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The Researchers'

Drone strike on market in disputed region between Sudan and South Sudan kills at least 153

JUBA.(Agency)

A drone strike on a market in Abyei, a border region disputed by Sudan and South Sudan, hit a nearby fuel depot, killing at least 153 people and igniting a fire that was still burning Tuesday, a local official said. Yohanna Akol Ngor, the Abyei administration's caretaker information minister, blamed Sudan 's military for Monday's attack on Amiet Market, north of Abyei town. "We have recorded 153 deaths," Akol told The Associated Press by phone Tuesday. He said the death toll continued to rise as the fire burned. The motive for the attack was not immediately clear, and the AP could not independently verify who carried it out. Sudan's military did not respond to a request for comment. Doctors Without Borders, known by its French acronym MSF, said more than 20 wounded people were brought to Ameth Bek Hospital, where MSF teams were working alongside staff from South Sudan's Health Ministry. "So far we received over 20 patients, including several critical cases. Patients with burns were also admitted," said Dr. Christian Lindauer, MSF's medical activities manager at the hospital.

'Woke Up With Strangling Signs': Student Alleges Rape At Arizona Frat House

Washington.(Agency)

A report of sexual violence at a fraternity house has shocked yet another elite university in the United States, even before the fallout from the "Cornell 7" gang rape allegations has settled. A sorority member at the University of Arizona has come forward alleging that she was sexually assaulted by two men at a fraternity house in late August. The student approached the university's police department and reported that two men raped her at the Sigma Phi Epsilon house during a night of drinking on August 26. According to search warrant records posted by KOLD-TV in Tucson, the woman said she had consensually kissed one of the men at one point but doesn't remember agreeing to sex. The sorority member told police that she remembered consuming tequila, including sharing a cup of the beverage with friends, witnessing two men sexually assault her, and even feeling one man's breath on her face. She said she woke up the next morning without pants and underwear on and noticed a difficulty in swallowing, a possible sign of strangulation, the records showed.

9-Year-Old US Boy Suffers Burns To 70% Of Body In Viral 'Fire Challenge': 'He's In Unbearable Pain'

world.(Agency)

A 9-year-old boy in New Orleans, Louisiana, suffered burns to more than 70 per cent of his body after reportedly attempting the dangerous social media trend known as the fire challenge. The incident has prompted local officials to warn parents and children about the potentially life-threatening risks of such online challenges. New Orleans Fire Department Chief Roman Nelson described the boy's injuries in a video released on Monday alongside New Orleans Police Department Chief Anne Kirkpatrick. According to a 2016 report published in the National Library of Medicine, the fire challenge involves a person using a flammable substance, such as rubbing alcohol or acetone.

France has a proud tradition of protesting, and sometimes people lose their heads

✱ Passionate public protest is as French as “La Marseillaise,” the 1792 anthem that enshrines the collective duty to fight

PARIS.(Agency)

No nation does mass protests quite like France. When the French fight high fuel taxes, they don yellow vests and march. When angry farmers want better pay, hundreds of them drive tractors down the Champs-Élysées. And when museum workers want better tourist management, they strike and shut down the Louvre. Passionate public protest is as French as “La Marseillaise,” the 1792 anthem that enshrines the collective duty to fight tyranny in the country's national

identity. But this month, the most violent demonstrations in years — and tough policing — have raised concern about riots overshadowing hundreds of thousands of peaceful demonstrators marching against rising living costs and poor conditions in schools. On Saturday alone, at least 2,400 people were arrested after rioters in cities across France clashed with police, set cars on fire, stormed public buildings, looted stores and engulfed a historic city hall in flames. More protests could be in store. "How can French people do this to France?" outgoing President Emmanuel Macron asked on Sunday. Nothing justifies the destruction, he added. "We all feel anger and shame."

But any student of French history would know that the nation's proud, loud and colorful protest culture has sometimes turned violent — starting with the beheadings of King Louis XVI and Marie-Antoinette during the revolution that

overthrew the monarchy in 1789.

A protest culture is born

Historians say the revolution was where the modern-day French tradition of civic engagement as a duty was born. The idea is



that voting is not the only way to drive change; demonstration is considered a bedrock value, a way to make elites hear the populace and to defend freedoms. The

moment a child becomes an activist is seen as a generations-old rite of passage. The right to protest is even constitutionally protected. "It's a way to build collective identity and political community," said Magali Della Sudda, research director in political science at the French National Center for Scientific Research in Bordeaux. France's post-revolution history is not a solid story of protests and reforms, but of cycles of popular uprisings, repression, mobilization and political concessions. The tradition has turned tragic; In 1871, government troops cracked down on the new "Paris Commune," or municipal government, reportedly killing thousands. In some ways, collective action won — as in 1968, when student demonstrations and a general strike forced the government to grant concessions like an increase in the minimum wage. In more recent history, the "yellow vests" — "gilets jaunes" in French — demonstrated against a proposed fuel tax increase, and that broadened into protests over other issues like living costs and inequality.

Albanian police clash with anti-government protesters for the eighth day

TIRANA.(Agency)

Police fired tear gas and used water cannons to push back protesters Tuesday on the eighth straight day of violent anti-government demonstrations in the Albanian capital, Tirana. High school and university students demanding lower tuition fees, greater state investment in education and protesting corruption in the education system have joined a broader anti-government movement calling for the resignation of Socialist Prime Minister Edi Rama. For days, protesters have hurled rocks, flares, firebombs and fireworks at police who have used batons, water cannons and tear gas in clashes in the city center.

Albania is one of a number of European countries experiencing protests over rising fuel costs, discontent with the

state of schools, declining public services and a housing crisis, including France and Italy. In Spain and Portugal, tent camps have sprung up to protest unaffordable housing, while a rally and a



protest were also being planned in Greece on Tuesday evening and Wednesday. In Albania, the latest protests follow months of rallies

organized by the so-called Flamingo movement, launched in opposition to a major luxury tourism development on Albania's southern coast linked to an investment firm founded by Jared Kushner, U.S. President Donald Trump's son-in-law. "A wave of stones, an attempt to overthrow the government and change those in power through the imposition of violence — something that will never be allowed to happen, in any form or for any reason," Rama said after a meeting Tuesday with teachers and representatives of Tirana's schools.

He argued that legitimate concerns were being hijacked by people deliberately causing violence during the protests. This is a hybrid war that naturally works to the extent that it does because it is based on real concerns, not fantasies.

Team Trump's Tariffs, Visa Curbs Not Targeted At India: Marco Rubio

Washington.(Agency)

US Secretary of State Marco Rubio, who is on a two-day visit to India, sought to assuage New Delhi's concerns regarding the Donald Trump administration's tariffs and US visa restrictions, saying the moves are not meant to "punish India" or are "targeted" at any country. Talking to The Indian Express, Rubio assured that the India-US trade deal, which has been under negotiation for more than a year and a half now, was "weeks, not months" away. "I think we're incredibly close. The way I would say it is, we are weeks, not months, away from, I think, finalising it. I think 99 per cent of the

work is done... I feel very positive of the



trajectory that it's on," he said.

On US Tariffs
The US Secretary of State acknowledged that Washington's threat to target nations buying Russian energy with up to 100 per cent tariffs could

affect bilateral ties with New Delhi but insisted the move was not to "harm India". Pointing to the waiver announced by President Trump last week, Rubio said, "None of these tariffs are meant to punish or harm India. They are part of a broader foreign policy that, unfortunately, involves a war going on between Russia and Ukraine that we would like to see come to an end." And I'm sure you saw it in our media and our political system (that), when the President issued those waivers and did not impose the tariffs required under a law passed by our Congress, he got criticism for doing it. But one of the reasons why he didn't impose them is because he understands.

Zelensky, US hail 'productive' talks to end Trump feud

OSLO.(Agency)

Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelensky and the United States hailed "very productive" talks in Oslo on Tuesday amid efforts to draw a line under a bitter feud between Kyiv's leader and US President Donald Trump over the war with Russia. After talks with Trump's envoys in the Norwegian capital, Zelensky thanked Washington for the resumption of US intelligence of looming Russian strikes on civilian targets and energy plants.

Trump's special envoy Steve Witkoff is now



due to head from Oslo to Russia for talks with President Vladimir Putin on Wednesday in a bid to end Russia's four-year-old war on Ukraine. The positive tone followed days of tensions between Kyiv and Washington since Trump struck a diesel-supply deal with Putin, and furiously called for Zelensky to be replaced after Ukraine refused to stop hitting Russian oil refineries. "We are thankful that intelligence works," Zelensky told reporters in Oslo. "I'm speaking about early warning, what is very important for our people, for children, adults, civilians, because we can hear when ballistic is coming." Flanked by Norway's Prime Minister Jonas Gahr Store and Finnish President Alexander Stubb -- a golfing buddy of Trump --

Zelensky said it was "important that we keep the conversation going." A US official told AFP after the talks that Zelensky held "very productive and constructive discussions" with businessman Witkoff and Trump's son-in-law Jared Kushner, who took part remotely due to the flu.

Make a deal'

But Trump kept up the pressure, saying at the White House that he wanted Zelensky to "make a deal" with Russia, which is escalating strikes on Ukraine as a bitter winter looms.

Trump, who last week called on Zelensky to resign, also criticized Zelensky for not accepting the terms he said he had offered during their infamous televised row in the Oval Office in February 2025. Relations plunged back into a deep freeze earlier this month after Trump suddenly announced his deal with Russia for diesel, as part of his efforts to lower oil prices sent soaring by his Iran war.

Ukraine reacted with dismay after Trump also waived sanctions against Russia's war machine and appeared to once again pivot to Putin.

The feud spiraled as Zelensky accused Trump of weakness, and then alleged that the United States was deliberately withholding vital intelligence and delaying the delivery of vital interceptor missiles. Ukraine has also reported a reduction in speeds on Starshield, the US military satellite system which it uses for battlefield communications and strikes on Russian-occupied territory. Trump has denied ordering a reduction in speeds on Starshield after Musk -- whose company SpaceX developed it -- said the order could only have come from the White House. But the Wall Street Journal reported on Tuesday that it was indeed Musk who ordered the slowdown in the military-grade version of Starlink.

105 US Lawmakers Urge FBI Hate Crime Probe Into US Temple Mass Shooting Plot

Washington.(Agency)

A bipartisan-free Democratic-led group of 105 US lawmakers has urged the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) to investigate an attempted mass shooting at a Hindu temple in Aurora, Illinois, as a potential federal hate crime, citing concerns over anti-Indian, anti-Hindu and broader anti-South Asian hostility.

Alexandros Paporakis, 19, was arrested on October 11 for plotting a mass shooting at the Sri Venkateswara Swami (Balaji) temple. Led by Indian American Congressman Raja Krishnamoorthi, the lawmakers sent a letter dated October 20 to FBI Director Kash Patel seeking details of the Bureau's investigation into the alleged plot at the Sri Venkateswara Swami (Balaji) Hindu temple. They also called for greater scrutiny of credible online threats against Indian Americans, Hindu Americans, Sikhs and other South Asian communities. Krishnamoorthi and his family were worshipping at the temple when the alleged attempted attack occurred on October 11, according to a statement issued by the congressman's office. The alleged combination of targeted racial hatred, a religious setting, and preparations for mass violence demands a comprehensive federal response," the lawmakers wrote, urging the FBI to ensure that potential hate-crime violations receive explicit attention. The letter was signed by

members of Congress from across the country, including the entire Illinois House Democratic delegation, every Indian American member of Congress, and senators Dick Durbin, Tammy Duckworth, Andy Kim and Chris Van Hollen. Alleged plot raises concerns over targeted violence. According to prosecutors, Alexandros Paporakis, a resident of Palatine, Illinois, drove to the



temple on October 11 intending to carry out a shooting but fled after his rifle allegedly failed to fire. Statements from local police departments and the FBI's Chicago field office said Paporakis was arrested that day and subsequently charged with making a terrorist threat and unlawful possession of weapons. Prosecutors allege that he authored an eight-page manifesto expressing white supremacist views and describing violence against people of Indian descent at a Hindu house of worship

Mention Of Riots Outside India In CJP Leaders’ Plea Hearing In Delhi High Court

Delhi.(Agency)

The Delhi High Court on Wednesday pulled up the Cockroach Janta Party (CJP) leaders Ashutosh Ranka and Saurav Das as they moved the court against the magistrate's order of extending their custody.

The court made some strong observations on the conduct of the CJP leaders, who were arrested on charges of violating their bail bond by attempting to protest at denotified Jantar Mantar. Questioning their actions, the court also made reference to protests and violence in other countries where student protests have turned violent."You are at the forefront (of the protest). When you break barricade, there are chances that more people may follow. There might be persons who may not be under your control," the court noted. Justice Subramonium Prasad then referred to the violence and arson in other countries."We have seen it happened outside our country. What started as student protests turned into something with arson and burning of buildings."

Further slamming the CJP actions, the court questioned the "breach of bond" that the CJP leaders signed after their first arrest. They were then let off the same day after furnishing peace bonds of Rs 50,000. Das and Ranka were, however, apprehended again on October 14 after their attempt to stage the Tiranga protest at Jantar Mantar. They were sent to five-day judicial custody.

Student protests became arson: Court cites France riots during CJP leaders’ hearing

Delhi.(Agency)

The Delhi High Court on Wednesday referred to the ongoing student-led protests in France that escalated into arson and looting while hearing a case involving the arrest of Cockroach Janta Party (CJP) leaders Saurav Das and Ashutosh Ranka. The bench led by Justice Subramonium Prasad stressed that police permission for demonstrations was meant not merely to restrict protesters but also to prevent other people from joining and disrupting them.The remarks came as the High Court agreed to urgently hear a plea by the CJP leaders challenging the order extending their judicial custody, which ends today. The leaders, however, withdrew the plea after the court questioned why the petitioners had approached it instead of pursuing alternative legal remedies and waiting for the SEM to hear the matter.Ranka and Das were arrested on October 13 for trespassing into Jantar Mantar and unfurling the Tricolour. They crossed the police barricades and entered the site, raising slogans demanding the resignation of Chief Election Commissioner Gyanesh Kumar. During the hearing, Justice Prasad questioned the leaders' decision to enter Jantar Mantar after it had been denotified as a protest site and said, "Barricades are there for a purpose. When you go and break a barricade, the chances of more people coming there is — persons who might not be under your control."Referring to the student-led protests in France, the High Court said, “We are seeing this outside our country as well. What started as a student protest has become arson, looting... That’s why you need police permission. It is not just to stop you, but also to prevent others from joining you and spoiling your name.”Questioning whether holding the protest at the denotified site was serious enough to warrant proceedings, the court said the legality of the action was a separate issue that it would examine.

“You went there and broke the barricade. That issue we will see,” the court said.During the hearing, the High Court also asked the CJP leaders their age. Das is 26 years old and Ranka 31.“Then you are not Gen Z. What age group do millennials belong to?” the court quipped, observing that while the protest had initially been a student movement, its cause had since changed.“People remain the same, but the cause has changed. The next question is: who are you, what are you, what is your association, and what is the purpose of the association? When there is an apprehension of a breach of peace and tranquillity, all these questions assume importance,” it added.

‘You broke bond very next day’: Delhi High Court raps CJP’s Das, Ranka over arrest pleas

Delhi.(Agency)

The Delhi High Court on Wednesday questioned the plea filed by Cockroach Janata Party (CJP) leaders Saurav Das and Ashutosh Ranka, noting that they had allegedly breached a bond to maintain peace a day after furnishing it. Justice Subramonium Prasad, addressing their counsel Abhik Chimni, observed that the bond furnished on October 10 was allegedly breached the very next day, October 11. The judge said the High Court examines the decision-making process rather than the decision itself, unless the decision is so perverse that it “shocks the conscience”.The court also asked whether authorities were entitled to demand stricter proof when the two had allegedly breached the peace bond for a second time by trespassing at Jantar Mantar and waving a flag.Questioning why the plea should be entertained, the court pointed to the alternative remedy of challenging the Special Executive Magistrate’s October 19 order before an appellate court. It also noted that the outcome of the proceedings before the magistrate concerning the duo’s custody remained to be seen.Chimni argued that the two should not have to spend another two days in custody, questioning the legality of the October 19 order. He contended that the magistrate lacked jurisdiction to extend their custody.During the hearing, Justice Prasad asked the ages of Das and Ranka. When Chimni said they were 27 and 31, respectively, the judge remarked, “So you’re not Gen Z?” This led to a brief exchange over the age



Das, Ashutosh Ranka and All India Students’ Association president Neha Bora Wednesday, challenging orders of special executive magistrates (SEM) against them.

