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NEWS BOX

Putin Ordered 2018 Novichok Poisoning Of Ex-Russian Spy: UK Inquiry

London. (Agency)

Russian President Vladimir Putin must have ordered the Novichok nerve agent attack on Russian double agent Sergei Skripal in 2018, in a "reckless" display of power that led to the death of an innocent woman, a UK public inquiry concluded on Thursday.

Skripal was found along with his daughter Yulia slumped unconscious on a public bench in the southern English city of Salisbury in March 2018 after Novichok was applied to the front door handle of his nearby home. About four months later, mother-of-three Dawn Sturgess, 44, died from exposure to the poison after her partner found a counterfeit perfume bottle which Russian spies had used to smuggle the military-grade nerve agent into the country, the inquiry said.

'OVERWHELMING EVIDENCE OF RUSSIAN STATE INVOLVEMENT'

The Skripals, and a police officer who went to Skripal's house, were left critically ill from its effects, but recovered. In his conclusions, the chair, former UK Supreme Court judge Anthony Hughes, said he was certain a team of GRU military intelligence officers had attempted to murder Skripal, who sold Russian secrets to Britain and moved there after a 2010 spy swap. I have concluded that the operation to assassinate Sergei Skripal must have been authorised at the highest level, by President Putin," Hughes said in his report. "The evidence that this was a Russian state attack is overwhelming. "Russia has always denied any involvement, casting the accusations as anti-Russian propaganda. Responding to the report's findings, the Russian embassy in London said in a statement on the Telegram app that its ambassador had visited Britain's foreign ministry to "categorically reject baseless and senseless accusations, including those directed" against Putin.

Asim Munir Gets More Powerful, Becomes Pak's 1st Chief Of Defence Forces

WORLD. (Agency)

Pakistan President Asif Ali Zardari has approved the appointment of Field Marshal Syed Asim Munir as the country's first Chief of Defence Forces (CDF) for a period of five years. Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif's summary recommending Munir for both Chief of the Army Staff (COAS) and Chief of Defence Forces (CDF) was approved, the Pakistan President's office said in an X post. "President Asif Ali Zardari approved the appointment of Field Marshal Syed Asim Munir as COAS concurrently as CDF for 5 years," the official X handle of the President of Pakistan said in a post. This comes after a lot of speculation over Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif's willingness to hand over more power to Munir, as the Sharif government was supposed to notify the appointment of the country's first Chief of Defence Forces on November 29, the day Munir's original three-year term as army chief ended. The Chief of Defence Forces' role was established last month under the 27th Amendment to the Constitution, aiming to centralise military command. Additionally, the Pakistan president also approved a two-year extension in the service of Air Chief Marshal Zaheer Ahmad Babar Sidhu, which will take effect from March 19, 2026.

Asif Ali Zardari conveyed his best wishes to both Pakistan Armed Forces officers. Asim Munir, who was promoted to the Field Marshal rank this year, will also simultaneously hold the office of the Chief of Army Staff, along with his duties as CDF. He is only the second military officer in the country's history to hold the Field Marshal title after Gen. Ayub Khan, who led Pakistan during the 1965 war with India.

Israel Launches Fresh Strikes On Lebanon After Warnings

WORLD. (Agency)

Israeli raids hit south Lebanon on Thursday as its military said it was striking Hezbollah weapons storage facilities, a day after Lebanese and Israeli civilian representatives held their first direct talks in decades. Despite a November 2024 ceasefire that was supposed to end more than a year of hostilities between Israel and the Iran-backed militant group, Israel has kept up strikes on Lebanon and has also maintained troops in five south Lebanon areas it deems strategic. The visit from Sunday to Tuesday of Pope Leo XIV had provided Lebanon with a window of reprieve from Israeli air strikes, which had intensified in recent weeks, and the pontiff urged an end to hostilities during his visit. But on Thursday, the Israeli army said it "began conducting strikes on Hezbollah terror targets in southern Lebanon", after warning it would strike buildings in south Lebanon's Mahrouna and Jbaa. It subsequently issued warnings that it would strike further Hezbollah "military infrastructure" in Majadal and Baraasheet, also in the south. Lebanon's official National News Agency said "Israeli warplanes launched a strike on the town of Mahrouna" while other raids targeted buildings in Jbaa, Majadal and Baraasheet. An AFP photographer saw smoke rising from the site of the strike in the town of Jbaa.

-Living in shock

"It's a completely civilian area. We're used to Israeli threats from time to time," local official Yassir Madi told journalists, including AFP.

"As for the damage, there's not a window within 300 metres that didn't break. Everyone is living in shock," he added.

Meanwhile, the Israeli military said it struck "weapons storage facilities belonging to Hezbollah" located in the "heart of the civilian population".

Abortion in Afghanistan: 'My mother crushed my stomach with a stone'

With terminations banned and contraception scarce, desperate women turn to dangerous home methods as doctors face scrutiny and fear arrest

KABUL. (Agen

When Bahara was four months pregnant, she went to a Kabul hospital to beg for an abortion. "We're not allowed," a doctor told her. "If someone finds out, we will all end up in prison." Abortion in Afghanistan is illegal and you can be locked up for having or assisting one. But Bahara was desperate. Her jobless husband had ordered her to "find a solution" -- he did not want a fifth daughter. "We can barely afford to feed" the girls as it is, Bahara, 35, told AFP. "If it was a boy, he could go to school and work." But there are no such prospects for a girl, with women banned from secondary schools,

universities and most jobs since the Taliban returned to power in 2021.

So Bahara took a neighbour's advice and bought -- for the equivalent of two dollars - a herbal tea at the market made from a type of mallow that induces contractions.

The bleeding was so bad she had to go back to the hospital. "I told them that I had fallen, but they knew I was lying because I had no marks on my body. They were angry but did not report me," said the mother-of-four. "They operated and removed the remains of the foetus. Since then I have felt very weak." The plant she used can be "very risky", said ethnobotanist Guadalupe Maldonado Andrade from the California State Polytechnic University, Pomona. A wrong dose can cause organ damage and severe haemorrhaging.

Bahara's is not an isolated case.

Two other women AFP talked to during our months-long investigation also risked their lives to abort. Nesa took tablets toxic to the embryo and Mariam crushed her stomach with a heavy stone. Of the dozen women AFP talked to about their clandestine abortions, only five agreed to be



interviewed on condition we protected their anonymity and changed their names. Even outside Taliban circles, the fear of being stigmatised, and arrested, is strong in Afghanistan's deeply conservative society. With such a taboo, and no real statistics, Sharafat Zaman of the Afghan health ministry insisted "few" women are affected. The Taliban -- who follow a strict interpretation of Islam -- did not change the abortion laws when they returned to power in 2021. But officials check more often that terminations are not being carried out in hospitals, panicking doctors and pushing women to have abortions in secret, according to many health sector workers AFP interviewed. Several doctors said the

number of miscarriages has increased since 2021, which they suspect may conceal clandestine abortions given the injuries patients present and their psychological state. Two international medical organisations also said they noticed the same trend, while access to contraception has become more difficult.

"Budget constraints and the forced closure of family planning services endanger access to modern contraception," a UN source told AFP, saying less than half of Afghan women have access to methods such as condoms, implants or pills.

Afghanistan has one of the highest maternal and infant mortality rates in the world, with young women banned from training as midwives or nurses in medical schools since last year. While health ministry spokesman Zaman acknowledged the dangers of clandestine abortions, and that some women face "problems", he said it was not the government's fault. Abortion is permitted when the life of a pregnant woman is in grave danger. However, in practice it is rarely granted. For the Taliban abortion is "taking a life", Zaman said.

US military conducts strike on another suspected drug boat as probe into the first strike begins

WASHINGTON. (Agency)

U.S. Southern Command announced that it had conducted another strike against a small boat in the eastern Pacific Ocean on Thursday, following a pause of almost three weeks. It is the 22nd strike the U.S. military has carried out against boats in the Caribbean Sea and eastern Pacific Ocean that the Trump administration claimed were trafficking drugs. There were four casualties in Thursday's strike, according to the social media post, bringing the death toll of the campaign to at least 87 people. In a video that accompanied the announcement, a small boat can be seen moving across the water before it is suddenly consumed by a large explosion. The video then zooms out to show the boat covered in flames and billowing smoke. The strike was conducted the same day Adm. Frank "Mitch" Bradley appeared for a series of closed-door classified briefings at the U.S. Capitol as lawmakers began an investigation into the very first strike carried out by the military on

Sept. 2. The sessions came after a report that Bradley ordered a follow-on attack that killed the survivors to



comply with Defense Secretary Pete Hegseth's demands.

Bradley told lawmakers there was no "kill them all" order from Hegseth, but a stark video of the entire series of attacks left some lawmakers with serious questions. Legal experts have said killing survivors of a strike at sea could be a violation of the laws of military warfare. Bradley spoke to lawmakers alongside the chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, Gen. Dan

Trump ventures deeper into anti-immigrant language by calling people from Somalia 'garbage'

world. (Agency)

He said it four times in seven seconds: Somali immigrants in the United States are "garbage." It was no mistake. In fact, President Donald Trump's rhetorical attacks on immigrants have been building since he said Mexico was sending "rapists" across the border during his presidential campaign announcement a decade ago. He's also echoed rhetoric once used by Adolf Hitler and called the 54 nations of Africa "s---hole countries." But with one flourish closing a two-hour Cabinet meeting Tuesday, Trump amped up his anti-immigrant rhetoric even further -- and ditched any claim that his administration was only seeking to remove people in the U.S. illegally. "We don't want 'em in our country," Trump said five times of the nation's 260,000 people of Somali descent. "Let 'em go back to where they came from and fix it." The assembled Cabinet members cheered and applauded. Vice President JD



Vance could be seen pumping a fist. Defense Secretary Pete Hegseth, sitting to the president's immediate left, told Trump on-camera, "Well said." The two-minute finale offered a riveting display in a nation that prides itself as being founded and enriched by immigrants, alongside an ugly history of enslaving millions of them and limiting who can come in. Trump's U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement raids and deportations have reignited an age-old debate -- and widened the nation's divisions -- over who can be an American, with

Trump telling tens of thousands of American citizens, among others, that he doesn't want them by virtue of their family origin. "What he has done is brought this type of language more into the everyday conversation, more into the main," said Carl Bon Tempo, a State University of New York at Albany history professor. "He's, in a way, legitimated this type of language that, for many Americans for a long time, was seen as outside the bounds." A question that cuts to the core of American identity

Some Americans have long felt that people from certain parts of the world can never really blend in. That outsider-averse sentiment has manifested during difficult periods, such as anti-Chinese fear-mongering in the late 19th century and the imprisonment of some 120,000 Japanese Americans during World War II.

Zohran Mamdani and the Louvre make the list of most mispronounced words of 2025

DALLAS. (Agency)

From the election of Zohran Mamdani to the intrigue surrounding the jewel heist at the Louvre, keeping up with this year's news also left some Americans struggling with pronunciations. That's put both the name of New York City's incoming mayor and the famed Paris museum on a list of the most mispronounced words in 2025.

The language-learning company Babbel and closed-captioning company The Captioning Group on Thursday released a list of the words that news anchors, politicians and other public figures in the U.S. struggled with the most this year, giving an overview of the people and topics that had Americans talking.

As Mamdani made his political rise, the democratic socialist's name often was mangled. When he takes office in January, the 34-year-old will become the city's first Muslim mayor, first born in Africa and first of South Asian heritage. Babbel said his name -- which should be pronounced zoh-RAHN mam-DAH-nee -- was most commonly mispronounced when people swapped the "M" and "N" in his last name.

Mamdani has said he doesn't mind if someone tries to pronounce his name correctly and misses but that some mispronounce it intentionally. During one mayoral race debate, he chided former New York Gov. Andrew Cuomo's pronunciation of his name, telling his opponent: "The name is Mamdani. M-A-M-D-A-N-I." The theft of France's crown jewels from the Louvre in October had many people mispronouncing the name of the world's most-visited museum. Babbel says the correct pronunciation is LOOV-ruh, with a very soft pronunciation on the "ruh," which can be a challenge for English speakers. "A lot of these words come from different languages and so we have to adapt to a sound that we've never made before," said Esteban Touma, a linguistic and cultural expert at Babbel.

Other words and names on the list include:

— Acetaminophen, the active ingredient in the Tylenol, is pronounced uh-SEE-tuh-MIH-nuh-fen. President Donald Trump gave comedians plenty of material when he stumbled over the word as he implored pregnant women to avoid taking the painkiller despite inconclusive evidence about whether too much could be linked to autism. — Alex Murdaugh, the prominent South Carolina attorney who was sentenced to life in prison for the 2021 fatal shootings of his wife and son, is pronounced AL-ick MUR-dock. This year the case was dramatized in a series on Hulu. Mounjaro, pronounced mown-JAHR-OH, is part of a wave of diabetes and obesity medications that soared in popularity because of the weight people have lost while taking the injections.

Hong Kong university shuts student union after condolence message on deadly fire sparks scrutiny

HKBU cites "poor management" as it seizes facilities; union alleges ulterior motives amid sedition arrests after Tai Po blaze killed 159

HONG KONG. (Agency)

A Hong Kong university ordered its student union to shut down after a message was posted on campus expressing condolences and urging justice for the victims of a major fire, according to a letter publicly shared on Friday. The blaze that ripped through Wang Fuk Court in the city's northern Tai Po district last week killed at least 159 people and was the world's deadliest residential building fire since 1980. The Hong Kong Baptist University (HKBU) said it will



"suspend the operations" of the student union acting executive committee with immediate effect and take over their facilities, according to a letter shared on social media by the union on Friday.

The school cited reasons such as a lack of representation and poor financial management, which the union called "unfounded and arbitrary." The

university's irrational action raises concerns about potential ulterior motives behind this forced suspension," the union said in a statement. Social media users circulated photos on Tuesday of a message stuck onto a student union-run notice board, nicknamed the "democracy wall", which expressed condolences for those killed in the fire. The unsigned message

continued: "We are Hongkongers. Urge the government to be receptive and respond to public demands so justice can be done."

The wall was blocked off with tall barricades on Wednesday, an AFP reporter saw.

Kevin, a HKBU student who declined to give his surname, told AFP at the time he found the noticeboard message to be "positive" and said it drew attention from students walking by before it was sealed off. The university did not respond to multiple requests for comment from AFP.

Authorities have warned against crimes that "exploit the tragedy" and have reportedly arrested at least three people for sedition in the fire's aftermath. Student unions at Hong Kong universities were once hotbeds of political activism and played a role in the city's huge and sometimes violent pro-democracy protests in 2019. They either shrank their operations or were shut down entirely after Beijing imposed a national security law in Hong Kong a year later, which critics say has curbed dissent.

Modi–Putin Summit: Vision 2030 Pact Signed, Push for \$100 Billion Trade

New Delhi: Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Russian President Vladimir Putin on Friday unveiled a sweeping Economic Cooperation Programme till 2030, signalling a major upgrade in bilateral trade, technology and strategic partnership. Speaking at a joint press briefing in New Delhi, PM Modi said the India–Russia relationship has endured global upheavals for decades and continues to serve as a reliable anchor in uncertain times. “Over the past eight decades, humanity has seen many crises and challenges. Through all this, the India–Russia friendship has remained like a pole star — steady and unwavering,” he said. Modi emphasised that taking economic ties “to new heights” is now a shared priority, adding that the newly adopted roadmap aims to



make bilateral trade “more diversified, balanced and sustainable.” Both sides are also pushing for an early India–EAEU Free Trade Agreement, which is expected to expand market access for Indian exports in pharmaceuticals, agriculture and consumer goods. President Putin, thanking

Modi for the warm welcome, reaffirmed Moscow’s focus on long-term partnership. He said Russia remains committed to a peaceful resolution of the Ukraine conflict and added that India–Russia ties are “deeply rooted in history and trust.” Key highlights of Putin’s Delhi engagements

Vision 2030 Roadmap Finalised A comprehensive plan outlines priority areas for long-term cooperation across trade, co-production, innovation, connectivity, digital economy and manufacturing. **Push for \$100 Billion Trade by 2030** Both leaders reviewed pro-

gress and agreed to accelerate efforts to expand bilateral trade — especially increasing India’s exports. **Energy Partnership Strengthened** Civil nuclear projects, critical minerals, petroleum supplies and long-term energy security remained central to discussions. Putin assured uninterrupted energy supplies to India. **Counter-Terrorism Alignment** Modi stressed that India and Russia stand “shoulder to shoulder” against terrorism, noting that threats to both countries come from common sources. He reiterated the need for united global action. **Ukraine Conflict** Reiterating India’s position, PM Modi said New Delhi stands firmly on the side of peace and diplomacy. Putin briefed him on Russia’s ongo-

ing proposals for a peaceful settlement. **Defence, Space & High-Tech** Talks covered joint production, shipbuilding, space exploration, artificial intelligence and Make in India-aligned defence collaborations. **Labour Mobility Agreement** Work is underway on a new pact to enable smoother movement of skilled and semi-skilled Indian workers to Russia. **Global Coordination** The two nations agreed to deepen coordination on global platforms including the UN, G20, BRICS and SCO. With the 2030 roadmap signed and high-level talks concluded, the Modi–Putin summit has set the stage for a more expansive and strategically aligned partnership in the coming decade.

