likely there were hundreds or possibly thousands of other heatrelated deaths in Asia during April.

The heat also led to crop failure, loss of livestock, water shortages, mass die-off of fish, widespread school closures, and the heat has been linked to low voter turn-out in Kerala. Climate change, caused by burning oil coal and das and other burning oil, coal and gas, and other human activities like deforestation, is making heatwaves more frequent, longer and hotter around the world. To quantify the effect of human-caused warming on the extreme temperatures acrossAsia, scientists analysed weather data and climate analysed weather data and climate models using peer-reviewed meth-ods to compare how these types of events have changed between to-day's climate, with approximately 1.2 degrees of global warming, and the cooler pre-industrial climate. The analysis focused on the pe-riods when the heat was most dap

riods when the heat was most dangerous in two regions: the three-day average of maximum daily temperatures in a region of West Asia that included Syria, Lebanon, Israel, Palestine and Jordan, and the 15-day average of maximum daily temperatures in the Philippines. The scientists also analy-sed the possible influence of the El Niño-Southern Oscillation, a naturally occurring climate phe-nomenon that shifts between El Niño, neutral and La Niña conditions.

The study also analysed his-torical weather data for a region of South Asia that includes India, B The researchers did not carry out a full attribution analysis for this region as the World Weath-er Attribution conducted similar studies in 2022 and 2023, and the data from weather observations showed that the attribution results would not be significantly different.

Lok Sabha polls: PM Modi held 8 public meetings, 2 roadshows in MP; Rahul Gandhi addressed 5 rallies

Bhopal, May 15 (IANS) In the last two months, BJP and Congress leaders have cam-paigned extensively in Madhya Pradesh for the Lok Sabha elections. Now as the voting in the state has concluded, everyone is waiting for the results to see whether the ruling BJP will repeat its performance of the previ-ous two parliamentary elec-

ous two parliamentary elections or the opposition Congress will manage to in-crease its seat tally in the state.

The state witnessed high-voltage campaigns by both national parties to seek the support of over 5.6 crore eligible voters in the elections.

In 57 days (from March 16 to May 13), Prime Min-ister Narendra Modi visited the state seven times and addressed eight public meetings for BJP candidates in different constituencies

He also held two mega roadshows -- one in Jabalpur and another in Bhopal.In 57 days (from March 16 to May 13), Prime Minister Narendra Modi visited the state seven times and addressed eight public meetings for BJP candidates in different constituencies. He also held two mega roadshows -- one in Jabalpur and another in

Bhopal. Union Home Minister Amit Shah and BJP President J.P. Nadda addressed four public meetings each in the state. Besides them, Union



Ministers Rajnath Singh and Nitin Gadkari and Chief Ministers of BJPruled states also campaigned in Madhya Pradesh.

"BJP's campaign was focussed on Prime Minister Modi's guarantee and the government's achievements in the past 10 years. We are hopeful to make a clean sweep in

ful to make a clean sweep in Madhya Pradesh," said state BJP media cell chief, Ashish Agrawal. On the other hand, Congress leader Rahul Gandhi, who led the party's Lok Sabha poll campaign from the front, addressed five pub-lic rallies while his sister and Con-gress General Secretary Privanka gress General Secretary Priyanka Gandhi Vadra addressed just one public meeting in Madhya Pradesh. Congress President Mallikarjun

Kharge also addressed just one public rally in the state. The state leadership of both par-

ties proactively participated in the

campaigning. Chief Minister Mohan Yadav topped the list of leaders who ad-dressed maximum public meetings

in the state. He held 139 public meetings and 49 roadshows. Former Chief Minister and BJP's Vidisha candidate Shivraj Singh Chouhan addressed 66 public meetings and held 16 roadshows while state BJP chief V.D. Sharma, who is contesting from Khajuraho, addressed 72 rallies and held 18 roadshows

State Congress chief Jitu Pat-wari, who replaced former Chief

Minister Kamal Nath after the Minister Kamal Nath after the party's stunning defeat in the Assembly elections in No-vember last year, addressed 130 public rallies. Kamal Nath, who cam-paigned extensively for his son Nakul Nath from Chhind-wara until the first phase elec-

wara until the first phase election on April 19, remained out of the scene in other parts of the state. Veteran Congress leader and former Chief Minister Digvijaya Singh, who was also a candidate, cam-paigned in a couple of Lok Sabha seats.

Sabha seats. "Low voter turnout despite extensive campaign indicated that people have voted for a change in Madhya Pradesh and the Congress will give a good fight in nearly a dozen Lok Sabha seats," saidAbbas Hafeez, the Vice President of Madhya Pradesh Congress Madhya Pradesh Congress media cell.

Polling in Madhya Pradesh was held in four phases between April 19 and May 13 to elect 29 members of the Lok Sabha. Results will be declared on June 4.

India, UAE hold New Delhi, May 15 (UNI) India and the UAE held wide-ranging dis-cussions on mechanisms to streamether coordination and co-op-

and the UAE held wide-ranging dis-cussions on mechanisms to strengthen coordination and co-operation on Consular issues covering labour, visa, migration, citizen-

government to ensure the welfare of the Indian workers in the UAE. Both sides reiterated their commit-

up on the agreed decisions of the meeting and review them at the next Consular Dialogue, which will be

The achievements attained within the framework of bilateral relations between the two countries consti-

Bomb threat emails to Lucknow schools originated from Russia

Lucknow, May 15 (IANS) The emails with bomb threats to four private schools in Lucknow alleg-

+

ship and extradition and on early conclusion of agreements related to migration and mobility.

This was discussed during the 5th meeting of the Joint Committee on Consular Affairs (JCCA) was held on Tuesday in New Delhi. The Indian side was led by Muktesh Pardeshi, Secretary (CPV & OIA), Ministry of External Affairs, and the UAE delegation was led by Khaled Belhoul, Permanent Secretary of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the UAE.

India and the UAE enjoy warm, close and multi-faceted relationship which is built on the deep bonds of friendship between both sides. The relationship between the two countries, which was elevated to a Comprehensive Strategic Partnership in 2017, encompasses all areas of mutual cooperation - political, economic, trade, commerce, defence, cultural, technology and energy, with people-to-people ties forming the bedrock. UAE is currently host to more than 3.5 million Indian citizens, the largest outside India, a statement said.

The two sides held wide-ranging discussions on mechanisms to strengthen coordination and co-operation on Consular issues covering labour, visa, migration, citizen-



citizen-centric consular mechanisms. The two sides also discussed other issues of mutual interest including visa facilitation for promoting greater people-to-people exchanges and early conclusion of agreements related to migration and mobility. Outcomes from the meeting also included regular exchange of statistics related to the citizens of

a mutually convenient date,

it said. According a UAE to a readout, during the meeting, the two dissides cussed a of number common consular matters, plans to follow up and develop them, and means to enhance joint consular co-

operation. Belhoul praised the historical relations between

the UAE and the friendly Republic of India. He also expressed the UAE's appreciation for the efforts made by the Indian side to strengthen bilateral relations between the two countries in light of the Comprehensive Strategic Partnership since 2017.

Belhoul stressed that the UAE and India have succeeded in establishing an advanced and sustainable

tute an incentive to move forward towards further success to achieve joint development goals between the two friendly countries and their peoples and to develop mechanisms and solutions for a future rich in cooperation and partnerships in the consular field.

Belhoul conveyed the greetings of Sheikh Abdullah bin Zayed Al Nahyan, Minister of Foreign Affairs, and his praise of the positive developments between the two countries. He stressed the UAE's keenness and interest in strengthening and developing relations between the two countries in a way that reflects the ambitions and directions of the wise leadership, it said.

The relationship between the United Arab Emirates and the Republic of India is characterised by a remarkable path of growth and deepening cooperation, especially since bilateral relations were upgraded to a comprehensive strategic partnership in 2017.

The implementation of the Comprehensive Economic Partnership Agreement (CEPA) on 1st May 2022 has greatly bolstered trade relations. The two sides seek to achieve a bilateral trade volume of up to US\$100 billion before the target year of 2030, it added.

edly originated from Russia, police said on Wednesday.

The FIR also mentioned that the emails are not solely focused on threats to schools and the sender also discussed drawing inspiration from Abdelhamid Abaaoud, who is accused of orchestrating terror attacks in Paris in 2015.

The sender also expressed opposition towards the Indian government. The FIR was lodged in Gomti Nagar police station based on the complaint of Sub-Inspector Dharmendra Kumar against two websites, one originating from Russia and another from Gmail.

The case has been registered under IPC sections 505 (2) (causing rumours), 507 (intimidation by anonymous communication), and 120 B (criminal conspiracy)

Kumar, stated in his FIR, that on May 12 at 6.46 p.m., an email was sent from the email ID ashuashuashu90@gmail.com to the Gomti Nagar-based private school's email ID, threatening an explosion. Another email was received on May 13 at 7.58 a.m., from the email ID the email instrumenttt@inbox.ru to the from Abdelhamid Abaaoud and referencing incidents in Paris and Gujarat. The email also warned the Government of India. Similar threatening emails were reported to be received by other schools in Lucknow, including a school in Vrindavan Colony, another in Viraj Khand 2, and various schools in Vastu Khand, Vibhuti Khand police station.

"All the threats have been included in one FIR only," said Kumar.Prabal Pratap Singh, Dep-uty Commissioner of Police (east zone), Lucknow, stated that they were collaborating with their counterparts in Delhi to probe the case. "Prima facie, we have learned

that similar emails were used to issue threats to schools in Delhi as well as Lucknow," he said.

Meanwhile, units of the UP-ATS and the STF are working on the case. On Monday, four private schools received bomb threats but teams of Bomb Disposal Detection Squads (BDDS) and antisabotage teams found no suspicious items. The entire school premises were thoroughly checked, and parents who wished to take their children home were allowed to do so.

86% of Executives have already deployed AI to enhance revenue, reveals TCS Global AI Study

MUMBAI, A new study by Tata Consultancy Services (TCS) (BSE: 532540, NSE: TCS), a global leader in IT services, consulting, and business solutions, reveals that more than eight out of 10 (86%) of senior business leaders have already deployed artificial intelligence (AI) to enhance existing revenue streams or create new ones. The 'TCSAI for Business Study', a comprehensive report on the state of AI adoption and its impact on businesses, also finds that 69% of businesses are more focused on using AI to spur innovation and increase revenue than on productivity improvement and cost optimization.

Executives are generally positive about the impact of AI, with 57% reporting excitement or optimism about the potential impact of AI on businesses. Among respondents in the study, 45% expect up to half their employees will need to use generative AI capabilities to do their job in three years' time — and another 41% think even more will do so. Most (65%) believe AI will augment and enhance human capabilities, enabling people to focus on highervalue activities that require creativity and strategic thinking

Dr Harrick Vin, Chief Technolo-gy Officer, TCS, said, "2023 was a vear of exuberance, with every enterprise experimenting with AI/ GenAl use cases. We are now entering an era of wide-and-deep enterprise AI adoption. Enterprises, however, are realizing that the path to production for AI solutions is not easy, and that building an AI-mature enterprise is a marathon, not a sprint. Our AI study has confirmed this sentiment; it has also highlighted that enterprises feel underprepared to deploy AI solutions at scale as well as to manage the profound shifts in the roles of people and ways of working resulting from such deployments.

Business leaders are less certain about the path to transformation. Only 4% use AI in a way that has transformed their business and nearly a quarter (24%) haven't even moved beyond the initial exploratory phase. Top barriers to business success include current corporate

IT infrastructures and customer expectations. Organizations also recognize the need to move beyond existing metrics to measure the success of Al implementations; nearly three-fourths (72%) say they don't have the right metrics. The survey also highlights the need for businesses to take a strategic approach to AI adoption and develop the right performance indicators to measure the impact of the technology on their business.

Sivaraman Ganesan, Head, AI.Cloud Business Unit, TCS, said, "When calibrated for accuracy and harnessed responsibly, GenAl makes the computational power of the data, cloud, and AI come alive. Add in human ingenuity and organizations can create a new paradigm for the modern marketplace. As a result, today's enterprises will deliver new stakeholder and customer value like never before - incrementally, through assist and augment efforts, and exponentially as transformation initiatives. Our rich heritage in the business domain, engineering, consulting, services,

and solutions allows us to take advantage of this new paradigm, offering a unique value proposition to all our customers and partners."

TCS was one of the first organizations in the industry to bring together the capabilities of cloud computing and artificial intelligence under the AI.Cloud unit to cater to the emerging needs of customers. The unit drives TCS' multi-layered AI architecture to help strategize AI deployment for customers across their value chains, enable deployment and govern thereafter.

The TCS Thought Leadership Institute surveyed nearly 1,300 CEOs and other senior executives with P&L responsibilities, across 12 industries and 24 countries. About half the companies had \$1 billion to \$5 billion in annual revenue and the other half had over \$5 billion in revenue. Other key results from the report, which can be found at on.tcs.com/2024-global-AI-study, include:

Executives believe the impact of Al will be greater than or equal to that of the internet (54%) and smartphones (59%)

Corporate functions with the most completed AI projects: Finance/comptroller (completion rate of 29%); HR (completion rate of 28%); Marketing (completion rate of 28%

65% of senior executives say their competitive advantage will still come from humans - with their creativity, intuition, and strategic thinking unleashed by AI's augment and assist capabilities

40% of executives say that in the future they have a lot of changes to make to their business before they can take full advantage of AI

Over half (55%) said they were actively making changes right now to their business or operating models, or to their products and services, due to the potential benefits and risks of Al

81% of executives highlight the need for global AI standards and regulations

93% of executives surveyed in the United Kingdom & Ireland said they have AI projects aimed at growing revenue. Executives in other

regions are equally enthusiastic with 89% in North America, 88% in APAC, 83% in Continental Europe, and 80% in Latin America

Nearly two-thirds of BFSI (64%) and manufacturing (63%) industry executives surveyed say they are excited or optimistic about the impact of AI on businesses

"Since our inception in 1968, ΓCS has always been leading change in embracing new technologies, helping decipher the opportunities behind them and execute transformational projects for our clients to rapidly unlock business value. Through our TCS Thought Leadership Institute, we have brought in new insights on every key technol-ogy development and how various industries and personas (CEOs, CFOs, CIOs etc.) are leveraging them. Through this new, data-driv-en, and unique global AI study, we hope to further deepen the dialogue and perspectives on how AI can be used to build stronger, more sustainable, and adaptable businesses for the future," said Abhinav Kumar, Chief Marketing Officer, TCS.

n the news

Western Times 3 AHMEDABAD THURSDAY 16/5/2024

Priyanka shares throwback picture with Katrina when they were 'babies'



Mumbai, May 15 (IANS) Indian actress Priyanka Ćhopra Jonas took a walk down memory lane as she shared a throwback picture with actress Katrina Kaif and said she cannot recall when the photograph was taken. Priyanka took to Insta-

open to going

character'

gram stories, where she shared the photograph. In wearing corsets with jeans. To complete the look, they wore a maang teeka and jhumkas. It is a picture from their younger days.For the caption, Priyanka wrote: "Woah... dun-

no who took it and when this picture was taken... but babies Katrina Kaif."

Mumbai, May 15 (IANS) Actress Kajol, on Wednesday, shared a wis-dom quote about being "deep", saying she has decided that the weight on her scale sim-Priyanka and Katrina were supposed to star together in Farhan Khan's film 'Jee Le Zara', which, according to reports, has been shelved.

The 'Quantico' star has just wrapped up shooting for her next film 'Head Of State'. an action comedy, who has 16.9 which also stars Idris Elba and John Cena. The film ers on Insta-

is directed by Ilya Naishullgram, took to the Katrina was last seen 'Merry Christmas', a section and shared a neo-noir mystery thriller Wednesday film directed by Sriram Wisdom Raghavan and starring Viquote: "I've decided today jay Sethupathi. that the weight on my

roles, I am willing to make bold choices that serve the story.""If going nude is necessary for a character and adds depth and authenticity to the portrayal, then I am open to exploring that aspect of my craft.'