CJP leaders’ custody extended

Ranka and Das were arrested on October 14 for allegedly breaching security and entering Jantar Mantar during the protests. On Monday, the SEM extended their custody by two days, taking the total to seven days. The order signed by SEM Ritu Raj, an ACP-rank officer with the Delhi Police,

Justice Subramonium Prasad questioned the pleas filed by Das and Ranka, noting that the bond they furnished on October 10, assuring that they would maintain peace, was 'breached' the following day.

said that Ranka and Das’s conduct did not inspire “confidence”, that they have “no respect for law” and that they have habitually called for protests at a denotified site. While being taken away, Das had termed the SEM a “police court” and said “there’s no justice”.

Their key challenge

The two, who moved court on Tuesday, are challenging the grounds on which their sureties were rejected and the demand for fresh ones.As per the SEM order, two persons acted as the surety for Ranka and Das. For one person, the SEM court said that the photograph of the person did not match with the Aadhaar card. For the other person, the court said that basic details like parentage were not there.Das and Ranka, in their plea, argued that the SEM’s grounds for rejection are contrary to the principles of personal liberty and shows “complete misapplication of the law”.Their plea had sought an urgent hearing, including a possible night hearing, alleging violations of their fundamental right to liberty under Article 21 of the Constitution.

Delhi plans to halve e-rickshaw fleet, but will it ease traffic? Experts weigh in

Delhi.(Agency)

Delhi has proposed capping the number of e-rickshaws on its roads to 2.5 lakh, from an estimated 4.5 lakh to 5 lakh. But experts and e-rickshaw associations said this alone may not ease traffic congestion or road encroachment and could leave drivers without a livelihood.Rolling out a new regulatory framework aimed at improving road safety, curbing congestion and regulating the growing fleet, the state government has proposed making a digital E-Rickshaw Compliance Certificate (ECC) mandatory for all vehicles among other measures. It has invited suggestions from the public for 30 days before formally launching the scheme.E-rickshaw associations have planned to meet the Delhi government and request changes to the policy to ensure that drivers who lose their jobs due to the proposed capping are provided with alternative employment opportunities.

Uneven distribution

E-rickshaws are concentrated on some roads, while other areas with high demand have limited availability, according to unions and electric vehicle (EV) experts.Capping the number of e-rickshaws would be a setback for poor and unemployed people who have taken up driving as a means of livelihood, said EV expert Dinesh Goyal.“An e-rickshaw, which is already categorised as a special-category vehicle, costs around Rs 1.5 lakh. After the cap is imposed, those looking to earn a living through driving with a relatively small investment may have to opt for auto-rickshaws or other commercial vehicles, which are much more expensive,” he said.He added that if the government wants to tackle traffic congestion and road encroachment, it can regulate e-rickshaws through proper management and ensure their balanced

deployment on roads.Goyal also pointed out that there is no cap on other vehicles: “Tell me, is there any cap on private cars or other private and commercial vehicles, whose



numbers are also increasing every day? Do they not contribute to traffic congestion?”

Concerns over drivers’ livelihoods

Anuj Sharma, former chairman of the e-rickshaw committee at the Ministry of Road

Transport and Highways (MoRTH), said the government should have made arrangements for those who could lose their livelihoods before deciding to cap the number of e-rickshaws, given that the existing fleet is more than double the proposed limit of 2.5 lakh.“Has the government made any arrangements or come up with a plan for those who will become unemployed? The policy should be implemented only after consultation with stakeholders, rather than being framed solely by government officials sitting in the Transport Department,” Sharma said.“We will, in fact, meet the government to put forward this request so that people don’t lose their jobs. The government should ensure alternative employment opportunities if capping is implemented,” Sharma said, adding the government could make changes to better manage the deployment of these last-mile vehicles.

Change of guard at SBKK: Gauri Keeling wants to ‘put things in order’ at iconic institute

Delhi.(Agency)

At the full-dress rehearsal of the Shriram Bharatiya Kala Kendra’s (SBKK) flagship production ‘Shri Ram’, the 22-day Ramlila’s 69th edition currently being presented at the institute’s open-air arena in Mandi House, Gauri Keeling has a list of concerns and production notes.Sitting beside the institute’s chairperson, Shobha Deepak Singh, Gauri, the new Vice Chairperson of SBKK and Shobha’s younger sister, lists the ‘issues’ to Meenakshi Dass, the working trustee of SBKK and Shobha and Gauri’s niece.King Janaka’s beard is all wrong, the subtitles on the screen are crooked, and the moving lights are not working for her, Gauri saysThe older LED screens have given way to traditional sets and older compositions this time, and the chaupais (four-part verses from the Ramcharitmanas) have been brought back.At an institution that has presented the production for decades and is synonymous with the teaching and performance of Indian classical arts, such details are more than matters of stagecraft.They also have to do with the artistic vision and authority that has shaped the Kendra. For decades, that vision has been closely identified with Shobha, the institute’s long-time artistic director, who has overseen the various productions and shaped them since taking over from art impresario Sumitra Charat Ram. Sumitra, the mother of Shobha and Gauri, played a key role in the revival of performing arts in post-Independence India. “Back when my mother began, we were fully



Kastuar, Director of SBKK, and Dass.Gauri will also take over the major decision-making for Kamani Auditorium, the 55-year-old, 625-seater auditorium located next to SBKK, and one of the oldest auditoriums of its kind in the city.“Shobha has done a wonderful job for about 25-30 years and will always have the respect of the chairperson of the institute but she can no longer walk around a lot, and cannot make certain decisions,” Gauri told .The history of SBKK, she said, can be loosely divided into two eras – “the Sumitra Charat Ram era based on traditional writing, then post the ’70s, the Shobha Deepak Singh era, which was more modern”.

CJP's Sourav Das, Ashutosh Ranka withdraw petition against custody after court flags technical issues

Cockroach Janata Party leaders withdrew their plea in the Delhi High Court challenging their detention orders after the bench questioned why they had not pursued alternative legal remedies. The court clarified that it had made no observations on the merits.

Delhi.(Agency)

The Cockroach Janata Party (CJP) leaders on Wednesday withdrew their petition before the Delhi High Court challenging orders passed by the Special Executive Magistrate (SEM) in connection with their detention over a protest at Jantar Mantar.The development came after the High Court questioned why the petitioners had approached it instead of pursuing alternative legal remedies and waiting for the SEM to hear the matter. The court clarified that it had made no observations on the merits of the case.Advocate Abhik Chimni, appearing for the CJP leaders, informed the bench that the petitioners were withdrawing the plea. The Additional Solicitor General (ASG), appearing for the authorities, sought time to raise certain issues, pointing out that the petitioners had invoked Article 226 of the Constitution and argued for nearly an hour.The court



he submitted.The ASG urged the High Court to clarify that the withdrawal of the petition should not be treated as condoning the petitioners’ failure to file a reply before the SEM.The bench, however, declined to intervene in the ongoing proceedings. “Let them follow the proceedings there. Why should we say anything?” the court asked.The ASG then questioned the petitioners’ conduct, alleging that they had submitted sureties but later claimed in media interactions that they had not filed anything.

Supreme Court stays CMRL bribery probe against Pinarayi Vijayan for a week

Delhi.(Agency)

The Supreme Court on Wednesday stayed for a week the investigation against former Kerala chief minister Pinarayi Vijayan, his daughter Veena T and her husband P A Mohamed Riyas in the alleged CMRL bribery case, the Press Trust of India reported.A bench of Justices Joymalya Bagchi and V Mohana allowed Vijayan and the others to approach a division bench of the Kerala High Court against an order passed by a single judge.On October 15, the Kerala High Court rejected applications filed by Vijayan, Veena and Riyas seeking permission to appeal against the single judge's October 9 order. The court held that "an accused in a corruption case has no legal right to be heard before registering the FIR".In their appeals before the High Court, the three claimed that the single judge had not heard them before directing the registration of the FIR.They also argued that the petition on which the single judge passed the October 9 order was in the form of a public interest litigation and should, therefore, have been heard by a division bench dealing with such matters.

According to PTI, the appeals were filed after the Vigilance and Anti-Corruption Bureau's Special Investigation Unit-1 registered two FIRs against Vijayan and his family members in connection with the case.On October 9, the Kerala High Court directed the bureau to register a case based on a report submitted by the Enforcement Directorate to the state police.The Enforcement Directorate had sought the registration of a case based on evidence gathered during its investigation and searches conducted under the Prevention of Money Laundering Act.The agency alleged that CMRL made fraudulent payments of Rs 2.78 crore to Veena's now-defunct company, Exalogic Solutions, under the guise of providing IT consultancy services.The Supreme Court's order pauses the investigation for a week and allows Vijayan, Veena and Riyas to challenge the single judge's order before a division bench of the Kerala High Court.

PM Modi urges unity against ‘enemies of the country’ at Delhi Dussehra event

New Delhi . (Agency).

Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Tuesday urged political parties to unite in the national interest and called on citizens to identify and defeat what he described as the “enemies of the country”, as the government seeks to build consensus for the passage of the delimitation-linked Women’s Reservation Bill.Addressing Vijayadashami celebrations at the DDA Utsav Ground in IP Extension, New Delhi, Modi also urged people to follow the motto of “Nation First”, saying forces that harm the country, divide society and oppose its cultural values must be resisted. “The forces that inflict harm on the country, the people who divide society and the mindset that hates our culture, all these are the enemies of the nation,” he said.The Prime Minister’s appeal for political unity comes amid the government’s efforts to secure support for legislation linking the implementation of 33 per cent reservation for women in the Lok Sabha and state assemblies to delimitation. It also comes against the backdrop of opposition protests over alleged irregularities in the Special Intensive Revision (SIR) of electoral rolls and demands for the resignation of Chief Election.

President Murmu promulgates law on Ladakh hill councils

SRINAGAR (Agency).

Ladakh can now hold elections to eight hill councils for eight districts after President Droupadi Murmu promulgated the Ladakh Autonomous Hill Development Councils (LAHDC) (Amendment) Regulation, 2026, Lieutenant Governor Vinai Kumar Saxena said on Tuesday.Lieutenant Governor of Ladakh Vinai Kumar Saxena notified the Ladakh Autonomous Hill Development Councils (Amendment) Regulation, 2026 with effect from October 19, paving way for creation of autonomous hill councils in all eight districts of the UT while leaders of Leh Apex Body (LAB) and Kargil Democratic Alliance (KDA), which are spearheading agitation for constitutional safeguards and UT-level elected body, have opposed the amendment to LAHDC Act alleging that hill councils powers have been curtailed and UT administration’s control strengthened. “I am pleased to announce that upon the promulgation of Ladakh Autonomous Hill Development Councils (Amendment) Regulation, 2026, by President of India, I have notified the regulation with effect from 19 October 2026,” LG Saxena said on Tuesday. The regulation was promulgated by the President following Union Cabinet approval on October 14, and was implemented within six days.It paves the way for establishing Ladakh Autonomous Hill Development Councils (LAHDCs) in all eight districts including the newly created Sankoo district.Under the amended provisions, the number of constituencies in each council has been rationalised from the earlier 26 seats to between seven and 24 seats.

Two years on, key poll promises of Omar Abdullah-led J&K govt remain unmet

SRINAGAR(Agency).

As the Chief Minister Omar Abdullah-led National Conference (NC) government completed two years in power, major poll promises of the party, including restoration of J&K’s special status and statehood and revision of the reservation policy, remain unfulfilled.Omar took oath as the first CM of Jammu and Kashmir Union Territory on October 16, 2024, after NC won the first Assembly elections following the abrogation of Articles 370 and 35A and the downgrading of the bifurcation of the erstwhile J&K state into two Union Territories by the Centre on August 5, 2019.The NC had announced 12 guarantees in its election manifesto, promising restoration of Articles 370 and 35A, statehood and implementation of the 2000 Autonomy Resolution.However, after the Assembly in its first session passed a resolution seeking restoration of special status, the Omar government has largely focused on the statehood issue. Despite resolutions adopted at the first

Marco Rubio In Mumbai S Jaishankar Calls For Zero Tolerance On Terrorism

The External Affairs Minister pointed out fresh prospects within the bilateral relationship spanning commerce, investment, technology and energy, noting that consistent communication alongside pinpointing shared objectives would establish a clear roadmap.

New Delhi (Agency).

External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar appreciated visiting US Secretary of State Marco Rubio on Tuesday for placing a wreath at the Taj Hotel’s 26/11 Memorial, underscoring that New Delhi remains resolute regarding its right to defend itself against terrorism while expecting international partners to show zero tolerance towards terrorism as well.Speaking during the Freedom 250 reception hosted in Mumbai to commemorate the 250th anniversary of American independence, alongside Rubio and US Ambassador to India Sergio Gor, EAM Jaishankar underlined that the global architecture is visibly undergoing transformation, prompting nations to adapt accordingly. "Secretary Rubio, all of Mumbai, and indeed all of India, appreciate your laying a wreath today at the Taj Hotel's 26/11 Memorial. India also welcomes this administration's decision to extradite Tahawwur Hussain Rana, who was one of the key culprits. We are clear on our right to defend ourselves against terrorism and expect our partners to show zero tolerance towards terrorism



as well," said EAM Jaishankar. "As we mark this anniversary together, it is natural to reflect on the way ahead. The world order is clearly in transition, and countries are responding accordingly. Each one of us will naturally pursue our national interests. In such an era, expanding our convergence is key to deepening our ties," he added.The External Affairs Minister pointed out fresh prospects within the bilateral relationship spanning commerce, investment, technology and energy, noting that consistent communication alongside pinpointing shared objectives would establish a clear roadmap.He emphasised that

both nations additionally have mutual responsibilities in strengthening regional peace and stability across the Indo-Pacific. "Our ties have indeed come a long way. History records that many Americans were supportive of India's struggle for independence. After that, whether it was infrastructure and education or food, agriculture, and technology, our partnership has made a real difference to India's development. Conversely, Indian talent and Indian skills have helped shape the tech era in the United States. Of course, we've had our share of issues, including the manner in which we approach the world and its challenges. But in the last few decades, our partnership has steadily expanded, acquiring new dimensions and new facets. The Quad, Mission 500, Pax Silica, and the Forge Initiative are among some of the notable examples. Growth in the fields of energy, defence, and civil aviation has actually been striking," said EAM Jaishankar.Holding celebrations dedicated to the 250th anniversary of US independence in Mumbai, the External Affairs Minister remarked that the metropolis carries unique importance for the nation, alongside occupying a distinctive position.

Day After Amit Shah's Visit, CBI Takes Over Punjab Activist's Murder Case

Day After Amit Shah's Visit, CBI Takes Over Punjab Activist's Murder Case

Mansa/Chandigarh. (Agency)

A day after Union Home Minister Amit Shah met the family of anti-drug activist Parvinder Singh Jhota, a team of the Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) reached Mansa late Tuesday night and took over the investigation into his murder from the local police.The agency is expected to begin its investigation on Wednesday, marking a significant development in a case that has triggered political confrontation in Punjab over the drug menace, the safety of those opposing drug trafficking and the state government's handling of law and order.The CBI team reached Mansa following the decision to transfer the case to the central agency. The transfer comes amid demands from Jhota's family and political leaders for an independent investigation, with the case emerging as a



major flashpoint between the ruling Aam Aadmi Party (AAP) government and the opposition. The Punjab Chief Minister, Bhagwant Mann, handed over the investigation to CBI minutes before Amit Shah's visit to Punjab as he decided to meet family members of Parvinder Singh Jhota. Jhota, who had emerged as a vocal figure against drug abuse and drug trafficking in the

Mansa region, was allegedly murdered in a case that sparked widespread outrage. His death intensified questions about the risks faced by people who confront the local drug trade and the effectiveness of the government's anti-drug campaign.The case gained further political significance after Union Home Minister Amit Shah met Jhota's family during his visit to Punjab. The meeting brought the family's demand for justice into sharper focus and added to the pressure for an impartial probe.The BJP has repeatedly attacked the AAP government over the drug problem in Punjab, accusing it of failing to dismantle the drug network despite its public campaign against narcotics. The party has also used Jhota's death to question the state government's claims about its crackdown on drug trafficking.