India–Russia Reaffirm Push for UNSC Reform



New Delhi: India and Russia on Friday renewed their call for reforms in the UN Security Council, stressing that the body must reflect “contemporary realities.” Addressing a press briefing, Foreign Secretary Vikram Misri said both nations were aligned on strengthening cooperation in multi-lateral platforms including the G20, BRICS and SCO. Misri noted that Prime Minister Narendra Modi’s talks with President Vladimir Putin reinforced the strength of bilateral defence ties, with Russia continuing to back Make in India through joint production and technology transfer. The Prime Minister also welcomed Moscow’s support for the expedited opening of new Indian consulates in Kazan and Yekaterinburg, aimed at boosting regional trade, cultural exchange and people-to-people connections. On global issues, Misri said President Putin briefed PM Modi on developments in the Ukraine conflict, including ongoing Russia–US talks. Modi reiterated India’s long-standing call for an “early cessation of hostilities” and a resolution through dialogue and diplomacy, adding that India stands ready to assist. The discussions also covered regional security, particularly counter-terrorism, where Putin reaffirmed Russia’s support for India’s zero-tolerance stance. On the economic front, both sides reviewed mechanisms to ease trade, including the use of national currencies via Special Rupee Vostro Accounts (SRVAs). Addressing the trade imbalance, Misri said India is working to boost exports to Russia, with expanded local-currency settlement seen as a key enabler. He described the India–Russia partnership as a “key anchor for constructive engagement in a complex global environment.”

BSL Signs MoU with ESAF Foundation to Boost Livelihoods of Women in Peripheral Villages



Bokaro: In a major CSR push, SAIL–Bokaro Steel Plant (BSL) has signed a new Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with the ESAF Foundation to enhance income and livelihood opportunities for women trained in handicraft production under BSL’s CSR programmes. The signing ceremony was attended by GM (CSR) P.P. Chakraborty, AGM (CSR) Richa Kunal, Assistant Manager (CSR) Praveen Kumar, along with ESAF Foundation’s Chief Manager Joel Varghese Cherian, Consultant Ajithsen Selvadass, Project Officer Ghulam Mohiuddin, and officials from the BSL–CSR team. This agreement builds on an earlier MoU from December 2022, under which women from peripheral villages were trained to make handicrafts using bamboo, jute and water hyacinth. The new MoU shifts focus from training to income generation, emphasising livelihood enhancement, branding and structured marketing. As part of the initiative, an online platform will be created to promote and sell products produced under the ‘Yukta’ brand. These items will also be listed on major e-commerce sites such as Amazon and Flipkart, giving local artisans national and global visibility. BSL officials said the partnership will significantly strengthen women’s economic empowerment and provide sustainable livelihood avenues across the plant’s surrounding villages.

India Post Signs Agreement with Russia Post for International Tracked Packet Service

New Delhi: The Department of Posts today signed a Bilateral Agreement on the International Tracked Packet Service (ITPS) with JSC Russia Post. The Ministry of Communications said that this move marks an important milestone in strengthening cross-border postal cooperation between both the nations. It said that under the agreement, India Post will be able to offer this service to exporters at competitive tariffs, improving price competitiveness and market access for Indian sellers.

School Students Explore Cutting-Edge Science at CSIR-NML



Jamshedpur: CSIR–National Metallurgical Laboratory (NML) hosted 37 students and three teachers from Central Public School, Adityapur, offering them a first-hand look into advanced scientific research as part of the CSIR–Jigyasa Virtual Laboratory Programme. The visit began with an inaugural session, where Dr. Sarmistha Sagar, Chief Scientist & Head, IMDC, welcomed the participants. She highlighted CSIR–NML’s role in technological advancement over its 75-year journey and underlined its contributions to national development through pioneering research. Dr. Animesh Jana, Senior Scientist, IMDC, introduced the objectives of the Jigyasa initiative, emphasizing its mission to build scientific temperament among school students and create stronger engagement between researchers and young learners. During the visit, students toured several key laboratories, including the Applied & Analytical Chemistry Division, Creep Testing Facilities, Non-Destructive Testing of Metals, and the E-Waste Recycling Unit, where live demonstrations offered a glimpse into real-world scientific applications. The programme concluded with a vote of thanks and group photographs. Teachers and students expressed great enthusiasm, calling the visit an inspiring and enriching exposure to modern research practices.

“Don’t Fear Exams—Prepare for Them,” Says Chinmaya Vidyalaya Principal Suraj Sharma

Bokaro: With CBSE announcing the introduction of two board examinations, Chinmaya Vidyalaya, Bokaro, organised a special Parents’ Interaction Workshop to brief families on the new system. Principal Suraj Sharma, Vice Principal Narmendra Kumar, and Headmaster Gopal Chandra Munshi addressed parents during the session. The programme opened with a prayer and lamp lighting, followed by an introduction from Mrs. Supriya Choudhary. Principal Sharma explained the structure of the two-exam format and urged parents not to let students fear board exams but encourage them to prepare sincerely. “Honest hard work today will make the future better. Results reflect combined efforts of students and parents,” he said. During the workshop, the school detailed the guidelines, rules and conditions issued for the upcoming board examinations. Principal Sharma also responded to frequently asked questions from Class 10 parents regarding exam dates, pattern, and preparation strategies. The interactive session saw parents and students clarify doubts and gain a clearer understanding of the new system.

PM Modi Welcomes Putin With Russian-Language Gita, Warm Airport Greeting and Private Dinner

News Desk: Prime Minister Narendra Modi set a distinctly personal tone for Russian President Vladimir Putin’s 27-hour India visit on Thursday, gifting him a Russian-language edition of the Bhagavad Gita soon after his arrival in New Delhi. Modi personally received Putin at Delhi’s Palam airport around 6:35 pm, greeting him with a warm hug before the two leaders drove together in the Prime Minister’s car. The gesture, which lasted nearly three hours, added to the unusually cordial atmosphere surrounding the visit. Sharing photographs from the airport and the residence, PM Modi posted on X: “Delighted to welcome my friend, President Putin to India... India–Russia friendship is a time-tested one that has greatly benefited our people.” He also wrote that the timeless teachings of the Gita con-



tinue to inspire millions across the world — a sentiment he echoed while presenting the specially prepared Russian-language edition to the visiting President. **Putin Unveils RT India, Kremlin-Backed Network’s Biggest Global Expansion Yet** Russian President Vladimir Putin on Friday launched RT India, the newest international arm of the Kremlin-funded RT network, marking one of Moscow’s most ambitious media ventures as it seeks to strengthen its footprint in South Asia.

The unveiling — held at a temporary studio inside a luxury Delhi hotel — comes during Putin’s first visit to India since the Ukraine war began. Russian officials describe RT India as a major push to deepen strategic communication ties with New Delhi. **RT India: Russia’s Boldest Media Foray** RT India will begin operations with four English-language programmes daily, backed by a newsroom of over 100 journalists and technical staff. A full-scale studio is set to come up

in the National Capital Region. The channel pitches itself as a platform aligned with a multipolar world, promoting what it calls the “growing influence” of India and Russia. Its tagline — “Not Anti-Western... Just Not Western” — signals its positioning in global media narratives. The project is being called the largest international expansion in the network’s history. It comes even as RT remains banned across the European Union since Russia’s invasion of Ukraine in 2022.

DPS Bokaro’s ‘Star Contest’ Shines Spotlight on Young Talent

Bokaro: Students of Delhi Public School (DPS) Bokaro lit up the campus as the school hosted its mega ‘DPS Star Contest’, a vibrant showcase of music, dance and visual arts aimed at nurturing creative potential. The event buzzed with youthful energy as participants impressed judges with solo vocals, instrumental pieces, orchestral performances, expressive dance acts and evocative artworks. The programme opened with a charged Band/Orchestra Competition, where musicians delivered tight,



high-tempo performances on keyboards, guitars, clap boxes and more. Arka Raj and team clinched first place, followed by Viraj Jha’s group and Rudrangshu Roy’s team. In the Solo Song category, U. Charukeshi won top

honours, Vaishnavi Priya secured second while Avni Ananya Pandey finished third with “Raghukul Reet”. Dance performances brought equal flair. Vartika Dubey took first place with a powerful portrayal of Maa Kali and the dramatic Rakt-

beej Samhaar. Prapti Mishra earned second for a classical Bharatanatyam recital, while third place was shared by Rimik B. Surya Mandal for a spirited patriotic dance and Shanvi Shreya for her Krishna-themed Bharatanatyam piece. Applauding the participants, Principal Dr. A. S. Gangwar said the contest reflects the school’s commitment to holistic education. “The DPS Star Contest showcases the remarkable talent of our pupils and provides a platform where dedication meets passion,” he noted.

Russian President Putin Departs After Two-Day India Visit Marked by Strategic Agreements, Warm Diplomacy and Special Gifts From PM Modi

New Delhi: Russian President Vladimir Putin wrapped up his two-day State visit to India on Friday, departing from Delhi after a busy round of high-level talks, major announcements and warm personal gestures. External Affairs Minister Dr. S. Jaishankar was at the airport to see him off, marking the formal conclusion of a significant diplomatic engagement. During the visit, India and Russia unveiled the 2030 Economic Cooperation Roadmap, strengthened collaboration across defence, energy and technology, and launched RT India, Moscow’s largest global media expansion. But beyond official talks, Prime Minister Narendra Modi set an unusually personal tone — most notably by presenting President Putin with a Russian-translated edition of the Srimad Bhagavad Gita, along with a curated selection of Indian artisanal treasures symbolising the depth of In-



dia’s cultural heritage. **Modi’s Special Gifts to President Putin** Srimad Bhagavad Gita (Russian Edition) Modi gifted Putin a translated edition of the Gita, underscoring India’s spiritual traditions and the shared civilisational respect between the two nations. **Handcrafted Silver Horse — Maharashtra** A finely detailed silver horse statue representing India’s traditional metalwork excellence.

Murshidabad Ornate Silver Tea Set An intricately engraved tea set reflecting Bengal’s rich craftsmanship and the cultural importance of tea in both India and Russia. **Marble Chess Set — Agra (ODOPI)** A handcrafted marble chessboard that blends heritage stone-inlay artistry with functional elegance. **Premium Kashmiri Saffron (Kong/Zaffran)** Among the finest in the world, Kashmir’s saffron is revered



for its deep colour, fragrance and culinary significance. **Fine Assam Black Tea** Sourced from the Brahmaputra plains, the tea is known for its strong malty flavour and bright liquor — a hallmark of India’s global tea identity. These gifts, chosen from India’s One District One Product (ODOPI) offerings, highlighted the Prime Minister’s emphasis on blending tradition with diplomacy. **A Visit Packed With Strategic Signals** Putin’s trip — his first to India

since the start of the Ukraine conflict — reaffirmed the steady momentum in India–Russia relations. Key highlights included: • Signing of the Vision 2030 Roadmap for long-term economic engagement • Reaffirming of the goal to reach \$100 billion bilateral trade by 2030 • Assurance of uninterrupted energy supplies to India • Deepening cooperation in defence production,

AI, space and critical minerals • Push for an India–EAEU Free Trade Agreement • High-level discussions on terrorism, global order and the Ukraine conflict As President Putin’s aircraft took off from Delhi, the visit left behind a strong message — India and Russia are gearing up for a refreshed, strategically aligned partnership built on trust, history and evolving global realities.

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India not neutral, is on side of peace

PM’s message to Putin on Ukraine war

The Ukraine conflict featured prominently in the bilateral meeting between Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Russia's Putin. PM Modi reiterated that India was on the side of peace, and it was not the era of war.

New Delhi.(Agency)
Prime Minister Narendra Modi told Russian President Vladimir Putin that India was not neutral and was on the side of peace in the Ukraine war, reiterating the stance that he told Donald Trump earlier this year. During their much-anticipated bilateral meeting in Delhi on Friday, PM Modi praised Putin as a visionary leader and underscored that this "is an era of peace".

"India is not neutral. India has a side, and that side is of peace. We support all efforts for peace, and we stand shoulder-to-shoulder with all efforts for peace," PM Modi said as Putin sat beside him listening keenly.

'RUSSIA A TRUE FRIEND OF INDIA'

During their meeting, the bonhomie between the two leaders, which has played a crucial role in fostering a robust strategic partnership between Russia and India, was visible. The leaders have met 19 times in the past 11 years. The Ukraine war, which has dragged on for four years, has made Putin some sort of a pariah, with the West imposing a host of sanctions on Russia.

The Russian President's visit to India comes at a time when the Trump administration has been striving to brok
Calling Russia a "true friend" of India, PM Modi



emphasised the importance of trust amid the rapid geopolitical churn.
"Since the Ukraine crisis began, we have been in constant discussion. From time to time, you, too,

as a true friend, have kept us informed about everything. I believe that trust is a great strength... The welfare of nations lies in the path of peace. Together, we will lead the world towards that path," the Prime Minister said.er a peace deal between Ukraine and Russia.

The Prime Minister also praised Putin for the warm welcome accorded to him in 2001, when Modi was the Gujarat Chief Minister. It was their first diplomatic interaction.

"I believe that the role you played in 2001 is a perfect example of how a visionary leader thinks — where they begin and how far they can take relationships. India–Russia relations are the finest example of this," he said.

During the visit, where Modi accompanied then PM Atal Bihari Vajpayee, an agreement was signed between Gujarat and Russia's Astrakhan region to boost cooperation in petrochemicals, trade, science and technology.

PUTIN THANKS PM FOR 'PERSONAL ATTENTION'

Putin, who was accorded a ceremonial welcome and a tri-services guard of honour, thanked PM Modi for his "personal attention" to the Ukraine issue.

Andhra Pradesh To Get India's First Solar Ingot-Wafer Manufacturing Unit

This facility will be India's first commercial-scale integrated ingot-wafer manufacturing unit, producing the essential building blocks for solar cells and modules.

New Delhi.(Agency)
Andhra Pradesh is poised to lead India into a new era of solar manufacturing by establishing the country's first integrated 6 GW solar ingot and wafer production facility in Anapalli district. A Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) signed during a partnership summit has been converted into a project that has been approved by the State Investment Promotion Board (SIPB).
ReNew Photovoltaics, a subsidiary of ReNew Energy Global PLC, is investing Rs 3,990 crore to establish a greenfield plant at Rambilli in Anapalli district. This facility will be India's first commercial-scale

integrated ingot-wafer manufacturing unit, producing the essential building blocks for solar cells and modules.



The proposal was approved by the Andhra Pradesh State Investment Promotion Board (SIPB), chaired by Chief Minister Chandrababu Naidu,

on Thursday. It will now be presented to the Cabinet for final approval, likely next week.

The project aims to significantly reduce India's reliance on imported components, particularly from China, and support the country's ambitious renewable energy goals of achieving 300 GW of solar capacity by 2030. The world-class facility will be developed on approximately 130-140 acres of land, which has already been identified and will soon be handed over for construction. The plant is expected to be completed by March 2026, with commercial production commencing by January 2028.

"Not Here To Shout": Shashi Tharoor Schools Congress Over Parliament Chaos

Shashi Tharoor, who once fought to steer the party but lost to another south Indian stalwart, has snubbed the need for a ruckus to get heard in parliament.

New Delhi .(Agency)
Congress leader Shashi Tharoor has schooled the opposition over disruptions in parliament, putting his differences with his party colleagues out in the open yet again. The MP who once fought to steer the party but lost to another south Indian stalwart has snubbed the need for a ruckus to get heard in parliament.
"I have said this from the very beginning. My party leaders, including Sonia Gandhi, know this very well. I may be the lone voice in the party, but I have no doubts that people have elected me to represent them in parliament, not just to shout and create a ruckus. They have sent me to use my intelligence to speak for the nation and speak for them," he said. The Congress is expected to issue a strong rebuttal to what appears as one of their own toeing a pro-BJP line on the greatest national platform for



democracy.
The parliament has been seeing disruptions over multiple issues since the Winter Session started

last Monday, including over the Opposition seeking discussion on the Special Intensive Revision (SIR) of the voter lists and the flight chaos. BJP blames the Opposition for the disruptions, despite the Prime Minister warning against any drama in his pre-session speech.

Tharoor has in the past courted controversy over actions that could well be interpreted as taking on his party colleagues, including with praises for the prime minister. Giving party meetings a miss one after another is believed to have widened the gap between him and the senior leaders despite frantic attempts to firefight a prolonged crisis. He later downplayed the speculations, stating that he was in Kerala with his elderly mother, which is why he couldn't attend the party meetings in Delhi.

Thousands of IndiGo passengers across the country have been stranded for days as mass cancellations, rolling delays and grounded aircraft choke major airports, leaving them without clear timelines.

Kept waiting without certainty: Stranded IndiGo passengers’ hours-long ordeal

New Delhi .(Agency)
For thousands of travellers, the past three days have felt less like a flight delay and more like a full-blown breakdown of IndiGo, India's busiest airline. At Delhi airport Terminal 3, the frustration is visible long before one reaches the check-in zone. People sit on the floor with children, others patrol conveyor belts hoping their luggage will surface, and long-haul passengers fret about missing visas, jobs, and connections.
Gurnaam Singh, who booked an IndiGo flight to Canada, said the trip he planned months ago had suddenly "turned into an ordeal". He spent hours trying to get clarity on whether the flight would even take off. Several others around him -- headed to Dubai, China, and Toronto -- reported the same uncertainty. Their flights were repeatedly shown as delayed due to

"technical faults", only to be pushed further without explanation.
"Air travel has become trouble instead of relief. Because of so many cancellations and delays, passengers are facing extreme inconvenience," Gurnaam Singh told TV, adding that both international and domestic flyers were stuck in the same uncertainty. Weather disruptions and a bomb threat earlier in the week have added pressure, but passengers said the confusion goes beyond that. Many complained that the airline offered no meaningful assistance. A man who came to drop off his daughter said her 2 pm domestic flight finally departed at 11.30 pm. Another traveller, Rishikesh Kumar, watched his 6 pm flight slide to 11.30 pm, and even then he was unsure it would depart. "You just keep waiting, but there's no surety or

clearance about when your flight will take off," he said. Advocate Shweta Kapoor described a night of sheer chaos.