Akshay was lauded for his role in Siddharth Anand's 'Fighter'. His upcoming projects reflect his commitment to diversity commitment to diversity and excellence, including 'Tu Chahiye', 'Dil Hai Gray', 'Two Zero One Four', 'Illegal 3', 'Broken News 2', 'Varchasva', and more."I am grateful for the opportunities that have come my way and the come my way and the chance to collaborate with

Mumbai, May 15 (IANS) Bollywood actor Arjun Kapoor has wrapped up his 20th "mass enter-tainer" film 'Singham Again', where he will be seen playing the role of a villain. Hé said: "This is the stuff you dream of when

her scale sim-

ply shows the depth of her

cial media

million follow-

An avid so-

Kajol,

Stories

scale simply shows the

depth of my character! To-

morrow I may decide to be

character.

user,

you watch masala films growing up!" Talking about wrapping up his shooting schedule for the film, Arjun said: "Wrapping up my part of the shoot for my 20th film

and a mass entertainer like 'Singham Again' feels like a significant achievement in my journey as an actor.'



dream of when you watch masala films growing up!!! Working alongside Rohit Shetty sir has been an

absolute privilege." Talking about his direc-tor Rohit Shetty, Arjun said: "To see him and his team mount this mega film day in and day out makes you feel proud of being a part of this journey."

Together with him and

Kajol shares 'Wednesday wisdom', myTrident to introduce latest campaign starring Kareena and Sharmila Tagore Delhi, Setting new standards in the home dé-cor industry, myTrident is excited to introduce its lat-

excited to introduce its latest campaign starring their enigmatic brand ambassador Kareena Kapoor Khan alongside the iconic Sharmila Tagore. This extraordinary collaboration highlights the harmonious and elegant relationship between a mother-in-law and daughter-in-law, marking a notable shift from the traditional narra-tives typically portrayed in brand campaigns. This ini-tiative sets a new standard tiative sets a new standard in creative storytelling, celebrating the evolving dynamics of modern family relationships.

Crafted with cinematic finesse, the campaign unveils an enchanting televi-

The actor

hotra, that showcases the exquisite chemistry between Kareena and Sharmila Tagore.

"This campaign em-bodies a jubilant tribute to the contémporary Indian family, transcending stereotypes to embrace a tapestry of inclusivity. At myTrident, we firmly be-lieve that every home deserves the transformative touch of elegance and comfort that our offerings bring. Through the harmo-nious union of Kareena Kapoor Khan and Sharmila Tagore in our latest campaign, our mission is to ignite a spark within families, urging them to embrace the inherent curate living spaces that authentically reflect their distinctive dynamics", says Neha Gupta Bector, Chairperson myTrident Chairperson, myTrident.

"Working with Sharmi-la Tagore, for this campaign has been a deeply fulfilling experience. Together, we're delighted to celebrate the essence of family bonds and the beauty of shared moments at home with myTrident, a brand that resonates deeply with both of us. It's a brand we genuinely love and admire for its commitment to enhancing the warmth and unity within households. We are excited to inspire families across India in their living spaces through this campaign." said Kareena.

Arjun Kapoor wraps up 20th film: 'Feels like significant achievement in my journey as actor' his team we've poured our

shows 'depth' of her character

a super shallow person but today I am DEEP!

'Baazigar' fame actress re-

shared a quote which is an

In another Story, the

ode to a fearless

woman.The post

read: "An Ode to a fearless wom-

an: Defined by

no man, you are

your own story.

Blazing through

the world, turn-

ing history into

herstory. And when they dare

to tell you about all the things you cannot be, you smile and tell

them 'I am both war and wo stop me' - Nikita Gill."She next has

'Sarzameen', 'Do Patti',

and 'Maa' in her kitty.

s

#wednesdaywisdom."

hearts and souls into this project, and I'm eagerly anticipating the moment when audiences get to ex-"This is the stuff you perience this powerful sto-



ty and cap-tioned it: "Rohit Shetty ke cop universe ka villain!!""I have wrapped up my work on Singham Again !! My 20th film and one of the biggest milestones of my career with a director who is the boss

of Mass Cinema!!""I feel blessed to be a part of one of the most entertaining franchises in Indian cinema. Can't wait for our hard work to light up the silver screen soon."--IANS

Kareena Kapoor is in awe of Meryl Streep, says 'there is no one like you'



Mumbai, May 15 (IANS) Actress Kareena Kapoor Khan shared a post about Hollywood icon Meryl Streep and said that there is no one like her. Kareena took to her

Instagram story, where

she shared a post about Streep at the 77th Cannes

Film Festival. In the image,

the icon is seen wearing a

white pantsuit featuring

high-waisted trousers and

a blue-and-white striped

shirt underneath her blaz-

"O Meryl there is abso-lutely no one like you," Ka-

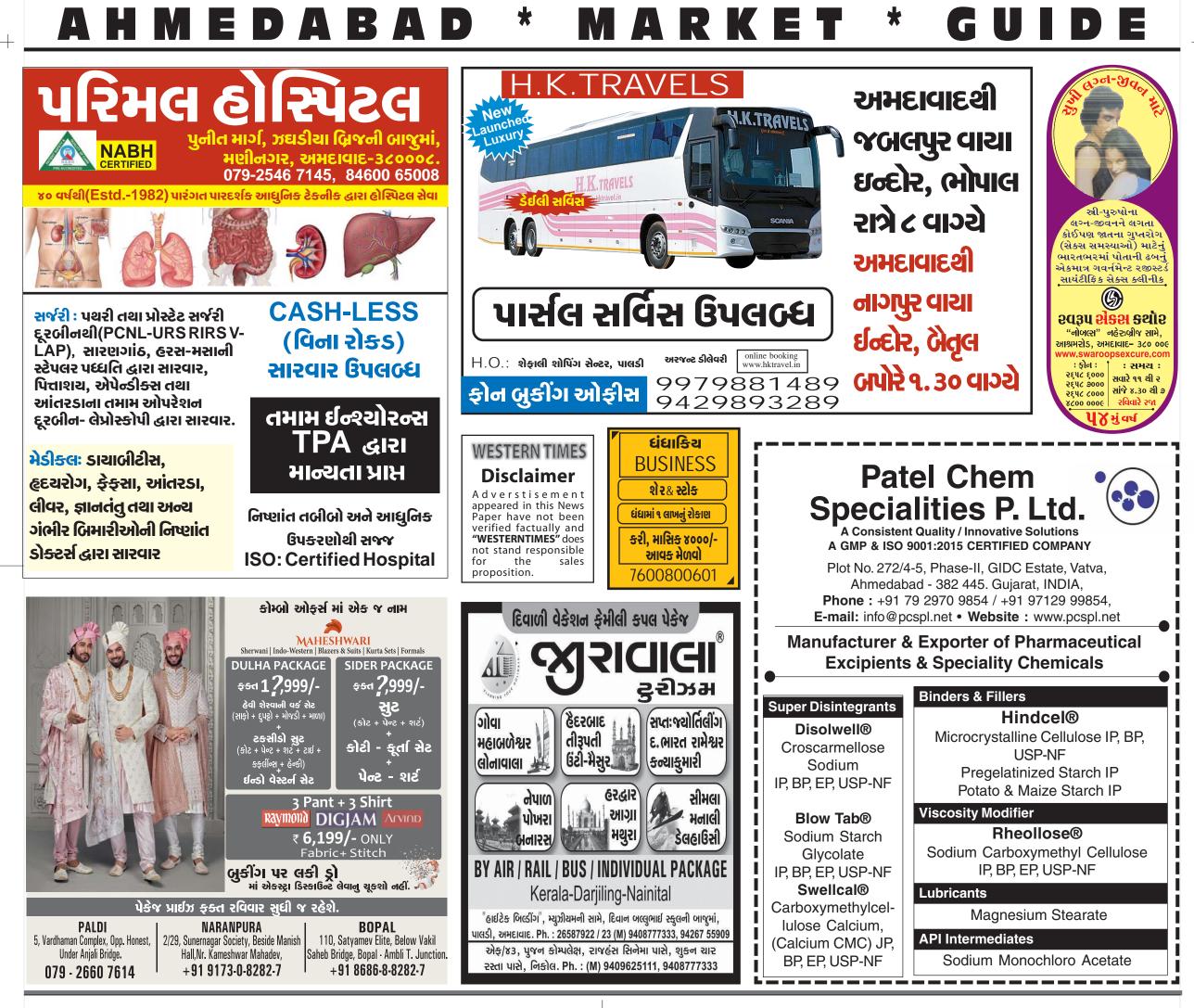
The actor received the

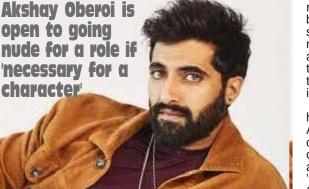
reena wrote.

tival on Tuesday. Accord-ing to variety.com, Streep was greeted by a thunderous two-minute standing ovation. The Oscar-winning actress was so overcome with emotion that she first pretended to walk off the

stage, but eventually began to dance to the applause. Streep had thanked Cannes in her speech for

welcoming her back after over three decades, with her last appearance being for 1989's 'Evil Angels'. --IANS





Mumbai, May 15 (IANS) Actor Akshay Oberoi is open to being typecast as long as the roles offered to him are integral. He went on to say that he can go nude if the script demands it.

Los Angeles, May 15 (IANS) South Korean

actress and musician

Alum Jihae, who is

known for her work in the

series 'Succession', has

been added to the pre-

quel series 'Dune:

guest star role.

rophecy' in a recurring

The series was orig-

nally commissioned in



Akshay said: "As an actor, my foremost priority is to serve the narrative and bring authenticity to my characters. Whether it means being typecast or

Anderson,

talented filmmakers and taking on unconventional artists.--IANS

After Tabu, 'Succession' star Alum Jihae joins 'Dune: Prophecy' cast 2019 under the title 'Dune: fore the ascension of Paul The Sisterhood' and is in-Atreides, 'Dune: Prophecy' spired by the novel 'Sisterfollows two Harkonnen sishood of Dune' written by ters as they combat forc-Brian Herbert and Kevin J. es that threaten the future reports of humankind, and estabvariety.com.The official lish the fabled sect that will logline reads: "From the become known as the expansive universe of Bene Gesserit.'

'Dune,' created by ac-claimed author Frank Her-It is reported that Jihae will play Reverend Mother bert, and 10,000 years be-Kasha, described as "the

Emperor's own Truth-sayer and confidant. Reverend Mother Kasha occupies a position of great influence in the Imperium. But when a new challenge leads her to question the Sisterhood's intentions, she finds her role increasingly difficult to navigate.



Cops who accused PI of harassment transferred

Ahmedabad: A day after two police sub-in-spectors (PSIs) of Nikol police sattion alleged ha-rassment by a police inspectou (PI), the city polie commissioner G S Malik on Monday tansferred the two PSIs. The order issssued by Malik on Monday tated, "Two PSIs of Nikol police station have been transfrred due to administrative reasond. PSI J B Shiyal was transfered to Savarmati Riverfront (East) police station and PSI R O Yadav was transferred to Sabarmati Riverfront (West) police station.

On Sunday, Shiyal wrote a letter to Malik, of-fering his resignation over alleged harassment by Nikol police inspector K D Jat. Yadav had called up the city police control room on Sunday and al-leged Jat was harassing him too.

Not just the two PSIs, a woman assistant sub-insoectirm wgi was aksi akkegedly harassed by Jat, had earlier requested the joint commissioner of polidce, Sector-2 Brijesh Jha, to transfer her.

Beauticial alleges rape

Rajkot : A 28-year ols woman, who ruins a beauy parlour, has accused a man of raping fer for five years. After the complaint was registered at Bhaktinagar police sttion, police arrested Ravi Makwana (31). The women and the accused were neighbours in the area where her parental house is licated. The woman got mattied eight years ago and is a mother of two daughters. One day when she was alone Makwana came to her house and raped her. Since then, he would rape her and take objectionable photos. He threatned to cirulate the pictures on social media and continues to rape her.

K'taka Congress will witness chaos soon: Vijayendra

Bengaluru, May 15 (IANS) Karnataka BJP State President B.Y. Vijayendra on Wednesday said that the Congress will witness chaos after the ongoing Lok Sabha election ends, saying that the Chief Minister Siddaramaiah will soon see his government falling apart.

It is just a matter of time. Congress will witness chaos soon. You will see people turning hostile and changing camps. Congress' internal factional fights will also be exposed," Vijayendra said. He said that the rival camp within Congress is well aware that Chief Minister Siddaramaiah will

dishonour the agreement with Deputy Chief Minister D.K. Shivakumar and he will also oppose party high command's formula.Sources said Congress has arranged a power-sharing agreement between Chief Minister Siddaramaiah and Deputy Chief Minister Shivakumar over the chief ministership, with each serving for 2.5 years. He said that the rival camp is not sitting idly and are planning counter strategies.

"The Congress party is losing ground day by day. The party has come to power by making false assurances and luring people with the sole objec-tive of capturing power," he said.He said that the people are ready to reject the false trap set by the Congress after the Lok Sabha election.

Rajasthan mine accident: Chief vigilance officer dies, 14 rescued

Jaipur, May 15 (IANS) A senior vigilance offic-er at Hindustan Copper Limited died after a lift collapsed at the Kolihan mine in Rajasthan's Neem Ka thana district, said officials, adding that 14 trapped people have been rescued.

-ifteen employees, including vigilance officers and workers of Hindustan Copper Ltd, were trapped at 1,875 ft in a mine at Kolihan near Khetri in the district after the lift broke down.

Fourteen out of the 15 employees, including vigilance officers and workers of Hindustan Copper Ltd, were rescued on Wednesday. The 15th per Ed, were resided of Weathesday. The Toth person, an official passed away and could not be saved despite all efforts," confirmed Superinten-dent of Police (SP) Praveen Nayak. The deceased was identified as Chief Vigilance Officer Upendra Pandey.SP Nayak said, "Pandey could not be saved despite all efforts. An official announcement will be made soon in this regard. His body is at Neem Ka Thana hospital." A few of the injured have been rushed to Manipal Hospital in Jáipur, said officials. More details were awaited.

Vacation benche to hear old cases

Ahmedabad: This year, it is not the full fledged summer vacation in the Gujarat high court with the benches to look

after only urgent cases. The HC has for the first time decided to hear rhe oldest matters on its crim-inal side and listed 200 ssuch cses, which are pending in the HC for more than 25 years now.