‘Grave indictment of BJP’s failure’: Congress slams ruling party over recent violence in Manipur

New Delhi. (Agency).

The Congress on Wednesday slammed the BJP over the latest violence in Manipur, saying the continued bloodshed in the strategically important border state is a grave indictment of the BJP's failure to ensure law and order, protect constitutional rights and safeguard national security.Congress president Mallikarjun Kharge posed three questions to Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Home Minister Amit Shah, and asked how many more innocent lives must be lost before they act."Manipur is bleeding again because of BJP's incompetence! The horrific killing of four innocent civilians in the latest



spate of violence is deeply condemnable. My heartfelt condolences to the bereaved families," Kharge said on X.Since May 2023, over 300 precious lives have been lost, while 24,530 are forced to be in relief camps in

pathetic conditions, he said.Women, children and vulnerable families continue to bear the brunt of this prolonged tragedy, Kharge said. "The BJP's political machinations, from imposing President's Rule to replacing the Chief Minister and reinstalling its own government, have yielded no peace. PM Modi, who did not even set foot in Manipur for nearly 29 months after violence erupted, has abysmally failed on his so-called assurance in Parliament," Kharge said.He further said that the continuing bloodshed in this strategically vital border state is a grave indictment of the BJP's failure to ensure law and order, protect constitutional rights and safeguard national security.

Bhagwant Mann Fined Rs 50,000 At Delhi Airport Over Undeclared Goods: Sources

New Delhi (Agency).

The Delhi Airport authorities fined Punjab Chief Minister Bhagwant Mann Rs 50,000 over alleged undeclared goods as he returned from France on Tuesday night, sources have told .The fine was levied by the Customs Duty Department over, what they call, undeclared luxury goods, sources said. The Chief Minister, accompanied by his staff, was exiting through the Green Channel when he was stopped, and the officials went through his luggage. Sources said some luxury items had not been declared and a custom duty was levied on them.His party, the AAP, has termed the incident an "insult to Punjabis".

AAP Punjab media in-charge Baltej Pannu alleged that the Chief Minister was deliberately humiliated and "detained for three hours" at the Delhi Airport at night."Then they issued a challan of Rs 50,000. The officials themselves admitted that they were under pressure, which proves that the entire episode was carried out under orders from above," Pannu claimed.He said Mann travelled to Paris following a Punjab and Haryana High Court order and the central government must once again demonstrated its "narrow-mindedness".The incident has also triggered a bitter political exchange, with AAP leader Saurabh Bharadwaj terming it Centre's "arrogance".

"Punjab CM Bhagwant Mann went to Paris to launch Punjab's products at Paris. This was after he challenged Centre's not granting him the NOC. This arrogance of Centre must end. Even Ravan's arrogance ended on Dussehra," he wrote in a post on X.Shromani Akali Dal (SAD) General Secretary Bikram Singh Majithia claimed that Mann and his wife Gurpreet Kaur were held for violating the laws.

Rahul Gandhi Labels RSS “All-Male Cult”, BJP Calls His Remarks Childish

New Delhi (Agency).

Leader of Opposition Rahul Gandhi's sharp attack on the Rashtriya Swayamsevak Sangh (RSS) has triggered a political firestorm and invited a strong retort from the BJP.In a post on X on Tuesday, Gandhi called the RSS an "all-male anti-constitutional cult" and alleged that the Sangh treated women as subordinate to men."The RSS is an all-male anti-constitutional cult that believes women are the property of men," he posted on X.Gandhi added that he enjoys fighting the RSS and also claimed that many of the Sangh's "own" women were also with him. "I believe in Shiva-Shakti. That's



why it gives me such joy to fight them. What's beautiful is that many of their 'own' women are on my side," Gandhi wrote.Launching an attack on Gandhi over his

right to engage in political accusations, counter-accusations, and sharp criticism, he should do so only after proper study. Is he unaware that the RSS also has a wing for women? It operates across the entire country, and women work within it with the same level of prominence as men," Kadam said.He added that such "childish" comments do not befit a Leader of the Opposition. Telangana BJP chief N Ramchander Rao asked Rahul Gandhi how many women have got positions of prominence within his own party."Rahul Gandhi seems to be forgetting how male-dominated his party is. Wherever they are ruling, let him answer how many women chief ministers there are. BJP has got a woman chief minister.

Telangana BJP chief N Ramchander Rao asked Rahul Gandhi how many women have got positions of prominence within his own party.

Touchstones: Discover common ground

This is traditionally the start of our annual festive season: Dasehra, Diwali, weddings and Christmas. The weather turns balmy and cool, neither too hot nor yet cold and foggy so that we can all take out those silks and beautiful shawls that are packed away after Holi. This year, however, everything is going topsy turvy: the monsoon, like a shameless guest, keeps spraying rain on open air venues, and the sun when it shines afterwards is so blinding that it's difficult to open one's eyes without shading them with a hand.

The festival sales that are taking place now — and sustain the pavement life in Janpath and Bengali Market area — are unreachable as that part of Delhi remains mostly cordoned off and barricaded. So the artisans who bring lovely mirrorwork skirts and cholis from Gujarat and Kutch, jutis and paradis from Punjab, hand-printed saris and fabric from Rajasthan were forced to abort their plans. Added to this was the uncertainty of where traffic was allowed to move, which led to long lines of stranded passengers, schoolchildren trapped in buses, patients in ambulances, grieving relatives unable to attend a cremation. Delhi has never seen a less happy time than now.

I wish to ask whether it is just the Constitution that needs to be defended. What about a citizen's right to move freely? I can see a lot of the initial sympathy for these movements now turn into anger and indifference. As these feelings are avidly exploited by the political leeches that feed on them, friends, families, neighbours and colleagues find themselves on opposing sides. Is this the India that we are going to bequeath to Gen Alpha and those yet unborn? Let me turn from there to some memorable events I was able to attend. The first was a most invigorating conversation between Ramachandra Guha and Prof Apoorvanand on Guha's latest book, 'Arguments with Gandhi'. I can think of very few scholars who have dedicated their lives to scouring archives the way Guha has. I remember how he arrived each year to spend a month at the India International Centre to trawl through the Teen Murti Library, the National Archives and several such libraries and collections.

His path-breaking promotion of environmental history was followed by his documentation of Gandhi's life from his stints in Britain, South Africa and India. There is possibly no part of Gandhi's life, philosophy and writing that Guha has not studied and written brilliantly on. Matching his intellectual and historical sense was Prof Apoorvanand, who nudged Guha back to the discussion when Guha occasionally got carried away.

What I particularly appreciated was the fact that despite both being awesome scholars, they shared their knowledge with the audience. Often such a conversation becomes a polemical debate where one tries to outshine the other. I see this as a certain disdain for the common or lay reader all around me. In most editorials written by some of the finest intellectuals we have in this country (and perhaps the world), there is temptation to use a vocabulary that excludes a large part of the readership.

This stems, in my view, from something that we often neglect when talking of the universality of Gandhi's perennial appeal. Educated in English, Gandhi too could have chosen to use English when challenging the British colonial rulers. Yet, on the advice of Tilak, he stripped himself literally down to his basics, and always addressed his audiences in the simple homespun wisdom of our known Hindustani and aphorisms or prayers that were familiar to even the unlettered peasants. He travelled on foot, wore khadi and practised what he preached. This was his greatest weapon against the entitled lords and ladies of the Raj. He carried more dignity in his dhoti than the battery of medals the others shone on their lapels. How I wish our leaders today had that respect for a common man's dignity and life.

India must regain leverage in Washington

Amid H-1B visa row, alliance-building should be revived in the US to facilitate talent mobility

THE H-1B visa issue is as old as the hills, allowing for a little hyperbole. Every two years, it flares up around the middle of an election year in the United States, either mid-term or presidential. For several decades, Indian reporters in the US like this author have been receiving panicked messages during those biennial flare-ups from representative organisations of India's information technology industry laying out their case for unfettered access to H-1B visas. Equally, reporters have been bombarded by grievances from trade unions in US manufacturing industries that cheap Indian hires under H-1B visas were destroying American livelihoods and families. Inevitably, the issue blows over once the elections are over — till the next campaign season — because this fight is politically opportune. Jobs are an emotive issue in societies the world over. It is easy to whip up sentiment over job losses, especially through scaremongering and xenophobia. Take, for instance, US Vice President JD Vance's outburst against Indians — although not by name — which prompted India's Ministry of External Affairs (MEA) on October 9 to accuse him of "resorting to terminology that carries painful historical and colonial legacy connotations." The MEA described the Vice President's comments as "deeply offensive", without mentioning the three offending words — "foreign indentured servants" — that he had used to describe H-1B visa holders seeking permanent residency in the US. Why did Vance use such strong language? On November 3, his Senate seat in Ohio, which Vance vacated upon becoming Vice President is going to the polls. It is important for him that fellow Republican Jon Husted retains this seat for the Grand Old Party (GOP). Vance's path to the White House in 2029 depends to a great extent on demonstrating his continuing hold on Ohio — especially if Florida's Senate seat, similarly vacated by Secretary of State Marco Rubio, is retained by the GOP on November 3. At present, Vance and Rubio are the leading Republican contenders for the presidency when Trump's term ends. As of now, Ohio is a "toss-up" state, meaning that the result could go either way. An albatross around the necks of Vance and Husted in this race is Vivek Ramaswamy, the self-made billionaire Republican candidate for Ohio Governor's job. Although Ramaswamy did not realise his American dream through the H-1B route because he was born stateside, he has been unable to shake off an impression of H-1B connections among ordinary Ohioans. Amidst rising anti-immigrant



sentiment, many of his voters assume that Ramaswamy started on the road to prosperity as a first-generation immigrant, by depriving Americans — white or black natives — of their jobs. To win back his Senate seat by proxy amid the xenophobia now sweeping the US, Vance has to double down on immigrants. It does not help that his wife Usha is a Hindu and an ethnic Indian, although she too was born in the US and was not a candidate for indentured servitude. However, if Usha's parents had emigrated to the US a decade later, they may have used the H-1B route. Their relocation to America predates the H-1B programme in its current incarnation.

The MEA's October 9 statement prescribing what is good for Americans will not help Indians who are already in the

will not make the administration in Washington change its policies to the advantage of Indians or Indian-Americans. It will only harden the prickly and stubborn Trump administration's stance against talent mobility from India. Instead, India should urgently rebuild the coalitions in the US that defended the H-1B programme and speedier green cards for talented immigrants during the governments led by Atal Bihari Vajpayee and Manmohan Singh. Then too, mobility by skilled Indians was periodically under attack. These coalitions were formidable and had three pillars — offices in Washington of the Confederation of Indian Industry (CII) and the Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce and Industry (FICCI), backed strongly from India by the National Association of Software and Service Companies (NASSCOM). Together, they organised roadshows and campaigns to convince sceptical Americans that Business Process Outsourcing (BPO) was bringing jobs to the US, not taking them away. CII and FICCI heads such as Tarun Das and Amit Mitra, who had direct lines to the highest levels of successive administrations — even to the White House — chose the best persons from their talent pool and sent them to their Washington offices. One example was Kiran Pasricha, who set up the CII office in the US capital and ran it for 16 years. She would pick up the phone and call then First Lady Hillary Clinton in the White House — later Senator from New York — and discuss India's trade problems. Such access for India is closed now. In addition, captains of Indian industry like Ratan Tata, Anand Mahindra and Rahul Bajaj went to the US together to tell prominent Americans about their factories and other businesses in that country that were giving jobs to local people. Commerce and Industry Minister Piyush Goyal said after the latest crackdown on skilled immigration that "not getting more H-1B visas is absolutely good for the Indian economy." The MEA said the opposite. The Indian government should stop pretending that domestic conditions are so good that Indians won't seek work in America even through the "donkey route." Instead, alliance-building should be revived in the US to facilitate talent mobility. Otherwise, the anti-H-1B protests will outlast the current election campaign and become deeply embedded in American minds. If that happens, skilled immigration will no longer be subject to market forces.

Election panel must go beyond retreats to restore public trust

While the Supreme Court is seized of the matter, the Press Council of India has shared guidelines for journalists to follow while on the job during protests

As somersaults go, the Election Commission of India (ECI), under Chief Election Commissioner Gyanesh Kumar, has managed quite a few in recent times. It's a survival skill seasoned bureaucrats employ when their backs are against the wall. Until the Supreme Court's verdict on the controversial special intensive revision (SIR) of electoral rolls in Bihar, the judiciary had largely seemed to accommodate the poll panel. That latitude may be running out. The court has twice taken issue with the Commission's selective interpretation of its Bihar SIR verdict. It has outright rejected the ECI's claim that the judgement validated adding a contested declaration to Form 6, the application used to enrol voters. The court could deliver another blow when it resumes hearing the matter after examining ECI files to determine whether the Chief Election Commissioner made key decisions unilaterally. That is when Nirvachan Bhavan's U-turns began. The latest in the series is a special summary revision of electoral rolls in 17 states and Union territories where the SIR is already over. It opens the door to enrolling afresh



citizenship hassle, no algorithmic tyranny of logical discrepancies; the process would be back to pre-SIR normalcy. There is more. If the poll body blocked demands for machine-readable poll rolls from political

parties over the past few years, claiming it would compromise voter privacy, it has now volunteered to provide them in that format at both the draft and final stages, but without electors' photos. The PDF files previously shared with political parties contained photographs but were not machine-readable. Other about-turns include circulating the agenda of the Commission's meetings in advance and publishing minutes of the interactions for transparency, as the Reserve Bank of India does with the minutes of its Monetary Policy Committee's rate-setting meetings. The ECI can do more. For example, it should consider including photographs in machine-readable electoral rolls, since matching images with names can help flag duplicate entries. It should also publish a searchable log of every addition to or deletion from the rolls and disclose the full findings of the external vetting of ECINET, its national electoral-roll repository. Media reports suggest intentional blocking of ECINET access to update the voter list during the SIR process.

How to Turn the Goddess Vegetarian?

Goddesses are not replaced. Their food is. And much of it has to do with sectarian rivalry and the rise of money power

Every autumn two daughters come home. In the Konkan it is Gauri, who arrives in Bhadrabad, a few days after Ganesh, and is seated in the house as a married girl visiting her mahar. In Bengal it is Uma, who leaves Shiva on Kailash for four days in Ashvin and returns to her parents' house with her children. The agamani songs are about a mother waiting at the door. Neither is a distant empress on a throne. She is a daughter, and a daughter at home eats what the household eats. So on the Konkan coast she is fed fish. In many Koli, Agri, and Maratha homes along the Konkan, the meal for Gauri includes mutton or fish, served on the day she is worshipped. In Bengal, goats were cut in front of the goddess in the old zamindar houses, the bonedi bari, and on Dashami, before she leaves, many East Bengal families give her rice with fish, sometimes hilsa, so she does not go back to her husband's house hungry.

Then the Vaishnavas arrived and told a different story. Vaishno Devi in the Trikuta hills of Jammu is the clearest case. Here the goddess is Vaishnavi, a girl who does tapasya waiting for Rama, who has promised to marry her at the end of Kali Yuga when he comes back as Kalki. She is no wife and no mother. She is bride-in-waiting, chaste and patient. Her enemy is Bhairon Nath, a tantric yogi, described in the shrine's own telling as a disciple of Gorakhnath. At a feast hosted by the devotee Sridhar, Bhairon demands meat and liquor. She refuses. He chases her up the mountain. She hides in a cave for nine months, then cuts off his head. The head lands on a nearby ridge, Bhairon repents, and she rules that no pilgrimage to her is complete without a visit to his shrine.