"My flight was last night, and when we reached the Delhi IGI Airport, check-ins were happening, but none of the IndiGo counters were working. Multiple flights were delayed

and some were cancelled, but the passengers had not received their baggage yet. People were shouting. Our luggage had already been checked in. The flight was rescheduled three times, and then at 6 am the IndiGo app simply showed that it was cancelled. Even the staff looked confused," she said.
Passengers in Hyderabad reported a different kind of chaos, where misinformation added to the frustration. "I reached the airport at around 5 am and went to the IndiGo counter. They told me my flight was cancelled. When I showed my boarding pass, they confirmed it and sent me home. They noted down my details. At around 7 am, someone called me from the boarding gate, asking where I was because the flight was about to leave," she said.

Sharad Pawar's Family In Focus As Jay Pawar, Rutuja Patil Set To Marry: Who Are They?

Jay Pawar, the son of Maharashtra Deputy Chief Minister Ajit Pawar, is all set to tie the knot with long-time friend Rutuja Patil in Bahrain. Spread over four days, the intimate celebration will have close friends and family members and a select few political associates.

The major ceremonies are scheduled from December 4 to December 7 at the luxury Jumeirah property in the Gulf nation, according to the wedding invite. Despite being one of the most influential political families in Maharashtra, the wedding is strictly private. According to sources familiar with the arrangements, the total number of invitees has been capped at around 400, making it significantly smaller than large political weddings.

Only two senior party leaders, Praful Patel, the National Working President of the NCP, and state party chief Sunil Tatkare, have reportedly been invited from Ajit Pawar's political circle.

The decision to keep the event intimate stemmed from the family's wish to avoid creating a large public spectacle, especially given the ongoing political sensitivities in Maharashtra, according to a report in Hindustan Times.

Who is Jay Pawar?

Jay Pawar, the younger son of Ajit Pawar and MP Sunetra Pawar, has so far kept a low profile compared to his politically active family. Until 2023, when the NCP split, Jay was primarily at the front and centre of the family's businesses in Dubai, according to a report in The Print.

Since the split, he has been involved in key election seasons. Jay campaigned for his mother in the 2024 Lok Sabha elections and later supported his father during the state assembly polls the same year, according to a report in Free Press Journal. His party functionaries describe him as "well-spoken and well-mannered" and someone now involved in "grassroots matters".



Cost of monopoly model

Rahul Gandhi slams Centre over IndiGo flight chaos

Rahul Gandhi has accused the Centre of enabling a "monopoly model" in aviation as IndiGo faces large-scale flight cancellations and operational disruptions.

New Delhi .(Agency)
Congress leader Rahul Gandhi on Friday criticised the Centre over utter chaos in the country's aviation sector due to IndiGo's flight cancellations and disruptions, blaming the problems on the government's "monopoly model." In a post on X, Lok Sabha Opposition Leader called for "fair competition" in the aviation sector to prevent such disruptions.

In the wake of IndiGo cancelling over 550 flights on Thursday alone and over 450 flights on Friday till now, disrupting the travel plans of hundreds of passengers, Gandhi said it is ordinary Indians who pay the price in delays, cancellations and helplessness.

"IndiGo fiasco is the cost of this Govt's monopoly model. Once again, it's ordinary Indians who pay the price - in delays, cancellations and helplessness," the Leader of Opposition said in a post on X.

Responding to Rahul Gandhi's 'monopoly' swipe at the government, Congress MP Priyanka Gandhi Vadra supported her brother and said that most sectors in the country have been concentrated in the hands of a few.

"We all know that throughout the country, most things belong to a few people and that is the doing of this government, and that is not healthy. It's not healthy for the economy, it's not healthy for democracy, it's not healthy for the country," she said.

INDIGO FLIGHTS CHAOS CONTINUES

IndiGo, India's largest airline, is facing a major crisis, cancelling over 450 flights across key airports for the third consecutive day.

Out of these, 225 flights were cancelled at Delhi's Indira Gandhi International Airport alone, while Bengaluru's Kempegowda International saw over 100 cancellations and Hyderabad's Rajiv Gandhi International recorded 90.

The airline has attributed the disruptions to cabin crew shortages and other operational challenges and apologised to passengers on Thursday via X.



First step in Manipur: Return of the natives

Close to three years after mindless ethnic blood-letting broke out between the Kuki-Zo group of tribes and the majority Meitei community in May 2023, overt violence has ceased in Manipur—but the state remains bitterly divided physically and psychologically. Over 60,000 conflict-displaced people from both sides of the divide continue to languish in several relief camps, unsure of their and their children’s future. They have also become prone to depression and even suicide cases among them are on the rise. The trouble is, both the warring sides continue to see and push for amelioration of their side of the suffering and their understanding of what a solution should be, missing out in the process the fact that the losses and sufferings brought by the violence is shared on both sides. They also tend to forget that Manipur is multi-ethnic, and a solution cannot be a bilateral matter only between them. Another major community, the Nagas, have begun asserting this, and all need to note this seriously. Any reconciliation would have to begin with a comprehensive plan for the displaced on both sides to return to their abandoned homes and rebuild their lives. This would also mean opening up the highways for free movement either way for all. The responsibility for making this happen cannot just be of the government alone, but also by what conflict resolution and mediation expert John Paul Lederach called “the moral imagination” of the people in his book of the same title. It contends that just as hostility begets hostility as a response, goodwill will be reciprocated with goodwill. If one side, for instance, unilaterally opens up and welcomes back displaced people, or assures free passage to those wishing to access health facilities in Imphal or outside the state, the iceberg of mutual suspicion would begin to melt, paving the way for a settlement of the crisis across the table. The side to first exercise empathy and see their own sufferings shared by the other side and take courage to reach out, is the one blessed with moral imagination—not the one to blink first in this masculine contest for belligerency. There will probably be entrenched, vested interests of those who reap a sense of power and other benefits from the conflict. They would therefore want its continuance—if not as open violence, then as a ‘frozen conflict’. These are the elements, as and when they become evident, that the government must tame even if use of the State’s coercive power becomes necessary. Reconciliation will not be easy, but it’s not impossible. There have been atrocities by both sides and, as in any conflict, there are hawks and doves within. But only the hawks are heard and seen. Again, in a charged, conflict-ridden atmosphere, even the doves often speak the hawks’ language without actually meaning them. The inference is that what’s seen and heard cannot be the summary of the mood of this entire conflict landscape, although many parachute journalists and NGO fact-finders have ended up trying to make it seem so, complicating matters. Once the displaced have been allowed to return and reclaim their homes, and free movement is ensured across the ‘buffer zones’ established by the government, the larger issues that caused the conflict can be addressed and settled. Among these are the questions of illegal immigration and unequal development between the state’s valley and the hills.

Dilution of goals ails global climate action

The Trump-led US is committed to the revival of the fossil fuel industry and calls climate change a hoax.

AS a one-time chief negotiator on climate change for India (2007-10), one has watched with growing despair the continual dilution of goals directed towards tackling an existential crisis for humanity. To properly assess the outcome of the recent climate summit at Belem (Brazil), a lesson in climate history may be in order. Since the high point of universal collaborative intent enshrined in the historic UN Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) at Rio de Janeiro (Brazil) in 1992, the trajectory of the annual multilateral negotiations among the conference of parties (COP) to the Convention has been a decidedly downward attrition process. I was present at Rio when the UNFCCC was adopted by acclamation, and the optimism was palpable. Yet within just a few years, one faced a systematic and cynical effort on the part of developed nations, led by the US, to eviscerate the UNFCCC and transform what was to be a legally binding agreement into a voluntary ‘pledge and review’ set of commitments. This was achieved through the unilateral trashing of the Kyoto Protocol to the UNFCCC, which was adopted in December 1997 and in which 37 industrialised countries negotiated binding targets for absolute reduction in their greenhouse gas emissions. This would result in an average of 5.2% reduction in total emissions as compared to the 1992 level. These binding targets were to be achieved in what was known as the first commitment period (2008-13) after which there would be a second commitment period (2014-19) in which further reductions would be negotiated. During this 10-year period, developing countries would not be required to accept reductions in their emissions. At the end of this grace period, it was likely that both developed and developing countries would commit to reduce their emissions but in accordance with the principle of equitable burden-sharing. The Kyoto Protocol had strict compliance procedures. If at the end of the first commitment period a country had a shortfall in achieving its target of reduction, then not only would it have to make up for the shortfall in the second commitment period but also have to add 30% more to its new negotiated target as a penalty. The US, which had signed the Protocol, declined to ratify it. Then, several industrialised countries like Canada, Australia and Japan unilaterally violated the treaty, far surpassed their respective emission targets and refused to



This was made possible by China abandoning the BASIC group and reaching a bilateral agreement with the US, which safeguarded their narrow interests while sacrificing the global good. China was allowed to keep increasing its emissions to reach a level comparable to the US. More importantly, China reinterpreted the crucial Common but Differentiated Responsibility and Respective Capabilities (CBDR) principle by adding the words, “in accordance with national circumstances” to the original wording in the UNFCCC. This hollowed out the CBDR principle since it could now be interpreted differently by parties according to what they claimed as “national circumstances.” This was a mortal blow to the equity principle. China did not consult its BASIC partners

before taking this major step but neither did these partners hold it to account. China got away with a serious violation of the UNFCCC. The US-China agreement became the template for the Paris Agreement. The developed countries had succeeded in co-opting China in their evisceration of the UNFCCC. The Paris Agreement was greeted with intemperate hype a decade ago. Then French President Francois Hollande said, “In Paris, there have been many revolutions over the centuries. Today is the most beautiful and most peaceful revolution that has just been accomplished — a revolution for climate change.” Since then the US has walked out of the Agreement for the second time under President Donald Trump. It is committed to the revival of the fossil fuel industry and calls climate change a hoax. The world’s largest economy is missing in climate action and this will inevitably influence the economic calculus of other countries, which may see climate action as putting them at a disadvantage vis-à-vis the US. The just-concluded 30th COP in Belem was billed as the “COP of Truth” and the “COP of Implementation.” But the truth is that even the much-diluted commitments of the Paris Agreement have not been achieved nor can one say that the stage has been set for their implementation in the post-COP30 period. The year 2024 was the warmest on record, with temperatures rising 1.55°C above pre-industrial levels. Whatever fresh commitments have been submitted so far for the next global stocktake put global warming on a path to reach over 2.5-3°C by the end of the century. A UN Special Report has already warned that even a 1.5°C rise could lead to irreversible and catastrophic consequences for the global ecology. We have already passed that turning point. Yet COP30 promises a “Global Implementation Acceleration” to underscore the “Belem Mission to 1.5°C.” But how? The conference adopted the Mutirao Decision, which resolves to limit “both the magnitude and the duration of any temperature overshoot.” But how will this be possible when it is acknowledged that the “carbon budget consistent with achieving the Paris Agreement’s temperature goal is now small and being depleted.” If truth be told, in a divided and fragmented world, climate is not a priority.

November a blip on GST trend, consider sin tax on junk food

The blip was expected after the Union government’s consumer-friendly reforms in September shrank the GST levy on common goods to two slabs of 5 percent and 18 percent.

Goods and services tax collections are a good barometer of the Indian economy. It is also the foundation of the government’s capital expenditure. No wonder then that November’s GST collections created concern as it slowed to a year’s low of Rs 1.7 lakh crore, down from Rs 1.96 lakh crore the previous month. Year-on-year, too, the growth rate of 0.7 percent was the slowest since the pandemic. This was expected after the Union government’s consumer-friendly reforms in September shrank the GST levy on common goods to two slabs of 5 percent and 18 percent. Meanwhile, conscious of eroding revenue and the end of the GST compensation cess next year on ‘sin’ products like tobacco and pan masala, the government has rushed two Bills in the Lok Sabha to ensure tax income from these products remains unchanged. To put it in context, the overall GST picture remains robust. Collections have tripled since the tax was first implemented in 2017. Last fiscal recorded the highest-ever gross GST collections at Rs 22.08 lakh crore, a 9.4 percent increase over the previous year. Even the October 2025 collection was 4.6 percent higher than the



same month a year ago. This reflects stricter compliance and a rapid increase of registered taxpayers from 65 lakh in 2017 to over 1.51 crore now. November must be seen as a temporary blip caused by the economy adjusting to the

new baseline rates. The move to reform the onerous GST slabs came not a day too soon. Sales across several large segments like cars and consumer goods rose because of the concessions. After all, taxation is not an end in itself. A rollback that improves sales and consumers’ living standards is justified. On the other hand, coming down hard on sin products like tobacco will continue to be subject to debate. Most nations have used the policy tool for raising revenue, knowing well the somewhat inflexible demand on the users’ side. At present, tobacco products are taxed at 28 percent, with the compensation cess taking the effective rate to anything between 40 and 290 percent. If taxation is indeed to be used to coax habits away from unhealthy products, there needs to be another debate—on the GST rates for ultra-processed foods, whose consumption the government repeatedly warns us to moderate or avoid.

Oil diplomacy | An opening to bridge the Gulf

Iran and Saudi Arabia are cautiously getting closer. Their non-oil trade is booming and Iran needs huge investments to upgrade its oil infrastructure. It gives Washington a chance to wean Tehran away from Beijing’s debt-trap diplomacy

In the midst of the insistent Ukraine war and the ominous Iran-Israel conflict, volatility prevailed through the year. Uncertainty chased oil prices higher as the conflicts threatened to polarise regional politics and disrupt supplies through the Strait of Hormuz. There exists a wide chasm between perceptions and reality as rational afterthoughts temper valuations. With the route intact, the risk premium was contained. Tel Aviv’s efforts to unseat the present regime in Tehran are reminiscent of a similar agenda decades earlier. The closure of Suez Canal after the Arab-Israel war in November 1956 lasted five months. It had a catastrophic effect on the British and French energy situation. The strategic waterway facilitated two-thirds of Europe’s oil movement, and Egypt’s nationalisation of this conduit prompted the UK and France to align with Israel in a plan to overthrow President Gamal Abdel Nasser. West Asia’s dominance in oil at that time left no option but international mediation. The disruption had ramifications for Europe and Asia alike. With UN intervention, US President Dwight Eisenhower prevailed upon Britain, France, and Israel to withdraw. The crisis dented British and French influence as it permanently impacted the region’s power equation. Nikita Khrushchev’s opportune support to Egypt was the beginning of the Soviet Union’s friendship with Arab nations, thereby impacting global dynamics for decades. Despite sectarian and political differences, OPEC members align in the face of existential crisis.

Whether to ward off the threat of oligopolistic Anglo-American oil majors in the 1970s, or to ensure price stability in the late 1990s and early 2000s. However, over the past decade, geopolitics motivated the members to engage in solipsistic pursuits. Azerbaijan, a predominantly Shiite Muslim OPEC+ member, remains a key provider of energy to Israel despite international criticism, meeting 40 percent of the latter’s demand while seeking military defence systems and support. Azerbaijan’s 10 percent stake in Tamar, Israel’s large gas field, indicates deeper interests. Beijing endorsed diplomacy as it mediated a Saudi-Iran rapprochement in 2023, counterbalancing Washington’s declining influence in West Asia. However, China shied away from providing territorial security to Iran in the recent Israel-Iran conflict despite its relationship with the Islamic republic that blossomed as sanctions were re-imposed during Trump’s earlier presidency. Saudi Arabia and Iran hold 28 percent of the global oil reserves and provide a third of China’s imports. With the signing of a purported 25-year Comprehensive Strategic Partnership in 2021 between Tehran and Beijing, the latter is investing in Iran’s infrastructure, seeking a steady flow of

heavily-discounted Iranian crude. The highly-fragmented oil production and emerging frontiers in South America and Africa underscore Tehran and



Riyadh’s shared vulnerability. Notwithstanding ideological differences, Tehran is privy to the relevance of forging economic relations with Arab Gulf States to negotiate through Western sanctions and emerge from isolation. Iran’s non-oil exports to Saudi Arabia rose 99 times in March-December 2024. But a cautious trust pervades their yet-fragile accord as Riyadh remains apprehensive of Tehran’s nuclear ambitions. Iran and Saudi Aramco produce light to heavy crudes of similar grades. Though the Iranian crude has a

higher sulphur content, the two largest producers are aware of their distinct presence in products much favoured by refiners for better processing gains. Iran’s ageing hydrocarbon infrastructure needs investments in excess of \$250 billion, with \$150 billion in oil alone, for the next decade and a half to enhance production to 5.5 million barrels per day. Last week, Iran’s state oil company Petropars started development of Farzad B, a key gas field it shares along the kingdom’s maritime borders in the Persian Gulf. These factors could alter Iran-Saudi relations and induce Tehran to gradually steer away from China’s ‘debt trap diplomacy’ as it succumbs to the allure of Riyadh’s growing economic power. This is the right time for the US to review its economic policy. Revisiting the 1954 Consortium Agreement that led to the nationalisation of Iranian oil companies and Shah Reza Pahlavi’s exit in 1979 could offer US oil majors an opportunity to re-enter the territory. Iran could be a gateway in their endeavour to shore up profits and scout for low-cost, high-yield projects. Washington’s recent reprieve to Syria and a 1.65-million-barrel Saudi oil grant to Damascus could also revive Iran’s access. The evolving amity between Washington and Riyadh provides Tehran a chance to capitalise on its chary embrace of the kingdom.