By a notification issued by the HC on May 5, it has arranged for special benches for four weeks a division bench and a single judge bench to sit every week and take up the criminal cases. Before notifyng the special benches, the HC and identified 200

the lawyers to address the court through video con-

lower courts.

files by srare govt against to coke to the courtrooms the order of acquittals in at Sola campus, they can use the hybrid system of

The matters that are to hearning. The HC a deecision to be heard durinf this summer vacation were filed between 1995 and hear old criminal acquittal aappeals had a reason in 1999.Everweek, three dif-ferent judges are to tkke two different orders passed by a sivision banch up these old cases berwen in last de ear, when it May 13 and June, and awarded life omprisonment to wo persond, who hear them for three hours daily, as notified by the HC were acquitted more than before commencement of 25 years ago by lower the summer vacation. courts, but state govt's appeal against the acquit-In all,12 different judgtal remained pending in the high court for more es will work during this four

week vacation. The HC has also than two deccades. made arrangements for When the HC recorded conviction, the accused persond were beyond 70

cases, which are appeals ference. If they don't want

years of age. On March 30, a bench of Justice A S Su-pehia and Justice V K

Vyas rapped govt for noy pursuing the appeals in-colcing heinous crimes. The bench had not-ed, "The State cannot re-meain a mute spectator and ignore the proceed. and ignore the proceedings after they responsibility. In case of heioys offences, which affects the society at large, it is the onerous duty of the State under the Constitution of India, to act as guardian and protector of law." The HC called for seting up of a mechanism for speedy hearing of such old appeals.

bai based boilder on Monday filed a complaint with Chandkheda police alleging that his brothre in law and his wife, both liveng in the US, were vheated by a builder from Vasna. Praful Maniyar, 77, a resident of Matunga (east) in Mumbai, said in his FIR that his brother in law Deepak Shah and his wife Meenakshi had in 2012 approached a builder named Narendre Gohil in a residenrial scheme in Zundal. Maniyar said the couple had paid Rs. 36.80 lakh to Gohil on May 9, 2012 and wre given an al-

a Ahmedabad: a Mum-bai based boilder on Mon-bai based boilder on Mon-The couple moved to the US within a year, giving Maniyat the power of attorney dor dealings with Gohil. Maniyar alleged that he fini. Manyar alleged that he constantly pursued Gohil for the original property dicuments, but the builder kept dodging him. Suspect-ing that Deepak and Meenakshi had been duped, Maniyar made inquiries only Maniyar made inquiries only to find that Gohil had sold one of the wo flats to anotheer woman named Parul Bhatt in 2018. Maniyar finaly approached Chandkheda police and files a complaint of breach of trust and chetting against the builder.

Boy's text to wrong number leads to assault on 3 family members hmedabad: A minor that the minor boy sent the and his said arrived Ahmedabad: A minor

According to the in-

spector, the woman hand-ed the phone to kanu who

asked the boy his location.

Scared, the boy said he

was at his cousin's restau-

rtant on the highway.

Dharmik stated the text

was sent to the wrong

number by mistake and

the boy with dire conse-

doned neat Nehue Bridge.

According to his ac-count, dduring a night pa-trol, he spotted a man driv-

inf an autorickshaw on the

wrong side of Ashram

Road. When the ASI tried

to stop him, the bootlegger

fled the scene upon see-

Ina display of question-

Ten cartons containing

Navrangpura police

boy's text, mistakenly sent to a wrong recipient, led to a braw on the Ahmedabad Mahemdavad highway on Saturday in which the boy's cousin and two oth-ers suffered grievous injuries.

Accrofing to the FIR, the 16-years old boy was trying to reach out to his female classmate to know her Class 10 results, but instead sent the text to an unknown woman, whose husband, identified as Kani Bharwad from Barejadi, allegedly led the aault outside Saniya's restaurant near Badodara Patia on the Ahmedabad Mahemdavad highway. In-spector N N pargi of Vivi-kanandnagar police said

Bootlegger flees, cops book auto for ferrying booze

to.

Ahmedabad: Tn the dry state of Gujarat, law enforcement authorities sometimes become the source of unintended dry humour. Take this bizarre incident for example, which has cast shadow on the city police's conpetence.

ing the police, leving the During the wee hours vehicle behind. of Monay, Navrangpura police registered a case able judgement, police that defied ligic and comproceeded to arrange two min sense, assusing an panch witnesses and coninanimate object a four stroke autorickshaw of ferducted a search of the abandone autorickshaw. rying bottles of liquor.

299 bottles of IMFL and The saga began when beer, worth Rs 51,230 assistant sub-inspector found were siezed along Shishirraj Ramesh, in his with the autorickshaw bal-FIR, claime to have informed a Vadaj police inued at Rs 80,000. spector about an au-

and his said arrived on a text mesage to Kanu's wife. She dalld back to ask motorcycle soon after and started questioning Dharmik whom he wished to spk to. if he had sent the text. Kani The boy, who though that allegedly abused and asaulthis clasmate was kidding ed Dharmik despite his clarwith him, insisted it was her that he wanted to talk ification.

Six to eight men carrying sicjed arrived in two cars and joined the assault on Fharmik. Dharmik's father Kumvar Saniya and another cousin, Gopal Saniya were also attacked for intervening. The three were rescued by locals and ruhed to LG hospital with multiple fractures.

sands of residents of bopal, Shela and Sanand experienced several power ourages cover the last three days, which sources say were due to a fire at a substation and the triping

of a66k line betwen Vadaci and Bopal load caused the trip and Gujarat Energy Transmission Corpora-tion (GETCO) WILL soon set up new 66kv lines between Sanand and Ghuma, and Bhadaj and Sciene City.A top UGVCL of-

Ahmedabad: Thou-nds of residents of bo-bol and Spand However, there has been an issue in the GETCO 66kv line between Vadavi and Bopal, which was tripped.

Cable trouble cause outages in

Power supply was af-fectd in Bopal, Shela and anand due to this.

There was a fire at the Bopal subtation which af-fected supply in the area on Saturday, but we began supply through another likv line, to ensure residents get electricity at a

A enior GETCO official said, "Residents had to face powr outages because a line had tripped but we have worked on a solution and believe there will be no outage now. We are strengthening our sus-tem with new 66kv lines berween Bhadaj and Science City and Sanand and Ghuma. We are currently using the old ssetup but as load is increasing, we ar putting in 66kv cabies."

Beauticial that Kanu had threatened quences on phone. Dharmik alleges rape

woman, who runs a beauty parlour, has accused a man of raping fer for five years.

After the complaint was registered at Bhaktinagar police sttion, police arrested Ravi Makwana (31). The women and the accused were neighbours in the area where her parental house is licated. The woman got mattied eight years ago and is a mother of two daughters.

came to her house and raped her. Since then, he would rape her and take objectionable photos. He threatned to cirulate the pictures on social media and continues to rape her.

Ahmedebad: In a der, purportedly cancelling brazen act of deception that spanned over four months, a 50-years old man from a village in Sabarkantha district manafed tp evade arrest by wploning the very system meant to uphold

Naran Prajapati, a bounce and faced the prospect of arrest through a warrant issued by a local court in 2021.

Prajapati resorted to a devious scheme to evade arret. Whnever police arrived to serve the arrest warrant, to stall the legal procedings, Prajapti would prodece a forged court or-

unfoling before their he warrant. He manipulated a gen-

eyes. The complainant in the case, Mohan Somuine court order obtined bu jis son, Shailesh, in a sepabhai, grw increasingly arate case of cheque frustrated as he witneed bounce. Praajapati mericthe repeated failures to ulously altered the details, apprehend Prajapati. changing dates and namees, vrting a convinc-Somabhai escalated the mater to a higher authoring forgey he would presity. sent to the unsuspecting It was only after a

thorough invetigation or-dered by an additional chief judicial magistrate that the truth finally came to light. Prahapati, faced with the weight of evi-

ence aginst him, admitted forging the court order by altering his son's original dicument and repeatedly prodecing photocopied of the falsidied order.

Geotechnical gadgets to keep tabs on works at bullet train sites

rushed to his restaurant af-Rajkot : A 28-year ols ter the boy informed him about Kanú's threats. Kanu

One day when she was alone Makwana

Man forges court order to dodge arrest

justice.

resident of Agiya village, found himself embroiled in a case of vheque

police officers. The charde continued for nearly four months, from Jan to April this year, with Prajapati repeatedly duping the authorities with

his fabricaed court order. Each time the police arrived to execute the arrest warrant, they wee met with the ssame forgedd document, leaving them no choice but to return, unsware of the deception

Glenmark Foundation Concludes Season Six of 'Meri Poushtik Rasoi' Season Six

Mumbai, Glenmark Foundation, in collaboration with Idobro Impact Solutions, announced the successful conclusion of the sixth season of the "Meri Poushtik Rasoi" cooking contest. This pan India initiative aimed at combating malnutrition through the celebration and promotion of nutritionrich native recipes, empowering communities nationwide to embrace healthier eating habits.

Speaking on this initiative, Cheryl Pinto, Executive Director - Corporate Services, Glenmark Pharmaceuticals Ltd. said, "At Glenmark Foundation, we are committed to preserving and celebrating our rich food heritage, often overshadowed by modern lifestyles. Through 'Meri Poushtik Rasoi, we have witnessed the profound impact of traditional cooking in addressing critical health issues like malnutrition. This initiative transcends recipes; it's catalyst for a significant shift towards healthier eating habits, while shedding light on the nutritional challenges our communities face. By fostering dialogue and promoting sustainable food cultures, we strive for a lasting, transformative impact on individuals, families, and communities nationwide.

Why BJP-JD(S) not demanding Prajwal Revanna's encounter: K'taka Minister

Bengaluru, May 15 (IANS) Karnataka Minister for Small Scale Industries and Public Enterprises Sharanabasappa Darshanapur on Wednesday stirred controversy by asking why the BJP and JD(S) leaders were not demanding the encounter of Prájwal Revanna.

Speaking to reporters in Yadgir, the Minister said, "The BJP and JD(S) leaders vehemently demanded the encounter of the accused in MCA student Neha Hiremath case. Where are the BJP and JD(S) leaders now? Why are they not demanding the encounter of Prajwal Revanna? Is justice different for a common man and a big person?"

He further stated that Prajwal Revanna had recorded the videos and now the blame was passed on to others.

The minister said, "Who released these videos? How many videos of women have been taken? Did Prajwal Revanna take sex videos after consulting DyCM D.K. Shivakumar? Has Shivakumar asked him to record sex videos of women? Or Shivakumar himself had taken videos?'

Minister Sharanabasappa said this while react-ing to allegations of Shivakumar's role in the dis-tribution of pen drives.

The JD(S) has accused Deputy CM D.K. Shi-vakumar of being the mastermind of the distribution of the obscene videos. The party's state chief and former CM Kumaraswamy has accused the DyCM of organising the distribution of more than 25,000 pen drives in the Hassan Lok Sabha constituency from where Prajwal Revanna is the NDA

filed a complaint under the prickssnow laden with bottled of Inian made for- Prohibition Act and intiateign liquor (IMFL) aban- ed an investigation.

Worker charred to death in Delhi godown fire New Delhi, May 15 ceived regarding a f

ceived regarding a fire at (IANS) A 45-year-old a building in School Block, worker was charred to Shakarpur following which death after a fire broke out a police team was disat a paper godown in east Delhi's Shakarpur area, an patched to the spot.

"The building is in a 100 square yards plot hav-ing a ground floor and two official said on Wednesday. The deceased was rooms on the first floor. The property belongs to identified as Satender Pawan, a native of Nalan-Munna Kumar, who is running a paper godown in the name of Bhumi Trad-Sharing the details, police said at around 1 ing Company," said a se-nior police official. a.m. information was re-

in Mumbai and Thane dis-

Ahmedabad: The National High Speed Rail Corporation Limite (NH-SRCL) in order to ensure safety of civil structures and service utilities on the Ahmedabad-Mumbai bullet site has deployed geotechincal monitoring instruments.

These instrumrnts are installed on the corridor around the constructuin sites especially in Mahr-ashtra where constructuon activities are in progress for 21km long under ground portion of the bul-let and fill application forms for all the answersheets they wish to ger reassesed and pay fee online. Class 12 general

stream and science stream and GujCET results were declared on May 9, followed by Class 10 results on May 11. This year. Class 10 results are of aan all time high pass rate of 82.56% for regular students.

Previous record high success rate wass registered in 2011 in the tate with 71.06% pass rate. construction activities are in progress for 21km long under ground portion of the bullet train corridor in Mumbai and Thane ditricts in Maharashtra.

Officials of NHSRCL said that various of geotechnical instruction like inclinometers, vibration

minitors, ground settle-ment markers tilt meter among others have been installed at and around consstructuin sites for monitoring tilt, settlement, vibration, cracks, and deformation. Official said geotechni-

cal instruments re connecred to their respective modules to record and monitor the activities.

This allows in time identification of potential risks. The dust and noise minitors are also being installed at construction sites.

Construction activities are in progress for 21kkm long underground portion of the buller train corridor

tricts in maharashtra. The works include excavation for about 1km long and 32m deep underground bullet train station at the Bandra Kurla Complex Three mega Tunnel Boring Machines (TBMs), will be deployed for the 16km tunnelinh work, which includes 7km under sea tunnel. The depth of the tunnel will vary from 25m to 57m.The construction of sucj underground madatructures demand safety of the contructuin sites, surrounas below the ground wih the least inconventience or diruption to the people residing in the vicinity.

Hailstorm disrupts life in parts of Valsad Surat: Several parts of valsad in- tree branches. They were around 9mm rainfall y

Surat : Several parts of Valsad district experi-

da district in Bihar.

enced a suddeen change in weather on Monday morning. Rain and hailstorms disrupted normal life in areas of Kaprada and Dharampur talukas. The weather changed drastically from extreme heat to light showers accomplanied by dust strom causing disruptiond in Vapi and other parts of the district. The impact of the tormy weather was felt across the South Gujarat region.

"ue to heavy wind, the roofs of a few houses got damaged. But there was no major damage," diaster

were reported.

formed. The unseasonal rain triggered fear of dmage to

mango crops among farmers. aAs a result, an advisotry was issued by the local horticulture departmrnt. "Based on the weathr foreecast, farmers were instructed to put support for free branches. They were asked to protectedd plucked fruits and store them proprly. here is no need to water th plants till the weather is clear," said an official of the local horticulture department. "Based on the weather forecast, frmers were instructed to put support for

tree branches. They were asked to protecte plucked around 9mm rainfall was fruits andd store them properly. There is no need to water the plants till the weather is clear," said an officials of the local horti-

culture department.

recorded in Waghai taluka on Monday. There was scattered rain in parts of the trivai district. Hailstorm and rain was

reported from different pars of Dang. Roofs of houses were damaged due to stronf wind. " The weather improved as the "We have reports of rain in Kaprada and Valsad while there is no rain in Parrdi, Valsad and Umargam talukas. There will not be nuch damage day progressed andd the sky was clear by evening," said an official in Dang. At to manfo crops in these talukas," the official added. a few places, tres were uprooted bt there were In Damg district, noncasulaties.

14 cholera case reported in 11 days Ahmedabad: With ris-

ing temperatures, there has also been an increase in waterbornr disease. According to the data re-leased on Monday by the health department of the Ahmedabad Municipal Corporation (AMC), 365 cases of diarrhoea, 61 cases of jaundice, 185 cases of typhoid, and 14 cases of cholera have beenn reportedin Ahmedabad during May 1-11.

Most if the chokera caes wwere reported from the eastern parts of the city such as Lambha and Danilimda. From Jan 1 to May 11, 54 cholera cases have been reported in the city. Most of these cases were reported from Amraiwadi, Varva, Lambha Dhanilimda and jaundice are on the ris due to unhygienic food and contaminated drinking water.

From Jan 1 to May 11, 3,747 cases of diarrhoeam 556 cases of jaundice and 1,279 ae of typhoid have ben reported in the city, Ahmedabad Municipal Corporation data shows.

The civic body conducted5,653 chlorine tesrs across the city, of which 244 samples were found to have no trace og chlorine. While 1,627 water samples were taken and sent for bacteriological examination. thhe results sshowed that 52 samples had failed the test.

On the other hand, vector-borne diseases showed a decline. During May 1-11, 12 cases of malaria, and 26cases of ceived an input that he had boarded another train to dengue have been reported in the city.