In this version, meat and wine belong to the Nath and the tantric. The goddess hates both. The tantric gets beheaded and survives only as a subordinate stop on the pilgrim route. This telling spread across north Indian vegetarian



shrines through the 20th century, with Arya Samaj and BAPS Swami Narayan influence, with calendar art, bhajan cassettes, and mythological films, and it made the vegetarian Devi feel ancient. How old the written legend actually is remains unclear. The shrine's mass popularity is recent. This is why North Indians are becoming vegetarian during Navratri and shocked, even disgusted, at eggs and chicken being served in Bengal Durga pandals. Then there is the Jain claim. Jinasena's

Harivamshapurana, written in 783 CE, chapter 49, tells the origin of Durga as a mistake. Krishna's sister Ekanasa becomes a Jain nun and stands in kayotsarga in the Vindhyas. Shabara hunters on their way to rob a caravan take her for a forest goddess and pray for success. She dies in meditation. A tiger eats the body, leaving blood and three fingers. The hunters return, see the blood, and conclude the goddess loves blood. They build a shrine to the fingers and start killing buffaloes. Blood sacrifice, in

Jinasena's hands, is a misreading by tribals. And the tiger, Durga's own mount, is the animal that eats her.

At Osian in Rajasthan the Upakesha Gaccha Pattavali takes the next step. The goddess Sacciya Mata, a form of Chamunda once fed buffaloes and goats, demands something to crunch. The monk Ratnaprabhasuri gives her heaps of modakas. She converts, becomes a lay follower of Mahavira, and turns so vegetarian she cannot stand even a red flower. She is now the kuldevi of the Osval Jains. This same story is attributed to Adi Shankara to explain why Kamakshi of Kanchi is vegetarian whereas Kamakhya of Assam is not. Goddesses are thus not replaced. Their food is. And much of it has to do with sectarian rivalry and the rise of money power. Marwari and Gujarati trading families, Jain and Vaishnava both, fund the renovations, the marble floors, the bhandaras, the management trusts. Once they hold the purse, the goat goes. Bali stops quietly, a coconut is broken instead, and a story appears explaining that the Mother never wanted blood. Gita Press Gorakhpur, itself a Marwari project, printed vegetarian Devi into millions of homes.

In the Devi Bhagavata Purana (3.26), Vyasa tells Janamejaya how to keep Navaratra. After the fruit offering (verses 30 to 31), verses 32 to 34 add a second path for meat-eaters: buffalo, goat, and boar are the best offerings, animals killed before the Goddess go to heaven, and sacrificial killing counts as ahimsa, echoing Manusmriti 5.44. Two kinds of devotee, both accepted. A popular modern Hindi translation folds all five verses into one line about fruits and a 'purified offering'. The meat-eaters, the animals, their heaven, and the ahimsa claim, all disappear. That being said, the Konkan Gauri still eats flesh. The Bengal Uma may soon be eating dhokla. A daughter once fed by her own family may soon depend on a satvik canteens of temple trusts.

Although every possible care and cautions has been taken to avoid errors or omissions, this publication is in the market for readers on the condition and understanding that information given in this publication is merely for reference and must not be taken as having authority of or binding in any way on the writers, editors, publishers, printers and sellers who do not owe any responsibility for any damage or loss to any person, a purchaser of this publication or not for the result of any action taken on the basis of this work. All disputes are subject to the exclusive jurisdiction of competent court and forums in Ranchi only. Readers are advised and requested to verify and seek appropriate advice to satisfy themselves about the veracity of any kind of advertisement before responding to any contents published in this newspaper. The Editor, Printer, Publisher and any employee of the 'The Researchers' Group will not be held responsible for any kind of claim made by the advertisers of the products and services and shall not be made responsible for any kind of loss, consequences and further product-related damages on such advertisement.

भोजपुरी देवी पचरा गीत

सिंगार दुर्गा मइया के

- श्याम कुंवर भारती

खिलल खिलल सिंगार रे दुर्गा मइया के ।
उठल उठल गुंढ हमार रे मंदिरवा के ।

आदिशक्ति दुर्गा हइ जगदंबा भवानी ।

मईया किरपा चले दुनिया के कहानी ।

भिंजल भिंजल अंखिया तोहार रे सइया के ।
खिलल खिलल सिंगार रे..... ।

देवी के चरनिया में आपन सिरवा झुकावा ।

मन चाहा वरदान दुर्गा मईया से पावा ।

बीतल बीतल बुरा सब हाल रे जिनिगिया के ।

खिलल खिलल सिंगार रे..... ।

नवरातन में नौ रुपवा दुर्गा देवी पुजाली ।

मईया शारदा लक्ष्मी कालिका कहाली ।

टूटल टूटल काल सब जंजाल रे उमिरिया के ।

खिलल खिलल सिंगार रे..... ।

सोना ना चानी ना चाही हीरा मोतिया ।

भउआ के भूखल माई सुना मोर संधतिया ।

मिलल मिलल भारती मालामाल रे पुजइया के ।

खिलल खिलल सिंगार रे दुर्गा मइया के ।

পিতৃ পরের অনুষ্ঠান: গ্যা ফাল্ নদীতে
ব্যাপক উপস্থিতি স্রাৱী

গয়া, বশিহ: আজ পতি পর ২০২৬-এর দ্বিতীয় দলিন
গয়ার পবত্রি ফাল্ নদীর তীরে শুকি ও ঐতশিরে এক
গজীর প্রদর্শনী অনুষ্ঠিত হয়। প্রায় ৬০,০০০ এরও
বর্ধি শুকু পি দান ও তরণ অনুষ্ঠানে অংশ নতি
এখানে জড়া হন। মন্ত্রপাঠের ছন্দ, ধূপের স্রাবা এবং
পুণ্যার্থীদের ত্বদযগ্রাধী প্রাথনার সঙ্গে পুরো পরবিশে
মুখরতি ছিল।

আবগেযন পরবিশে পুরো তাদরে মাঠার জন্য
পতিপণ করননে, কন্যারা কৌদতে কৌদতে তাদরে
পতিমাঠার প্রতি বদ্যি জানাননে, আর এক শ্বি
তার প্রযাত মাযের তরণ অর্পণ করে উপস্থিতি স্রার
মনকে স্পর্শ করে দখিছে। এই অনুষ্ঠান, যা হিন্দু
ঐতশিরে গজীর অংশ, জীবতি ও প্রযাতরে মধ্যে
পবত্রি স্রার্থ্যকরে প্রতীক, যা প্রজনারে আখ্যার শানি
ও মুকুত্রি আশ্রাম দখে বলে বশিহ করা হয়।
দীঘ স্রি ও দাশক তাপ স্রত্বও শুকুরা তাদরে আটল
নষ্ঠি প্রদর্শন করননে। বশিহেজাবে নমিতি পমিথে জন,
তলি ও পতিপণ করে নদীতে পবত্রি স্নান করননে।
পুরোহিতেরা জাবগাষ্ঠীযপূর্ণ নথিমে স্রস্র অনুষ্ঠান
পরচিনতা করে পূজামপরে আধ্যাত্মিক পরবিশে
আরও বর্ধি করননে। গয়া, যা গড়শ্বথৎ-এর জুমি
শ্রিবে পরচিতি, পতি পরের স্রময় বশিহে তাৎপর্য
ধারণ করে।

এ স্রময় দশেরে কেশগাকুণি থাকে এবং বদিশে থাকেও
শাজারো পুণ্যার্থী এখানে আসে। স্রজাতীয় কর্তৃপর
জানখিছে, এই বছররে উপস্থিতি প্রত্যাহার অনেক
ওপরে গখিছে, যা প্রাচীন ঐতশিরে প্রতি আটু
স্রাধার পরচিযক। একজন শুকু বলনে, “এই দ্রৌত-
নীতি শ্বধুপ্রাণ একটি ঐতশি নথ, এটি পতিপুরষরে
প্রতি কৃত্ততা প্রকাশ এবং আামদরে পবত্রি কর্তব্য
পানতনের মাধ্যম।” স্রাধার দিকে যখন আকাশ যীরে
যীরে অশ্বকাদ্রাযতি হতে লাগল, ফাল্‌র পাড প্রদীপরে
আলো নদীতে জাগতে লাগল, যা চরিত্রন স্রুত্রি
প্রতীক শ্রিবে বানমল করাছিল।

पेट्सिको के खाद्य कारोबार को त्योहारी
सीजन में अच्छी बिक्री की उम्मीद

का-कोला के बॉटलर ने
दोहरे अंक की वृद्धि दर्ज की

नई दिल्ली ।

भारत में त्योहारी सीजन खाद्य और पेय कंपनियों के लिए उत्साहजनक दिख रहा है। पेप्सिको इंडिया अपने खाद्य कारोबार में पिछले साल के समान मजबूत वृद्धि की उम्मीद कर रहा है, जो नए उत्पादों और उपभोक्ताओं की बदलती पसंद पर केंद्रित है। वहीं

कोका-कोला की प्रमुख बॉटलिंग कंपनी एसएलएमजी बेवरेजेज ने मौजूदा त्योहारी सत्र में दोहरे अंक की वृद्धि दर्ज करने की घोषणा की है। पेप्सिको इंडिया की एक वरिष्ठ अधिकारी के अनुसार कंपनी त्योहारी सत्र में उपभोक्ताओं की विविध पसंद को ध्यान में रखते हुए स्नेक्स, स्वास्थ्य के लिहाज से बेहतर और प्रीमियम उत्पादों की पेशकश का विस्तार कर रही है। ई-कॉमर्स पर रेडी-टू-ईट उत्पादों की उपलब्धता बढ़ने और भारतीय

उपभोक्ताओं के बदलते स्वाद के अनुरूप नए उत्पाद पेश करने पर कंपनी जोर दे रही है। कंपनी को उद्योग के अनुरूप वृद्धि की उम्मीद है। इस बीच कोका-कोला के बॉटलर एसएलएमजी बेवरेजेज के एक वरिष्ठ अधिकारी ने बताया कि नवरात्रि के बाद से उनकी बिक्री में तेजी आई है और दिवाली गिफ्ट पैक के लिए बड़ी संख्या में ऑर्डर मिल रहे हैं, जिससे दोहरे अंक की वृद्धि दर्ज हुई है। उन्होंने

नवंबर-दिसंबर में भी मजबूत मांग की उम्मीद जताई। लधानी ने स्वीकार किया कि कंपनी चीनी और पैकेजिंग सहित कच्चे माल की बढ़ती लागत का सामना कर रही है, लेकिन फ्लिहल कीमतों में और बढ़ती पर देखो और इंतजार करो की नीति अपना रही है। कंपनी उपभोक्ताओं के लिए उत्पादों को किफायती बनाए रखते हुए बिक्री की मात्रा बढ़ाकर लागत के असर को कम करने का प्रयास कर रही है।

पारस हेल्थकेयर ने एंकर निवेशकों से 652 करोड़ जुटाए

1,450 करोड़ का आईपीओ 21 अक्टूबर को खुलेगा, 660-693 प्रति शेयर मूल्य दायरा

नई दिल्ली ।

पारस हेल्थ बांड के तहत अस्पताल चलाने वाली पारस हेल्थकेयर ने अपने आगामी 1,450 करोड़ रुपए के आरंभिक सार्वजनिक निगम (आईपीओ) से पहले एंकर निवेशकों से 652.5 करोड़ रुपए का मजबूत पूंजी संग्रह किया है। इसमें घरेलू और वैश्विक निवेशकों की महत्वपूर्ण भागीदारी देखी गई। शेयर बाजार की

वेबसाइट पर उपलब्ध जानकारी के अनुसार कंपनी ने 39 कोषों के 693 रुपए प्रति शेयर के प्रीमियम मूल्य पर कुल 94,15,584 इक्विटी शेयर आवंटित किए हैं, जिससे उसे यह राशि प्राप्त हुई है। इन प्रमुख एंकर निवेशकों में एसबीआई म्यूचुअल फंड, एचडीएफसी म्यूचुअल फंड, आईसीआईसीआई प्रूडेंशियल म्यूचुअल फंड, अब् धाबी इन्वेस्टमेंट अथॉरिटी और

ब्लैकरोक जैसे दिग्गज शामिल हैं। पारस हेल्थकेयर का आईपीओ 21 अक्टूबर को खुलेगा और 23 अक्टूबर को बंद होगा। इसके लिए 660 से 693 रुपए प्रति शेयर का मूल्य दायरा तय किया गया है। प्रस्तावित आईपीओ में 500 करोड़ रुपए के नए शेयर जारी किए जाएंगे, जिसका उपयोग कंपनी कर्ज चुकाने के लिए करेगी, साथ ही इसमें 950 करोड़ रुपए की बिक्री पेशकश (ओएफएस) भी



शामिल है। गुरुग्राम स्थित यह हेल्थकेयर चैन पांच राज्यों और एक केंद्र शासित प्रदेश में आठ अस्पतालों का संचालन करती है। कंपनी के शेयर 28 अक्टूबर को शेयर बाजार में सूचीबद्ध होंगे।

बाजार में गिरावट के बाद म्युचुअल
फंडों का इक्विटी पर बढ़ा भरोसा

म्युचुअल फंड तेजी से इक्विटी, विशेषकर लार्ज-कैप शेयरों में बढ़ा रहे हैं अपना निवेश

नई दिल्ली ।

हालिया बाजार गिरावट के बाद आकर्षक मूल्यांकन का फायदा उठाते हुए म्युचुअल फंड तेजी से इक्विटी, विशेषकर लार्ज-कैप शेयरों में अपना निवेश बढ़ा रहे हैं। यह रुझान परिसंपत्ति आवंटन और बाजार के सेंटिमेंट इंडिकेटर में स्पष्ट रूप से दिख रहा है, जो निवेशकों के लिए एक महत्वपूर्ण संकेत है। शेयर बाजार में हालिया सुधार के बावजूद म्युचुअल फंडों का झुकाव इक्विटी, खासकर लार्ज-कैप शेयरों की ओर मजबूत हुआ है। एसबीआई म्युचुअल फंड

की 15 अक्टूबर की रिपोर्ट के अनुसार लार्ज-कैप शेयरों में फैली अत्यधिक निराशा अब एक संभावित तेजी का संकेत दे रही है, क्योंकि यह निराशा मुख्य रूप से इन्हीं शेयरों तक सीमित है। विपरीत दृष्टिकोण से, यह लार्ज-कैप में बेहतर रिटर्न के लिए अनुकूल परिस्थितियां बना रही है। रिपोर्ट बताती है कि निफ्टी 50 पर तीन साल का वार्षिक रिटर्न 6 फीसदी तक गिर गया है, जो 2020 के बाद का सबसे निचला स्तर है। इसके बावजूद, आय सुधार में 53 फीसदी की बहाली और मजबूत आईपीओ गतिविधियां बाजार के

निजी बैंकों में भारी बिकवाली ने बाजार
को खींचा नीचे

पीएसबी बैंक ने दिखाया दम, तकनीकी स्टार एर अहम मोड़ पर निफ्टी

नई दिल्ली ।

भारतीय शेयर बाजार में सोमवार को दो सत्रों की तेजी पर ब्रेक लग गया। वैश्विक संकेतों, कच्चे तेल की बढ़ती कीमतों और तिमाही नतीजों की चिंताओं के बीच प्रमुख सूचकांक निफ्टी 1.11 फीसदी से अधिक टूटकर 22,900 के अहम स्तर से नीचे बंद हुआ। इस तेज गिरावट ने बाजार की हालिया रिकवरी की मजबूती पर सवाल खड़े कर दिए हैं। बाजार विश्लेषकों के अनुसार सितंबर तिमाही के नतीजों से जुड़ी अनिश्चितताएं और कच्चे तेल की बढ़ती कीमतें गिरावट के मुख्य कारण रही। तकनीकी रूप से भी, निफ्टी अपने 20-दिवसीय एक्सपोनेंशियल मूविंग एवरेज (ईएमए) से नीचे फिसल गया और 38.2 फीसदी फिबोनाची रेट्रिमेंट स्तर को पार नहीं कर पाया, जो रिकवरी की कमजोर पड़ती रफ्तार को दर्शाता है। सेक्टरवार प्रदर्शन मिला-जुला रहा। निजी बैंकों के शेयरों में भारी मुनाफावसूली देखने को मिली, जिसमें एचडीएफसी बैंक, आईसीआईसीआई बैंक और एक्सिस बैंक ने बाजार पर अतिरिक्त दबाव डाला। हालांकि, सरकारी बैंकों ने विपरीत रुझान दिखाते हुए मजबूत प्रदर्शन किया। निफ्टी पीएसयू बैंक इंडेक्स करीब 2.3 फीसदी उछला, जिसमें पीएनबी और यूनियन बैंक ऑफ इंडिया जैसे शेयरों में 5 फीसदी से अधिक की तेजी दर्ज की गई। बॉंइर मार्केट भी कमजोर रहा, मिडकैप और स्मॉलकैप इंडेक्स दोनों गिरे। तकनीकी विश्लेषकों के मुताबिक, निफ्टी के लिए 22,730-22,750 पर तत्काल मजबूत सपोर्ट है, जबकि 23,000-23,030 ऊपरी रफ्तार का काम करेगा। 22,730 के नीचे निर्णायक गिरावट 22,600 तक दबाव बढ़ा सकती है, वहीं 23,030 के ऊपर टिकने से ही तेजी की रफ्तार लौट सकती है।