ऐसे करें नन्हे की देखभाल

हैल्दी मसाज

किसी भी नवजात शिशु को मसाज की बहुत आवश्यकता होती है जिससे कि उसकी बॉडी मजबूत तो बनेगी ही, साथ ही प्रॉपर शैप में भी आएगी। छोटे बच्चों की मसाज चेहरे से शुरू कर पांवों तक पहुंचनी चाहिए। बेहतर है कि उसकी मसाज देसी घी से की जाए। यदि अन्य तेल इस्तेमाल करना चाहती हैं तो वह तेज खुशबू वाला नहीं होना चाहिए।

नहलाना है जरूरी

यू तो छोटे बच्चे को रोज गुनगुने पानी से नहलाया जाए तो वह काफी एक्टिव फील करता है। इसके लिए पहले उसे गुनगुने दूध से नहलाएं और बाद में उसे बेबी शैंपू से नहला दें। बहुत छोटे बेबी के नहाने के पानी में बेबी लोशन या ऑयल की कुछ बूंदें डाल दें। जब मौसम अनुकूल न हो तो उसे हर रोज नहलाना भी जरूरी नहीं, गुनगुने पानी में टॉवल भिगो कर उसे स्पंज कर उसके कपड़े बदल दें। बच्चे की स्केल्प पर जन्म के बाद एग्मियोटिक फ्लूइड के अंश लगे रह जाते हैं।

इन्हें एक दिन में हटाने की कोशिश न करें। हर रोज बच्चे के सिर पर बेबी कोम को हल्के हाथों से फिराते हुए निकालें।

नैपी नॉट

बच्चों के लिए डायपर खरीदते समय उसके वजन का ख्याल अवश्य रखें। ये उम्र की अपेक्षा उनके वजन को ध्यान में रख कर बनाए जाते हैं। डायपर को इस ढंग से बांधें कि उसकी स्किन पर रैशेज न पड़ें। इन्हें चेंज करते समय बच्चे के जेननांग की विशेष रूप से सफाई करें।

सॉफ्ट हों परिधान

नन्हे- मुन्नों को हर मौसम में सॉफ्ट परिधान ही चाहिए। उनके कपड़ों की डिजाइनिंग ऐसी होनी चाहिए जिसमें नैपी चेंज करना आसान हो। लेस वाले परिधानों में जहां उसकी उंगलियां फंसने का डर रहता है, वहीं बटन या फूलों वाली ड्रेस उसे चुभ सकती है। ठंडे मौसम में उसे फुल बॉडी सूट तथा गर्मियों में उसे सूती कपड़े के झबले पहनाएं।

जब रो उठे बच्चा

यू तो बच्चों के रोने के कई कारण होते हैं। कई बार वह भूख लगने से रो सकता है, तो कभी उसे नींद आई होती है। कई बार उसकी नैपी गीली

नाजुक से हाथ-पांव, मासूम-सा चेहरा और कोमल सी काया..., ऐसे में नन्हे को गोद में उठाते हुए भी डर लगता है परंतु मां ही ऐसी है, जो बेझिझक बच्चे को अपनी गोद में उठा कर उसे दुलारती और उसकी देखभाल करती है। नाजुक-सी जान के आते ही मां के इतने काम बढ़ जाते हैं कि कई बार तो उसे समझ ही नहीं आता कि वास्तव में वह अपने बच्चे की देखभाल कैसे करे कि उसकी सेहत हर मौसम के हिसाब से सही रहे।

या गंदी हो जाने पर वह रोता है तो कभी थकान या दर्द की वजह से भी रो उठता है। इसके अलावा बच्चा अकेला होने पर डर कर भी रो उठता है। ऐसे में बच्चे को अपनी गोद में लेकर प्यार करें। आपके प्यार भरे स्पर्श से ही वह आश्वस्त हो जाता है कि कोई उसके पास है। यदि फिर भी बच्चे का रोना बंद न हो तो समझ जाए कि उसे कोई तकलीफ है तथा उसे तुरंत डॉक्टर के पास ले जाएं।

सोने की रूटीन

यू तो नवजात शिशु का दिन सोते हुए तथा रात जागते हुए बीतती है, जिससे परिवार के किसी एक सदस्य को भी उसके साथ जागना पड़ता है। लगभग 3-4 माह बाद बच्चे की यह आदत ठीक होने लगती है। अक्सर बच्चे दूध पीते-पीते गहरी नींद सो जाते हैं। बच्चे का बिस्तर मुदगुदा और मुलायम होना चाहिए तथा उसके कमरे में शोर नहीं होना चाहिए।

हैल्थ केयरिंग

बच्चे की हैल्थ से जुड़े हर प्रक्रिफेशन की फाइल बनाएं तथा उसका बर्थ सर्टीफिकेट भी उसमें रखें। पीडियाट्रीशियन के यहां से मिले वैक्सीन के कार्ड को भी इसी फाइल में संभाल कर रख दें। जन्म के बाद के उसके हर ट्रीटमेंट के पेपर इसी में होने चाहिए और जब भी उसे हॉस्पिटल या नर्सिंग होम लेकर जाएं तो इस फाइल को भी साथ में ले जाएं।

सॉलिड फूड

छ- माह तक बच्चे को मां का दूध ही दें तथा उसके बाद डॉक्टर की सलाह पर उसे सॉलिड फूड देना आरंभ करें।



स्टाइलिश बनाएं अपने बाथरूम को

बाथरूम घर के महत्वपूर्ण स्थानों में से एक है, क्योंकि सुबह उठते ही सबसे पहले हम सब सीधे वहीं तो जाते हैं ताकि फ्रेश हो कर दिन भर के लिए तैयार हो सकें। बाथरूम में यदि करीने से सारी एक्सैसरीज रखी जाएं तो उसे खूबसूरत लुक दिया जा सकता है। आजकल बाजार में उपलब्ध विस्तृत रेंज आपके लिए बहुत सारे विकल्प प्रदान करती है, परंतु इस बात का ध्यान रखें कि ये सारी वस्तुएं बाकी सजावट से मेल खाती हों।

दर्पण

दर्पण के बिना बाथरूम अधूरा-सा लगता है, क्योंकि दर्पण किसी भी बाथरूम का एक अभिन्न अंग है और किसी छोटे से बाथरूम को भी यह बढ़ा कर दिखा सकता है। एक स्टाइलिश दर्पण किसी भी जगह को एक शानदार लुक और फील भी प्रदान करेगा। आप अपनी पसंद से डिजाइन और साइज चुन सकती हैं, हालांकि आजकल बड़े आकार के दर्पण लगाने का ट्रेंड है।

नल

बाथरूम को स्टाइलिश लुक देते हैं खूबसूरत डिजाइन और रंगों वाले नल। इसलिए टाइल्स के रंग से मैच करते नल एवं शॉवर इसे खूबसूरती प्रदान करते हैं।

खरीददारी करते समय इस बात का ध्यान रखें कि यदि आप के घर में बच्चे हैं तो ज्यादा कॉलीकटेड नल न लेकर साधारण नल ही लें।

वाशबेसिन

किसी भी बाथरूम का एक अभिन्न हिस्सा उसका वाशबेसिन होता है। इसका रंग बाकी एक्सैसरीज से मेल खाता हो तथा यह सही आकार में होना चाहिए अर्थात यह न ज्यादा छोटा हो और न ही ज्यादा बड़ा, क्योंकि दोनों से ही परेशानी हो सकती है। आप दीवार पर टंगने वाला वाशबेसिन भी चुन सकती हैं या फिर यह स्वतंत्र रूप से खड़ा होने वाला हो।

टायलैटरी होल्डर

साबुन ट्रे और टूथब्रश होल्डर बाथरूम में रखी जाने वाली महत्वपूर्ण और उपयोगी चीजें हैं। हालांकि ये चीजें बहुत छोटी और महत्वहीन लगती हैं, लेकिन इनके बिना निश्चित रूप से आपका बाथरूम अधूरा लगेगा। इसके अलावा आज रंगों और पैटर्न की बड़ी रेंज उपलब्ध होने से ये अद्भुत रूप से बाथरूम का केंद्र बिंदु बन सकते हैं। केवल यह सुनिश्चित करें कि ये बाकी की सजावट और रंगों से मेल खाते हों।



अक्सर चाहे पार्टी का हो या अपनी सगाई और शादी का, सबसे सुंदर दिखना हर लड़की का सपना होता है और आज के माहौल में जहां हर किसी के पास समय का अभाव रहता है वहीं लेजर के माध्यम से कम समय में खूबसूरती पाने का प्रचलन काफी बढ़ गया है। लेजर के द्वारा आप अपने सौंदर्य की अनचाही कमियों को आसानी से छुपा सकती हैं।

ब्राइडल किट में आने वाली सुविधाएं

यह स्किन में बदलाव लाने वाली लेजर



छिपाएं सौंदर्य की अनचाही कमियों को...

उपचार प्रणाली है जिसमें फेस में मौजूद दाग-धब्बों तथा चेहरे पर आई चोट के निशानों को हटाया जाता है। हेयर रिपवशन बॉडी से अनचाहे बालों को हटाता है।

माइक्रोडर्मा ब्रेसन

यह एक नई तकनीक है जिसे लेजर फेशियल कहा जाता है जो त्वचा को आंतरिक चमक देती है। लेजर पद्धति की इन

प्रक्रियाओं में सबसे ज्यादा लेजर फेशियल को पसंद किया जा रहा है।

दूध व्हाइटनिंग

इस प्रक्रिया द्वारा दांतों की चमक को बढ़ा कर आपकी मुस्कान को सुंदर बनाया जाता है।

डर्मा सिल्क फेशियल

डर्मा सिल्क फेशियल के अंतर्गत डायमंड मोनो आक्साइड क्रिस्टल का प्रयोग किया जाता है और नई त्वचा के ऊपर पीली रंग की क्रोमोलाइट के द्वारा स्किन के भीतरी तत्वों का उपचार किया जाता है जो त्वचा को पोषण प्रदान करने वाले भागों को सक्रिय करता है। यह साधारण तौर पर लिए जाने वाले फेशियल से पांच गुणा अधिक लाभ पहुंचाता है।

क्रोमोलाइट फेशियल

इस फेशियल के तहत डैड स्किन को हटाया जाता है और नई त्वचा के ऊपर पीली रंग की क्रोमोलाइट के द्वारा स्किन के भीतरी तत्वों का उपचार किया जाता है जो त्वचा को पोषण प्रदान करने वाले भागों को सक्रिय करता है। यह साधारण तौर पर लिए जाने वाले फेशियल से पांच गुणा अधिक लाभ पहुंचाता है।

टायलैट रोल स्टैंड

यह आपको किसी महत्वहीन एक्सैसरी की तरह लग सकता है, लेकिन यकीनन यह सबसे अधिक इस्तेमाल होने वाली चीज है। गीली टॉयलैट सीट या फिर धोने के बाद हाथ पोछने के लिए टिशू का अभाव किसी को भी पसंद नहीं होता। टॉयलैट रोल होल्डर खरीदते समय ध्यान रखें कि वह कवर वाला हो। ऐसा करने से शॉवर का इस्तेमाल करने पर टिशू रोल गीला नहीं होगा।

इस्टबिन

बेशक यह बाथरूम की सबसे अधिक महत्वपूर्ण चीजों में से एक है। आखिर आप रैपर, बेकार टिशू पेपर, टायलैटरीज जैसे साबुन, टूथपेस्ट आदि के बचे हुए टुकड़े अपने बाथरूम के फर्श पर तो गिराना नहीं चाहेंगे। कूड़े पर मक्खियों और कीड़ों को बैठने से बचाने के लिए कवर वाला कचरे का डिब्बा एक बेहतर विकल्प है। विशेष रूप से पैडल टाइप कवर वाले डिब्बे को खोलने और बंद करने के लिए आपको झुकना नहीं पड़ेगा।

लांड्री बास्केट

यह आवश्यक नहीं है, परंतु बाथरूम में एक अच्छी चीज है। लांड्री बास्केट होने से परिवार के सभी लोग धोने वाले कपड़ों को एक ही जगह रख

पाएंगे और इससे हर कमरे में जाकर कपड़े ढूँढने की आपकी परेशानी समाप्त हो जाएगी।

बाथरूम में स्टाइलिश कैबिनेट

आपके बाथरूम में उपलब्ध जगह के अनुसार आप एक दर्पणयुक्त पैनल का विकल्प चुन सकती हैं, ताकि एक अतिरिक्त दर्पण की आवश्यकता समाप्त हो जाए।

ग्लास डोर कैबिनेट

इस कैबिनेट के डोर ग्लास के बने होते हैं जो देखने में शानदार लगता है। आप इसके अंदर सामान रख सकते हैं तथा इसे वाश बेसिन के ऊपर भी इंस्टॉल कर सकते हैं।

वैनिटी कैबिनेट

बाथरूम वैनिटी कैबिनेट कई स्टाइल में बाजार में उपलब्ध हैं। ढेरों ऑप्शन्स में से पसंदीदा डिजाइन चुन कर आप इन्हें बाथरूम के साइज के अनुसार सैट कर सकती हैं। यह आपको सिंगल वाश बेसिन या डबल वाश बेसिन दोनों ही तरह से मिल जाएगा। इसे सीधे प्लेटर पर भी रख सकते हैं। इसमें आपको मिरर लगा मिलेगा और वाश बेसिन भी साथ होगा। नीचे की तरफ काऊंटर बने होंगे जिनमें आप सामान रख सकते

हैं, इस तरह हुआ न यह थ्री इन वन।

अल्मीरा कैबिनेट

ये कैबिनेट अलमारीनुमा है जिसे आप ज्यादा स्पेस वाले बाथरूम में रख सकते हैं। इसमें आपको सामान रखने की भरपूर स्पेस मिलेगी।

मिरर कैबिनेट

यदि बाथरूम छोटा हो तो आप मिरर कैबिनेट

का इस्तेमाल कर सकती हैं। इसमें कैबिनेट के दरवाजे में मिरर लगा होता है। यह कैबिनेट कम स्पेस को ध्यान में रखकर इस्तेमाल की जा सकती है।

वाल माऊंटेड कैबिनेट

इसे आप बाथरूम की दीवारों पर सैट कर सकती हैं, जिसमें सामान रखने के लिए कबड्डी तो होता ही है, टॉवल टांगने के लिए भी जगह होती है।





Shilpa Shetty

Moves Bombay High Court, Seeks Protection Of Personality Rights



Several actors have been reaching court for protection of their personality rights, and the newest to be on the list is Shilpa Shetty. As per report, Shilpa Shetty has filed a case in the Bombay High Court seeking personality rights protection. The suit includes the names of several websites which use or have used the actress's picture illegally.

Besides this, several morphed pictures and videos of the actress have also surfaced, which have prompted Shilpa to take such steps. As per HT, Shilpa's suit has been filed by advocate Sana Raees Khan. Sana has shared with the publication, "Ms. Shilpa Shetty has built her reputation over decades of work, and no entity can appropriate her name or likeness without consent. The unauthorised commercial exploitation of her identity is an outright assault on her dignity and hard-earned reputation. No individual or platform has the right to exploit her reputation for unlawful commercial gain, and we will ensure strict enforcement of her personality rights. We have moved the Bombay High Court to put a stop to such misuse and to safeguard her identity from being treated as a commodity."

In recent times, several celebrities, including Aishwarya Rai, Abhishek Bachchan, Amitabh Bachchan, Karan Johar, Rishab Shetty, Jaya Bachchan, Hrithik Roshan, and Akkineni Nagarjuna, also moved court to seek protection of their personality rights. The Bombay High Court has recently passed comparable orders for Amitabh Bachchan, Aishwarya Rai Bachchan, Abhishek Bachchan, and others, reinforcing stronger protections against the unauthorised commercial use of their names, images, and voice.

What Are Personality Rights?

Personality rights refer to an individual's legal entitlement to control the commercial and public use of their identity. They safeguard attributes that are uniquely linked to a person, such as their name, image, likeness, voice, signature, or even trademark catchphrases, from being exploited without consent. These rights are often broken into two branches – the Right of Publicity and the Right to Privacy. The former protects against unauthorised commercial exploitation, such as using a celebrity's face in advertisements. On the other hand, the right to privacy guards against intrusion into personal dignity, covering misuse through deepfakes, morphed images, fabricated endorsements, or intimate doctored content.



Smriti Mandhana Best Friend Radha Yadav Unfollows Palash Muchhal As Wedding Gets Postponed

Palash Muchhal has been in the news ever since his wedding with the cricket star Smriti Mandhana was postponed. While both families cited Smriti's father's sudden health scare as the reason, several rumours of the music composer allegedly cheating on the cricketer have also been making headlines.

Amid all this, Smriti's best friend and cricketer Radha Yadav has also unfollowed Palash on Instagram. While Palash still follows Radha on the social media platform, the latter has unfollowed the music composer.

This comes hours after several social media reports claimed that Smriti has also unfollowed Palash on Instagram. But it turned out to be false. Palash and Smriti still follow each other on the platform.

Palash Muchhal's Cousin Defends Him

Earlier today, Palash's cousin Neeti Tak also issued a statement addressing the swirling rumours and urging the public to refrain from making assumptions about the singer's character. Sharing a gradient background post, she wrote: "Palaash is going through a critical condition today, you all should not judge Palaash as wrong without knowing the truth... Technology today has come much ahead of humans, that is why people should not judge Palaash in the face of rumours... pray for him."