Fire at Ahmedabad building, 74 rescued By Staff Reporter

Jayesh Khadia, said that while the detailed cause of Ahmedabad, Seventythe wire is yet to be ascerfour people were rescued from Commerce House at tained, it is suspected that the main wire duct contain-ing all wires for the com-Prahladnagar in Ahmedabad Tuesday after an plex caught on fire.

overheated wire duct led "With the prevailing to a fire. No casualties heat, all appliances and air-conditioners are on, Chief fire officer at which may have led to the Ahmedabad Fire and overheating in the main Emergency Services,

Cops trace 19-yr-old who left home after failing in Class XII Board exam By Staff Reporter Aman's uncle Pranav Rai, and Valsad as well as

Ahmedabad, A 19-year-old Gujarat Second-

ary & Higher Secondary Education Board student from Makarpura in Vadodara, who left his residence on May 9 after failing to clear the Science paper in the Board exams, was reunited with his family Tuesday. Police traced the student, Aman Rai, to Kolkata and brought him back to Vadodara.

According to a missing persons' complaint filed by

Aman had left the family's residence in Makarpura shortly after viewing his results on May 9, without informing anyone. The police traced Aman with the help of CCTV camera footage. Makarpura police In-spector J N Parmar said, "The family said he was dejected after failing the exam. Aman was spotted at Vadodara railway staat Vadodara railway station, boarding a train to Mumbai. We coordinated

Mumbai Central to keep a watch on him ... He was seen alighting from the train at Mumbai Central station." Thereafter, Deputy Commissioner of Polic coordinated with the Mumbai Police to seek assistance to trace Aman. "However, when the police team reached Mumbai to look for Aman in hotels and lodge accommodations nearby, we re-

Kolkata...

with the stations of Bharuch, Surat, Navsari

nternational

Western Times AHMEDABAD THURSDAY 16/5/2024

German politician fined over USE of banned Nazi slogan Halle (Germany), May to be acquitted of the

15 (IANS/DPA) A leading member of Germany's far-right Alternative for Germany (AfD) party, Bjorn Hocke, has been fined for using a prohibited Nazi slogan, a regional court has ruled.

The regional court in the eastern German city of Halle on Tuesday evening sentenced Hocke to a fine for using symbols of un-constitutional and terrorist organizations.

fine of 13,000 euros (\$14,000) to be paid in 100 daily instalments.

tor's office had accused the leader of the Thuringian state AfD of having knowingly used a banned slogan of the Sturmabteilung (SA), or Storm Troopers, a Nazi paramilitary group commonly referred to as the "brownshirts."

The case was sparked by a speech delivered by Hocke in Merseburg in May 2021, during which he employed the phrase "Everything for Germany!" (Alles fur Deutschland!) which is banned in Germany.A former history teacher, Hocke denied that he had knowingly used the slogan. The defence had called for Hocke

Washington, May 15 (IANS/DPA) The United

States is planning a new arms delivery to Israel

worth more than \$1 bil-

lion, local media report-

Biden's administration has informed Congress

of this, the Wall Street

Journal reported on

Tuesday, citing un-

port, the package con-

tains tank ammunition,

tactical vehicles and

According to other US media reports, the

government has also ini-

tiated the authorisation

process in Congress,

According to the re-

named sources.

mortar shells.

US President Joe

ed.

US plans \$1 bn Israel arms delivery

despite Rafah assault: Reports

charge on the grounds that he did not know it was forbidden.

The prosecution had earlier called for a sus-pended six-month sentence and asserted that he was aware of its historical

origin The presiding judge agreed and stated in the judgement that the court was convinced that Hocke knew that the SA slogan was banned but used it anyway. "You are an eloquent,

intelligent man who knows what he is saying," the

judge said. After the judgement was handed down, the public prosecutor's office said that it would consider an appeal. If the judgement is upheld, Hocke will have a criminal record. The Thuringian AfD is categorized and monitored by the state's domestic intelligence service as a confirmed right-wing extremist party, and Hocke is its state leader. The AfD's signature issue is a hard-line anti-immigration stance, and the party is profiting from increased concern among many German voters over the rising numbers of people seeking asylum in the country.

which is still at an early

stage, according to tele-vision channel CNN. The US government

is currently withholding delivery of so-called

heavy bombs due to Is-rael's actions in Rafah, in the south of the Gaza

The couple, who left Abuja yesterday following a three-day visit, were pictured being whisked away by a car at Los Angeles International Airport's 'Private Suites' facility. The Duke and Duchess have called the semi-royal tour 'fantastic' and said it will be the 'first of many memorable trips' which included a moment where Meghan hailed Nigeria as 'her country' after a DNA test suggested she was part-Nigerian. They landed back in the United States a few hours before Californian authorities confirmed a 'delinquency' row involving their charitable endeavour, the Archewell Foundation had been resolved following confusion over an unprocessed cheque.

Chinese warplanes harass Taiwan before presidential

inauguration Taipei, May 15 (IANS/ DPA) Taiwan's Defence Ministry on Wednesday said it had registered 45 Chinese warplanes in Taiwan's airspace within 24 hours. The number marked a recent record high in the number of Chi-nese daily sorties this year. This new record number comes just days before the presidential inauguration of Lai Ching-te from the independenceleading Democratic Progressive Party (DPP), to take place on May 20.

these activities, the minis-

Strip. The White House Among the detected aircraft, 26 of them subsequently endeav-oured to make it clear crossed the median line of the Taiwan Strait and enthat the US government tered Taiwan's northern and south-western air would not abandon Israel and that only this one delivery had been space, the ministry said on Wednesday.Taiwan had On Monday, Biden's monitored the situation security advisor, Jake and tasked Combat air Sullivan, said Washingpatrol aircraft, Navy veston would continue to sels, and land-based misprovide military assissile systems to respond to

trv said

US agency releases preliminary report on Baltimore bridge collapse

Washington, May 15 (IANS) The cargo ship Dali that hit and destroyed the Francis Scott Key Bridge in Baltimore. Marvland, in March had experienced a loss of electrical power

to a preliminary report released by the US National Transportation Safety Board (NTSB) The report

pieces together a detailed timeline of the events that occurred in the time

leading up to the Dali striking pier no. 17 of the Key Bridge, the bridge's subsequent col-lapse and initial search and rescue and recovery efforts for the road maintenance crewmembers, reports Xinhua news agency. The Singaporeflagged steel-hulled general cargo vessel was 0.6 miles (0.96 km) -- or three ship lengths -- from the Key Bridge when electrical

breakers that fed most of the vessel's equipment and lighting unexpectedly opened.This caused the first blackout to all shipboard lighting and most equipment, including the main engine cooling water



pumps and steering gear pumps, said the report, adding that the loss of electrical power stopped all three steering pumps, and, therefore, the rudder was unable to be moved.

The Dali crew was able to restore electrical power to the vessel, but when the ship was 0.2 miles (0.32 km) from the bridge, a second electrical blackout occurred. The Dali's star-

board bow struck pier no. 17 of the Key Bridge at 6.5 knots. Six spans of the bridge subsequently collapsed into the water and across the ship's bow, it said.On March 25, about 10 hours before leaving

Baltimore, the Dali experienced a blackout during in-port maintenance when a crewmember mistakenly closed an inline enexhaust gine damper.According to the report, the crewmembers restored vessel power before a second blackout oc-

curred, which was related to insufficient fuel pressure for the online generator."Of the 4,680 containers on board the vessel at the time of the accident, 56 were identified as containing danger-

ous goods," it said. The US Coast Guard classified the accident as a major marine casualty. Six road maintenance workers on the bridge were killed in the tragic event.

1 killed, 5 wounded in Hezbollah missile attack on Israel

Jerusalem, May 15 (IANS) An Israeli civilian was killed and five soldiers were wounded in an anti-tank guided missile attack launched by the Lebanese armed group Hezbollah, according to the Israel Defense Forces (IDF) and media.

Throughout Tuesday, several anti-tank missile launches were identified from Lebanon toward the area of Adamit in western Galilee, northern Israel, and an IDF soldier was moderately wounded and four other soldiers were lightly injured, said a statement released by the IDF in the evening.Israeli media later reported that an the evening.Israeli media later reported that an Israeli civilian was killed as a result of an anti-tank missile hitting Adamit, Xinhua news agency reported.The injured soldiers were evacuated to a hospital to receive medical treatment, the IDF statement noted, adding that Israeli fighter jets struck a Hezbollah military structure in the area of Ayta ash Shab and Kfarkela in southern Lebanon. Tensions along the Lebanese-Israeli border have escalated since October 8, 2023, when Hezbollah, in solidarity with Hamas, launched a barrage of rockets toward Israel. Is-rael then retaliated by firing heavy artillery to-ward southeastern Lebanon.

Red Cross opens field hospital in Rafah

Gaza, May 15 (IANS) The International Com-mittee of the Red Cross (ICRC) has announced the opening of a field hospital in Rafah in the southern Gaza Strip with a capacity of 60 beds.

In a statement on Tuesday, it said that the field hospital aims to complement and support the work of the Palestinian Red Crescent Society to meet the enormous health needs in Gaza.

The hospital team will consist of approximately 30 medical workers, providing emergency surgical care, maternal and child health care, neonatal care, pediatric services, and outpatient clinics, with the capacity to manage mass casualties, assess and triage the injured, Xinhua news agency reported, citing the statement.

The field hospital, operated by the ICRC in coordination with local and international Red Cross societies, will be able to provide medical care for approximately 200 people daily.

IDF braces up for multi-pronged attack in Gaza

Tel Aviv, May 15 (IANS) The Israel Defense Forces (IDF) is bracing up for a multi-pronged attack against the Hamas militants in the Gaza Strip.

On Tuesday, the 99 division of the Israel army conducted raids and attacks in the Jebalya region of northern Gaza killing several Hamas operatives. The IDF had earlier claimed that it had eliminated the entire Hamas battalions in northern Gaza. However, sources in IDF told IANS that some groups of militants have regrouped and are carrying out attacks including minor rock-et attacks on southern Israel. This has led IDF to carry out operations in the Jebalya region of porthern Gaza Sources in the Jerael Defense northern Gaza. Sources in the Israel Defense Ministry told IANS that more than 25 Hamas members were killed in the operations at Jebalya on Tuesday and the 99 division of IDF will be conducting more ground operations in the coming days to flush out the remaining Hamas men.

HOW THE DEADLY ATTACK UNFOLDED

tance to Israel.

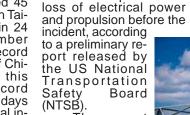
paused.





Russia-China relations continue to develop despite challenging international situation, says Putin

Moscow, May 15 (IANS) On the eve of his two-day state visit to Chi-new era. Dutin biablichted that



Two guards died, one of them leaves a widow five months pregnant while the other was a father of two. The gunmen fled with prisoner Mohamed Amra, 30, known as La Mouche or The Fly. Several hundred police including France's elite anti-terror unit, joined the nationwide search for Amra and his accomplices, who were described as 'armed and very dangerous'. French Prime Minister Gabriel Attal called the ambush 'despica-ble' and an attack on the nation and vowed to hunt down the gang.

na, which starts on Thurs-day, Russian President Vladimir Putin stated in a written interview with Xinhua that Russia and China are promoting the prosperity of both nations through expanded equal and mutually beneficial cooperation in economic and cultural fields.

In the interview, Putin emphasised that the coordination of foreign policies between the two countries is propelling the establish-ment of a fair multipolar world order, which underpins the future success of the Russia-China compre-

Putin highlighted that contemporary Russia-China relations transcend ideology and are a strategic choice made independently by the two countries regardless of the political situation. This choice is grounded in the extensive common interests, deep mutual trust, strong public support, and genuine friendship between the

people of the two countries. Both nations are jointly committed to safeguarding sovereignty, territorial integrity, and security."In a broader sense, we are working to

hancing equal, mutually beneficial economic and



humanitarian cooperation and strengthening foreign policy coordination in the interests of building a just multipolar world order. All this is the key to the future success of our compre-

He noted that the partnership between Russia and China is always based on equality and mutual trust, mutual respect for sovereignty, and consideration of each other's interests

President Xi Jinping, a wise and visionary leader, plays a special and prominent role in the development of bilateral relations. he added."We first met back in March 2010, and we have been seeing and calling each other regularly ever since. President Xi maintains a respectful, friendly, open and at the

each meeting was not only a dialogue between old friends but also a fruitful exchange of views on bilateral and international agendas.Putin recalled that in 2013, President Xi chose Russia as the first destination of his state visit as China's head of state. After being re-elected as Chinese President in March last year, his first state visit was again to Russia. They spent nearly five hours together, holding one-on-one indepth talks, followed by a day of substantive official events.

South Korea to regulate synthetic nicotine as tobacco through legislation

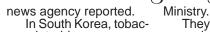
Seoul, May 15 (IANS) The government of South Korea plans to amend to-bacco-related laws to designate synthetic nicotine as a type of tobacco to regulate the product category seeing growing popularity among young smokers, according to officials on Wednesday.

The officials said that the Ministry of Health and Welfare and the Ministry of Economy and Finance plans to

push for a revision of the law to include synthetic nicotine in the definition of tobacco under the Tobacco Business Act, Yonhap



der the jurisdiction of the Health Ministry, and the Tobacco Business Act, governed by the Finance



They stipulate a tobac-co product is "what is manco-related laws are mandated under the National ufactured in a state suit-Health Promotion Act, unable for smoking, sucking,

inhaling steam, chewing or smelling, by using tobacco leaves as all or any part of the raw materials

According to such language, the liquid of synthetic nicotine e-cig-arettes is not classified as tobacco.

subject to oversight measures, such as requiring warning labels of potential health issues.

nation As such, synthetic nicotine is currently not

BAPS Swaminarayan Akshardham Honors Our Veterans [Robbinsville, NJ] – On May 11, 2024, the BAPS Swaminarayan Ak-shardham hosted its second annual Veterans Ap-

preciation Day with more than 140 veterans from four branches of the United States Armed Forces and their families in attendance. It was a day of remembrance and appreciation for the dedication and commitment of the U.S. Armed Forces to the

BAPS and the local community celebrated and appreciated the service, courage, and commitment of the current and former members of the U.S. Military. They gathered to



ty Veteran Services and honor the brave men and proud veteran of the Unitwomen who have selflessed States Army ly served the nation. The ceremony was led by Capt. Medina Wilson, Diwith a Hindu Vedic prayer rector of the Mercer Coun-

duet of the American national anthem by BAPS youths. This was followed by the presentation of colors, a traditional military ceremony where the American flag is carried and displayed, conducted by Master Sergeant Joshua Strouse and the Color Guard from McGuire Air Force Base. Both BAPS and our

U.S. Military are rooted in the spirit of service and greatly value selflessly giving back to society. Command Chief Master Sergeant, Mike Ferraro shared deep gratitude to BAPS for giving him the The event commenced

opportunity to commemofor peace and a beautiful rate his fellow Veterans at the Veterans Appreciation Day at Akshardham.

A highlight of the event was a heartfelt pinning ceremony performed by Staff Sergeant Harish Rao as a token of BAPS' appreciation for Veterans' unwavering dedication. The presentation also recognized and acknowledged the role of families of veterans and activeduty U.S. Armed Forces. Families are the foundation of our nation's strength and resilience that enable our armed forces to serve with purpose.

Israel's Foreign Minister calls for resignation of UNRWA Chief

Tel Aviv, May 15 (IANS) Israel Foreign Minister Katz has called for the resignation of the Commissioner General of UNRWA Philip Lazzarini following the presence of Hamas members at the UN agency in Gaza.