एसएलएमजी बेवरेजेज का पांच साल में
20,000 करोड़ के कारोबार का लक्ष्य

कंपनी का तीन-चार साल में आरंभिक सार्वजनिक निर्गम लाने का लक्ष्य

नई दिल्ली ।

भारत में कोका-कोला की सबसे बड़ी बॉटलिंग कंपनी एसएलएमजी बेवरेजेज (अगले पांच सालों में अपने कारोबार को बढ़ाकर 20,000 करोड़ रुपये तक पहुंचाने की महत्वाकांक्षी योजना बना रही है। कंपनी अगले तीन से चार साल में आरंभिक सार्वजनिक निर्गम (आईपीओ) लाने की तैयारी में है। यह जानकारी कंपनी के एक वरिष्ठ

अधिकारी ने मंगलवार को दी। वर्तमान में लगभग 9,000 करोड़ रुपये का सकल कारोबार करने वाली एसएलएमजी बेवरेजेज अगले तीन साल में इसे 15,000 करोड़ रुपये से अधिक करने का लक्ष्य लेकर चल रही है। कंपनी पिछले चार साल से 20 प्रतिशत से अधिक की वार्षिक वृद्धि दर से बढ़ रही है। अपनी विस्तार योजनाओं के तहत, कंपनी बिहार के बक्सर में 1,200 करोड़ रुपए और उत्तर प्रदेश के गोरखपुर में

1,000 करोड़ रुपए का निवेश कर रही है। उन्होंने बताया कि यूपी और बिहार में घोषित 5,000 करोड़ रुपए के निवेश को अगले तीन साल में पार कर लिया जाएगा। यह निवेश विशेषकर छोटे शहरों और ग्रामीण बाजारों में बढ़ती पेय पदार्थों की मांग को पूरा करने पर केंद्रित है। वैश्विक स्तर पर शीर्ष 15 कोका-कोला बॉटलिंग कंपनियों में से एक एसएलएमजी अगले पांच साल में शीर्ष 10 में शामिल होना चाहती



है। कंपनी अपनी वर्तमान 35,000 बोटल प्रति मिनट (बीपीएम) की बॉटलिंग क्षमता में अगले पांच साल में 10,000 बीपीएम की अतिरिक्त क्षमता जोड़ेगी, जिसका लक्ष्य अगले दशक में 1 लाख बीपीएम तक पहुंचना है।

पाकिस्तान ने आर्थिक वृद्धि
दर का अनुमान घटाकर
3.65 प्रतिशत किया

औद्योगिक व सेवा क्षेत्र में नरमी प्रमुख वजह, आर्थिक लक्ष्य से पीछे रहने का संकेत

इस्लामाबाद ।

पाकिस्तान सरकार ने वित्त वर्ष 2025-26 के लिए अपनी सकल घरेलू उत्पाद (जीडीपी) की वृद्धि दर के अनुमान को मामूली रूप से संशोधित करते हुए

3.65 प्रतिशत कर दिया है। यह फैसला औद्योगिक और सेवा क्षेत्रों में आई हल्की सुस्ती के मद्देनजर लिया गया है, जो पहले के 3.70 प्रतिशत के अनुमान से कम है। राष्ट्रीय लेखा समिति (एनएसी) की हालिया बैठक में इस संशोधन को मंजूरी मिली, जो पहले मई में चार प्रतिशत से घटाकर 3.70 प्रतिशत किया गया था। नए अनुमानों के अनुसार कृषि क्षेत्र 3.50 प्रतिशत की वृद्धि देखेगा, जबकि औद्योगिक क्षेत्र 3.34 प्रतिशत और सेवा क्षेत्र 3.81 प्रतिशत की वृद्धि दर्ज करेगा। इन दोनों प्रमुख क्षेत्रों में पिछली अपेक्षाओं से कुछ नरमी दर्ज की गई है। अंतरराष्ट्रीय मुद्रा कोष



(आईएमएफ) ने पाकिस्तान के लिए 3.6 प्रतिशत की वृद्धि का अनुमान लगाया है, जबकि विश्व बैंक और एशियाई विकास बैंक (एडीबी) ने 3.7 प्रतिशत की संभावना व्यक्त की है। संशोधित आंकड़ों के अनुसार, वित्त वर्ष 2025-26 में पाकिस्तान की अर्थव्यवस्था का आकार 450.4 अरब डॉलर तक पहुंच गया है, और प्रति व्यक्ति आय भी बढ़कर 1,896 डॉलर हो गई है। हालांकि, देश में असाधारण महंगाई के चलते आम लोगों की क्रय शक्ति पर विपरीत असर पड़ा है, जिससे डॉलर में आय बढ़ने के बावजूद उनके जीवन स्तर में अपेक्षित सुधार नहीं दिख रहा है।

भारत में ऑडी ने लॉन्च की ऑडी व्यू3

नई दिल्ली ।

भारतीय बाजार में ऑडी ने अपनी नई 2026 व्यू3 एसयूवी लॉन्च कर दी है। यह कंपनी की तीसरी पीढ़ी की शुरुआती श्रेणी वाली लम्बरी एसयूवी है, जिसे नोवा और जेनिथ नाम के दो संस्करणों में पेश किया गया है।

इसकी शुरुआती एक्स-शोरूम कीमत 51.99 लाख रुपये रखी गई है। महाराष्ट्र स्थित छत्रपति संभाजीनगर संयंत्र में निर्मित इस एसयूवी की डिलीवरी भी शुरू हो गई है। नई व्यू3 की सबसे बड़ी खासियत इसका ऑल-व्हील ड्राइव सिस्टम है, जो इसे बीएमडब्ल्यू एक्स1 और मर्सिडीज-बेंज जीएलए जैसे प्रतिद्वंद्वियों से अलग करता है, क्योंकि वे इस श्रेणी में केवल फ्रंट-व्हील ड्राइव व्यवस्था के साथ आते हैं। एसयूवी में 2.0 लीटर का डायरेक्ट-इंजेक्शन टर्बो-पेट्रोल इंजन दिया गया है, जो 204 हॉर्सपावर की अधिकतम शक्ति और 320 एनएम का अधिकतम टॉर्क पैदा करता है।

यह इंजन 7-स्पीड डुअल-क्लच ऑटोमैटिक गियरबॉक्स से जुड़ा है और चारों पहियों तक शक्ति पहुंचाता है। कंपनी के दावे के अनुसार, नई व्यू3 केवल 7.1 सेकंड में शून्य से 100 किलोमीटर प्रति घंटे की रफ्तार पकड़ सकती है, जिसकी अधिकतम गति 229 किलोमीटर प्रति घंटा है।

बाहरी डिजाइन में स्प्लिट-स्टाइल हेडलाइट्स, बड़े आकार की ग्रिल और पीछे रोशनी वाला ऑडी लोगो शामिल हैं। केबिन के अंदर 12.8 इंच की टचस्क्रीन इन्फोटेनमेंट और 11.9 इंच का डिजिटल ड्राइवर डिस्प्ले वाली घुमावदार डिजिटल स्क्रीन मिलती है।

चॉइस एमएफ ने लॉन्च किया
लार्ज एंड मिड कैप फंड

500 रुपए की एसआईपी से लार्ज और मिड कैप कंपनियों में निवेश का मौका

नई दिल्ली ।

निवेशकों को बड़ी और मझोली कंपनियों में निवेश का अवसर प्रदान करने के उद्देश्य से चॉइस म्युचुअल फंड ने चॉइस लार्ज एंड मिड कैप फंड लॉन्च किया है। यह एक ओपन-एंडेड इक्विटी स्कीम है जिसका न्यू फंड ऑफर (एनएफओ) 20 अक्टूबर मंगलवार से शुरू हो चुका है और 3 नवंबर तक सब्सक्रिप्शन के लिए खुला रहेगा। यह फंड उन निवेशकों के लिए है जो बाजार पूंजीकरण के लिहाज से बड़ी और मझोली दोनों तरह की कंपनियों में निवेश करके पूंजी वृद्धि और आय अर्जित करना चाहते हैं। एनएफओ के दौरान, निवेशक न्यूनतम

1,000 रुपये से इस फंड में निवेश शुरू कर सकते हैं, जबकि सिस्टमैटिक इन्वेस्टमेंट प्लान (एसआईपी) के माध्यम से मासिक किस्ते न्यूनतम 500 रुपये से शुरू होंगी। स्कीम डायरेक्ट और रगुलर दोनों प्लान में उपलब्ध है, जिनमें ग्रोथ और इनकम डिस्ट्रीब्यूशन कम कैपिटल विड्रॉल (आईडीडब्ल्यूसी) विकल्प शामिल हैं। फंड मैनेजर के नेतृत्व में यह स्कीम निफ्टी लार्ज मिडकैप 250 टोटल रिटर्न इंडेक्स को बेंचमार्क करेगी। यूनिट आवंटन के दिन से एक साल के भीतर पैसा निकालने पर 1 फीसदी एग्जिट लोड लगेगा। पोर्टफोलियो आवंटन की बात करें तो फंड अपनी कुल संपत्ति का 70 से



100 फीसदी हिस्सा शेयरों और उनसे जुड़े साधनों में लगाएगा। इसमें बड़ी कंपनियों के शेयरों में 35 से 65 फीसदी और मझोली कंपनियों के शेयरों में भी 35 से 65 फीसदी निवेश किया जाएगा। शेप 0 से 30 फीसदी राशि डेट इस्ट्रुमेंट्स, मनी मार्केट इस्ट्रुमेंट्स और सोने-चांदी से जुड़े निवेश साधनों में तथा 0 से 10 फीसदी

इन्फास्ट्रक्चर इन्वेस्टमेंट ट्रस्ट (इन्विट्रस्ट) की इकाइयों में निवेश की जा सकती है। फंड का लक्ष्य ऐसी कंपनियों में निवेश करना है जिनकी औसत से ज्यादा वृद्धि की संभावना हो, मजबूत बाजार पकड़ हो और अच्छी वित्तीय स्थिति हो। फंड हाउस के अनुसार, यह योजना बहुत ज्यादा जोखिम की श्रेणी में आती है।

जस्ट डायल का मुनाफा 9.7 फीसदी

घटकर 107.8 करोड़ हुआ

नई दिल्ली ।

स्थानीय खोज सेवा प्रदाता जस्ट डायल लिमिटेड को चालू वित्त वर्ष 2026-27 की जुलाई-सितंबर तिमाही में शुद्ध लाभ में गिरावट का सामना करना पड़ा है। कंपनी का एकीकृत मुनाफा सालाना आधार पर 9.73 प्रतिशत घटकर 107.8 करोड़ रुपए रह गया। यह गिरावट मुख्य रूप से परिचालन खर्च में हुई तीव्र वृद्धि के कारण हुई, जबकि कंपनी के राजस्व में वृद्धि दर्ज की गई। जस्ट डायल लिमिटेड ने शेयर बाजार को दी जानकारी में बताया कि पिछली समान तिमाही में कंपनी ने 119.44 करोड़ रुपए का मुनाफा कमाया था। हालांकि, समीक्षाधीन तिमाही में कंपनी का परिचालन राजस्व 13.11 प्रतिशत बढ़कर 342.82 करोड़ रुपए हो गया, जो पिछले वर्ष 303.07 करोड़ रुपए था। इस अवधि में कंपनी का कुल खर्च भी 14.6 प्रतिशत बढ़कर 262.81 करोड़ रुपए पर पहुंच गया, जिसने लाभ को प्रभावित किया। रिलायंस इंडस्ट्रीज लिमिटेड के खुदरा कारोबार की इकाई रिजल्ट्स रिटेल वेंचर्स के स्वामित्व वाली जस्ट डायल की कुल आय दूसरी तिमाही में 5.6 प्रतिशत बढ़कर 397.38 करोड़ रुपए रही। सोमवार को बीएसई पर कंपनी का शेयर 2.82 प्रतिशत की बढ़त के साथ 732.55 रुपए पर बंद हुआ।

एसबीआई म्युचुअल फंड
का छोटे शहरों पर फोकस

23,000 बैंक शाखाओं से जोड़ेगा नए निवेशक

नई दिल्ली ।

देश की सबसे बड़ी म्युचुअल फंड कंपनी एसबीआई म्युचुअल फंड ने छोटे शहरों और बी-30 बाजारों (30 अग्रणी शहरों के बाहर के क्षेत्र) में अपनी पहुंच बढ़ाने की नई रणनीति अपनाई है। कंपनी के एक अधिकारी ने बताया कि कंपनी अपनी मूल इकाई भारतीय स्टेट बैंक के 23,000 से अधिक शाखाओं वाले व्यापक नेटवर्क का लाभ उठाकर नए निवेशकों को जोड़ने पर विशेष ध्यान देगी। मेहता ने ऐसे समय में बिक्री विभाग की कमजोर स्थिति को भी ध्यान में रखा है। जब शेयर बाजार की चुनौतीपूर्ण स्थितियों और नई कंपनियों के प्रवेश से म्युचुअल फंड उद्योग की वृद्धि धीमी हुई है और प्रतिस्पर्धा भी तेज हुई है। उन्होंने जोर दिया कि बी-30 बाजार एसबीआई म्युचुअल फंड के लिए प्राथमिकता बने हुए हैं। कंपनी का लक्ष्य बैंक के साथ मिलकर काम करते हुए म्युचुअल फंड को जन-जन तक आसानी से पहुंचाना और उद्योग में नए ग्राहकों को जोड़ना है। एसबीआई म्युचुअल फंड छोटे शहरों में



अपनी शाखाओं की संख्या बढ़ाने की भी योजना बना रहा है, जहां कई भागीदार फंड हाउस के साथ सीधे जुड़ना पर पसंद करते हैं। वर्तमान में कंपनी लगभग 300 शाखाओं और 1,000 से अधिक सेल्स प्रोफेशनल्स की टीम के समझाने पर केंद्रित है। भौतिक उपस्थिति के साथ-साथ, फंड हाउस अपनी डिजिटल पहुंच को भी मजबूत कर रहा है, जिसका समाधान पर केंद्रित है। 2026 में देखने को मिला जब उद्योग में जुड़े 80 लाख नए निवेशकों में से लगभग 8.5% एसबीआई एमएफ के डिजिटल प्लेटफॉर्म के माध्यम से आए।



जिंदगी से जुड़ी फील्ड है एनवायरनमेंटल साइंस

पर्यावरण हमारी जिंदगी में अहम भूमिका निभाता है. चाहे बात खाने के अनाज की हो, रहने के लिए घर की हो, पहनने के लिए कपड़े की हो या फिर पानी, सूर्य की रोशनी, हवा की हो. सभी कुछ इसी पर्यावरण पर निर्भर करता है. इसलिए जब पर्यावरण को नुकसान पहुंचता है तो उसका कहीं न कहीं प्रभाव हमारे जीवन पर पड़ता है. औद्योगिक विकास की रफतार ने पर्यावरण को लीलने का काम किया है. यही कारण है कि सभी का ध्यान इस ओर गया है. ऐसे में, एनवायरनमेंटल साइंस से जुड़े लोगों की मांग काफी बढ़ गई है. मूल रूप से एनवायरनमेंटल साइंस ऊर्जा को बचाने, बायोडायवर्सिटी, क्लाइमेट चेंज, ग्राउंड वॉटर आदि के अध्ययन वाला विषय है. एकेडमिक तौर पर देखें तो एनवायरनमेंटल साइंस का दायरा काफी व्यापक है और इस कोर्स में अध्ययन के दौरान सिर्फ भौतिकी या बायोलॉजिकल साइंस का ही नहीं बल्कि इकोलॉजी, भौतिकी, रसायन विज्ञान, बायोलॉजी और ज्योलॉजी का भी अध्ययन किया जाता है. एनवायरनमेंटल साइंस के अध्ययन की बात पहली बार 1977 में स्टॉकहोम में हुई कांफ्रेंस में सामने आई थी. औद्योगिक विकास की अंधी दौड़ में आज जिस तरह पर्यावरण को नुकसान पहुंच रहा है, वह किसी से अछूता नहीं है. ग्लोबल वार्मिंग और जलवायु परिवर्तन से लेकर ग्लेशियर के पिघलने या फिर पर्यावरण प्रदूषण आदि का मामला सभी कुछ इसी से जुड़ा हुआ है. आज के दौर में सरकार से लेकर स्वयंसेवी संगठन तक सभी पर्यावरण को लेकर जागरूक हो रहे हैं. एनवायरनमेंटल साइंस से संबंधित कोर्स यानी ग्रेजुएट और पोस्ट ग्रेजुएट करने वाले छात्र कंस्ट्रक्शन, केमिकल, मैनुफैक्चरिंग और एनर्जी के फील्ड में करियर बना सकते हैं. इसके अलावा और भी कई फील्ड हैं जहां इससे संबंधित डिग्री हासिल करने वाले छात्र करियर को नई मंजिल तक पहुंचा सकते हैं.