Why Is Palash's Wedding With Smriti Postponed?

Palash and Smriti were set to tie the knot on November 23 in Smriti's hometown of Sangli, Maharashtra. However, their wedding has been postponed indefinitely due to the cricketer's father's health. According to reports, Shrinivas Mandhana began experiencing chest discomfort on the morning of the wedding and was immediately taken to Sarvhit Hospital and Medical Research Centre. The family decided to call off the celebrations as doctors conducted tests and stabilised his condition. The emotional strain extended to Palaash as well. His mother told Hindustan Times that the singer shared a very close bond with Smriti's father, and the situation deeply affected him. "He cried so much that his health suddenly deteriorated."

Aneet Padda Recalls How She Decided To Become An Actor: 'My Mom Kept Saying...'



Aneet Padda's acting journey started long before Saiyaara. She worked as a model in her teens, appearing in several ads and campaigns. Her acting debut came with a small role in Kajol's Salaam Venky in 2022, followed by the Amazon Prime series Big Girls Don't Cry in 2024. She later featured in the show Yuva Sapno Ka Safar before becoming a sensation after Saiyaara. But do you know what convinced Aneet to take up acting?

"As a kid, I was this oblivious child, always daydreaming," Aneet Padda told Grazia India. "I would memorise the poem and deliver it very blandly, and my mom kept saying, 'You just have to understand what it means. Stop overthinking and say it the way you feel it.'"

Aneet followed her mother's advice and won the first prize in a poetry competition. "I remember thinking, wow, that feels kind of nice. I wouldn't mind another one," she added. Soon after, she started taking part in her school's plays, sometimes even portraying the role of a tree.

However, her teachers noticed her talent. "They noticed the emotion I brought to poetry could naturally translate to a performance," Aneet said. Her principal told her, "You're very good at this. I don't think you know." This was when Aneet felt that she could take up acting professionally.

Aneet Padda has enjoyed a meteoric rise since Saiyaara, but the sudden attention hasn't been all easy. The young actor, who is now gearing up for Shakti Shalini, said she often feels overwhelmed by the love and expectations coming her way. She said, "I'm very sensitive. I feel things deeply.

So, the responsibility of love, that weight of wanting to do right by the people who support you, that can feel pressurising. It's beautiful, but sometimes, it is a lot."

Aneet's fan base has grown rapidly online, where edits, reels and fan pages celebrate her performances, especially her onscreen chemistry with Saiyaara co-star Ahaan Panday. Talking about the love she receives, she added, "I cry once a week looking at the edits my fans make. The effort, the love, I just hope I can do justice to it." Aneet is now working on Shakti Shalini, Maddock Films' upcoming horror comedy.

Ayesha Khan's

Red Gown Look At Kis Kis Ko Pyaar Karoon 2 Trailer Launch Is Unmissable

Ayesha Khan, who first grabbed the spotlight with Bigg Boss 17, has been unstoppable ever since. From ruling Instagram to featuring in Dil Ko Rafu Kar Le, she's now gearing up for her much-awaited big-screen debut with the sequel of Kis Kis Ko Pyaar Karoon. At the trailer launch of the Kapil Sharma starrer, Ayesha was spotted in a ravishing red gown featuring a plunging neckline. The gown's silhouette beautifully accentuated her body shape, making her stand out effortlessly. Her hair was styled in soft curls, and she opted for a dewy makeup look.

In another paparazzi video, Ayesha was seen chatting with her co-star Parul Gulati, who also looked stunning in a black cut-out dress. Their warm camaraderie was clearly visible in the video.

Kis Kis Ko Pyaar Karoon 2 Trailer

The trailer for the sequel to the 2015 film has finally dropped, promising yet another dose of entertainment. This time too, Kapil's character finds himself tangled in a hilariously chaotic situation involving four wives, setting the stage for a fun-filled ride. Sharing the trailer on Instagram, Kapil's caption read, "4 wives...! Don't try this at home, this stunt is performed by our expert." The film is slated to release on December 12.

A user commented on the trailer, "Looks very promising and very excited to watch the epic comedy." Another wrote, "Comedy ka pitaara." Someone added, "Ghazab paaji, blockbuster hit!" An individual remarked, "This actually looks good... 2-3 jagah genuinely hasa."

Cast and Crew Of The Film

The cast of the film includes Kapil Sharma, Ayesha Khan, Hira Warina, Parul Gulati, Tridha Choudhury, Manjot Singh, Supriya Shukla, Smita Jayakar, Akhilendra Mishra, Vipin Kumar Sharma and Sushant Singh. The film is directed and written by Anukalp Goswami and is being bankrolled by Ratan Jain, Ganesh Jain and Abbas Mustan. It will be interesting to see the comedy king return to the big screen after ruling the digital space with his show, The Great Indian Kapil Show.



गुमला में ब्राउन शुगर तस्करी के चार आरोपी गिरफ्तार



गुमला,एजेंसी। गुमला पुलिस ने ब्राउन शुगर के कारोबार पर नकेल कसते हुए चार आरोपियों को गिरफ्तार कर जेल भेज दिया है। बुधवार रात दो अलग-अलग स्थानों पर छापेमारी कर पुलिस ने आधा दर्जन लोगों को हिरासत में लिया था, जिनमें से चार को गुरुवार को न्यायिक हिरासत में भेजा गया। मिली जानकारी के अनुसार, ब्राउन शुगर की खरीद-बिक्री की गुप्त सूचना पर गुमला थाना पुलिस ने बुधवार देर रात करीब 8-30 बजे फसिया पंचायत के लक्ष्मण नगर स्थित मनीष नायक के मकान पर छापा मारा। मकान के एक कमरे में तीन युवक बैठे मिले। तलाशी के दौरान सागर कुमार के पास से 7 ग्राम, मनीष नायक के पास से 3 ग्राम और चंदन कुमार के पास से 10 ग्राम ब्राउन शुगर बरामद की गई। पूछताछ में तीनों ने ब्राउन शुगर की खरीद-बिक्री में अपनी सलिसता स्वीकार की। इसी क्रम में, गुमला थाना पुलिस ने बुधवार मध्य रात्रि गुमला बाजार टांड से तीन अन्य युवकों को हिरासत में लिया। तलाशी लेने पर मोहम्मद इरशाद अंसारी के पास से 24 ग्राम ब्राउन शुगर बरामद हुई।

मोहम्मद शाहिद और मोहम्मद अली हसन नामक अन्य दो युवकों की तलाशी ली गई, लेकिन प्रथम दृष्टया ब्राउन शुगर के कारोबार में उनकी सलिसता नहीं पाई गई, जिसके बाद उन्हें पूछताछ के बाद छोड़ दिया गया। पुलिस ने ब्राउन शुगर के कुल चार कारोबारियों को गिरफ्तार कर जेल भेज दिया है।

पलामू में पांच एकड़ में नष्ट की गयी अफीम फसल



पलामू,एजेंसी। पलामू के मनातू थाना क्षेत्र में अवैध अफीम की खेती पर कार्रवाई की गयी। लगभग पांच एकड़ में लगी फसल नष्ट की गयी। घटनास्थल से बरामद सामान को मौके पर ही नष्ट किया गया, जिसमें एक सेक्शन पाइप, 125 मीटर बिजली तार, एक डिलीवरी पाइप शामिल है। एउ गुप्त सूचना मिलने पर मनातू के केदल गांव के टोला फुलापाखा में वन विभाग एवं पुलिस द्वारा संयुक्त अभियान चलाया गया। अभियान के दौरान लगभग 05 एकड़ में अवैध रूप से लगी अफीम की खेती को चिन्हित करते हुए मौके पर ही विनष्ट कर दिया गया। घटनास्थल से एक सेक्शन पाइप, 125 मीटर बिजली का तार, एक डिलीवरी पाइप बरामद हुई। अवैध रूप से अफीम की खेती करने वाले व्यक्तियों के नाम-पता का सत्यापन किया जा रहा है। दोषियों की पहचान के बाद उनके विरुद्ध कानूनी कार्रवाई की जाएगी। मामले को लेकर अग्रतर कार्रवाई जारी है। संयुक्त अभियान में मनातू वनपाल प्रभारी राजेश गुप्ता, वनकर्मी अमरेश कुमार, वनकर्मी रंजीत कुमार, मनातू थाना के पुलिस पदाधिकारी एवं सशस्त्र बल शामिल थे।

रेलवे साइडिंग में फायरिंग करने वाला अपराधी पिस्तौल के साथ गिरफ्तार

रामगढ़,एजेंसी। रामगढ़ जिले के भुरकुंडा रेलवे साइडिंग पर गोली चलाने वाला अपराधी गिरफ्तार किया गया है। उसके पास से पुलिस ने एक पिस्तौल भी बरामद किया है। इस मामले में गुरुवार को पतरातु एसडीपीओ गौरव गोस्वामी ने भदानीनगर ओपी में एक प्रेस कॉन्फ्रेंस किया। उन्होंने बताया कि रेलवे साइडिंग गेट पर विगत दो सितंबर को फायरिंग हुई थी। कांड में शामिल पतरातु ब्लॉक मोड़ निवासी कैलाश यादव के पुत्र अजय कुमार यादव उर्फ छोट उर्फ लंगड़ा को गिरफ्तार किया गया है।

शादी में शामिल होने आए अपराधी को पुलिस ने दबोचा : एसडीपीओ गौरव गोस्वामी ने बताया कि अजय कुमार यादव एक शादी में शामिल होने के लिए एक बार फिर पतरातू क्षेत्र में घुसा था।भदानीनगर थाना (कांड संख्या- 223/25) के अभियुक्त को पकड़ने के लिए पुलिस ने जाल बिछाया। छापेमारी टीम ने ब्लॉक मोड़ के आसपास घेराबंदी की। इस दौरान पुलिस बल को देखा जाने के बाद का प्रयास किया गया, जिस टीम ने धर-दबोचा। उसकी निशानदेही पर वारदात में प्रयुक्त एक देशी पिस्टल व दो 7.65 कारतूस बरामद किया गया।

झारखंड में आज से बढ़ सकती है ठिठुरन:रांची समेत 11 जिलों में शीतलहर की संभावना

5 जिलों का तापमान 11 डिग्री से कम



रांची,एजेंसी। झारखंड में शुक्रवार से ठंड लोगों को ज्यादा परेशान कर सकती है। बर्फीली हवा के चलने से लोगों को ठिठुरन महसूस होगी। मौसम केंद्र रांची ने

आसमान साफ होने और न्यूनतम तापमान में गिरावट की संभावना जताई है। वहीं, आज कई क्षेत्रों में शीतलहर चलने की संभावना बनी हुई है। इस दौरान रांची का

दहेज में नहीं मिले दो लाख , ब्राउन शुगर के साथ तीन तस्कर गिरफ्तार तो पत्नी को घर से निकाला



रामगढ़,एजेंसी। रामगढ़ जिले के रजरप्पा थाना क्षेत्र अंतर्गत ढुट्टा गांव में दहेज के लिए एक विवाहिता को घर से निकाल दिया गया। ससुराल वालों के जरिये विवाहिता को प्रताड़ित करने के मामले में रामगढ़ महिला थाने में प्राथमिकी दर्ज की गई है। पीड़िता लाड़ली परवीन के बयान पर ससुराल के पांच सदस्यों पर प्राथमिकी दर्ज हुई है। गुरुवार को महिला थाना प्रभारी वीणा कुमारी ने बताया कि रामगढ़ थाना क्षेत्र के हैसला गांव निवासी

लाड़ली परवीन की शादी छह अप्रैल 2019 को ढुट्टा निवासी सरफराज अहमद के साथ हुई थी। शादी के दौरान दहेज में नगद और कई सामान दिए गए थे। शादी के कुछ दिनों बाद ही दोबारा ससुराल वालों ने दो लाख रुपये नगद की मांग रख डाली।परवीन ने बताया कि दो लाख रुपये नहीं देने की वजह से ससुराल वालों की ओर से उसके पति के जरिये उसके साथ मारपीट भी की गई। उसे प्रताड़ित कर घर से निकाल दिया गया।

सरायकेला में जंगल के बीच चल रही अवैध विदेशी शराब फैक्ट्री का भंडाफोड़



सरायकेला, एजेंसी। नववर्ष के महेनजुर जिले में अवैध शराब निर्माण और बिक्री पर रोक लगाने के लिए, पुलिस प्रशासन की ओर से चलाए जा रहे विशेष अभियान के तहत गम्हरिया क्षेत्र में बड़ी सफलता हाथ लगी है। उपायुक्त नितिश कुमार सिंह के आदेश और उत्पाद अधीक्षक सौरभ कुमार

तिवारी के निर्देशन में गुरुवार को गंजिया बैराज के पास जंगलों में बने एक अस्थायी ढांचे पर छापेमारी की गई, जहां अवैध विदेशी शराब तैयार की जा रही थी। ज्योति भट्ट के समीप स्थित इस स्थल पर बनी फैक्ट्री से बड़ी मात्रा में स्प्रिट, रंगीन तैयार तरल, विभिन्न ब्रांडों की खाली बोतलें, ढक्कन, कॉर्क,

नकली लेबल, आसंजक पदार्थ और स्वादद्वारा के लिए प्रयुक्त कैरामेल बरामद किए गए। इसके अलावा मैकडॉवेल, रॉयल स्ट्रैंग, स्टर्लिंग रिजर्व, रॉयल चैलेंजर और आइकॉनिक जैसे ब्रांडों की बनी-बनाई बोतलें भी पेट्टियों में भरी मिलीं। कार्रवाई के दौरान पुलिस और उत्पाद विभाग ने लगभग 200 लीटर स्प्रिट, 50 लीटर अवैध विदेशी शराब और 2 लीटर कैरामेल जब्त किया। साथ ही भारी संख्या में खाली बोतलें, ढक्कन, कॉर्क और नकली लेबल भी कब्जे में लिए गए। अवैध कारोबार से जुड़े लोगों की पहचान की जा रही है और उनकी गिरफ्तारी के लिए आगे की कार्रवाई जारी है। पूरे मामले में उत्पाद अधिनियम की सुसंगत धाराओं के तहत प्राथमिकी दर्ज की जा रही है।

राजनगर में ज्वेलरी दुकान से चांदी के जेवर चोरी

सरायकेला, एजेंसी। सरायकेला जिले के राजनगर थाना क्षेत्र में बीती रात एक ज्वेलरी दुकान में चोरी हो गई। चोरों ने दुकान का ताला तोड़कर चांदी के जेवरत चुरा ली। वारदात का सीसीटीवी फुटेज सामने आया है, जिसमें संदिग्ध चोरों की गतिविधियां स्पष्ट रूप से दिख रही हैं। शनिवार सुबह घटना की जानकारी मिलते ही राजनगर थाना पुलिस मौके पर पहुंची। पुलिस ने मामले की छानबीन शुरू कर दी है और सीसीटीवी फुटेज के आधार पर चोरों की पहचान करने में जुटी है। स्थानीय लोगों में इस घटना को लेकर गहरा आक्रोश है। उनका कहना है कि क्षेत्र में लगातार बढ़ रही चोरी की घटनाओं ने सुरक्षा व्यवस्था पर सवाल खड़े कर दिए हैं। दुकान मालिक ने भी चोरी से भारी नुकसान की आशंका जताई है। राजनगर क्षेत्र में पहले भी कई चोरी की वारदातें हो चुकी हैं, लेकिन पुलिस को अब तक कोई खास सफलता नहीं मिली है

बोकारो हवाई अड्डा से उड़ान सेवा प्रारंभ करने की तैयारियां तेज

बोकारो,एजेंसी। बोकारो हवाई अड्डा से शीघ्र उड़ान सेवा शुरू करने की दिशा में तैयारियां अंतिम चरण में हैं। गुरुवार को हवाई अड्डा परिसर में उपायुक्त अजय नाथ झा की अध्यक्षता में हुई समीक्षा बैठक में विभिन्न कार्यों की प्रगति पर विस्तार से चर्चा की गई।

उपायुक्त ने हवाई अड्डा की सुरक्षा व्यवस्था को सर्वोच्च

प्राथमिकता देते हुए दुर्दिबाग क्षेत्र से अतिक्रमण हटाने का निर्देश दिया। उन्होंने कहा कि सुरक्षा मानकों के अनुसार हवाई अड्डा के निर्माण सफाई सुनिश्चित की जाए। बैठक में सिविल सर्जन को सुरक्षा मानकों के अनुसार टू-बेड एंबुलेंस की खरीद प्रक्रिया तेजी से पूरा करने का निर्देश दिया गया। वहीं पुलिस अधीक्षक हरविंदर सिंह ने हवाई अड्डा सुरक्षा

पूरा करने का निर्देश दिया। उन्होंने बीएसएल प्रबंधन से कहा कि परिसर में लगे टावरों के बीच विजिबिलिटी स्पष्ट रखने के लिए निर्मित सफाई सुनिश्चित की जाए। बैठक में सिविल सर्जन को सुरक्षा मानकों के अनुसार टू-बेड एंबुलेंस की खरीद प्रक्रिया तेजी से पूरा करने का निर्देश दिया गया। वहीं पुलिस अधीक्षक हरविंदर सिंह ने हवाई अड्डा सुरक्षा