The Israel Foreign Minister said that while Philip Lazzarini is denying the presence of Hamas members at the UNRWA compound however there is clear proof that the militant outfit was using UNRWA

premises and its vehicles. "There is proof of Hamas members firing at ci-vilians within a UNRWA facility next to UN vehicles in Rafah. No lie from An-

tonio Gutteres and Philip Lazzarini will hide the truth: UNRWA is an arm of Hamas," Katz said. On Tuesday, the Israel Defense Force (IDF) said that during an operation in the eastern Rafah region,

Hamas members were

identified in the UNRWA

compound

6,600 evacuated in wildfire-hit Canada eral areas in Fort McMur-

Ottawa, May 15 (IANS) Up to 6,600 residents have been evacuated in Canada's western province of Alberta due to a raging wildfire, local media reported. The Regional Municipality of Wood Buffalo issued the evacuation order Tuesday afternoon after declaring a state of local emergency, CBC

News reported. The evacuation order is in effect for the neighbourhoods of Beacon Hill, Abasand, Prairie Creek and Grayling Terrace. Sev-

ray are being evacuated to make way for firefighters, Xinhua news agency reported.All residents in the evacuation zone were ordered to leave by 4 p.m. Mountain Time (2200 GMT), the municipality said.According to CBC Newgional fire chief, said that the order would affect up to 6,600 people in the evacuation zone.Local roads and highways were choked with vehicles Tuesday afternoon as residents fled south, the re-

port said.

According to the Canadian Interagency Forest Fire Centre, a total of 134 fires were actively burning nationwide on Tuesday, with 43 fires categorised as out of control.

Canada's wildfire season in 2023 is the most destructive on record. According to the Canadian National Fire Database, there were 7,131 fires recorded nationwide in 2023, burning a record 1,72,03,625 hectares of land.





Premier League: Haaland's brace puts Man City on brink of title

London, May 15 (IANS) Erling Haaland's second-half brace saw Manchester City secure a 2-0 victory against Tottenham Hotspurs and ensured Pep Guardiola's side back to the top of the Premier League table.

With Haaland's two goals, City are now on 88 points while Spurs' Champions League hopes

are over with a loss. The win sent City two points clear of Arsenal and which means if they beat West Ham on Sunday then Guardiola's men will secure a fourth successive league title, something no English side has ever achieved before.

City brought substitute keeper Stefan Ortega Moreno on for Ederson midway through the second half after the Brazilian hurt his head in a collision with Cristian Romero. The German made his impact immediately felt with a series of outstanding saves, including one stunning block to deny Son Heung-Min - to keep the hosts out.

La Liga: Real Madrid score five, Mallorca close in on safety

Madrid, May 15 (IANS) La Liga champions Real Madrid continued their preparations for the Champions League final with a 5-0 win at home to Deportivo Alaves.

The game kicked off after Madrid celebrated their 36th league title in front of their fans and the celebration continued with three goals before halftime.

Jude Bellingham chipped home only 10 minutes into the game. Then, Vinicius Jr tapped home after good work from Eduardo Camavinga, and Fede Valverde scored with a powerful shot in first half injury time to make it 3-0 at the break, reports Xinhua,

Vinicius Jr added a fourth in the 69th minute after a pass from Bellingham and Arda Guler netted his third goal in recent weeks after get-ting on the end of Rodrygo's wayward shot. Girona's chances of finishing second suffered a major setback as they lost 1-0 to Villarreal, in

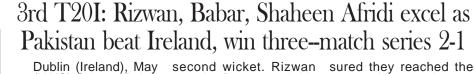
only their second home defeat of the season.Girona had a couple of decent chances in the first half, with Artem Dovbyk guilty of missing both, and they were punished in the 58th minute by Bertrand Traore's angled shot that went in at the fat post.

Adani Sportsline's athletes shine in Gujarat State Jr Basketball Championship

Ahmedabad, May 15 (IANS) Adani Sports-line Academy's players shone in Gujarat State Junior Basketball Championship for Ahmedabad district girl's and boy's teams, clinching gold and silver, respectively.

Vanisa helped the girl's team win gold while another trainee Taksh Patel was part of the boys' team that clinched second spot in the same tournament.

In less than five years of its launch, the Adani Sportsline Academy has emerged as a cradle of budding sports stars with its trainees making quite a splash. Chief Business Officer of Adani Sportsline Sanjay Adesara said, "I am happy to see students of Ádani Sportsline begin to make a name for themselves.



was the first to reach his

half-century off 30 balls,

his knock studded with

four boundaries and three

sixes.Babar crossed the

half-century mark off 31

balls, hitting five bound-

Dublin (Ireland), May 15 (IANS) Skipper Babar Azam slammed his 39th half-century and Mohammad Rizwan struck fifty after pacer Shaheen Shah Afridi claimed a three-fer as Pakistan defeated Ire-

land by six wickets with 18 balls to spare in the third T20I and won the three-match series 2-1 here on

Tuesday. Babar struck a 42-ball 75 while Rizwan blasted a 38-ball 56 as Pa-

kistan reached 181/4 in 17 aries and two maximums. overs after Shaheen Afridi claimed brilliant figures of 3-14 off four overs and his namesake Abbas Afridi bagged 2-43 after the visitors had won the toss and elected to field first. After Pakistan lost opener Saim Ayub for 14 off 11 balls with the total at 16 runs, Rizwan and Babar a 139run partnership for the

Rizwan was the next to go, bowled by Mark Adairas he moved way too far across and was bowled by a brilliant yorker in the blockhole. Babar fell next, just three runs later when he was caught by Curtis Campher off Craig Young. By that time, Pakistan were cruising towards victory and Azam Khan en-

High jumper Nishad Kumar focuses on 'excellence' at Para Worlds, records can follow!

New Delhi, May 15 (IANS) Para Asian Games champion Nishad Kumar, who holds an Asian record in the Men's High Jump T47 category, is not mulling over setting a world record. Instead, he aims to give his best at the upcoming World Para Athletics Championships, which will be held from May 17 to 25

in Kobe, Japan. Nishad bagged a gold medal in the Men's High Jump T47 category, a classification for athletes with unilateral upper limb impairment, at the Asian Para Games last year in China. He claimed the gold medal with a best jump of 2.02m."I haven't given it much thought;

time will tell how it turns out. However, my preparation has been excellent. I won the bronze medal at the 2019 World Championship, and in the 2023 World Championship in Paris, I earned the silver.

This year's training has been significantly better compared to previous years. I'm not focused on breaking any records; it depends on the day, but I will give it my all," Nishad told IANS when asked if he would be aiming for a world record in Japan.

The 24-year-old made his first Paralympic Games appearance in Tokyo 2020, where he went on to claim a silver medal with an Asian record of 2.06m.

"I recorded a jump of 2.06m at the Tokyo Paralat Bengaluru SAI. I've spent about 5-6 months training in the USA. Now, I've returned from the US for the world championships. My performance in Paris 2024 will surpass my Tokyo results. I can't predict the colour of the medato the mark," said the Asian Games champion on bettering his performance at the Paris Paralympics.

sured they reached the target with an unbeaten 18. Earlier, Ireland managed a below-par 178 thanks to a superb 41-ball 73 by skipper Lorcan Tucker, who hammered 13 boundaries and one six. Seasoned batter Andy Balbirnie contributed a 26ball 35 and Harry Tector scored a 20-ball unbeaten 30. Ireland lost Ross Adair for seven with the team's total at 15. Balbirnie and Tucker took the score to 100 runs at the halfway stage when the former fell, caught by Rizwan off Ab-bas Afridi. This eventually proved insufficient under the assault of Rizwan and Babar Azam despite a three-fer by MarkAdair (3-



28)

after wrestler earns Paris 2024 quota New Delhi, May 15 (IANS) Former Olympic

medallist wrestler Sakshi Malik on Wednesday welcomed fellow grappler Nisha Dahiya at the Delhi airport upón her return from Istanbul, Turkiye, where she sealed the Par-

is Olympics quota in the women's 68kg category. Taking to Facebook, Sakshi posted pictures of receiving Nisha at the IGI airport, where the latter was given a grand welcome from family and friends.

On Friday, Nisha se-cured the berth for the quadrennial showpiece after reaching the final of the Wrestling World Olympic Qualifiers to become the fifth women wrestler to board the flight for France.

Before defeating Czech Republic's Adela Hanzlickova 7-4 in the semifinals, Nisha had defeated individual neutral athlete Alina Shauchuk, former silver medallist at the U23 world championships, 3-0 in the Round of



Completing a treble of trophies - Premier League North, Premier League Cup and the national title - Adam Lawrence's side had Ethan Wheatley and Ethan Williams to thank after their goals sealed a 2-1 win. Wheatley and Harry Amass have been mainstays with the first team squad in recent weeks and it was agreed with Erik ten Hag that they would be involved here, even with both set to be in the first team squad against Newcastle on Wednesday night.

Limca Book of Records recognizes the

endeavor, there exists a realm of athletics, where ordinary individuals transcend the constraints of the mundane to become extraordinary champions of motion. Athletics, in its purest form, is not merely Senior Director, Market-ing for Hydration, Sports, a collection of sports or a series of events, it is a tesand Tea at The Coca-Cola Company's India and South-West Asia Operat-ing Unit, remarked, "At tament to the boundless potential inherent within

the human form. It is the sprinter who races against the wind, the high jumper who defies lieve in the transformative gravity's pull, and the marpower of sports to inspire, athon runner who conquers the limits of endurance. Each athlete, a living embodiment of dedicaments of Indian Athletes tion and discipline, dares and continue to build to challenge the impossi-ble and redefine the pride amongst audiences, boundaries of human feats through the Limca achievement. But beyond the world of competition book of Records." "World Athletics Day and medals, athletics is a journey of self-discovery serves as a symbolic reminder of the unwavering

and self-mastery. On this World Athletics Day, Limca Book of Records proudly honors the extraordinary triumphs of athletes etched in its pages of sports history. Since its inception, the Limca Book of Records has been a beacon of hu-

remarkable achievements of Indian sportspersons Mumbai, Within the vast landscape of human complishment, capturing Banerjee, Consulting Edman aspiration and ac-complishment, capturing the essence of unparalleled dedication and grit. Within its pages lie tales of remarkable feats, showcasing the rich history of talent across diverse athletic domains.

Ruchira Bhattacharya,

Coca-Cola India, we be-

empower, and create real

positive impact. To cele-

brate the accomplish-

we pay homage to their

commitment athletes ex-

hibit in their pursuit of ex-

cellence. For the Limca

Book of Records, it repre-

sents an opportunity to

celebrate and honor the

extraordinary accomplish-

ments of athletes from di-

verse backgrounds and

disciplines across the

itor of the Limca Book of Records and Publisher at Hachette India. Among the many in-

credible achievements recorded in the Limca Book of Records, here are just a few noteworthy examples that exemplify the pinnacle of athletic excellence:

In 2023, Neeraj Chop-ra etched his name in his-tory as the first Indian gold medalist at the World Athletics Championship, achieving a monumental throw of 88.17 meters in

the men's javelin final. Jyothi Yarraji scripted history by clinching India's first-ever gold in the women's 100m hurdles at the Asian Athletics Championships in Bangkok, July 2023. Her remarkable per-formance, clocking 13.09 seconds, marked a signif-icant milestone in Indian

athletics. Dutee Chand continues to break barriers and redefine norms in Indian athletics. As the current national champion in the women's 100m event, she became the first Indian sprinter to win gold at the Universiade in 2019.



StepTrade Share Services launches

30 Remarkable years of partnership -

9Unicorns launches Fund II with a Target

support at every step of the journey. We have institu-

tionalized support for star-tups with focus on growth & fundraising." 100Uni-corns has played a crucial

role in the startup ecosys-

tem with initiatives such as

DDay and ProStar serving as catalysts for over 80

startups that have collec-

tively secured upwards of

Ankit Jain, Partner at

\$400 million in funding.

PMS vertical, unveils the Strategies

Ahmedabad, StepTrade Share Services, a leading investment management company, launched its SME focussed Portfolio Management Services (PMS), marking a major milestone in its journey, in Ahmedabad on Saturday

The launch of PMS services comes just over two months after StepTrade Share Services received the PMS license from the Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI).

Commenting on the landmark, Kresha Gupta, Director, StepTrade Share Services, and one of the young-est fund managers in India, said, "We are thrilled to introduce Portfolio Management Services as a new vertical of StepTrade Share Services. The launch of PMS reflects our commitment to excellence in financial services and allowing additional investment avenues for our clients.

StepTrade Share Services marked the milestone occasion with the launch of StepTrade PMS by unveiling StepTrade SME Fund strategy, which eyes alpha returns in companies listed on SME exchanges, and the StepTrade Rising Star Fund, focusing on small & micro-cap companies.

Yash Bhanushali, Fund Manager, PMS, StepTrade Share Services, said, "We are excited to introduce our Portfolio Management Services, a culmination of extensive research and expertise in the financial markets. With a clear focus on transparency, innovation, and client-centric approach, we are committed to redefining the investment experience for clients.

Mercedes Benz and ExxonMobil India Bengaluru, India; May and GLS to name a few. Pvt. Ltd., said: "Our Ic

14, 2024, ExxonMobil, a

Santosh Iyer, Manag-ing Director & CEO, Merglobal leader in synthetic motor oils, recently comcedes-Benz India, said: memorated 30 years of "Mercedes-Benz and Exxsuccessful partnership with Mercedes-Benz India. onMobil share a common milestone of completing 30 years in India, having The milestone event held at the Mercedes Benz Ina shared vision of enhancdia facility at Chakan, Pune, highlighted the ening customer trust through continuous innovations. during collaboration be-ExxonMobil has been our tween the two pioneers, most trusted partner supand their commitment to porting Mercedes-Benz furthering innovation and customers and dealer netmutual growth in the secwork with our motor oil supplies, especially during the peak of supply disrup-tions triggered by the pan-demic. ExxonMobil's prodhas worked closely with Mer-cedes Benz to develop ucts and services match our world-class offerings in and supply synthetic mo-tor oils meeting the evolving needs of their growing luxury portfolio in India India and underscore the customer passion that comprising the A-Class drives our collaborative spirit.'

Limousine, Mercedes Maybach S 580 limou-sines and SUVs like GLE Vipin Rana, CEO -ExxonMobil Lubricants

Pvt. Ltd., said: "Our long partnership with Mer-cedes-Benz India is testimony to the cutting-edge lubrication technology, trusted by global automobile majors, and our unwa-vering focus on ensuring supply chain security and reliability to the Mercedes-Benz dealers across India. As Mercedes-Benz India charts their next era of growth, we are committed to supporting their journey by providing best-in-class engine oils designed for their cars and enabling their dealers to delight the customers. It is a very proud moment for us to celebrate our 30-year association in India as we also celebrate the 50 years of Mobil 1[™], our flagship synthetic engine oil providing the ultimate engine protection.

of \$200M & rebrands itself to 100Unicorns

New Delhi, May 14th shift in the Indian startup 2024: India's leading ear-ly-stage accelerator fund ecosystem by reducing dependency on international funding sources. Indian 9Unicorns has announced the launch of its second startups and entrepreneurs can now have early access to capital within their own fund following a major rebranding exercise. As a re-sult of this rebranding ex-ercise, 9Unicorns will now be known as 100Unicorns. ecosystem to boost the country's entrepreneurial landscape.

100Unicorns, a part of India's largest multistage investing firm Venture Catalysts Group, launches its second accelerator fund called 100Unicorns Fund II with a target size of \$200 million including a green-shoe option of \$100 million. The launch highlights the fund's robust commitment to nurturing the growth of the next wave of 200 challenger startups emerging out of India. This strategic demonstrates move 100Unicorns' vision to fuel innovative companies and also marks the beginning of a paradigm significant

100Unicorns highlights "100Unicorns' early vision of supporting startups from Tier2/3 Cities, backing founders solving local problems with global vi-sion, and focus on climatetech/sustainability has proven right over the past 4 years. With the upcom-Rajesh Mane, Partner 100Unicorns ing fund, we strive to create an integrated ecosyshighlights,"100Unicorns tem & build a full-stack growth portfolio for earlyhas proved its model of stage startups to navigate identifying best founders & enabling them with the right a seamless journey to be-

come a category leader." In its first fund, 100Unicorns Fund I (formerly 9Unicorns) had invested in several innovative startups that went on to becoming multi-bagger success stories. Notăble examples include Videoverse, Trunativ, ZyppElectric, Renee Cos-metics, and IGP, which have all emerged as leaders in their respective domains.