एनवायरनमेंटल इंजीनियर्स

इस फील्ड से जुड़े लोग वास्ट मैनेजमेंट, लीन मैनुफैक्चर, रिसाइक्लिंग, इमिशन कंट्रोल, इनवायरनमेंटल सस्टेनेबिलिटी और पब्लिक हेल्थ मामलों का अध्ययन करते हैं.

एनवायरनमेंटल लॉबिस्ट

ये सरकारी अधिकारियों, नेताओं और संबंधित स्वयंसेवी संस्थानों को पर्यावरण मामलों और नीतियों की जानकारी देते हैं.

एनवायरनमेंटल एजुकेटर

इससे जुड़े लोग एनवायरनमेंटल साइंस या फिर इससे संबंधित विषयों यानी इकोलॉजी या हाइड्रोलॉजी छात्रों को पढ़ाते हैं. इसके अलावा, एनवायरनमेंटल बायोलॉजिस्ट, एनवायरनमेंटल मॉडलर्स, एनवायरनमेंटल जर्नलिस्ट या पर्यावरण से संबंधित तकनीकविदों की तरह भी कार्य कर सकते हैं.

वेतन – एनवायरनमेंटल साइंस में बैचलर डिग्री करने वाले छात्रों को आसानी से 15-30 हजार रुपये मासिक की नौकरी मिल जाती है. जिन्होंने इस विषय में पोस्ट ग्रेजुएट किया है, उन्हें कम से कम 35-50 हजार रुपये मासिक तौर पर तो मिलते ही हैं. जो लोग पीएचडी करने के बाद बतौर साइंटिस्ट या कंसल्टेंट कार्य करते हैं, उनका वेतन शुरुआत में 50-75 हजार रुपये के बीच होता है.

संस्थान – अलीगढ़ मुस्लिम विश्वविद्यालय, अलीगढ़, यूपी दिल्ली कॉलेज ऑफ इंजीनियरिंग, दिल्ली डिपार्टमेंट ऑफ एनवायरनमेंटल बायोलॉजी, दिल्ली विश्वविद्यालय, दिल्ली गुरु गोविंद सिंह इंद्रप्रस्थ विश्वविद्यालय, दिल्ली स्कूल ऑफ एनवायरनमेंटल साइंस जे, जेएनयू, नई दिल्ली पूर्वांचल विश्वविद्यालय, जौनपुर, यूपी चौधरी चरण सिंह विश्वविद्यालय, मेरठ, यूपी गुरुकुल कांगड़ी विश्वविद्यालय, हरिद्वार, यूपी बाबा साहेब भीमराव अंबेडकर विश्वविद्यालय, आगरा, यूपी

हस्तनिर्मित कागज उद्योग फलता-फूलता रोजगार

भारत में हस्तनिर्मित कागज उद्योग का इतिहास बहुत पुराना है। मुगल काल से इसके प्रमाण मिलते हैं। यह उद्योग भारत के सामाजिक परिवर्तन में महत्वपूर्ण भूमिका निभाता है। इसमें सबसे खास बात यह है कि यह उद्योग अपशिष्ट पदार्थ को रिसाइकिलिंग प्रणाली द्वारा उच्चकोटि के कागज में तब्दील कर देता है। इसके अलावा, इसमें कम खर्च में अधिक लोगों को रोजगार दिया जाता है। असम, मणिपुर, अरुणाचल प्रदेश एवं नगालैंड जैसे राज्यों में हस्तनिर्मित कागज के उद्योग खूब फल फूल रहा है। जबकि भारत के ग्रामीण क्षेत्रों के लगभग 10-15 हजार लोग इस व्यवसाय से जुड़े हुए हैं।



शैक्षिक योग्यता की दरकार

इस रोजगार को प्रारंभ करने से पहले यदि आप प्रशिक्षण प्राप्त करना चाहते हैं तो आपको दसवीं की परीक्षा उत्तीर्ण होना बहुत जरूरी है। प्रशिक्षण के पश्चात आप विशेष योग्यता से लैस हो जाएंगे, बल्कि रोजगार से संबंधित बारीकियां भी आपको मालूम हो सकेंगी। यदि आपके पास इस व्यवसाय से संबंधित जानकारी पहले से ही मौजूद है तो पांचवीं की डिग्री भी महत्वपूर्ण है यानी आपको सिर्फ साक्षर होना

माह), इंटरप्रिन्योरशिप कोर्स (दो माह) तथा हैंडमेड पेपर में एडवांस कोर्स (एक वर्ष) आदि शामिल हैं।

फीस एवं प्रशिक्षण अवधि

यदि आप प्रशिक्षण खादी ग्राम उद्योग कमीशन (केवीआईसी) से प्राप्त करते हैं तो आपको सिर्फ 200 रुपए मामूली फीस में प्रशिक्षण मिल सकता है। जबकि प्रशिक्षण अवधि 2-3 हफ्तों की होती है। इस दौरान प्रशिक्षु को अपशिष्ट पदार्थों को रिसाइकिल कर आकर्षक कागज में परिवर्तित करने की कला सिखा दी

जाती है। रिसाइकिलिंग में टेलर कटिंग, होजरी कटिंग तथा छोटे-छोटे टुकड़ों के सहारे उच्चकोटि के उपयोगी पेपर तैयार किए जाते हैं।

खर्च एवं सुविधा

हस्त निर्मित कागज उद्योग का यूनिट लगाने में कम से कम 40-70 हजार रुपए की लागत आती है। प्रारंभ में यह जरूरी है कि यूनिट छोटी ही लगाई जाए। बाद में सफल होने तथा डिमांड अधिक होने पर यूनिट की क्षमता इच्छानुसार बढ़ा सकते हैं। इस रोजगार के लिए ग्रामीण विकास मंत्रालय ने किसी भी व्यक्ति को प्रोजेक्ट के क्रियान्वयन के लिए अधिकतम 25 लाख रुपए तक के ऋण का प्रबंध किया है। इसके साथ ही महिलाओं, अनुसूचित जातियों, जनजातियों और पिछड़े वर्ग के विकलांगों को दिए गए कर्ज में 30 फीसदी की सब्सिडी मिलती है।

प्रशिक्षण दिलाने वाले संस्थान

- ऐसे कई संस्थान हैं जो अपने यहां से हस्तनिर्मित कागज से जुड़ा प्रशिक्षण दिलाते हैं-
- खादी एवं ग्रामोद्योग आयोग (गांधी दर्शन), राजघाट, नई दिल्ली-110002 (संस्थान का पूरे भारत में कई जगह प्रशिक्षण केंद्र मौजूद)
 - डॉ राजेन्द्र प्रसाद मल्टी डिस्प्लीनरी ट्रेनिंग सेंटर, खादी एवं विलेज इंडस्ट्रीज कमीशन, शेखपुरा, पटना-14
 - कुमारप्पा नेशनल हैंडमेड पेपर इंस्टीट्यूट, सांगानेर, राजस्थान-302022

टूरिज्म गाइड, मेहनती युवाओं के लिए बढ़िया करियर ऑप्शन

पर्यटन आज सांस्कृतिक पहचान पुख्ता करने के साथ रेवेन्यू अर्जित करने का भी जरिया बन रहा है. ऐसे में स्थानीय सरकारें देश में पर्यटन को बढ़ावा देने की पुरजोर कोशिश कर रही हैं. भारतीय गांवों की सैर विदेशी पर्यटकों के लिए किसी रोमांच से कम नहीं है. यहां के घर, बच्चों के खेल, महिलाओं का ओढ़ना-पहनना, खेत-खलिहान, दैनिक गतिविधियां, अर्थव्यवस्था आदि उन्हें इतने आकर्षित करते हैं कि पर्यटक महीनों यहां डेरा डाले रहते हैं. टूरिस्ट गाइड का कार्य किसी भी देश की सामाजिक, सांस्कृतिक परंपराओं से पर्यटकों को अवगत कराने में टूरिस्ट गाइड की भूमिका महत्वपूर्ण होती है. टूरिस्ट गाइड पर्यटकों के साथ रहकर उन्हें जाने-अनजाने और

अनछुपे पहलुओं से वाकिफ कराते हैं. यही वो कारण है जिसके चलते आज टूरिस्ट गाइड एक आकर्षक करियर विकल्प के तौर पर अपनी जगह बना चुका है. संबंधित देश के टूरिस्ट गाइड राज्य क्षेत्र की भौगोलिक जानकारी के साथ-साथ सांस्कृतिक, ऐतिहासिक पर्यटन संबंधी जानकारी रखने के साथ ट्रेवल एजेंसी और बड़े-बड़े होटलों की जानकारी रखते हैं. देश में टूरिस्ट गाइड के लिए भारतीय पर्यटन और ट्रेवल विभाग से टूरिस्ट गाइड का लाइसेंस लेना होता है. लाइसेंस प्राप्त करने के लिए परीक्षा उत्तीर्ण करनी पड़ती है. कोर्स और क्वालिफिकेशन - देश के अलग-अलग संस्थान टूरिज्म ट्रेवल एडमिनिस्ट्रेशन एंड मैनेजमेंट में शॉर्ट टर्म डिप्लोमा कोर्स संचालित करते हैं. जिसमें इंडियन इंस्टीट्यूट ऑफ ट्रेवल एंड टूरिज्म (आईआईटीएम) सबसे खास है, तो वहीं संबंधित राज्य व केंद्र सरकारों के पर्यटन विभाग भी टूरिस्ट गाइड ट्रेनिंग कोर्स आयोजित करते हैं. जिन्हें पास करने पर आपको सर्टीफाइड गाइड का लाइसेंस मिलता है. टूरिज्म

के क्षेत्र में करियर बनाने के इच्छुक युवाओं के लिए जरूरी है कि वे इस क्षेत्र में औपचारिक शिक्षा भी ग्रहण करें. देश में विभिन्न संस्थान एवं विश्वविद्यालय टूरिज्म में डिप्लोमा, बैचलर डिग्री एवं मास्टर्स डिग्री प्रदान करते हैं. डिप्लोमा कोर्स की अवधि अमूमन एक वर्ष होती है, जिसे ग्रेजुएशन के बाद किया जा सकता है. आईसीसीआर इस क्षेत्र में जूनियर फेलोशिप भी प्रदान करता है. **करियर ऑप्शन** - स्थानीय पर्यटन उद्योग, राष्ट्रीय पर्यटन उद्योग, होटल इंडस्ट्री, टैवल एजेंसी, एविएशन, कार्गो ऑपरेशन, हॉस्पिटैलिटी आदि में टूरिस्ट गाइड के लिए अवसर बाट जोह रहे हैं. टूरिज्म उद्योग के विस्तार से टूरिस्ट गाइड का स्कोप बढ़ा है. मेहनती, कुशल और ईमानदार युवा चाहें तो भारत की संपन्न विरासत से अपने लिए समृद्ध भविष्य की राह खोज सकते हैं. भारत सरकार भी अब ग्रामीण पर्यटन को बढ़ावा देने के लिए कदम उठा रही है. पर्यटन मंत्रालय के अनुसार पिछले वर्ष देश भर में 66 लाख विदेशी सैलानी आए, जिनसे करीब 17.75 अरब डॉलर की कमाई हुई. मंत्रालय ने प्रत्येक वर्ष इनकी संख्या में 12 फीसदी बढ़ोतरी का लक्ष्य रखा है ताकि वर्ष 2016 तक पर्यटन से विदेशी मुद्रा की कमाई दुगुनी की जा सके. रिकल्ड युवाओं के लिए इस फील्ड में संभावनाओं के असीमित द्वार हैं.

आप करियर के उस मुकाम पर खड़े हैं, जहां सोचते हैं कि अगले दस सालों में आप क्या करने जा रहे हैं? क्या कभी इस बात का भी अफसोस होता है कि आपने पढ़ाई के दौरान अलग-अलग विषयों का चुनाव वयों नहीं किया, ताकि कुछ और पढ़ने या किसी दूसरी दिशा में करियर बनाने के बारे में सोच पाते? यदि इन प्रश्नों का उत्तर हां है तो यह समय है अपने पास मौजूद विकल्पों पर गंभीरता से विचार करने का। खुद की स्किल्स में निवेश करके अपने आप को आगे बढ़ाने का, री-स्किलिंग का।

क्या है स्किल्स में इजाफा करना?

शब्दकोष में री-स्किलिंग का अर्थ होगा, वह प्रशिक्षण और अनुभव, जिसके जरिए नई और बेहतर स्किल्स की जानकारी मिलती है। करियर में किसी उम्मीदवार में नई स्किल्स हासिल करने, सीखने और खुद को बदलने की क्षमता और इच्छा का होना बेहद अहम गुण माना जाता है। यह दूरदर्शिता होना कि करियर को आगे ले जाने के लिए किन स्किल्स की जरूरत होगी और उस दिशा में कदम बढ़ाना किसी उम्मीदवार के करियर को आगे ले जाने में मदद करता है। आईआईएम-बंगलुरु में चाइनीज बिजनेस लैंग्वेज कोर्स पढ़ाने वाले प्रो.एस स्वामीनाथन कहते हैं, ‘अपनी स्किल्स में इजाफा करने का अर्थ सक्रिय होकर केवल नई स्किल सीखना भर नहीं है। यह नौकरी से ब्रेक लेकर उच्च शिक्षा की ओर कदम बढ़ाना भी हो सकता है। उदाहरण के लिए कई आईआईएम केंद्रों में मंडारिन एक लोकप्रिय लैंग्वेज कोर्स बन कर उभरा है। वर्तमान में भारत-चीन एक-दूसरे से व्यापारिक रिश्तों को नकार नहीं सकते। विश्व अर्थव्यवस्था में महत्वपूर्ण स्थान हासिल करने के लिए इस दिशा में कदम बढ़ाना जरूरी भी होगा। ऐसे में चाइनीज बिजनेस कोर्स की मदद से विद्यार्थी दोनों देशों में बन रहे आर्थिक समीकरणों में अपनी सकारात्मक भूमिका निभा सकते हैं।’ कॉलेज के दौरान लिए गए विषय निश्चित तौर पर पसंदीदा जॉब हासिल में महत्वपूर्ण भूमिका निभाते हैं, पर ऐसे भी मामले मिलते हैं, जहां लोग संयोगवश दूसरे क्षेत्रों में करियर बना बैठते हैं या फिर अपने करियर के दौरान ऐसे फंस जाते हैं, जहां उनके लिए समझना मुश्किल हो जाता है कि