मानकों के अनुरूप निर्माण कार्यों को समय पर पूरा करने पर बल दिया।समीक्षा बैठक में पुलिस अधीक्षक हरविंदर सिंह, एयरपोर्ट अथॉरिटी रांची के उप महाप्रबंधक मनोज सिंह, बिरसा मुंडा हवाई अड्डा रांची के निदेशक विनोद कुमार, प्रशिक्षु वन प्रमंडल पदाधिकारी संदीप शिंदे, सिविल सर्जन अभय भूषण प्रसाद सहित अन्य अधिकारी उपस्थित रहे।

अमन साहू गिरोह का लेवी ट्रांसफर करने वाला गिरफ्तार

लातेहार,एजेंसी।लातेहार पुलिस ने अमन साहू और राहुल सिंह गिरोह की आर्थिक आपराधिक गतिविधियों पर रोक लगाने के अभियान में बड़ी सफलता हासिल की है। बालूमाथ थाना कांड संख्या 12/2025 के तहत पुलिस ने गिरोह के लिए लेवी का पैसा जमा करने और ट्रांसफर करने वाले एक सहयोगी को गिरफ्तार किया है। गिरफ्तार आरोपी की पहचान रांची के लोअर बाजार स्थित आजाद नगर निवासी शाहीद अंसारी के रूप में हुई है। बालूमाथ इस्पेक्टर परमानंद बिरुआ ने इस गिरफ्तारी की जानकारी दी। इस्पेक्टर बिरुआ ने बताया कि जांच के दौरान

पुलिस को गिरोह के पैसे के लेनदेन और सदस्यों के बीच संपर्क के सबूत मिले। नवंबर 2024 से अब तक लगभग 50 लाख रुपए नगद और ऑनलाइन माध्यम से गिरोह के लिए जमा या ट्रांसफर किए गए थे। इस पूरे लेन-देन में शाहीद अंसारी की अहम भूमिका है। उन्होंने यह भी बताया कि गिरफ्तार शाहीद अंसारी मधुपुर जेल में बंद आकाश राय उर्फ मोनू का साढ़ू है। वह कई वर्षों से गिरोह की आर्थिक गतिविधियों में शामिल रहा है। पूछताछ में उसने अपना अपराध स्वीकार कर लिया है। पुलिस ने उसके पास से एक एंड्रॉयड मोबाइल फोन भी बरामद किया है।

दुमका,एजेंसी।

पांच लाख की रगदारी नहीं देने पर पांच दिन पूर्व देर रात पुलिस लाइन के समीप राधिका होटल पर 4 राउंड फायरिंग करने के मामले में पुलिस ने दो भाई सहित पांच लोगों को गिरफ्तार कर गुरुवार को जेल भेज दिया। गिरफ्तार आरोपितों में किशोर यादव, उसका भाई बाबुल यादव, अनूप यादव, कौशल यादव और राजकुमार यादव शामिल हैं। अब भी तीन नामजद सह अज्ञात आरोपी फरार है। पुलिस वारदात में इस्तेमाल करने वाले स्कॉपियों को भी जब्त किया है। जानकारी के अनुसार मुफस्सिल थाना क्षेत्र के डीआईजी आवास से चंद दूरी पर दुमका-रामपुरहाट मुख्य पथ पर राधिका होटल में आरोपियों ने फायरिंग कर दहशत फैलाने का काम किया गया। पूरी वारदात सीसीटीवी कैमरे में कैद हो गई थी। दर्ज प्राथमिकी में होटल मालिक प्रतुल मंडल ने पांच लाख की रंगदारी मांगने और जान से मारने के प्रयास में गोली चलाने का आरोप लगाया था।



मामले का उद्बेदन गुरुवार को पुलिस सभागार में करते हुए एसपी पीतांबर सिंह खेरवार ने बताया कि राधिका होटल के संचालक और आरोपियों के बीच पहले से कुछ विवाद चल रहा था।

बीते 30 नवंबर की रात आरोपियों ने होटल के बाहर चार राउंड फायरिंग की थी।

कुमार महतो के नेतृत्व में पुलिस टीम का गठन किया गया था। इधर घटना को अंजाम देने के बाद सभी फरार हो गए थे। पुलिस टीम लगातार आरोपियों की तलाश कर रही थी। सीसीटीवी फुटेज हाथ में आने के बाद पुलिस ने जामा और बिहार के भागलपुर से इन पांचों आरोपियों को गिरफ्तार करने में सफल रही। एसपी ने बताया कि अभी तक गोलीबारी में प्रयुक्त प्रयुक्त पिस्तौल बरामद नहीं हुआ है।

झारखंड में आज से बढ़ सकती है ठिठुरन

रांची एजेंसी। झारखंड में शुक्रवार से ठंड लोगों को ज्यादा परेशान कर सकती है। बर्फीली हवा के चलने से लोगों को ठिठुरन महसूस होगी। मौसम केंद्र रांची ने आसमान साफ होने और न्यूनतम तापमान में गिरावट की संभावना जताई है। वहीं, आज कई क्षेत्रों में शीतलहर चलने की संभावना बनी हुई है।इस दौरान रांची का न्यूनतम तापमान भी आठ डिग्री के नीचे जाने की संभावना है। मौसम विभाग ने 5 और 6 दिसंबर को शीत लहर का यलो अलर्ट जारी किया है। चतरा, गुमला, लातेहार, लोहरदगा, सिमडेगा, खुंटी, रांची, बोकारो और रामगढ़ जिलों में कहीं-कहीं शीत लहर चलने की संभावना बनी हुई है।

देश में ऑटोमोबाइल इंडस्ट्री का भविष्य उज्ज्वल, आने वाले वर्षों में दुनिया में पहले स्थान पर होगा उद्योग: नितिन गडकरी

एजेंसी नई दिल्ली। केंद्रीय सड़क परिवहन और राजमार्ग मंत्री नितिन गडकरी ने कहा कि देश की ऑटोमोबाइल इंस्ट्री तेजी से आगे बढ़ रही है और आने वाले वर्षों में यह दुनिया में पहले स्थान पर पहुंच सकती है। केंद्रीय मंत्री ने लोकसभा में कहा कि जब मैंने मंत्री पद संभाला था, हमारी ऑटोमोबाइल इंस्ट्री दुनिया में सातवें स्थान पर थी, लेकिन अब जापान को पछाड़कर दुनिया में तीसरे स्थान पर गई है। भारत के ऑटोमोबाइल इंस्ट्री पर गडकरी ने आगे कहा कि भरे सह मंत्री हरदीप पुरी वैकल्पिक ईंधन पर काम कर रहे हैं। वहीं, प्रहलाद जोशी ग्रीन हाइड्रोजन मिशन पर काम कर रहे हैं। इससे देश के ऑटोमोबाइल इंस्ट्री के आकार को बढ़ाने में मदद मिलेगी। गडकरी के मुताबिक, अमेरिका 79 लाख करोड़ रुपए के साथ दुनिया का सबसे बड़ा ऑटोमोबाइल मार्केट है। चीन 49 लाख करोड़ रुपए के साथ दूसरे स्थान पर है। अब 22 लाख करोड़ रुपए के आकार के साथ भारत दुनिया की तीसरी सबसे बड़ी ऑटोमोबाइल इंस्ट्री है। केंद्रीय मंत्री ने आगे कहा कि हमारा देश करीब 22 लाख करोड़ रुपए के जीवाश्म ईंधन का आयात करता है। इस कारण हमारी सरकार की प्राथमिकता वैकल्पिक ईंधन और बायोप्यूल है। यह आयात का अच्छा विकल्प है। साथ ही लागत प्रभावी और प्रदूषण से मुक्त है, जिसका सामना आज के समय दिल्ली कर रही है। गडकरी के मुताबिक, देश में फास्ट चार्जिंग पर तेजी से काम हो रहा है। हमें एक ऐसे चार्जिंग सिस्टम की जरूरत है जो ट्रक, बस, स्कूटर्स, तिपहिया और दोपहिया वाहनों के लिए उपयोगी हो।

सांसद अनुराग शर्मा ने संसद में उठाई फ्रीज सर्किल रेट व पुनर्वास मूल्यांकन की गंभीर समस्या

झांसी। झांसी-ललितपुर लोकसभा क्षेत्र के सांसद अनुराग शर्मा ने आज लोकसभा में बुंदेलखंड औद्योगिक विकास प्राधिकरण (बीड़ा) के भूमि अधिग्रहण से जुड़ी जमीनी समस्याओं को जोरदार तरीके से उठाया। उन्होंने फ्रीज सर्किल रेट और पुनर्वास भूमि के मूल्यांकन में हो रही अनियमितताओं को किसानों के लिए अत्यंत कष्टकारी बताया। सांसद शर्मा ने कहा कि केंद्र सरकार और मुख्यमंत्री योगी आदित्यनाथ द्वारा बुंदेलखंड को औद्योगिक विकास की दिशा में आगे बढ़ाने के लिए किए गए प्रयास ऐतिहासिक हैं, लेकिन विकास तभी सार्थक होगा जब किसानों के साथ पूर्ण न्याय सुनिश्चित हो। उन्होंने सदन को अवगत कराया कि कई गांवों में वर्षों से सर्किल रेट में वृद्धि नहीं हुई है, जबकि बाजार मूल्य कई गुना बढ़ चुके हैं। उन्होंने कहा कि पुराने सर्किल रेट के आधार पर मुआवजा निर्धारण होने से किसान गंभीर आर्थिक नुकसान झेल रहे हैं। जिस गांव में सर्किल रेट अद्यतन नहीं है, वहां वास्तविक बाजार दर के अनुरूप मुआवजा मिल पाना असंभव हो जाता है। सांसद ने स्पष्ट कहा कि इस व्यवस्था में तुरंत सुधार की आवश्यकता है ताकि किसानों को उन्ना हक मिल सके और विकास प्रक्रिया में वे पीड़ित नहीं, बल्कि भागीदार बनें।

नागर विमानन मंत्री ने इंडिगो संकट पर की बैठक, जल्द परिचालन सामान्य करने का दिया निर्देश

नई दिल्ली। केंद्रीय नागर विमानन मंत्री किंजरापु राम मोहन नायडू ने गहरे परिचालन संकट से गुजर रही इंडिगो एयरलाइंस में व्यापक परिचालन गतिरोध उत्पन्न होने पर गंभीर चिंता जताते हुए एक उच्च स्तरीय बैठक की। नायडू ने विमान कंपनी को जल्द-से-जल्द परिचालन सामान्य करने का निर्देश दिया। इससे पहले इंडिगो ने डीजीसीए को सूचित किया कि वह 08 दिसंबर से उड़ानों की संख्या कम करेगी और 10 फरवरी, 2026 तक पूरी तरह से स्थिर संचालन बहाल हो जाएगा। नागरिक उड्डयन मंत्रालय ने जारी एक बयान में बताया कि किंजरापु राम मोहन नायडू ने इंडिगो एयरलाइंस से उड़ान परिचालन को तत्काल सामान्य करने को कहा है। नायडू ने एयरलाइंस से यह सुनिश्चित करने को कहा कि मौजूदा हालात में हवाई क्रियाएं में बहोतरी न हो। केंद्रीय मंत्री ने इसके साथ ही स्पष्ट तौर पर कहा कि मौजूदा स्थिति का हवाला देकर हवाई क्रियाएं में किसी भी तरह की बहोतरी स्वीकार नहीं की जाएगी। नायडू ने इंडिगो को उड़ानें रद्द होने की सूचना यात्रियों को सक्रियता से देने का निर्देश दिया। इंडिगो के उड़ानों के संचालन में पैदा हुए भारी गतिरोध के बीच नायडू ने नए फ्लाइट ड्यूटी नियमों को लागू करने के इंडिगो के तरीके पर नाज़ूकी जताई। बैठक में इंडिगो ने उड़ानें रद्द किए जाने से संबंधित आंकड़े पेश किए और व्यवधान की वजहों के रूप में चालक दल की तैनाती से जुड़ी चुनौतियां, संशोधित उड़ान ड्यूटी समय-सीमा (एफडीटीएल) नियमों के क्रियान्वयन से जुड़े बदलाव और मौसम संबंधी बाधाओं का हवाला दिया।

जेपी नड्डु का दो दिवसीय झारखंड प्रवास 6 से, कई कार्यक्रमों में करेंगे शिरकत

नई दिल्ली। भारतीय जनता पार्टी के राष्ट्रीय अध्यक्ष जगत प्रकाश नड्डु छह दिसंबर, शनिवार से दो दिवसीय देवघर (झारखंड) प्रवास पर रहेंगे। इस दौरान वे कई कार्यक्रमों में भाग लेंगे, जिनमें बाबा वैद्यनाथ मंदिर में पूजा-अर्चना, नवनिर्मित जिला भाजपा कार्यालय का उद्घाटन और झारखंड प्रदेश कार्यकर्ता सम्मेलन को संबोधित करना शामिल है। नड्डु देर शाम 07:30 बजे देवघर एयरपोर्ट पहुंचेंगे, जहां पार्टी के वरिष्ठ पदाधिकारियों द्वारा उनका भव्य स्वागत किया जाएगा। रात्रि 8:45 में वे राज्य अतिथिशाला, देवघर में झारखंड प्रदेश भाजपा कोर कमिटी के साथ बैठक करेंगे। शनिवार (06 दिसंबर) की सुबह नौ बजे प्रसिद्ध बाबा वैद्यनाथ मंदिर, देवघर में पूजा-अर्चना करेंगे। इसके पश्चात वे सुबह 10:00 बजे देवघर में ही नवनिर्मित जिला भाजपा कार्यालय का उद्घाटन करेंगे और इस अवसर पर पार्टी कार्यकर्ताओं को संबोधित करेंगे। वे देवघर जिला भाजपा कार्यालय का निरीक्षण भी करेंगे।

पीएम मोदी ने राष्ट्रपति पुतिन को दिया स्वास तोहफा, रूसी भाषा में अनुवादित गीता भेंट की

एजेंसी नई दिल्ली। रूसी राष्ट्रपति व्लादिमीर पुतिन भारत पहुंचे। इस दौरान भारत के प्रधानमंत्री नरेंद्र मोदी ने गले लगाकर रूसी राष्ट्रपति का स्वागत किया। पीएम मोदी ने पुतिन को रूसी भाषा में अनुवादित ‘गीता’ भेंट की। राष्ट्रपति पुतिन के भारत दौरे का आज दूसरा दिन है। पीएम मोदी ने सोशल मीडिया प्लेटफॉर्म एक्स पर पुतिन को तोहफा देते हुए एक तस्वीर पोस्ट की और कैप्शन में लिखा, ‘राष्ट्रपति पुतिन को रूसी भाषा में गीता की एक कॉपी भेंट की। गीता की शिक्षाएं दुनिया भर में लाखों लोगों को प्रेरणा देती हैं।’ दिल्ली पहुंचने के बाद रूसी राष्ट्रपति पुतिन का भव्य स्वागत किया गया। इस दौरान दोनों नेताओं ने एयरपोर्ट पर एक-दूसरे को गले लगाया और गर्मजोशी से अभिवादन किया। एयरपोर्ट पर एक सांस्कृतिक कार्यक्रम के जरिए रूसी राष्ट्रपति पुतिन का किया गया। पुतिन ने सांस्कृतिक कार्यक्रम की सराहना की। इसके बाद दोनों वैश्विक नेता एक ही गाड़ी में एयरपोर्ट से रवाना हुए। नई दिल्ली में रूसी राष्ट्रपति पुतिन के स्वागत में जगह-जगह बैनर लगाए गए हैं, जो महत्वपूर्ण



कूटनीतिक संबंध को दर्शाता है। पुतिन को प्रधानमंत्री के आधिकारिक आवास 7, लोक कल्याण मार्ग पर ले जाया गया। पीएम आवास को इंडिया-रशियन झंडों और स्पेशल लाइटिंग से सजाया गया था। पीएम मोदी ने

रेखा गुप्ता ने की मिस्ट स्प्रे सिस्टम की शुरुआत, कहा- प्रदूषण नियंत्रण सरकार की सर्वोच्च प्राथमिकता

एजेंसी नई दिल्ली। दिल्ली की मुख्यमंत्री रेखा गुप्ता ने धूल नियंत्रण के लिए आईटीओ पर नए मिस्ट स्प्रे सिस्टम की शुरुआत की। इस दौरान उन्होंने स्थल पर पहुंचकर निरीक्षण किया और अधिकारियों से इसके संचालन, अस्तर तथा क्षेत्र में धूल कम होने की प्रगति पर विस्तृत जानकारी प्राप्त की। उन्होंने कहा कि दिल्ली में प्रदूषण नियंत्रण सरकार की सर्वोच्च प्राथमिकता है। मुख्यमंत्री रेखा गुप्ता ने प्रदूषण प्रबंधन के बारे में बताया कि दिल्ली में स्वच्छता, धूल नियंत्रण और कचरा प्रबंधन को लेकर सरकार का व्यापक अभियान बिना रुके जारी है। उन्होंने कहा कि प्रदूषण नियंत्रण के लिए सरकार हर मोर्चे पर मिशन मोड में कार्यरत है। वरिष्ठ अधिकारियों तथा आईआईटी



किया जा रहा है, जो लगातार प्रदूषण को नियंत्रण में लाने के लिए कार्य करेगी। मुख्यमंत्री ने सभी विभागों को

निर्देश दिए गए हैं कि प्रदूषण नियंत्रण के प्रति किसी भी प्रकार की

तरुण चुघ का राहुल गांधी से सवाल, अपने नेताओं को हिंदू धर्म पर हमले का खुला लाइसेंस दिया है