Cairn Oil & Gas R&R Grows 19% YoY to 1.4 BBOE New Delhi, Cairn Oil &

Gas, India's largest private oil and gas exploration and production company, par t of Vedanta Ltd., has announced that its Reservesand Resources (R&R) portfolio has recorded ayear-on-year increase of19% reaching 1.4billion barrels of oil equivalent (Bboe) underpinning its expertise in resource evaluation and development planning. In addition to this robust portfolio, Cairn has a promising exploration portfolio that holds over 5 Bboe of prospective resources, to help drive India's energy self-reliance.

Cairn's total Reserve plus Resource additions have exceeded production, leading to a Resource Replacement Ratio (RRR) of 533%, a five-fold increase over the RRR of 108% in the previous fiscal vear. Cairn has recorded a substantial increase in its Gross Contingent (2C) resources to 1.126 Bboe, a year-on-year

growth of 33%. This signi-fies alarger pool of poten-tially recoverable oil and gas, fueling future production and cash flow generation for the company, and increased domestic production for Aatmanirbhar Bharat.

tor.

ExxonMobil

Commenting on the achievement, Dr. Steve Moore, Deputy CEO, Cairn Oil & Gas, said: "With our growing re-source base, now at 1.4 Bboe, and world-class technology expertise, we are underlining our commitment to creating longterm value for our stake holders. This is reflected in ourstrategic management plan, which ensures a sustainable future for our company to continue driving our vision of a self-reliant India for its energy requirements. By focusing on exploration success and resource conversion,

weare building a robust

reserve base for continued

growth and share holder

value.

MobiKwik launches Daily Gold Savings Plan

Gurugram, Gold is traditionally one of the most preferred means of savings, deeply rooted in Indian cul-ture. ONE MOBIKWIK SYSTEMS LIMITED (MobiKwik), a fintech company, announced the launch of Daily Gold Savings Plan. The newly introduced Daily Gold Savings Plan empowers users to save small amounts daily, fostering a culture of financial prudence and facilitating gradual wealth accumulation.

MobiKwik is encouraging its users to build disciplined savings habits, which yield rewards in the longrun. While users can opt for either daily, monthly or one-time SIPs, the Daily SIP plan facilitates sachet saving. One of the key features of the Daily Gold Sav-ings Plan is that users who make daily SIPs exceeding Rs 51 are eligible to have the costs of one SIP covered every quarter, helping them achieve their financial goals.

In order to ensure the highest standard of safety and security, MobiKwik has partnered with SAFEGold for its reliability of gold purchases. Additionally, the plan offers users the flexibility of selling or gifting their gold holdings anytime, with doorstep delivery at no extra charge.

Speaking on the occasion, Bipin Preet Singh, Cofounder & CEO, MobiKwik, said, "Gold has long been regarded as one of the safest mediums of savings, standing the test of time. Our Daily Gold Savings Plan aims to digitise and democratise this tradition, making it accessible to everyone. This represents a significant step towards encouraging disciplined saving and fos-tering cumulative wealth accumulation for users nationwide, enhancing their financial well being.

Get Ready to Dive into Summer with Arrow's 'Sun, Style, and T-Shirt' Festival Mumbai, Arrow, a pro-fessional menswear brand

from Arvind Fashions Limited, proudly presents "Sun, Style & T-shirts: Dive into the summer," a t-shirt festival that captures the essence of the season in every thread. The brand is all set to dive into the warmth of summer, embracing the vibrant colors, refreshing designs, and the joyous spirit of community. Bút this isn't just about style; it's about making a difference too. For this tshirt festival, Arrow has entered into a tie-up with NGO Atypical Advantage. one of India's largest livelihood platforms for Persons with Disabilities(PWD). With each purchase of 5000 or above, customers can contribute to societal well-being

Speaking about the Sun, Style, and T-Shirt' Festival, Anand Aiyer, CEO, Arrow says, "Arrow is proud to collaborate with Atypical Advantage for this F-shirt festival, a renowned

Growington Ventures aims for a strong growth going forward Mumbai, Mumbai net profit of Rs. 1.26 crore as compared to loss of Rs. NGO featured on Shark Tank Season 2. Through this collaboration, we are

ny Growington Ventures India Limited (BSE – 539222) promoted by CA showcasing the talents of disabled artists such as Pooja Bodas, Kabir Vernal, Vikram Bajaj aims for a and Nikhil Saiprasad, who strong growth momentum are spreading positivity through their remarkable in the time to come. Company has posted excellent artworks. These artists inresults for the Q3 & Nine spire us with their resilience months of FY24 ended and determination, proving December 2023 is expectthat a positive heart can ed to continue the growth conquer any challenge. momentum going forward. During the festival, for ev-

For Nine months of ery purchase of 5000 or FY24, company posted total revenue of Rs. 23.81 above from Arrow, customers will receive a special crore, 163% growth Y-o-Y tee featuring artwork by as compared to revenue of these talented artists. Rs. 9.04 crore in nine These exclusive T-shirts are the brand's gift to cus-tomers as part of Arrow's new Joy Of Giving initiative to support this NGO, artmonths of FY23. Net Profit during nine months of Y24 surged 328% to Rs. 1.75 crore as against net profit of Rs. 40.88 lakh in ists, and disabled individuthe corresponding period als. This initiative aims to last year.

create awareness about For the FY23, compathe NGO's efforts in helpny has reported multi-fold growth in the business. ing challenged individuals earn their livelihood and Sales for FY23 grew to Rs. establish their own identity 19.63 crore as compared to sales of Rs. 1.23 crore in society through their talin FY22. Company earned

3 lakh in FY22. Company has performed well post covid and also declared bonus shares (24:100) in March 2023.

In November 2023, Company was migrated to main board of BSE Ltd from SME Platform of BSE. Company also received the shareholders' approval for the same. Company in the board meeting dated July 15 had approved the migration of listing/trading of equity shares of the company from SME platform of BSE to main board of BSE Ltd. The resolution was passed through postal ballot by the share holders.

Company has sub-di-vided its equity share having face value of Rs. 10 each, fully paid-up into 10 equity shares having face value of Rs. 1 each fully paid-up, as approved by the shareholders through Postal Ballot on January 17.2024

Business

Shanti Spintex delivers strongest set of financial Future Generali Life and Reliance Securities results for FY24, PAT reaches Rs. 130 million

Ahmedabad, Shanti Spintex, engaged in production of denim fabrics, announced its financial results for the second half year and full financial year ended March 31, 2024. The Company continued its growth trajectory by delivering the strongest set of financial results for FY24.

In F.Y. 2023-24, owing to the strong demand, the Company achieved total revenue from its operations of Rs. 5.06 Bn, which is 36.59% above as compared to F.Y. 2022-23. Due to the robust increase in the revenue, PAT of the Company grew to Rs. 130.18 Mn. depicting a jump of 28.53% as compared to corresponding F.Y. 2022-23.

The Company has been successful in bringing its debt equity ratio from 0.74 to 0.26, significantly reducing its debt burden and strengthening

its financial position. The consolidated debt of the strength and resilience of Company as on March 31, 2024 stood only at Rs. 222.14 Mn.

In the last 4 fiscals, the revenue of the Company has grown at a CAGR of 64.90%, wherein the EBITDA and PAT has remain committed to purgrown at CAGR of 29.66% suing growth opportunities and 56.82% respectively. Commenting on the financial results, Mr. Rikin BharatbhushanAgarwal,

Managing Director, Shanti Spintex Limited, said: "We are delighted to share that Shanti Spintex Limit-

ed has achieved remarkable revenue and profit growth in fiscal year 2024, surpassing all previous records. Our success is attributed to the effectiveness of our market strategies, emphasis on quality product offerings and cus-

tomer-centric approach. Our company has witnessed unprecedented growth in both revenue 0-Y.

our business model. Our focus on cost optimization, process improvements, and prudent financial management has contributed to these commendable results. Looking ahead, we

> and enhancing shareholder value. Key Highlights: * Highest ever annual revenue achieved Y24amounting to INR 5.06 Billion

unlock new financial hori-Highest ever EBITDA zons, ensuring a clear of INR Ž46.40 million, with path for customers to-EBITDA Margin of 4.87% wards improved financial in FY24 * Profit after tax inwell-being. Key Features of the creased by 28.53% in FY24 and stood at Rs. Partnership: 130.18 Mn. * Net debt reduced by 46.83% Y-o-Y in sion: As this partnership FY24 * Consistent perforunfolds, FGILI anticipates mance in FY24 as revenue grow by 36.59% Y-o-Y, EBITDA by 13.82% Y-o-Y and PBT by 26.58% Ysubstantial growth, aligning with Reliance Securities, India's leading retail broking house with over 8

Collaborate to Extend Financial Reach Mumbai, 22nd April 2024- Future Generali Inaffiliate network of 1000+ PAN offices. This collabodia Life Insurance Compa-

ration resonates with FGILI's vision of becoming a Trusted Lifetime Partner through innovative financial solutions. **Diverse Financial**

Solutions: This collaboration provides an extensive suite of financial solutions. FGILI's comprehensive life insurance products complement Reliance Securities' strengths in wealth management and investments and aligns with Reliance Securities' vision of becoming the most trusted financial services brand.

Commenting on the collaboration Mr. Alok Rungta, MD & CEO of Future Generali India Life Insurance Company Ltd said, "We are pleased to join forces with Reliance Securities, fostering an avenue for enhanced financial well-being. This partnership signifies a

positive step forward, providing new opportunities for our customers. Together, we embark on this collaborative effort, ensuring simplicity and empowerment in our approach to financial solutions.'

Lav Chaturvedi, Executive Director & CEO at Reliance Securities, emphasized, "I am thrilled about the transformative potential of our partnership with Future Generali India Life Insurance. This collaboration reinforces our commitment to enhancing financial security, bringing accessible and affordable insurance solutions to di-

verse segments of society. With this partnership, both, Future Generali India Life Insurance and Reliance Securities aim to deliver unparalleled service, foster innovation, and embrace a holistic approach to financial planning, thereby unlocking new horizons for customers.

the recent uptick in global

commodity prices, espe-cially industrial metal pric-

es, warrants close moni-

toring as it can result in

higher input costs. Indus-

trial metal prices have ris-

en by about 20 per cent in

the past three months,

"Going ahead, the

According to Sinha, the

"We expect WPI infla-

Sinha said.

Business Brief Bandhan AMC opened a new branch in Bhavnagar

Bhavnagar, Bandhan AMC opened a new branch in Bhavnagar to help serve investors and mutual fund distributors (MFDs) better. The new branch office is located at 304, 3rd Floor, Corporate Center, Waghawadi Road, Bhavnagar, Guiarat- 364001. The new branch in Bhavnagar will include a fully equipped meeting cum training room which aims to enhance its customer service and investor awareness activities in Bhavna-

Talking about the new branch launch, Mr. Vishal Kapoor, CEO, Bandhan AMC, said that, "Bhavnagar has been a high-growth market for us, and we are happy to have received strong feedback and support from our partners and investors over several years. Our new office further strengthens our commitment and presence in this key market, and we are confident that our team and partners in Bhavnagar will use it to further increase financial awareness, generate greater interest in mutual funds, and provide superior service to our customers."

Apple prevented over \$7 billion in fraudulent transactions

New Delhi, May 15 (IANS) Apple prevented over \$7 billion in potentially fraudulent transactions on its App Store in the last four years, the

company has informed. In the same period, Apple blocked over 14 million stolen credit cards and over 3.3 million accounts from transacting again.

"From 2020 through 2023, Apple prevented a combined total of over \$7 billion in potentially fraudulent transactions, including more than \$1.8 billion in 2023 alone," the iPhone maker said in a statement. Tvolved in scope and complexity over the years, "Apple has expanded its antifraud initiatives to address these challenges and help protect its users".Last year, the company rejected more than 1.7 million app submissions for failing to meet the App Store's stringent standards for privacy, security, and content.

"In addition, Apple's persistent efforts to stop and reduce fraud on the App Store resulted in the termination of nearly 374 million developer and customer accounts, and removal of close to 152 million ratings and reviews over fraud concerns," the company noted. In 2023 alone, Apple terminated close to 118,000 developer accounts, a decrease from 428,000 terminations from the prior year.

Samsung envisions advanced Al-connected life at home

Seoul, May 15 (IANS) Samsung said on Wednesday it will lead the South Korean home appliances market with an advanced artificial intelligence (AI) solution designed to connect all smart devices, simplifying domestic chores and reducing the time and effort required.

"We have earned customer trust that Samsung Electronics is leading AI innovation with its products, like AI smartphone and AI Combo washer," Lim Seong-taek, executive vice president in charge of sales and marketing in South Korea, said during a press event at the company's headquarters in Suwon, south of Seoul.

"We will continue to introduce various AI products and solutions to further solidify Samsung Electronics' AI leadership within the domestic market," he said.

Based on its Al-powered 'SmartThings' connectivity platform, Al analyses the users' habits, designs their use pattern and applies them across all Samsung Electronics home appliances, from air conditioner and refrigerator to TV and smartphone, reports Yonnap news agenc

Samsung Electronics highlighted its "AI Life

Stupa Sports Analytics raises Rs 28 cr to fuel innovation, expand globally

New Delhi, May 15 (IANS) Sports tech company Stupa Sports Analytics on Wednesday said that it secured Rs 28 crore in a Pre-Series A funding round to fuel its talent acquisition, global expansion, and product enhancement initiatives.

The round was led by venture capital firms Centre Court Capital and Peer-

Capital. "I am grateful for the enthusiastic support and confidence shown by Centre Court Capital and Peer-Capital.

Their backing propels us closer towards our vision of transforming sports through innovative technology," Megha Gambhir, co-founder and CEO of Stupa Sports Analytics, said in a statement. "With our innovative

solutions already being leveraged by over 15 international federations, we are proud flag-bearers of 'Make in India' sports tech taking centre stage global-

ly," she added.The sports tech firm offers a comprehensive suite of artificial intelligence (AI)-driven solutions for advanced analytics of player performance data, broadcasting capabilities and sports digitisation tools for athletes, sports federations, broadcasters and fan communities worldwide.

According to the company, the latest funds will be used to attract top AI/ ML and engineering talent to build advanced solutions that stay ahead of the curve in the rapidly growing sports-tech industry.

The fund will also pówer the company's ambi-tions to expand globally into markets like the US, the UK, Australia, and the Middle East while deepening its existing presence in regions like Europe and

Asia. Before this funding round, the company had raised Rs 7.5 crore in seed and pre-seed funding .--

WPI to be around 3 per cent in FY 25, say economists this category.

ny Limited (FGILIC) has

announced its partnership

with Reliance Securities.

This collaboration seam-

lessly combines FGILI's

life insurance expertise

with Reliance Securities'

strengths in wealth man-

agement, establishing a

robust foundation for prac-

tical and comprehensive

financial planning. Beyond

just products, this collab-

oration is a united effort to

lakh customers and a vast

Market Expan-

(IANS) The Wholesale Price Index (WPI) is ex-"Expectedly, wholesale food group inpected to be in the region flation has also seen a rise of 2-3 per cent over the to 5.5 per cent YoY, reflectnext two quarters and average at around 3 per cent ing higher vegetable and fruit prices," he said. for FY25, top economists at two credit rating agen-The wholesale inflation for manufactured goods cies said as the Commerce and Industry Minis-

has persisted in the contry announced the WPI for tractionary zone at minus April 2024 was 1.26 per 0.4 per cent YoY, though the extent of deflation has reduced.