अब वे किस ओर कदम बढ़ाएं। दो से तीन वर्ष नौकरी कर चुकने वाले विशेषज्ञता प्राप्त उम्मीदवार और बड़े अधिकारी भी यह मानते हैं कि बदलावों से गुरेज करना और अपनी स्किल्स को बढ़ाने का प्रयास न करना एक स्तर पर आकर उम्मीदवार की प्रगति को बाधित कर देता है। जिस तेजी से कार्यस्थल और उनकी नीतियां बदल रही हैं, यह पहले से भी जरूरी हो गया है कि उम्मीदवार खुद को उपयोगी बनाने की दिशा में कदम बढ़ाएं। थोलॉस ग्लोबल इंस्टीट्यूट में एमडी अकिता वशिष्ठ के अनुसार, ‘जॉब मार्केट में खुद को रोजगार योग्य और उपयोगी बनाए रखना एक बड़ी चुनौती है। वर्कप्लेस पर बढ़ती विविधता और नित बदलती तकनीक ने कर्मचारियों पर नई तकनीक और कार्य प्रणाली को सीखने का दबाव बनाया है। उदाहरण के लिए, यदि कोई नई तकनीक मसलन बिग डाटा और एनालिटिक्स में करियर बनाना चाहता है तो उसके लिए स्टैटिस्टिक्स में क्रैश कोर्स करना फायदेमंद हो सकता है। एक परंपरागत मार्केटिंग व्यक्ति के लिए डिजिटल मार्केटिंग में अनुभव बढ़ाना लाभप्रद रहेगा। इसी तरह अन्य उम्मीदवार खुद को किसी ऑनलाइन कोर्स या डेवलपमेंट प्रोग्राम से भी जोड़ सकते हैं।’ ग्लोबल रिक्रूटमेंट फर्म केली सर्विसेज के हालिया अध्ययन के अनुसार विश्व परिदृश्य की तुलना में एशिया-प्रशांत क्षेत्र में बड़े स्तर पर कर्मचारी तेजी से उभरते बाजार में अपनी स्किल्स में इजाफा करने की इच्छा जता रहे हैं। 69% भारतीय कर्मचारी आगे बढ़ने के लिए उच्च शिक्षा और प्रशिक्षण हासिल करने के बारे में गंभीरता से सोच रहे हैं। यह संख्या यूरोप और अमेरिका की तुलना में अधिक है। पहले बैंकों में नौकरी में उन्हीं लोगों

को रखा जाता था, जो पहले बैंक में नौकरी करते रहे हैं। इसी तरह एफएमसीजी कंपनियां भी इसी क्षेत्र के अनुभव को वरीयता देती थीं। पर वह समय बीत गया है। आज कंपनियां विविध क्षेत्रों में विशेषज्ञता रखने वालों को रखना पसंद करती हैं। यानी गतिशील बाजार में खुद को रोजगार योग्य बनाने व उच्च पदों को कुशलता से संभालने के लिए प्रशिक्षण हासिल करने की जरूरत होगी ही।’ **रोचक तथ्य** – 57 प्रतिशत प्रतिभागियों ने अपने वर्तमान नियोका के पास ही पदोन्नति को ध्यान में रखते हुए अपनी स्किल्स में इजाफा करने की इच्छा जतायी। वहीं 47 प्रतिशत के अनुसार वे दूसरी कंपनी में जाने के लिए अपनी स्किल्स में इजाफा करना पसंद करेंगे। 70 प्रतिशत के अनुसार सबसे महत्वपूर्ण और उपयोगी स्किल नौकरी करते हुए हासिल की जा सकती है। उसके बाद 58 प्रतिशत ने शिक्षा और प्रशिक्षण को जरूरी बताया है। 26 प्रतिशत के अनुसार सेमिनार और वेबिनार से भी नई स्किल सीखने में मदद मिलती है। 42 प्रतिशत के अनुसार वे किसी नए कार्यक्षेत्र में जाने के लिए अपनी स्किल्स में इजाफा करना पसंद करेंगे। इन सब में गणित, इंजीनियरिंग और आईटी कर्मियों ने खुद को आगे बढ़ाने के लिए री-स्किलिंग को अन्य की अपेक्षा अधिक महत्व दिया है। 31 देशों से लगभग 1 लाख 20 हजार कर्मियों ने इस सर्वे में भाग लिया। अमेरिका में उम्मीदवारों ने प्रमोशन हासिल करने के लिए प्रशिक्षण हासिल करने की जरूरत जतायी। वहीं कुछ देशों में कर्मियों ने प्रमोशन पाने और नए नियोका के यहां नौकरी पाने के लिए री स्किलिंग को जरूरी बताया।



Efforts on to host four consecutive WTA 125 events in India in 2028: TNTA president Vijay Amritraj

CHENNAI .(Agency)

As it stands, this edition of the Chennai Open, a WTA 250 event, will be the third and final edition. In order to capitalise on the growing popularity of World No 20 Alexandra Eala, the rising Filipino star, the governing body for women's tennis and Octagon, the tournament's license-holder, have decided to replace the Chennai Open with a maiden Tour-level event in Manila in the same window in 2027. Although Vijay Amritraj, Tennis legend and TNTA president is disappointed that the WTA 250 event will not be there, he said an effort was being made to host four consecutive WTA 125 events in India in early 2028. WTA 125 is a category of tournaments between the main WTA Tour and the ITF circuit. "The plan is to put four WTA 125s - one each in Tamil Nadu, Karnataka, Telangana and Maharashtra - in January-February 2028. I have already brought this up and they have tentatively blocked some dates," he told select reporters on Tuesday.

80 SOMs list finalised: Usha, Gagan, Bindra among stars with athletics on top

CHENNAI.(Agency)

The Indian Olympic Association is slowly getting warmed-up for its election. Days after the IOA named the Returning Officer — Sanjay K Srivastava, a former Election Commissioner of Delhi and Chandigarh — the names of Athletes Commission, who would be eligible to contest elections, have been finalized. Soon, after the 80 Sportspersons of Outstanding Merit (SOMs), too were finalized and updated on the IOA website. Some prominent names have applied and it would be interesting to see who would emerge as the eight SOMs after the election on November 9. The eight will have voting rights and would be eligible to contest IOA elections as well. Last edition, an SOM — PT Usha — went on to become the IOA president. Out of the eight two will be part of the all important Executive Council of 15. Apart from Usha, Beijing Olympic gold medallist Abhinav Bindra, Beijing bronze medallist Vijender Singh, London Olympic medalists Gagan Narang, Yogeshwar Dutt and Saina Nehwal have been part of the approved SOM roster.

Asian Para Games: Sachin Khilari wins gold as India sweep all three shot put medals

New Delhi.(Agency)

India won all three medals in the men's shot put F46 event at the Asian Para Games on Wednesday, with Sachin Sarjerao Khilari taking gold with a Games record. Khilari, a silver medallist at the Paris Paralympics, defended the gold he had won at the previous edition of the Games in China. He produced his best throw of 15.87m with his sixth and final attempt to set a new Games record. The earlier record was 15.67m. Mohd. Yasser won silver with a throw of 15.06m in the third round, while Parveen took bronze with 14.94m. Khilari defends his gold Khilari saved his best effort for his final throw, going past the previous Games record to finish on top of the podium. His victory helped India secure all three medals in the event, with Yasser and Parveen finishing second and third.

6 goals, 4 injuries: PSG outscore Barcelona in frenetic Champions League clash in Paris

Paris Saint-Germain beat Barcelona 4-2 in a thrilling Champions League encounter in Paris. The high-intensity clash featured six goals, 40 shots

New Delhi.(Agency)

Paris Saint-Germain beat Barcelona 4-2 in a frenetic UEFA Champions League clash at the Parc des Princes on Wednesday, October 21. The match had everything attacking football at the highest level could offer, with the two teams combining for 40 shots in an end-to-end contest. Desire Doue was the standout performer as PSG outscored Hansi Flick's Barcelona in a game that swung from one end to the other. Barcelona looked

breathtaking in spells, but struggled to sustain their dominance against a versatile PSG side that punished their mistakes. The high-intensity encounter also took a physical toll, with four players forced off with injuries. PSG's Ousmane Dembele and Marquinhos suffered hamstring injuries in the first and second halves respectively. Barcelona's Dani Olmo was substituted in the first half after an awkward fall following a strong shoulder challenge in midfield. Khvicha Kvaratskhelia also had to come off in the second half after picking up an ankle injury in a tussle with Barcelona right-back Xavi Espot. Both teams created chances in an entertaining first half, but Barcelona's poor final passes let them down in the opening stages. PSG, meanwhile, had more attempts on goal, including several from close range, but a brave Joan Garcia produced multiple saves to keep Barcelona in the contest. Barcelona repeatedly cut through PSG's defence with their slick passing, with Pedri pulling the strings in midfield. However, the movement

in the final third between Anthony Gordon, Raphinha and Lamine Yamal lacked the finishing touch. Gordon endured a particularly difficult outing, struggling to get past defenders, convert chances or provide the incisive passes Barcelona needed. The deadlock was finally broken late in the first half when Doue cut inside onto his right foot and fired a low shot between two Barcelona defenders. Garcia, who had been outstanding until then, was wrong-footed and could not prevent PSG from taking the lead. Barcelona responded after the break, finding an equaliser in the 55th minute after working their way through PSG's defence with a series of passes. Teenager Xavi Espot took matters into his own hands, bursting into the box before unleashing a powerful close-range shot past PSG goalkeeper Matvei Safonov, who had kept the French side in the contest with his earlier interventions. The match, already being played at a relentless pace, found another gear. Lucas Hernandez rose to head home from a corner and restore PSG's lead, only for Lamine Yamal to respond almost immediately. The Barcelona teenager dribbled into the PSG box, beat his marker and finished from close range to make it 2-2. Just as Barcelona appeared to be gaining the upper hand, PSG struck twice to take control. Vitinha scored with a strike from outside the box before Fabian Ruiz arrived at the far post to turn the ball home, stretching the hosts' lead to 4-2 and leaving Barcelona with too much to do.



Tamil Nadu's Rivaan Dev Preetham Shines in Karting Championship, Sets Record Lap and Qualifies for Global Events

New Delhi.(Agency)

Points mattered more than victory as Rivaan Dev Preetham of Tamil Nadu emerged as the overall champion in the Junior MAX category of the MECO FMSCI Indian National Karting Championship RMC India 2026, which concluded at the Meco Kartopia, Bengaluru, on



Sunday. Rivaan earned a ticket to the World Rotax Max Grand Finals to be held at the Kartódromo Internacional do Algarve circuit in Portugal from November 7-14. The global event will see 432 elite racers from 60-plus nations go head-to-head on one of Europe's most thrilling circuits. This season has been good for Rivaan as he put in a standout performance at the FIA Karting Arrive and Drive Asia Pacific Championship 2026 in Macau (Sept 11–13). Racing against

local champions, he climbed from P5 to P2 in Sprint 1, then P6 to P3 in Sprint 2, and finished P5 in the qualifying heats. In the grand final, he missed out on a podium finish from P5 despite weather delays. The big highlight was he set the fastest lap of the entire championship at 47.375s — an official event record. With this, he has qualified for the FIA World Cup that is being conducted in Malaysia the week after the grand finals in Portugal. "It has been an exciting and challenging year. We lost some battles, but won the war. For me and my team, Msport, it's our fourth consecutive championship win together," a proud Rivaan told CE. The competition was rigorous indeed. "The toughest competition through the season was my teammate Rishik (Rohit Reddy), and Rehan (Khan) also gave me some challenges," he added. However, solid preparation and training helped him throughout. "I train at KLUTCH which is an elite athlete fitness centre. They monitor my nutrition. Also, working with the simulator and watching races from all over the world help me gain skill and strength. We train at Meco Kartopia, Mika, and CoASTT tracks according to the race calendar. I've done some races abroad as well so that exposure helps greatly. In India, Armaan Ebrahim is my team principal; he guides and mentors me.

Shreyas Iyer shuts T20I doors for Vaibhav Sooryavanshi: No chance he can walk in

India captain Shreyas Iyer has a clear message for Vaibhav Sooryavanshi. The T20I captain has made it clear that with established openers Abhishek Sharma and Sanju Samson continuing to deliver, Vaibhav Sooryavanshi has to

New Delhi.(Agency)

India captain Shreyas Iyer has made it clear that teenage batting sensation Vaibhav Sooryavanshi will have to wait for his opportunities in the T20I side, with established openers Abhishek Sharma and Sanju Samson continuing to deliver at the top of the order. Sooryavanshi, who was picked for India's tours of England and Ireland earlier this year, has featured in only eight of the 21 T20Is the team has played so far. Despite his reputation as one of India's most exciting young batting talents, the 15-year-old has found it difficult to secure a regular place in the playing XI, with Abhishek and Samson firmly holding on to their opening slots. Speaking ahead of India's five-match T20I series against New Zealand, Iyer stressed that Sooryavanshi's talent was not in question, but said the teenager could not expect to walk straight into the team while the current openers were



performing consistently. "It's important that a talent like him (Sooryavanshi) should always be happy around the dressing room," Iyer said. "He is very young, he has more years to get opportunities. It's not like he can walk in right now, because our openers are scoring consistently, and they have won the World Cup." Abhishek and Samson played important roles in India's successful defence of the T20 World Cup title earlier this year, strengthening their positions at the top of the order. For Sooryavanshi, that means waiting for an opening in a side where the established pair continue to deliver. **WHAT IS THE MESSAGE TO VAIBHAV SOORYAVANSHI?** Sooryavanshi did get an opportunity to open the innings at the Asian Games, where Samson moved down to No. 3 to accommodate the teenager. The youngster scored 53 runs across two

matches at a strike rate of 176.66, offering a glimpse of his attacking potential. However, he returned to the bench for the entire T20I series against the West Indies, prompting questions about when he might receive a longer run in the side. Iyer said he had repeatedly encouraged Sooryavanshi to remain patient and trust his preparation rather than become frustrated by the lack of opportunities. "I just keep telling him you will get the opportunity, if you be consistent about your processes, you have to wait sometimes, we have got two fantastic openers, that's the conversation we have been having with Vaibhav," Iyer said after the fifth T20I against the West Indies was washed out. The series ended in a 2-2 draw, with Iyer acknowledging that India could have secured a different result had they bowled better in the second and fourth matches.

More than a lookalike: Shami's brother Mohammed Kaif chases his own cricketing dream

Nagoya.(Agency)

For a while, Mohammed Kaif could have passed for his elder brother without bowling a ball. Standing near the boundary during Bengal's Ranji Trophy 2026-27 match against Services in Palam, Kaif had people mistaking him for Mohammed Shami. The resemblance was striking enough to make spectators look twice. Put a cap on the two brothers, and telling them apart becomes even trickier. Kaif, 29, is used to the comparisons. He has grown up around Shami, practises with him and discusses bowling with him. But the resemblance has also provided material for a few jokes in cricket's dressing rooms. "India were playing a Pink Ball Test match at Eden Gardens. I was standing downstairs, and Virat came by and started joking around, pretending not to know me or acting like someone else just to tease," Kaif recalled. "He knows Shami bhai very well, so he was just pulling my leg for fun." Kaif has also met Pat Cummins during one of the Indian Premier League seasons. Asked whether the Australian fast bowler greeted him with a "Hi, Shami", he burst into laughter. The joke works because the resemblance is real. Badruddin, the coach who has known Shami and Kaif since their childhood, has noticed it too. "It naturally happens since they are brothers, and having watched him grow up, to some extent, he matches

Shami. That's just a natural thing," Badruddin said. At Palam, though, Kaif had a game to play. He did not feature in Bengal's season opener against Delhi in Kalyani, but came into the XI against Services after Akash Deep and Mukesh Kumar left for India A duty. Shami had asked to be left out, knowing the surface did not warrant him. On a surface where spinners dominated, Kaif was not required to bowl



long spells. He sent down four overs in the first innings without taking a wicket, then returned figures of one for seven in five overs in the second. His wicket, however, came at an important moment: he dismissed Ravi Chauhan leg-before-wicket when Services were 79 for one, chasing 209. Bengal eventually won by 61 runs. Kaif did not dominate the scorecard, but he remained involved, encouraging the bowling group from the boundary and staying ready whenever the captain called on him. His fielding, too, carried the energy associated with his elder brother.