एजेंसी नई दिल्ली। भारतीय जनता पार्टी (भाजपा) के राष्ट्रीय महासचिव तरुण चुघ ने कहा कि इंडी गठबंधन और कांग्रेस के भ्रष्ट युवराज-युवरानियों की मंडली खुलेआम भारत, भारतीयता, सनातन और देवी-देवताओं का अपमान करने के विदेशी एजेंडे पर काम कर रही है। चुघ ने कहा कि यह सिर्फ बयानबाजी नहीं, बल्कि विदेशी मालिकों से मिली ‘सुपारी राजनीति’ है। तरुण चुघ ने कहा कि तेलंगाना के मुख्यमंत्री रेंवत रेड्डी का देवताओं पर आपत्तिजनक बयान और हिमाचल के मुख्यमंत्री सुखविंदर सिंह सुक्खू का सनातन धर्म का मजाक उड़ाना कांग्रेस की सोच का असली चेहरा सामने लाता है। देश की जनता ऐसे अपमान का जवाब देना अच्छी तरह जानती है। उन्होंने सवाल उठाना कि क्या कांग्रेस का उद्देश्य सिर्फ हिंदू धर्म का अपमान करना और समाज में उसे समर्थन दिया और कारंवाई नहीं

क्या यह पार्टी की सुविचारित रणनीति का हिस्सा बन चुका है? एक तरफ तेलंगाना के कांग्रेस पार्टी के मुख्यमंत्री रेंवत रेड्डी देवी-देवताओं का मजाक उड़ाते हैं, दूसरी तरफ



हिमाचल के मुख्यमंत्री सुक्खू बच्चों की धार्मिक अभिव्यक्ति रोकने की बात करते हैं। क्या राहुल गांधी ने अपने मुख्यमंत्रियों को हिंदू धर्म पर हमले का खुला लाइसेंस दे दिया है? चुघ ने कहा कि जब तेलंगाना में एआईएमआईएम नेता ने अपमानजनक बयान दिया, तब भी कांग्रेस ने जबुली हिंसा चुनाव में उसे समर्थन दिया और कारंवाई नहीं

की। रेंवत रेड्डी ने पहले ही कहा था कि कांग्रेस मतलब मुसलमान और मुसलमान मतलब कांग्रेस, यही कांग्रेस की वोट-बैंक मानसिकता है। उन्होंने याद दिलाया कि राहुल गांधी खुद भगवानों की फोटो लेकर घूमते रहे, लेकिन ईश्वर के नाम पर शपथ नहीं ली। डीएमके, जो कांग्रेस की साझेदार है, ने ‘सनातन धर्म का समूल नाश’ नामक सम्मेलन किया था, कांग्रेस ने इस पर भी चुपी साध ली। भाजपा नेता तरुण चुघ ने कहा कि प्रधानमंत्री नरेंद्र मोदी पहले ही कह चुके हैं कि कांग्रेस ‘मुस्लिम लोग माओवादी’ बनती जा रही है। संस्थानों का अपमान, संसद की गरिमा गिराना, हिंदू धर्म के प्रति घृणा फैलाना, यह सब अबन नवसल मानसिकता की गुंफ्ट करता है। जब मौलाना मदनी ने ज़िह्द पर बयान दिया, तब कांग्रेस नेता इमरान मसूद उसकी व्याख्या लेकर सामने आ गए। यही इमरान मसूद पहले प्रधानमंत्री पर हिंसक डिप्पणी कर चुके हैं और बाद में कांग्रेस सांसद बने।

वित्त मंत्री निर्मला सीतारमण ने लोकसभा में स्वास्थ्य सुरक्षा से राष्ट्रीय सुरक्षा उपकर विधेयक 2025 पेश किया

एजेंसी नई दिल्ली। व्त मंत्री निर्मला सीतारमण ने स्वास्थ्य सुरक्षा से राष्ट्रीय सुरक्षा उपकर विधेयक 2025 पेश किया। इसके तहत पान मसाला जैसे उत्पादों पर उपकर लगाया जाएगा। लोकसभा में बोलते हुए, सीतारमण ने कहा कि विधेयक में जरूरी चीजों पर टैक्स नहीं लगाया जाएगा और पान मसाला जैसे उत्पादों पर टैक्स से होने वाली कमाई राज्यों के साथ स्वास्थ्य योजनाओं पर खर्च करने के लिए शेरय की जाएगी। वित्त मंत्री ने कहा, ‘यह एक उपकर है और यह किसी जरूरी चीज पर नहीं लगाया गया है। इस बिल का महसूद डीमेरिट चीजों पर सेस लगाना है, जिनसे सेहत को बड़ा खतरा होता है। इस उपकर के जरिए हम एक ऐसी कीमत चाहते हैं, जिससे इन चीजों पर रोकथाम लगे और लोग इसका

इस्तेमाल न करें। ‘वित्त मंत्री ने आगे कहा कि वस्तु एवं सेवा कर (जीएसटी) में पान मसाले पर 40



प्रतिशत का टैक्स लगाया गया है। इस उपकर के लगने से जीएसटी आय पर कोई असर नहीं होगा। प्रस्तावित बिल के तहत उपकर पान मसाला बनाने वाली फैक्ट्रियों में

मशीनों की उत्पादन क्षमता पर लगाया जाएगा। यह जीएसटी के अतिरिक्त होगा। वित्त मंत्री ने कहा, ‘हर फैक्ट्री

स्वास्थ्य जागरूकता या स्वास्थ्य से जुड़ी दूसरी योजनाओं के जरिए राज्यों के साथ शेरय किया जाएगा। ‘ पान मसाले पर उत्पाद शुल्क नहीं लगाया जा सकता है। इस कारण सरकार इस पर उपकर लगाने के लिए विधेयक लेकर आई है और यह जीएसटी के अतिरिक्त लगाया जाएगा।

इससे पहले बुधवार को लोकसभा ने सेंट्रल एक्ससाइज एक्ट 1944 में बदलाव करते हुए एक बिल पास किया था, जिससे तंबाकू पर 40 प्रतिशत जीएसटी के अलावा उत्पाद शुल्क लगाया जा सकता है।

अभी, पान मसाला, तंबाकू और इससे जुड़े उत्पादों पर 28 प्रतिशत जीएसटी और अलग-अलग दर पर क्षतिपूर्ति उपकर लगता है। क्षतिपूर्ति उपकर खत्म होने के साथ जीएसटी दर बढ़कर 40 प्रतिशत हो जाएगी।

पुतिन का भारत दौरा राजघाट पहुंचकर राष्ट्रपिता महात्मा गांधी को श्रद्धांजलि दी



एजेंसी नई दिल्ली। रूस के राष्ट्रपति व्लादिमीर पुतिन अपने भारत दौरे पर हैं। पुतिन ने राजघाट पहुंचकर राष्ट्रपिता महात्मा गांधी को श्रद्धांजलि अर्पित की। इससे पहले रूस के राष्ट्रपति व्लादिमीर पुतिन को राष्ट्रपति भवन में गार्ड ऑफ ऑनर दिया गया।पुतिन ने औपचारिक गार्ड ऑफ ऑनर का निरीक्षण किया।राष्ट्रपति

द्रौपदी मुर्मू और रूस के राष्ट्रपति व्लादिमीर पुतिन राष्ट्रपति भवन में एक-दूसरे के देश के गणमान्य लोगों से एक-दूसरे का परिचय कराते हुए दिखे।रूसी राष्ट्रपति व्लादिमीर पुतिन दिन के भारत दौरे पर पहुंचे। उनके साथ 7 मंत्रियों का बड़ा प्रतिनिधिमंडल भी आया है। मोदी और पुतिन के बीच आज दो अहम बैठकें होने वाली हैं।

विकास चावला ने असिस्टेंट चीफ ऑफ मैटेरियल का कार्यभार संभाला

नियुक्तियां निभाईं। इनमें समुद्र में तैनाती से जुड़ी जिम्मेदारियां भी शामिल थीं। वे मुंबई और विशाखापत्तनम दोनों बड़े नेवल डॉकयार्ड में महत्वपूर्ण तकनीकी और प्रशासनिक भूमिकाएं



निभा चुके हैं। चावला ने नेवल एकेडमी में ट्रेनिंग कैप्टन और हेड ऑफ फैकल्टी (इंजीनियरिंग) के रूप में भी सेवाएं दीं, जहां उन्होंने प्रशिक्षण प्रणाली को और सुदृढ़ बनाने में महत्वपूर्ण

योगदान दिया। नेवल हेडक्वार्टर में वे शिप प्रोडक्शन, नेवल ट्रेनिंग तथा स्वदेशीकरण जैसी प्रमुख स्टाफ जिम्मेदारियों का निर्वहन भी कर चुके हैं। नेवी के प्रवक्ता ने सोशल मीडिया प्लेटफॉर्म एक्स पर एक पोस्ट में लिखा कि आर. एडमिरल विकास चावला ने 03 दिसंबर को फ्लैग रैंक पर प्रमोशन के बाद नेवल हेडक्वार्टर, नई दिल्ली में असिस्टेंट चीफ ऑफ मैटेरियल (डॉकयार्ड और रिफिट) का पद संभाला। एक जुलाई 1994 को इंडियन नेवी में कमीशन हुए, फ्लैग ऑफिसर नेशनल डिफेंस एकेडमी खड़कवासला, नेवल कॉलेज ऑफ इंजीनियरिंग, लोनावला और मशहूर नेशनल डिफेंस कॉलेज, नई दिल्ली के पुराने छात्र हैं। प्रवक्ता ने पोस्ट में आगे लिखा कि उन्होंने आईएनएसरणवीर,आईएनएस मुंबई और आईएनएस तवर पर कई अपॉइंटमेंट्स पर काम किया है, जिसमें पानी पर अपॉइंटमेंट्स भी शामिल हैं।

राहुल गांधी की देशभक्ति पर सवालिया निशान है: कंगना रनौत

एजेंसी नई दिल्ली। रूसी राष्ट्रपति व्लादिमीर पुतिन भारत दौरे से पहले लोकसभा में नेता प्रतिपक्ष राहुल गांधी ने विपक्ष के नेताओं से विदेशी प्रतिनिधिमंडल की मुलाकात न कराने का दावा कर एक राजनीतिक बहस छेड़ी है। हालांकि, भारतीय जनता पार्टी (भाजपा) के सांसदों ने राहुल गांधी के दावे को सिर्फ राजनीति करार दिया। भाजपा सांसद कंगना रनौत ने कांग्रेस नेता की देशभक्ति पर भी सवाल खड़े किए। लोकसभा में नेता प्रतिपक्ष राहुल गांधी पर भाजपा सांसद कंगना रनौत ने कहा, ‘अगर राहुल गांधी खुद की तुलना अटल बिहारी वाजपेयी से कर रहे हैं, तो मेरी उन्हें यही सलाह है कि उन्हें भाजपा में शामिल हो जाना चाहिए, तभी वह उनके जैसे बन सकते हैं।’ कंगना रनौत ने प्रश्नचिह्न खड़े करते हुए कहा, ‘देश के प्रति उनकी (राहुल गांधी) भावना पर सवालिया निशान है। भारत के खिलाफ अंतरराष्ट्रीय साजिशें हो रही हैं, चाहे वह देश में दंगे कराना हो या ‘टुकड़े’ करने की साजिशें, यह सवाल खड़े करती हैं। ‘ विपक्ष के नेताओं को विदेशी प्रतिनिधिमंडल से न मिलने देने पर भाजपा सांसद ने कहा, ‘सरकार के कुछ अपने फैसले होते हैं। ‘

वहीं, भाजपा सांसद बृज लाल ने कहा कि सरकार सच कुछ प्रोटोकॉल के हिसाब से करती है। उसी प्रोटोकॉल के तहत रूसी राष्ट्रपति पुतिन भारत आ रहे हैं। इसलिए काम प्रोटोकॉल के हिसाब से ही होगा। राहुल गांधी इसमें सिर्फ राजनीति कर रहे हैं। भाजपा सांसद भीम सिंह ने भी प्रतिक्रिया दी और कहा कि किसी दृष्टांत के साथ राहुल गांधी बोलते तो बातों को गंभीरता से लिया जाता। पिछले समय में कोई ऐसा दृष्टांत नहीं है। विदेश से आने वाले लीडर्स का अपना एक शेड्यूल होता है।

भाजपा सांसद बांसुरी स्वराज के पिता स्वराज कौशल का निधन, ओम बिरला समेत कई नेताओं ने जताया शोक

एजेंसी नई दिल्ली। भाजपा सांसद बांसुरी स्वराज के पिता और पूर्व विदेश मंत्री सुपमा स्वराज के पति व वरिष्ठ अधिवक्ता स्वराज कौशल का 73 वर्ष की उम्र में निधन हो गया। वह मिजोरम के राज्यपाल एवं राज्यसभा सांसद के रूप में महत्वपूर्ण भूमिकाएं निभा चुके थे। उनके निधन पर लोकसभा अध्यक्ष ओम बिरला, केंद्रीय मंत्री समेत तमाम नेताओं ने शोक व्यक्त किया।

भाजपा सांसद बांसुरी स्वराज ने अपने दिवंगत पिता को याद करते हुए कहा कि पापा स्वराज कौशल, आपका स्नेह, आपका अनुशासन, आपकी सरलता, आपका राष्ट्रप्रेम और आपका अपार धैर्य मेरे जीवन की वह रोशनी हैं जो कभी मंद नहीं होगी। अपने भावुक संदेश में उन्होंने लिखा कि उनका जाना जीवन की सबसे गहरी पीड़ा है, लेकिन विश्वास है कि वे अब सुपमा स्वराज के साथ ईश्वर के साम्हन्य में हैं। लोकसभा अध्यक्ष ओम बिरला ने स्वराज कौशल को न्याय, लोकतंत्र और

राष्ट्रसेवा का प्रतीक बताते हुए कहा कि उनका सरल और कर्तव्यनिष्ठ व्यक्तित्व सदैव स्मरणीय रहेगा। केंद्रीय शिक्षा मंत्री धर्मेन्द्र प्रधान ने कहा कि स्वराज कौशल ने अभूतपूर्व



निष्ठा से राष्ट्र सेवा की और कानूनी क्षेत्र में उनके योगदान ने समाज और न्याय व्यवस्था को मजबूती दी। उन्होंने शोक संतप्त परिवार के प्रति संवेदनाएं व्यक्त कीं। केंद्रीय मंत्री किरन रिजौजू ने उन्हें बुद्धिमान, अख्यक्ष ओम बिरला ने स्वराज कौशल को न्याय, लोकतंत्र और

उन्होंने कहा कि स्वराज कौशल का निधन एक बड़ी क्षति है।

मिजोरम के राज्यपाल जनरल वीके सिंह ने कहा कि स्वराज कौशल के निधन की खबर अत्यंत दुखद है

दिल्ली की मुख्यमंत्री रेखा गुप्ता ने भी शोक व्यक्त करते हुए कहा कि स्वराज कौशल का सार्वजनिक जीवन और विधि क्षेत्र में योगदान हमेशा याद किया जाएगा। उन्होंने बांसुरी स्वराज और परिवार के प्रति संवेदना जताई। उत्तर प्रदेश के उप मुख्यमंत्री केशव प्रसाद मौर्या ने कहा कि स्वराज कौशल ने अद्वितीय निष्ठा से राष्ट्र और समाज की सेवा की और ईश्वर से दिवंगत आत्मा को शांति प्रदान करने की प्रार्थना की। भाजपा दिल्ली प्रदेश अध्यक्ष वीरेंद्र सचदेवा ने भी उनके निधन को अत्यंत दुःखद बताते हुए परिवार के प्रति संवेदना प्रकट की।

उल्लेखनीय है कि 12 जुलाई, 1952 को जन्में स्वराज कौशल को साल 1990 में मात्र 37 वर्ष की आयु में मिजोरम का राज्यपाल नियुक्त किया गया था, जिससे वे देश के इतिहास में सबसे कम उम्र के राज्यपाल बने। वे 1990 से 1993 तक इस पद पर रहे। इसके बाद 1998 से 2004 तक वे हरियाणा से राज्यसभा सांसद रहे।

दिल्ली फ्राइम ब्रांच ने विकासपुरी फ्लार्डओवर के पास से दो अपराधी दबोचे, हथियार और जिंदा कारतूस बरामद

एजेंसी नई दिल्ली। दिल्ली पुलिस की क्राइम ब्रांच ने बड़ी कामयाबी हासिल करते हुए पश्चिम दिल्ली के दो कुख्यात हथियारबंद अपराधियों को गिरफ्तार किया है। दोनों आरोपी इलाके में दहशत फैलाने और आपराधिक

दबदबा बनाने के लिए कई बार खुलेआम फायरिंग कर चुके हैं। डीसीपी क्राइम ब्रांच हर्ष इंदौरा ने बताया कि गुप्त सूचना मिली थी कि ये दोनों बदमाश विकासपुरी फ्लार्डओवर के पास आने वाले हैं। सूचना मिलते ही क्राइम ब्रांच की डब्ल्यूआर-1 टीम ने

तुरंत कारंवाई की। इंस्पेक्टर अखिलेश बाजपेयी के नेतृत्व में टीम ने घेराबंदी कर दोनों को दबोच लिया। तलाशी लेने पर आरोपियों के पास से एक सेमी-ऑटोमैटिक पिस्टल, एक देसी कट्टा और तीन जिंदा कारतूस बरामद हुए। पकड़े गए दोनों अपराधी पश्चिम



पुलिस के अनुसार, ये लोग इनके नाम से ही डरते थे। ये आम दिन गैंगवार, फिरती और खुली फायरिंग की घटनाओं को अंजाम देते थे। इलाके के व्यापारियों और आम लोगों में इनकी दहशत इतनी थी कि कोई खुलकर शिकायत करने से भी डरता था। अब

इनकी गिरफ्तारी से लोगों ने राहत की सांस ली है। यह पूरी कारंवाई एसीपी सनेन्द्र मोहन की निगरानी में और डीसीपी क्राइम हर्ष इंदौरा के दिशा-निर्देशन में हुई। टीम में शामिल सभी पुलिसकर्मियों ने रात-दिन की मेहनत से इस सफलता को हासिल किया।

डीसीपी हर्ष इंदौरा ने कहा कि दिल्ली पुलिस का अपराधियों के खिलाफ अभियान लगातार जारी है। चाहे कोई किताब भी बड़ा बदमाश हो, कानून की हथ्के चढ़ना तय है। आरोपियों से पुछताछ में कई और चीजें बरामद हो चुकी हैं जो की संभावना है। पुलिस को शक है कि

इनके पास से बरामद हथियारों का इस्तेमाल हाल की कुछ फायरिंग की घटनाओं में किया गया था। दोनों को कोर्ट में पेश किया जाएगा और आगे की कारंवाई की जाएगी। इस गिरफ्तारी से पश्चिम दिल्ली के लोगों में सुरक्षा का भरोसा और मजबूत हुआ है।

Explain repeated failure over Deepam lighting, asks Madras HC as state moves SC

New Delhi, Agency: he Madras High Court on Friday asked the Tamil Nadu government again to explain its repeated failure to permit the lighting of the Karthigai Deepam lamp atop the Deepathoon, the ancient stone lamp pillar on Thiruparankundram hill in Madurai district.