Reacting to the numbers, Suman Chowdhury, Since March '23, i.e. for the last 14 months, Chief Economist and manufacturing inflation Head, Research, Acuite Ratings & amp; Research said: "WPI trajectory in Inhas remained in a deflation mode, implying benign dia is finally showing signs of a pickup, rising to 1.26 per cent YoY (year-on-year) in April '24 from 0.53 input costs for the industrial segment in the absence of a strong global demand. per cent YoY in March '24.

However, a stronger domestic economy and demand may soon lead to a firm-up in manufacturing inflation, Chowdhury opined.

flation to inflation at 1.4 per According to him, with er inflation; a rise in global crude prices and its deriva rising outlook for fuel and power as well as manufacatives along with rising higher power tariffs are the turing inflation in the near term, WPI inflation is set

Overall, the WPI inflathe tion print will also be shaped by the trend in the food category and is expected to remain between 2.0 per cent-3.0 per cent over the next two quarters, unless there are major

current year.

surprises on commodity prices, he said. base effect will remain ad-'This will also make it verse over the next two difficult for headline CPI inmonths, thereby resulting in higher WPI inflation. flation to moderate towards 4.5 per cent in External risks emerging FY25, thereby making it also difficult for RBI to take from ongoing geopolitical tensions also need to be monitored, given the risk a call on rate cut in the first half of the year," they can pose to supply Chowdhury said. chains," she said.

According_to Rajani Sinha, Chief Economist, outlook for food inflation CARE Ratings, the wholehas brightened due to ansale inflation of fuel and ticipations of a normal power entered positive termonsoon, which is expectritory after 11 months in ed to bolster agricultural April.Brent crude oil pricproduction. However, es had touched \$90/bbl in monitoring the monsoon's April due to supply chain disruptions in the Middle temporal and spatial distri-

bution is critical. East amid geopolitical conflicts. While Brent crude tion to average around 3 prices have moderated in the past couple of weeks, per cent in FY25," she said.

Why uncontrolled hypertension may be a significant health threat?

controlled, the greater the damage it can cause, such

New Delhi, May 15 cerns. "According to the told IANS. "The excessive World Health Organization (WHO), a staggering 188.3 million individuals in India are affected by hypertension. Shockingly, only 37 per cent of these individuals receive a formal diagnosis, and an even smaller percentage initiate treatment," said the cardiologist, while stressing the need for regular blood pressure checks, especially once you reach the age of 20. "Diagnosis of uncontrolled hypertension involves careful evaluation of patients' medication regimens, as well as identification and management of contributing factors such as obesity, sleep apnoea, and secondary causes of hypertension," added Dr Mayur Jain, Consultant - Cardiothoracic Surgeon & amp; Heart and Lung Transplant Sur-IANS. geon, P. D. Hinduja Hospital & amp; MRC, Mahim,

CHANGE OF NAME

I have changed my old name

from SHAHINA SOAIB

KAKUWALA to new name

SHAHIN SHOAIB

KAKUWALA

Add. 4106. B/h Old Aniuman

High School

Patni Street Gollimda,

Ahmedabad-380001

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from MOHAMMADIRFAN

MUSTUFABHAI PATEL to

new name PATEL

MOHAMMADIRFAN

MUSTUFABHAI

Add. 13-93, Panchakla,

Ahmedabad-382130

WESTERN RAILWAY - RAJKOT DIVISION

OHE WORKS Tender Notice No. DRM/RJT/E Tender/EL/TRD/2024-2025/0 Dt.09.05.2024 Tender No: DRM-RJT-EL

RD-2024-25-01(i) Name of Work: OHE

provision of RUB at LC Gate no.169, 174, 231, 254, 267, 272 between RJT-OKHA section of Rajkot Division and OHE

nodification works in connection wit rovision of LHS/RUB at LC Gate no. 03, 12

4 & 47 between VG-RJT section and L

lo. 02 & 17 between SUNR-DHG section of Rajkot Division. (ii) Approx. Cost

31,97,130.66/- (iii) Earnest Money: 4,000/- (iv) Date & time for Online apply

On 06.06.2024 up to 15.00 Hours. (

Address of the Office: Divisional Railway Manager (Electrical/Traction), Western Railway, Kothi Compound, Rajkot - 360001

Website particulars: www.ireps.gov.in

Like us on: F facebook.com/WesternRly

slewing/re-slewing works in connection wit

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pressure on the artery walls caused by high BP can damage blood vessels and body organs. The

Women's internet adoption on mobile phones reach 37 pc in India: GSMA bile internet adoption

He said this is the high-

est WPI print in the last 13

months and has been driv-

en by a reversal from de-

cent YoY in fuel and pow-

New Delhi, May 15 (IANS) Women's internet adoption on mobile phones has reached 37 per cent in India, while

South Asia and Sub-Saharan Africa, said the annual 'Mobile Gender Gap Report 2024' by the GSMA

ed.

across LMICs has narrowed for the first time since 2020, driven by women adopting it at a

aster rate than men, par-

Women are now 15

ticularly in South Asia.

cent.

(IANS) The longer blood pressúre (BP) remains un-

adoption among men remains stable, narrowing the gender gap from 40 per cent to 30 per cent, a global report showed on Wednesday.

In 2023, an additional 120 million women connected to the internet via mobile globally.

More women in lowand middle-income countries (LMICs) are using mobile internet than ever before, 1.5 billion (66 per cent) in total, according to the report by the GSMA, a global organisation that represents mobile network operators worldwide.

However, an alarming 785 million women remain unconnected, with approximately 60 per cent in

Claire Sibthorpe, Head of Digital Inclusion at the GSMA, said that the reduction in the mobile internet gender gap is promising but "sustaining mo-

mentum is fragile". "We are collaborating with the industry, policy-makers and other relevant

partners to address key barriers including affordability, awareness and digital skills," Sibthorpe add-The GSMA estimates that closing the gender

gap in mobile ownership and usage across LMICs could deliver an additional \$230 billion in revenue to the mobile industry over an eight-year period. The gender gap in mo-

per cent less likely than men to use mobile internet across LMICs, the findings showed. Across LMICs, there are now 1.4 billion women who own a smartphone, meaning that 60 per cent of women now own a smartphone device. However, there are still 40 per cent of women in these countries, totalling 940 million, who do not own a smartphone. "Mobile remains the primary -- and often only -- way people in LMICs access the internet, accounting for 84 per cent of broadband connections in 2023," the report noted.

as heart attack or stroke. heart failure, and kidney problems, said experts on Wednesday, ahead of World Hypertension Day. World Hypertension Day is observed every year on May 17. This year's theme is "Measure Your Blood Pressure Accurately, Control It, Live Longer." Resistant hypertension is high BP that does not respond well to aggressive medical treatment. About 20 per cent of patients with high BP or hypertension are resistant. Dr Devi Shetty, Founder and Chairman of Narayana Health, told IANS that undiagnosed hypertension is undoubtedly one of the most pressing healthcare conhigher the BP and the longer it goes uncontrolled, the greater the damage it can cause, such as heart attack or stroke, heart failure, kidney problems, etc.," he said. Importantly, resistant hypertension may, for months and years, show no symptoms but may create a significant health threat. "Because high BP may not present worrying symptoms, it is often janored, but I urae evervone never to delay treatment. The long-term repercussions of untreated and uncontrolled hypertension are severe," Dr Refai Showkathali, Senior Interventional Cardiologist at Apollo Hospitals, told

CHANGE OF NAME

have changed my old name

from CHAITANYAKUMAR

SUKHDEVBHAI PATEL to

new name CHAITANYA

SUKHDEVBHAI PATEL

Add. A-92, Arti Society,

Vastral

Ahmedabad-382415

CHANGE OF NAME

I have changed my old name

from SHAIKH

GULAMMAYUDIN HUSAIN

to new name SHAIKH

GULAMMAYUDIN AHMED

HUSAIN

Add. 536, B/ Purabiyawad H

T.B. Hospital, Astodiya

Darwaja, Ahmedabad

WESTERN RAILWAY - RAJKOT DIVISION

VARIOUS ENGINEERING WORKS

-Tender Notice No: 04 of 2024-25 dat

0/05/2024 (1) e-Tender No. DRM-RJT

024-25-E-04 Name of Work: Rajko

Division : Construction of Boundary Wal

etween approaches of cities vulnerable for

ncroachment at Surendranagar, Morbi

Wankaner, Than and Rajkot. Approximate

NIT Cost: ₹ 3,74,62,431.38 Earnes

Money : ₹ 3,37,300.00 (2) e-Tender No DRM-RJT-2024-25-E-05 Name of Work:

ajkot Division: Reconditioning of worn-ou CMS crossings under Sr. Divisiona Engineer (East) Rajkot's jurisdiction

Approximate NIT Cost: ₹43,48,675.94

Earnest Money: ₹ 87,000.00. For All Above Tenders Date & Time of Opening

f Tender: 31/05/2024 15:00 Hrs. Offic

Address: Divisional Railway Manage

(Engg), Western Railway, Kothi Compound

Rajkot, Gujarat - 360 001 Website

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Solution," exemplified by the Family Care service, which is specifically tailored for senior lifestyles. This service allows family members who live

far away to monitor their parents' use of TVs, refrigerators and water purifiers at home, and to remotely control these devices through the Smart-Things application, no matter their location.

Healthcare platform **RED.Health** secures \$20 mn led by Junale Ventures

New Delhi, May 15 (IANS) Healthcare platform RED.Health on Wednesday said it has raised \$20 million in its Series B funding led by Jungle Ventures. The fresh funds will be utilised in the expansion of services across more than 40 cities and the launch of new product lines, said the company that is known for its ability to dispatch ambulances within eight minutés.

The funding round also saw participation from existing and new investors including HealthQuad, HealthX, and Alteria Capital. "With this round, we're set to scale operations in becoming the only integrated medical emergency response platform in India," said Prabhdeep Singh, Founder and CEO of RED.Health.

Currently operating in 20 cities, the company is set to introduce a subscription-based model that promises quick and accessible medical assistance. The company now has 450 managed ambulances. Additionally, its network comprises 6,000 'Saathi' road ambulances and 10 aircraft for air ambulance services."We foresee that in the long term, every Indian should be able to access emergency response via just a click of a button," said Seemant Jauhari, Partner, Healthcare, at Jungle Ventures which is a Singapore-based venture capital firm.

PUBLIC NOTICE Adv. P.R. Salvi for Applicant Hon'ble Adl. Tahsildar Agricultural Land Tribunal Ratnagiri, at Ratnagiri	
Sumoto/Nachane Mu. Baher / ALT /SR/ 113/2016 Tahsildar office Ratnagiri Tal. Dist, Ratnagiri, Maharashtra	
Shri. Sanjay Yashwant Wadekar and other Applicant R/o. Wadekareadi, At. Post Nachane, MU. baher, Tat. & Dist. Ratnagiri V/S	
3A) Smt. Vaikhari Narendra Pendse Opponent R/o. 18, Rupal Park Society, Near ESI Hospital, Godri Road, Vodadara- 390022	
The above mentioned opponent are informed by this public notice that, The sumoto preceding u/ sec. 32G of Bombay Tenancy and Land Agriculture Act. 1948 is pending in respect of the land specified below before Hon'ble Adl. Tahsildar Agricultural land Tribunal Ratnagiri. The Hon'ble Court has ordered to publish Public notice of the above mentioned Opponent returnable on 14/ 03/2024. Be Present in the above said court on 26/06/2024 at 11.00 A.M. Similarly it should be noted that if you do not appear at the above place and time the hearing of the case will be decided in your absence. Details of Property	
Village Nachane Mu. baher, Tal. Dist. Survey No / Hissa No.	Ratnagiri, Maharashtra Area
40/1/2/3/A	0-05-10
Notice given under my signature and seal of office, Sd/- Place : Ratnagiri Date: 15/05/2024 Seal Seal Land Tribunal Ratnagiri, Tal. Dist. Ratnagiri, Maharashtra	

LG launches next-gen AI TVs in different sizes in India ing while watching sub-

(IANS) LG Electronics on Wednesday launched the next generation of artificial intelligence (AI) TVs in different sizes starting from 43-inch to 97-inch in India.

The 2024 lineup features LG OLED evo AI and LG QNED AI TVs including the LG OLED 97G4. The new lineup comes available at a starting price of Rs 62,990.

"The LG OLED evo Al and LG QNEDAI TVs lineup takes the viewing experience to a new level with an advanced processor that enables outstanding

New Delhi, May 15 audio-visual experiences across various screen sizes," Hong Ju Jeon- MD, LG Electronics India, said

> **G**LG Electronics in a statement. "With this new line-up, we aim to further enhance

our market leadership in Flat Panel TV in India," he added. Moreover, the compa-ny said that with en-

hanced AI upscaling capabilities, the latest OLED AI TVs enrich and sharpen objects of AI, LG ŎLED AI TVs create a clearer, more

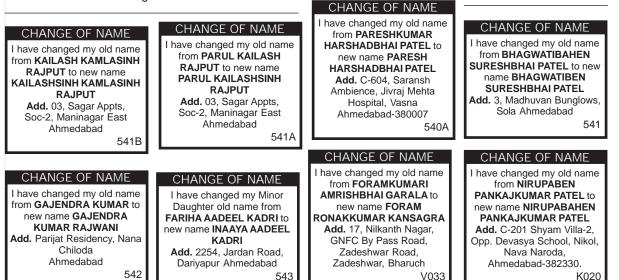
and backgrounds with precise pixel-level image analysis for improved picture quality. Through the power

vibrant viewing experience and offer real-time upscal-

In addition, LG's 2024 QNEDAITVs are the next generation of LCD technology that delivers bright and vibrant colours on the screen.

4K OTT content too.

As per the company, the AI capability of LG QNEDAITV refines picture quality and also boasts richer, fuller audio with virtual 9.1.2 surround sound creating a dome of sound around you for incredible immersion.



Ahmedabad, Page 7



News in a Nutshell

SC orders release of NewsClick editor in UAPA case

New Delhi, May 15 (IANS) The Supreme Court on Wednesday ordered the release of NewsClick founder and éditor-in-chief Prabir Purkayastha, who was arrested by the Delhi Police under the Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Act over allega-tions that the media outlet received money to spread pro-China propaganda. "There is no hesitation in the mind of the court

to reach a conclusion that a copy of remand application in the purported exercise of communication of grounds of arrest in writing was not provided to the accused-appellant or his counsel before the passing of remaind order dated October 4, 2023, which vitiates the arrest and the subsequent remand of the appellant. As a result, the appellant is entitled to a direction for release from custody...Accordingly, the arrest of the appellant followed by the remaind order and the impugned order passed by the Delhi High Court are hereby declared to be invalid in the eyes of law and are quashed and set aside," said a bench presided over by Justice B.R. Gavai.

Jyotiraditya Scindia's mother Madhavi Raje Scindia dies at Delhi Alims

Bhopal, May 15 (IANS) Union Minister Jyotira-ditya Scindia's mother Madhavi Raje Scindia died on Wednesday morning at AIIMS, Delhi.

The erstwhile Rajmata of the Gwalior Royal Family, died at 9.28 Á.M. and had been on ventilator support for the last few days, Union Minister Scindia's media cell confirmed the report.

Madhavi Raje Scindia was undergoing treatment at the premier hospital for the last three months and was suffering from pneumonia along with sepsis.A press statement said, "With great sorrow, we wish to share that Rajmata is no more. Union Minister Jyotiraditya Scindia's mother and the Rajmata of the Gwalior royal family, Rajmata Mment at AIIMS Hospital in Delhi for the past two months. Her condition had been extremely critical for the past two weeks. This morning at 9:28A.M., she took her last breath at AIIMS Hospital in Del-hi. Om Shanti."

CM Vijayan cuts short Singapore leg of private visit; to reach India on May 20

Thiruvananthapuram, May 15 (IANS) The now controversial private visit of Kerala Chief Minister, Pinarayi Vijayan and his family was cut short and on Wednesday morning they reached Dubai, UAE. CM Vijayan had left India on May 6 for a threenation tour of Indonesia, Singapore and UAE and was scheduled to return to the country on May 22. However, on Wednesday while chairing the online weekly Cabinet meeting from Dubai, he informed his colleagues that he would reach Kerala on May 20.



LUCKNOW, Congress President Mallikariun Kharge and Samaiwadi Party President Akhilesh Yadav addressing a joint press conference, in Lucknow on Wednesday.UNI

Bihar: Pawan Singh turning out to be a challenge for NDA candidate in Karakat Patna May 15 (IANS) Bhojpuri Star Pawan Singh is turning out a big

Singh is turning out a big challenge for NDA on the Karakat Lok Sabha seat after he made his intention clear that he will not withdraw his nomination de-spite the "pressure" from

the BJP leaders. Union Minister R.K. Singh and Bihar Minister Prem Kumar have openly asked Pawan Singh to withdraw the candidature or the BJP will take action against him.

Prem Kumar said that the party would expel Pawan Singh if he would not withdraw the nomination. Pawan Singh is a member of BJP but he is contesting the Lok Sabha election as an indepen-dent candidate from Kar-

akat. On Tuesday, Pawan Singh's mother Pratima Singh also entered the electoral battle of Karakat Lok Sabha constituency and filed her nomination as an independent candiPawan Singh's mother reached Sasaram Collec-

torate, filed her nomination form and left quietly. Even the media was not aware

of the nomination of Pawan Singh's mother. The polling on the Kar-akat seat will be held in the seventh phase on June 1. Sources said that Pawan Singh is apprehen Pawan Singh is apprehensive that his nomination will be cancelled. "If it happens then his mother will contest the election on this

seat. Scrutiny of nomina-tion papers will take place on Wednesday and the last date for withdrawal of

nominations is May 16. Pawan Singh's pres-ence is a worrying factor for the NDA candidate. The candidature of Pawan Singh may burt

Pawan Singh may hurt Upendra Kushwaha who is contesting as an NDA candidate on Rashtriya Lok Morcha (RLM) ticket. He is challenging Rajaram Singh Kushwaha (CPI-

and Rajaram Singh come from the Kushwaha community which has a sizable number of voters in this constituency. Pawan Singh belongs to an upper caste and he has a big fan following in the rural areas of Bhojpur, Rohtas, Aurangabad, Kaimur and other areas. Upper caste people are considered core voters of BJP and the entry of Pawan Singh may hurt Upendra Kushwaha.

Karakat Lok Sabha seat has around 3 lakh Yadav voters, around 2 lakh Rajput voters, 3.5 lakh Kushwaha voters, and 2 lakh Gupta voters. Besides them, Bhumihar, Dalit, Mahadalit and Kurmi also have a sizable number of voters in this

constituency. Karakat Lok Sabha seat came into existence in 2008 after delimitation. Earlier, it was known as Vikram Lok Sabha constituency. It has Karakat, De-

Questions galore on Mamata Banerjee's

prediction on INDIA bloc's performance

hri and Nokha assembly constituencies come under the Rohtas district and Nabinagar, Obra and Goh come in the Aurangabad district.

In 2014, Upendra Kushwaha won the election as an NDA candidate on this seat but he lost the election in 2019 after contesting as a grand alliance candidate. The JD-U candidate Mahabali Singh defeated Upendra Kushwaha in 2019.

over RS ticket distribution row

(Mani) and the Rashtriya Janata Dal (RJD) are en-

titled to a Rajya Sabha

seat. When they were with

the Congress-led UDF,

they were always treated

Thiruvananthapuram, May 15 (IANS) Amid a row in the Left Democratic Front on the Rajya Sabha ticket distribution, veteran Congress leader Cherian Phillip on Wednesday taunted the ruling CPI(M)led LDF over the way it treats its allies in comparison to the United Democratic Front (UDF)

EC to set up 27 centres in Rajasthan for counting of votes on June 4

nounced. CEO Gupta also re-

viewed preparations with District Election Officers

on Tuesday via video conferencing and discussed

the necessary guidelines regarding the place and process of counting. Gupta asked all the District Election Officers to ensure that the guidelines given by the EC were fol-lowed and gave instruc-

lowed and gave instruc-

tions regarding prepara-

tion of the venue, security

arrangements inside and outside the venue, count-ing team, EVM and postal

ballot counting, videogra-phy during the process and other arrangements.

provisions of Section 144 of the Code of Criminal

Procedure by the District Magistrate, there will be a

ban on victory proces-

He said that as per the

ational

Jaipur, May 15 (IANS) After the successful completion of two phases of Lok Sabha elections in Rajasthan, the Election Commission (EC) is all set for counting of votes that will be done on June 4 and will be done on June 4 and has directed setting up of 27 counting centres in the desert state, said officials on Wednesday. The counting of votes will be done for all Lok Sabha constituencies as well as for the Bagidora

well as for the Bagidora Assembly bye-election, said Chief Electoral Offic-

er Praveen Gupta. He further said that work will start at 8 am and in the first round postal votes will be counted, followed by EVMs at 8.30 am.

Before the counting of postal ballots begins, the authorized agent will brief the candidates about the process and later the votes received by each candidate will be an-

sions, celebratory firing, use of DJs, rally etc after the counting of votes is done. addressing a joint press conference with Samajwadi Party PresidentAkhilesh Yadav here Wednesday.He further said that the INDIA bloc

INDIA bloc will double the quantity of free ration: Kharge

Lucknow, May 15 (INAS) Congress President Mallikarjun Kharge on Wednesday announced that if the INDIA bloc is voted to power it will increase the ration quota for the poor from 5 kilograms to 10 kilograms. "It was the Con-gress that brought in the Food Security Act and Prime Minister Narendra Modi is now taking the credit for it. INDIA bloc government will double the amount of free ration for the poor," he said while

would implement the Panch Nyay and guaran-tees mentioned in the would be free to add on aputhing they would for their anything they want for their areas. The Congress President said that while the INDIA bloc is with the poor and weaker sections of society, the BJP-led NDA is with the rich.

Congress attacks CPI(M) in Kerala Phillip said the CPI(M)'s big brother atti-tude towards its allies is "deplorable".The Left al-lies like Kerala Congress (Man) and the Pachtria their due share of the Ra-jya Sabha seats by the

with respect and given cant soon. Heavy rain likely in Tamil Nadu till May 20

Chennai, May 15 (IANS) The Regional ment also forecast that Meteorological Centre in Chennai, the sky will (RMC) has predicted

The weather departbe partly cloudy with the

Congress, even foregoing their due and giving seats

to their allies," said Phillip.Phillip's statement

comes at a time when a

ro both the KC(M) and CPI

staking their claims for

one of the two Rajya Sab-ha seats which will fall va-



MUMBAI, Union Minister and BJP candidate from North Mumbai seat Piyush Goyal at a campaign road show for Lok Sabha polls, in Mumbai on Wednesday UNI

sive" performance in the ongoing Lok Sabha election, however, she has been avoiding talking about the performance of her party Trinamool Congress, which raises some questions.

Kolkata, Mav 15

The Chief Minister has claimed that the INDIA bloc will win 300 to 315 seats while the BJP will win only 195 seats.

Her predictions are also in complete contrast to the opinion polls conducted by different top media houses in association with specialised agencies, which have indicated a majority for the BJP.

ception-oriented campaigning, which the party is heavily banking in the ongoing elections.

Political observers also to counter the repeated

The first reason is to spread a counter-narrative in the midst of a massive anti-incumbency wave in West Bengal on issues like corruption and the Sandeshkhali among others, where the BJP is perceived to be the biggest electoral beneficiary. It is also a subtle mes-

sage that while the BJP may be "ousted" at the national level, there is no point in increasing the BJP seats in West Bengal. The second reason is

(IANS) While West Bengal Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee has predicted the INDIA bloc's "impres-tive" that such predic-are a calculative chapter in the INDIA bloc's "impres-tive" that such predic-are a calculative chapter in the INDIA bloc's "impres-tive" that such predic-are a calculative chapter in the INDIA bloc's "impres-tive" that such predic-tions by the Chief Minister trinamool Congress's per-tive are a calculative chapter in the INDIA bloc's "impres-tive" that such predic-ter are a calculative chapter in the INDIA bloc's "impres-tive" that such predic-ter are a calculative chapter in the INDIA bloc's "impres-tive" that such predic-ter are a calculative chapter in the INDIA bloc's "impres-tive" that such predic-ter are a calculative chapter in the INDIA bloc's "impres-tive" that such predic-ter are a calculative chapter in the INDIA bloc's "impres-ter are a calculative chapter in the INDIA bloc's "impres-ter are a calculative chapter in the area to a calculative chapte who is responsible for creating hurdles for the INDIA bloc from taking a concrete shape. The Congress and

CPI(M) leaders are also saying that while Arvind Kejriwal and Hemant Soren decided to strengthen the INDIA bloc by going to jail, on the other hand, Mamata Banerjee saved her near and dear ones which weakened the opposition unity.A political observer said that the Chief Minister is trying to build up a perspective that she continues to be a wellwisher and an integral part of the opposition bloc.

heavy rain in Tamil Nadu till May 20. Fifteen to 20 districts will receive heavy rain from May 16 to 18.The Nilgiris, ghat areas of Coimbatore, Salem, Dharmapuri, Krishnagiri, Tirupattur, Dindigul, Namakkal, Karur, Tiruchy, Madurai, Sivaganga, Virudhunagar, Tiruvarur, Thanjavur, Nagapattinam, Mayiladuthurai, Pudukkottai, Theni, Tenkasi, Tirunelveli and Kanniyakumari districts and Káraikal area will receive heavy rains till May 20.

possibility of light rain.

Maximum temperature will be 36-37 degree Celsius and the nighttime temperature will be around 28-29 degrees C for the next two days. Makkinampatti in

Coimbatore received the highest rainfall of 8 cm followed by Pollachi and Thoothukudi port weather stations at 7 Several other cm. weather stations in Virudhunagar, Dindigul, Theni, Nilgiris, Kanniya-kumari and Tiruppur received heavy to moderate rainfall.

Senior citizens in Lucknow want a 'decent' old-age home from Rajnath Singh

Lucknow, May 15 (IANS) Senior citizens in Lucknow have a request for the sitting MP and Union defence minister Rajnath Singh -- good oldage home in the state capităl.

"It is about priorities. The government spends thousands of crores on big projects. It can also establish a good old-age home where the elderly can choose to live at their own will. The government gives subsidy on land for businesses, it can very well do that for setting up such facilities," says B N Sarup

(78), a retired doctor who is looking for a decent old age home after the demise of his wife. His two sons and daughter are settled in Canada.

There are an estimated 60,000-odd citizens in the state capital in the 80 years and above age group, left to the care and concern of the family, in particular, and society, in general. They want an old age home with amenities,

ease of living from the government. "I am even willing to

every month for such a facility because living alone after a certain age is difficult as well as insecure," said Srila Prakash, a single woman, who is unwell

and aged about 68 years. "I have a car but cannot drive at this age. Cab services only pick and drop from point to point but there is no assistance beyond that. So, if there is any trusted governmentbacked system where we facilities and aid for their can just call and get someone to help us get basic things done or go out occasionally that would

pay a particular amount

nior citizens tried to meet the Lucknow MP Rajnath Singh but could not succeed."We have decided to send a memorandum to him so that he can consider this facility for us after the polls," said Atul Varshney, another 80-year-old who has no one to support him here.A voracious reader and a compulsive writer, he said he yearns for a circle where he can share his love for art.Besides old-age homes, recreational centres/clubs, parks and community centres, the elderhelp," she said. These sely feel there should be

dedicated government helpline numbers where they can connect to get their issues resolved.

"Broadly, we need a right policy push to help create a benevolent society which could ensure a dignified living to the eld-erly, especially the octogenarians," he said.As per the government data, the population of 60 years and above has more than tripled in India in the past 50 years.Further estimates reveal that the country expects 19 per cent of its population, to be above 60 years of age by 2050.

SC nixes plea seeking extension of deadline for filing of nominations for Varanasi constituency that they were only re-

New Delhi, May 15 (IANS) The Supreme Court on Wednesday dismissed and his associates were "ila plea seeking to extend the May 14 deadline for filing nominations for Varanasi constituency.

Terming the plea as "publicity interest litigation", a Bench headed by Justice Vikram Nath refused to entertain the petition filed by P Ayyakannu, Tamil Nadu unit President of the National South Indian Riv-

legally, deliberately and arrogantly" prevented from proceeding to Varanasi constituency for filing their nominations.

The plea, filed through advocate S Mahendran alleged that Ayyakannu and other farmers were illegally deboarded from the train and detained by the police on May 10. The plea said

leased in the evening, for the sole reason that the Prime Minister was contesting from the same constituency. The plea added that the group of about 100 farmers, proceeding to Banaras from Tiruchi in-Kashi Tamil Express to contest against PM Modi in the Lok Sabha elections, was deboarded from the train at Chengalpattu and sent back to Tiruchi.



CANNES, Greta Gerwig (C), jury president of the 77th Cannes Film Festival, and other members of the jury pose at a photocall before the opening ceremony of the 77th Cannes Film Festival in Cannes, southern France. UNI

No one can defeat PM Modi, says Assam BJP MP

Guwahati, May 15 (IANS) Rajya Sabha MP and BJP candidate in Assam's Kaziranga Lok Sabha seat, Kamakhya Prasad Tasa has said that no leader in the country can challenge and defeat Prime Minister Narendra Modi.

He told reporters here on Tuesday, "No one can defeat PM Modi. In India, the Prime Minister does not have any challengers

No other political leader in the country can contest against him.'

Tasa fought the re-cently concluded polls from the Kaziranga par-

liamentary constituency. This Lok Sabha seat was formed after last year's delimitation exercise for redrawing the boundaries of Assembly and Parliamentary con-

stituencies in the state. The senior BJP leader contested the Jorhat Lok Sabha seat in 2014 and won it. In the 2019 general elections, he was not given a ticket and was instead sent to the Upper

House of Parliament

BLS International ex-employee alleges sexual harassment at workplace, FIR lodged New Delhi, May 15 from May 2022 to May 1,

said in her complaint.

(IANS) A former employee 2024. of BLS International Serno complaints were revice Limited (India), a lead-

ing visa consultancy pro-vider, has alleged sexual harassment by the compa-ny's Chief Human Resource Officer (CHRO), police said on Wednesday. Police said that they

have lodged an FIR in the connection and a is under-

According to the FIR, accessed by IANS, the victim, a resident of Subhash Nagar, West Delhi, had been working in BLS International Services Ltd The reason for me resign-

ceived by the Human Resource Department or by the Admin Department or by my seniors against me. That between me and CHRO Gautam Aggarwal had professional relations with each other for a substantial period of time," she left my workplace BLS International Services Ltd on 1/May/2024 by have drinks with him and writing a mail to the Chair-man. Diwakar Aggarwal. he used to ask me to make physical relations with him," the FIR stated.

ing from the above-said company is physical and mental harassment done by Gautam Aggarwal CHRO of the company," she said."For the last many months Gautam Aggarwal has been making an inappropriate gesture towards me, where Gautam Aggarwal used to touch me in a very inappropriate way on my back and on my breast and he used to invite me to come within personal spaces to

"In my working period,