The Deepathoon issue has become contentious after authorities refused permission for the lighting ceremony despite successive high court orders.

The development came on a day when the Tamil Nadu government also moved the Supreme Court, mentioning its special leave petition before Chief Justice of India Surya Kant, seeking urgent hearing of its challenge to the High Court's directions per-

mitting devotees to light the lamp.

The CJI asked the State to get its plea numbered and listed, after the petitioner's counsel accused the State of "staging a drama" to signal to the Madurai bench that the matter had now reached the apex court.

Back in the Madurai bench, Justice GR Swaminathan began hearing a contempt petition against the Madurai Collector, the City Police Commissioner and the Executive Officer of the Arulmighu Subramania Swamy Temple, after he was informed that district authorities and local police had blocked devotees from reaching the hill on December 4, despite his clear instructions issued on December 1 and reiterated over the following



days.

Advocate RM Arun Swaminathan, appearing for the petitioner devotees, told the court that authorities had "surrounded devotees", threatened arrests and detained more than 300 people in a marriage hall on Thursday evening, just hours after the court had directed

that the lamp be lit and that adequate security arrangements be provided.

"We went as per the court order. The Deputy Commissioner violated it. They said Section 144 is still in force and that they will move the Supreme Court," he said, accusing the State of being "adamant" and of blatantly

refusing to follow the law. He sought that the State Home department also be made a party to the proceedings.

Justice Swaminathan declined to widen the scope of the contempt plea but directed the State to file its report. He also instructed the CISF commandant—who had accompanied the petitioners on December 4 in compliance with the High Court's earlier order—to file a detailed report on how they were obstructed from lighting the lamp.

Appearing for the State, Additional Advocate General J Ravindran, and senior advocate Vikas Singh for the Madurai police commissioner, maintained that there was no intention to disobey the court, but said circumstances on the ground made compliance impossible.

Singh said he was ready to explain "why compliance was not possible" and confirmed that the State and the Commissioner had approached the Supreme Court against the division bench order that had upheld Justice Swaminathan's December 1 direction.

Justice Swaminathan adjourned the contempt proceedings to December 9.

The Deepathoon issue, which began as a simple petition by a group of devotees seeking permission to light the Karthigai Deepam lamp, has now escalated into a political-religious flashpoint in Tamil Nadu.

Justice Swaminathan permitted devotees to light the lamp on December 1, calling the ritual an integral part of Tamil culture.

Delhi's air quality remains 'very poor'; min temp 4 degrees below normal at 5.6°C

New Delhi, Agency: air quality remained "very poor" on Friday, even as the minimum temperature of 5.6°C was four degrees below normal and the season's lowest for a second day.

Isolated cold wave conditions were expected to persist in parts of northwest India until December 5 due to cold northwesterly winds from snow-clad mountains to the plains.

On Thursday, the mercury also dipped to 5.6°C and 6.4°C a day earlier. The minimum temperature of 5.7°C on December 1 was the coldest start to the month since at least 2011. By this time last year, the lowest minimum had been 8°C on November 26. In 2023, it was 9.5°C on November 29. In 2022, the lowest minimum tempera-



ture until December 5 was 7.6°C (December 5).

Private forecaster Skymet Weather vice president Mahesh Palawat said strong cold northwesterly winds are impacting the

plains, including Delhi-National Capital Region. "These strong winds are also impacting AQI [Air Quality Index] to an extent, not letting it rise rapidly," he said. An AQI of 323 (very

poor) was recorded at 8am on Friday, compared to 304 (very poor) at 4pm on Thursday. The AQI was expected to stay in the "very poor" range until at least December 7.

Sudha Murty urges govt to set norms on portrayal of children on social media platforms

New Delhi, Agency: Rajya Sabha Nominated MP Sudha Murty on Friday urged the government to set norms on the portrayal of children on social media platforms, as it is essential to inculcate a good value system among the younger generation.

Raising the issue during the Zero Hour, she expressed serious concern about how children are being depicted on social media, and cited regulations on the portrayal of children from several advanced countries like France.

"Children are our future, and we should develop our children in a good value system, good education, sports and many other activities," Murty said. She stated that social media has now become very popular and there are many advantages, but there are also flip sides to it.

Many parents expose their innocent children on social media platforms, she said.

"...they are exposed to different types of costumes, dress,

commercialisation, and put them on social media so that they can have 10,000, 1 million and half a million followers. This will help them (parents) financially a lot, I am aware of it, but what happens to the child?" she asked.

Murty said the children become a source of income to parents, but it affects the child's psychology in the long term.

"The child will lose innocence. The child does not give permission because the child is not aware of it. It will affect the children's psychology. They will not learn how to do any social activity, or sports, or even receive a good education," she observed.

Murty requested the Central Government to regulate this.

She noted that the government has done fantastic work in regulating the portrayal of children in advertisements and the film industry. "You are regulating in the advertisement, children's advertisement, children working or acting in a film.

Over 17 lakh dead voters found on electoral rolls in Gujarat during SIR



New Delhi, Agency: The ongoing Special Intensive Revision (SIR) of the electoral rolls in Gujarat has revealed that more than 17 lakh deceased voters were still included in the existing voter list across the state, a release by the office of the Chief Electoral Officer (CEO) has stated.

According to the release issued on Thursday, the SIR exercise started in Gujarat on November 4 with booth-level officers (BLOs) distributing enumeration forms in their designated areas.

The campaign will continue till December 11.

"In the last one month, enumeration forms have been distributed to more than five crore voters registered in the 2025 electoral roll. In most of the 33 districts, 100 per cent of the distribution has been completed. Work on digitising the returned forms is currently underway. So far, the digitisation work has been com-

pleted in 12 out of 182 assembly constituencies," it said. These include Dhanera and Tharad of Banaskantha district, Limkheda and Dahod (ST) of Dahod district, Bayad of Aravalli district, Dhoraji, Jasdan and Gondal of Rajkot district, Keshod of Junagadh district, Mehmabad of Kheda district, Khambhat of Anand district and Jalalpore of Navsari district. Dang district is at the forefront in this work with 94.35 per cent digitisation of the counting forms, said the release. "During this exercise, it was revealed that 17 lakh deceased voters were still included in the electoral roll across the state. More than 6.14 lakh voters were found absent from their addresses. It has been noticed that more than 30 lakh voters have permanently migrated," the release said. BLOs found more than 3.25 lakh voters in the "repeated" category, which means that their names figured at more than one place, the release stated.

DGCA withdraws new pilot rest norms after IndiGo cancellation chaos

New Delhi, Agency: Following the chaos caused by Indio flight cancellations at various airports, the Directorate General of Civil Aviation (DGCA) withdrew the new weekly roster norms on Friday.

"In view of the ongoing operational disruptions and representations received

from various airlines regarding the need to ensure continuity and stability of operations...the instruction contained in the referenced paragraph that no leave shall be substituted for weekly rest is hereby withdrawn with immediate effect," DGCA said in a notification.



Probe ordered into leak of explicit CCTV videos from Kerala theatre

New Delhi, Agency: The Kerala State Film Development Corporation (KSDFC) has begun an internal inquiry after CCTV visuals of one of its theatres in Thiruvananthapuram city were seen circulating on porn websites and Telegram channels.

The visuals, dating back to 2023, are from the inside of the Kairali-Sree-Nila theatres, managed by KSDFC, in the heart of Thiruvananthapuram city. The three theatres are located within a simple compound in the Thampanoor neighbourhood. Purportedly, the visuals contain intimate scenes of couples inside the theatres.

Priyadarshan PS, managing director, KSDFC, said the film body has taken the issue seriously. Private forecaster Skymet Weather vice president Mahesh Palawat said strong cold northwesterly winds are impacting the plains, including Delhi-National Capital Region. "These strong winds are also impacting AQI [Air Quality Index] to an extent, not letting it rise "We have been able to identify



that Isolated cold wave conditions were expected to persist in parts of northwest India until visuals (currently leaked) are dated December 10, 2023. There are multiple ways by which the CCTV footage may have got out. One, it could be through the cloud system holding the visuals (where someone deliberately leaked it). Or else, it could be a case of hacking. We are exploring all angles," Priyadarshan told local media.

"Visuals similarly from some private theatres have also leaked this way. But I don't know whether they are taking it seriously. Anyway, we are trying to ascertain how it happened. A report will be submitted in 10 days based on the internal probe," he added.

While the KSDFC claimed that the Cyber Cell of the Kerala Police is also investigating the issue, an officer denied it. "The KSDFC asked for some information on the issue which we gave. But no case has been registered yet," the officer said.



CULTURE OF SRINAGAR - THE HEART OF KASHMIR

Srinagar, Agency: the summer capital of Jammu & Kashmir, is one of India's most culturally rich hill stations. Surrounded by lakes, mountains, and Mughal gardens, its culture reflects centuries of art, poetry, crafts, and harmonious living. The essence of Srinagar's cultural identity is known as Kashmiriyat-a philosophy of peace, hospitality, and communal harmony. Festivals in Srinagar showcase its spiritual diversity. Eid-ul-Fitr, Eid-ul-Adha, and Shab-e-Barat are celebrated

by Muslims with prayers and feasts. The Hindu community observes Herath, the Kashmiri version of Shivratri. Cultural festivals like the Tulip Festival and Shikara Festival highlight the beauty and traditions of the region. Srinagar is world-famous for Wazwan, a traditional multi-course feast prepared especially during weddings and celebrations. Dishes such as Rogan josh, Yakhni, Gushtaba, and Dum aloo showcase the richness of Kashmiri cuisine. Tea culture is also signifi-

cant, with Kahwa and Noon Chai served throughout the day. Handicrafts are the pride of Srinagar. Local artisans create exquisite Pashmina shawls, silk carpets, papier-mâché items, and walnut wood carvings. These crafts have been passed down for generations and represent Kashmiri artistry. Music and poetry form another important cultural pillar. Traditional Sufiana music, played on instruments like the santoor and rabab, creates a serene and spiritual atmosphere. The poetry of Lal Ded

and Habba Khatoon reflects the deep emotional and philosophical heritage of Kashmir. Houseboat culture on Dal Lake adds another unique dimension to Srinagar's lifestyle. These intricately carved wooden houseboats, along with colourful shikaras, reflect centuries of tradition and craftsmanship. Srinagar's culture is a vibrant mix of nature, artistry, hospitality, and spiritual richness, making it one of the most enchanting hill stations in India.



CULTURE OF DARJEELING - THE MINI HIMALAYAN MOSAIC

Darjeeling, Agency: located in West Bengal at the foothills of the Eastern Himalayas, is famous for its tea, mountains, and multi-cultural identity. The culture of Darjeeling is shaped by the harmonious coexistence of Nepali, Tibetan, Lepcha, and Bengali communities, making it one of the most culturally diverse hill stations in India. The major cultural influence in Darjeeling comes from the Gorkha community, which includes various ethnic groups such as Rai, Limbu, Tamang, and

Gurung. Their traditions, languages, and festivals are deeply rooted in the region. Festivals like Dasain, Tihar, Losar, and Buddha Jayanti are celebrated with music, dance, and family gatherings. The town also hosts the Darjeeling Carnival, a modern festival that promotes music, art, and local talent. Darjeeling's cuisine reflects a mix of Himalayan and Nepali flavours. Popular dishes include momos, thukpa, sel roti, gundruk, and spicy aloo dum, which is a favourite street food. Tea plays a central role in daily

life, and the region's world-famous Darjeeling tea is known for its unique aroma and taste. Tea estates are not just workplaces but cultural hubs, where generations of families have lived, worked, and preserved their traditions. The artistic heritage of Darjeeling is seen in its music and dance. Traditional Nepali dance forms such as Maruni, Tamang Selo, and Dhan Naach are performed during festivals and weddings. Tibetan communities perform masked dances in monasteries during Losar,

creating a spiritual and colourful atmosphere. Darjeeling's architecture and lifestyle also reflect its colonial past. The Toy Train, Chowrasta, and old churches are reminders of British influence. Meanwhile, bustling bazaars sell Himalayan handicrafts, woollen clothes, and Tibetan artefacts. Overall, Darjeeling's culture is a harmonious blend of spiritual traditions, modern music, mountain lifestyle, and the warm hospitality of its people.



CULTURE OF SHIMLA - THE QUEEN OF HILLS

Shimla, Agency: the capital of Himachal Pradesh, is known not only for its scenic beauty but also for its rich cultural heritage. The culture of Shimla is a fascinating blend of traditional Himachali customs and the lasting influence of the British era. Nestled at 2,200 meters, this charming hill station showcases a lifestyle that is simple, vibrant, and deeply connected to the mountains. One of the most beautiful elements of Shimla's culture is its festivals. The Shimla Summer Festival, held every June, is a celebration of art, music, dance, and local crafts. The entire Ridge comes alive with Himachali folk songs, dance performances, and food stalls. Another major traditional fair is the Lavi Fair, which is over 300 years old and symbolizes historical trade ties between India and Tibet. People from Kinnaur, Spiti, and neighbouring regions gather to sell wool, dry fruits, spices, and handicrafts. Shimla's cuisine reflects the warmth of mountain hospitality. Dishes like Siddu, Chha Gosht, Madra, and Dham offer a taste of authentic Himachali flavours. Most dishes use ghee, curd, and local spices to help people stay warm during cold winters. On festive occasions, families prepare a grand meal called Dham, served

on leaf plates during traditional gatherings. Art and handicrafts form another significant part of Shimla's cultural identity. Woollen shawls, Pahari caps, wooden carvings, and handmade jewellery reflect the craftsmanship passed down through generations. Markets like Lakkar Bazaar and Mall Road are popular places where local artisans showcase their work. The architecture of Shimla tells a unique story as well. Colonial-era buildings such as the Viceregal Lodge, Gaiety Theatre, and Christ Church continue to stand as reminders of British heritage. These structures blend Victorian architectural styles with stunning Himalayan landscapes, giving Shimla a distinctive old-world charm. Folk music and dance also play an important role in Shimla's cultural life. Traditional dance forms like Nati, Kulluvi, and Kangri dances are performed during weddings and festivals, representing unity, joy, and community bonding. Overall, the culture of Shimla is a mix of tradition, warmth, simplicity, and history. It reflects the spirit of the Himalayan people-peaceful, welcoming, and deeply connected to nature.



CULTURE OF OOTY - THE LAND OF THE NILGIRI TRIBES

Ooty, Agency: or Udhagamandalam, is the cultural heart of the Nilgiri Hills in Tamil Nadu. Its culture is shaped by indigenous tribal groups, colonial heritage, and plantation life. The tribes of the Nilgiris-Toda, Badaga, Kota, and Kurumba-are the guardians of Ooty's traditional identity. The Toda tribe is especially famous for its distinctive lifestyle. Toda people wear beautifully embroidered shawls with red and black geometric patterns and live in barrel-shaped huts known as munds. Their pastoral culture revolves

around sacred dairy practices. The Badaga community, the largest in the region, has its own language, folk songs, and unique festivals like Hethai Habba. Ooty's colonial past is reflected in its architecture and institutions. Buildings like St. Stephen's Church, the Ooty Club, and the Botanical Garden still carry the British legacy. The Nilgiri Mountain Railway, a UNESCO World Heritage site, remains an iconic cultural symbol. Festivals in Ooty highlight its cultural richness. The Tea and Tourism Festival celebrates the region's tea her-

itage, while the Flower Show displays beautiful native and exotic flowers. Tribal cultural showcases, dance performances, and craft exhibitions add to Ooty's charm. Culinary traditions in Ooty combine tribal, Tamil, and colonial influences. Millet-based dishes, dairy products, and local delicacies like Ooty. chocolates, ragi dosa, and pepper chicken are popular. Tea plantations also shape local life, with workers following generations-old routines, songs, and community customs.