Harmanpreet Kaur fights back tears as she rediscovers joy in batting

MILAN.(Agency)

Harmanpreet Kaur had just produced one of her most commanding innings in recent times, but it was not the runs that nearly brought her to tears. During a mid-innings interview in Raipur, the former India captain spoke about wanting to enjoy her batting again, and her voice carried the weight of a difficult phase as she thanked WV Raman for a simple piece of advice: play the way you want to. The moment offered a glimpse into the significance of Harmanpreet's unbeaten 91 off just 41 balls against Zimbabwe on Tuesday. At 37, the veteran batter has experienced the highs of leading India and delivering match-winning performances, but her latest innings was about rediscovering the freedom to play her natural game. **India vs Zimbabwe, 3rd T20I: Highlights | Scorecard** "Just wanted to enjoy myself, just wanted to bat as long as possible, and glad that I was able to do that," Harmanpreet said during the mid-innings interview. The emotional moment came when she credited WV Raman who was also the interviewer, for his words of encouragement. "The moment we came, you stepped in and you said, 'Now you do what you want to do,' and that's what I want to do, and really want to enjoy myself. Thanks for those words," she told him. It was a revealing admission from a player who has spent years carrying the expectations that come with being one of India's most recognisable cricketers. For Harmanpreet, the immediate priority was not to prove a point or make a statement. She simply wanted to spend time in the middle and enjoy batting again. **FINDING HER RHYTHM** The performance that followed her emotional interview was a reminder of what Harmanpreet can produce when she finds her touch.





'I Just Want Two Healthy Babies'

Kiara Advani's

Old Comment Goes Viral After 2nd Pregnancy Announcement

On October 7, Kiara Advani and Sidharth Malhotra recently shared the happy news that they are expecting their second child. Soon after the announcement, an old video of Kiara discussing motherhood resurfaced on social media. In the interview with Bollywood Hungama, conducted during the promotions of Good Newwz, the actress was asked what combination of twins she would want. She replied that she would simply want “two healthy babies” and later said she would love to have one boy and one girl.

When Kiara Advani spoke about having two babies
In the old interview, Kiara Advani was asked what combination she would prefer if she were to have twins — two girls, two boys, or a boy and a girl. To this, she replied, “I just want two healthy babies that God can gift me.” Kareena Kapoor Khan, who was



part of the interview, joked that her answer sounded like a Miss Universe response. She said, “And the crown goes to you.” Kiara then added that she would love to have a girl and a boy. Later, when the interviewer asked what qualities of Kareena Kapoor she would want in her daughter, Kiara replied, “Her confidence, her expressions, her aura. All her qualities. She is a 10 on 10.” Meanwhile, Kiara Advani and Sidharth Malhotra, who welcomed their daughter Saraayah Malhotra last year, are now expecting their second child. The couple announced the news on Instagram through a joint post featuring their daughter’s hands holding a tiny pair of baby socks. They captioned it, “Blessed once again with the greatest gift of all. Our hearts are so full of love and gratitude.” Sidharth and Kiara tied the knot on February 7, 2023, in an intimate and picturesque ceremony at Suryagarh Palace in Jaisalmer, Rajasthan.

Saiyami Kher

Completes 10 Years In Bollywood: 'I Have A Long Way To Go'

Saiyami Kher has completed a decade in the film industry. As she marks 10 years since her acting debut, the actress looked back at a journey shaped not just by the films she has worked on, but also by the people she met, the lessons she learnt and the experiences that changed her personally and professionally. Saiyami made her acting debut with Rakeysh Omprakash Mehra’s Mirzya in 2016, opposite Harshvardhan Kapoor. Reflecting on her journey, she recalled being a reserved, introverted young woman from Nashik with little exposure to the film industry, who was often written off even before she had begun. “A decade since I walked onto a film set for the first time. A decade of some of the most life-altering experiences of my life. I was a reserved, introverted 20-something girl from Nashik with barely any exposure to films. I was written off before I had even begun. I was told I was a ‘villager’, that I didn’t have it in me,” Saiyami wrote in an Instagram post on Wednesday. She also recalled receiving unsolicited advice, including being told to date an actor or director to find an easier entry into the industry and to undergo cosmetic procedures. However, she credited her upbringing and parents for giving her the confidence to deal with such experiences. “My upbringing and my parents had given me enough security in myself to find humour in grown adults speaking to me like that. I met a whole lot of people with free advice, and rejection pretty much every day,” she said.

A turning point came when Adoor Mukerji called her and told her that filmmaker Dilip Shankar would test her. Saiyami subsequently spent three months workshoping with Shankar and actor Adil Hussain. “Dilip ji’s warmth and gentleness made me realise that good people exist. I spent three months workshoping with him and Adil Hussain, and those three months changed me completely. They taught me to be myself, find



truth and honesty in my work, and trust that being myself was enough. Six months later, I was locked for Rakeysh Omprakash Mehra’s Mirzya,” she recalled. Looking back at Mirzya, Saiyami described Mehra as someone who gave her exactly what she had unknowingly been seeking. “Rakeysh sir was everything I had unknowingly been seeking. A beautiful human being and a dream to work with. He and Bharat ma’am pampered me like I was their own child. Sir completely spoilt me on set. He gave me the freedom to be myself, made me fall in love with acting and taught me little life lessons .



Nana Patekar Death: Veteran Actor’s Last Rites To Take Place In Pune With Full State Honours



Nana Patekar Death: Veteran actor Nana Patekar passed away in the early hours of October 8, following a cardiac arrest. Details about Nana Patekar’s last rites have come in. The actor’s final rites will take place with full state honours at his own farmhouse in Pune and not in Mumbai. As per the update, Nana Patekar’s final rites will take place at his farmhouse in Pune’s Donje area today at 4 pm, and he will be given full state honours, honouring his contribution to cinema and beyond. Patekar was found unconscious upon the arrival of the medical team and was administered cardiac massage at the spot before being rushed to a private hospital in Dona Paula. On October 8, early in the morning at 5:20 AM, the medical team at the hospital declared the veteran actor dead. “Despite 45 minutes of continuous CPR, he could not be revived. A medico-legal case (MLC) has been registered, and a post-mortem will be conducted,” Dr Shekhar Salkar said, who is the chief of the Oncology Department at Manipal Hospital. Nana Patekar was last seen in Vishal Bhardwaj’s romantic action thriller O’Romeo. Earlier, he was seen in Housefull 5 (2025) and Vanvaas (2024). Patekar also made his OTT debut in 2026 with Prakash Jha’s political drama series Sankalp, in which he played the central character of Ma’at Sahab/Kanhaiya Lal.

Who Was Nana Patekar?
Nana Patekar, born Vishwanath Patekar, began his acting career with Gaman in 1978 and went on to establish himself as one of Hindi and Marathi cinema’s most distinctive performers. His breakthrough came with films such as Ankush, Pratighaat, Salaam Bombay! and Parinda. He delivered acclaimed performances in Prahaar: The Final Attack, Angaar, Tirangaa, Krantiveer, Agni Sakshi, Khamoshi: The Musical, Ab Tak Chhappan, Apaharan and Raajneeti. He also became hugely popular with audiences for playing Uday Shetty in Welcome and Welcome Back. Over his career, he won three National Film Awards and was awarded the Padma Shri in 2013.

Kriti Sanon Viral Raksha Bandhan Ad: Actress Says Her Choli Became Prime-Time Debate: 'I Couldn’t Believe’



Kriti Sanon has spoken about the backlash over her Raksha Bandhan advertisement, revealing that she never expected her outfit to become a subject of prime-time television debates. The actress discussed the controversy on Kareena Kapoor Khan’s What Women Want Season 6 and recalled how much attention her “choli” received. Speaking to Kareena, Kriti said, “I couldn’t believe... when my choli had become like a 6 people panel discussion on prime-time news.” Kareena reacted, “I know.”

Kriti Sanon on her Raksha Bandhan ad controversy
The controversy began after GIVA released its Raksha Bandhan advertisement featuring Kriti Sanon. In the ad, she wears an Indo-Western outfit while celebrating Raksha Bandhan by tying a Rakhi to her brother and her pet dog. Some social media users slammed Kriti’s outfit and said it was inappropriate for a traditional festival. Others questioned the way Raksha Bandhan was presented in the advertisement, including the absence of traditional elements and the inclusion of her pet.

Kriti had reacted to the backlash on Instagram and questioned why women are still judged by their clothes. She wrote, “Also, when will we stop telling women what to wear? Ethnic fashion has evolved over the years, yet a woman’s respect for her culture is still measured by her clothes. Culture and traditions are in her heart, not in her neckline!”

Kriti continued the conversation on women and clothing
Kriti later shared more posts about women, clothing and patriarchy. One of the posts she reshared read, “Guys, it’s not Men vs Women,” while criticising patriarchal and misogynistic attitudes.

BSL Jobs Row: Displaced People End 12-Day Hunger Strike; Jobs Proposed for 1,500 Apprentices

by Ashis Sinha

Bokaro: A 12-day hunger strike by displaced people and trained apprentices demanding permanent jobs at Bokaro Steel Plant (BSL) has been called off following talks with the district administration on October 21. The breakthrough came after officials agreed to forward two employment proposals to the Jharkhand government and BSL management for consideration. According to the meeting minutes issued under the chairmanship of Bokaro Deputy Commissioner Ajay Nath Jha, representatives of the displaced people's organisation unanimously agreed to withdraw the agitation after a consensus was reached on the next steps to pursue their long-pending employment demands. The proposals seek an employment policy for eligible

members of displaced families and permanent jobs for 1,500 trained apprentices from displaced families. However, the decision marks progress towards resolving the dispute, not a final approval of appointments.

Two Job Proposals to Reach Chief Secretary Within Seven Days

Under the agreement, the first proposal calls for framing an employment policy to facilitate the permanent appointment of eligible members of families displaced during the establishment and expansion of BSL to Class IV posts at the steel plant. The proposal will be forwarded to the Jharkhand government's Chief Secretary through Bokaro MLA Shweta Singh, the Deputy Commissioner and the officer-in-charge of the Directorate of Land Acquisition and Rehabilitation.

The second proposal seeks permanent employment at BSL for 1,500 trained apprentices belonging to displaced families. This proposal will also be sent to the Chief Secretary through the prescribed administrative channel.

The meeting decided that both proposals would be forwarded within seven days. BSL management is also expected to submit them to the relevant senior officials of the Steel Authority of India Limited (SAIL) within the same timeframe. The proposals will now require examination by the concerned authorities. No final decision on recruitment or permanent appointments has been announced.

Talks Bring Hunger Strike to an End

The October 21 meeting brought together senior district officials, Bokaro MLA Shweta Singh, the Additional



Collector, the Chas Sub-Divisional Officer, police officials, representatives of the Directorate of Land Acquisition and Rehabilitation, BSL management and members of the displaced people's organisation. Following discussions, the participants reached a consensus on forwarding the employment proposals to the state government and the steel plant management. In response, the representatives of the protesting organisation unanimously

agreed to immediately end the hunger strike and demonstrations. The decision has eased the immediate confrontation between the protesters and the authorities, while placing responsibility on the administration and BSL management to move the employment proposals forward.

BSL Gate Blockade Had Escalated the Dispute

The hunger strike was part of a broader agitation by displaced families and trained apprentices

seeking permanent employment and a clear recruitment policy at Bokaro Steel Plant. The dispute intensified in mid-October when protesters blocked the plant's entry and exit gates, disrupting the movement of employees and essential supplies. BSL subsequently approached the Jharkhand High Court, seeking intervention to restore access and prevent further disruption to plant operations. On October 18, the High Court intervened during the Durga Puja holidays, following which all 11 gates of the steel plant were reopened. The district administration assured the court that necessary measures would be taken to prevent further obstruction and ensure the uninterrupted movement of employees.

The next hearing in the matter was scheduled for October 28

The reopening of the gates on October 18 and the withdrawal of the hunger strike on October 21 were separate developments within the same employment dispute. While judicial intervention helped restore access to the plant, the subsequent administrative meeting provided a framework for taking the employment demands forward. **Displaced Families Await a Concrete Employment Policy** The latest agreement has renewed attention on the long-standing rehabilitation and employment concerns of families displaced by the Bokaro Steel Plant project. For these families, permanent jobs and clarity on employment-related commitments remain central to their demands. The proposed policy for eligible displaced families and the demand for permanent

employment for 1,500 trained apprentices could become the basis for further discussions among the Jharkhand government, the district administration, BSL and SAIL. The immediate challenge, however, lies in translating the assurances into concrete action. The proposals must first be forwarded within the stipulated seven-day period before the relevant authorities can examine their feasibility and decide on the next course of action.

For now, the end of the 12-day hunger strike signals a temporary easing of tensions, rather than a final resolution of the dispute. Whether the breakthrough leads to a formal employment policy or permanent recruitment will depend on the response of the state government and BSL management.

Italy Introduces Tougher Anti-Riot Law, Makes Parents Liable for Minors' Vandalism



RNS: Italian Prime Minister Giorgia Meloni's government has approved stricter security measures to curb violence, vandalism and looting during protests, including provisions making parents financially liable for damage caused by their minor children.

The legislation introduces a new criminal offence related to violent conduct during demonstrations and provides for tougher penalties for rioters. Under the new provisions, individuals who threaten public safety while participating in a group of at least five people could face up to five years in prison and fines of up to €20,000.

Penalties may be increased in certain circumstances, including when protesters conceal their faces or cause injuries. Authorities can also order compensation for damage caused during violent incidents. The measures follow unrest in several northern Italian cities, including Milan.

Announcing the legislation on social media, Meloni said vandalism and looting were criminal acts rather than legitimate forms of protest. The government says the measures aim to strengthen public order and promote greater accountability, including among parents whose minor children engage in destructive or violent behaviour.

NCB Arrests 6 in Drug Trafficking Case in Jharkhand; Ranchi Bar Operators Summoned

Ranchi: The Narcotics Control Bureau (NCB) has arrested six people in Ranchi and Jamshedpur in connection with an alleged drug trafficking network involved in the supply of narcotics, including cocaine. The alleged mastermind, identified as Jimmy, has also been arrested. According to sources, Jimmy reportedly named two prominent bars in Ranchi during interrogation, alleging that drugs were being supplied there. The NCB has summoned the operators of both bars to appear for questioning on October 26. The investigation has also reportedly uncovered links between the network and Goa, suggesting that its operations may extend beyond Jharkhand. International phone numbers were allegedly recovered from the arrested individuals, raising suspicions of possible connections with foreign drug traffickers. The NCB is investigating the network's operational links, the source of the narcotics consignments and the possible involvement of other individuals.

Venezuela Has the World's Heaviest Crude, India Has the Expertise to Refine It: Rubio See an Opportunity

Mumbai: US Secretary of State Marco Rubio has identified an opportunity to link Venezuela's vast heavy crude oil reserves with India's advanced refining capabilities, proposing a bigger role for Reliance Industries in processing Venezuelan oil and potentially investing in its production.

During his visit to Mumbai, Rubio discussed the possibility of Reliance refining more Venezuelan crude and exploring opportunities in the country's oil sector. The proposal could open new avenues for energy cooperation among the United States, India and Venezuela, subject to commercial negotiations and applicable regulatory requirements.

Venezuela holds some of the world's largest proven oil reserves, much of it consisting of heavy and extra-heavy crude that requires specialised technology and sophisticated refining infrastructure. Years of underinvestment, ageing



facilities and international sanctions have constrained the country's ability to fully develop its petroleum resources.

India, meanwhile, has developed substantial expertise in processing diverse crude grades. Reliance operates the Jamnagar refining complex in Gujarat, with a combined capacity of approximately 1.4 million barrels per day, making it a potential partner

for processing Venezuelan oil. For India, greater access to Venezuelan crude could diversify supply options, while Venezuela could benefit from investment and expanded market access. Washington also sees scope for broader energy and commercial engagement with New Delhi.

However, any expansion of oil purchases or investment would depend on

commercial viability, production capacity and compliance with applicable US sanctions. No final agreement has been established through the proposal alone. The initiative underscores the strategic value of India's refining industry in global energy markets, bringing together Venezuela's oil resources, India's processing expertise and Washington's interest in expanding energy cooperation.

Poland PM Donald Tusk Arrives in India for 3-Day Visit to Boost Bilateral Ties



New Delhi: Polish Prime Minister Donald Tusk arrived in India on October 21 for a three-day official visit, scheduled to conclude on October 23, aimed at strengthening the growing partnership between New Delhi and Warsaw.

Invited by Prime Minister Narendra Modi, Tusk is scheduled to hold high-level bilateral talks in New Delhi on October 22. The discussions are expected to focus on key areas of cooperation, including defence, green energy, supply chain resilience,

space research and digital technologies. Tusk is accompanied by a high-level delegation, including Poland's Finance and Economy Min-

ister Andrzej Domański and business representatives. The visit is expected to provide fresh momentum to bilateral economic engagement and

explore opportunities for expanding trade, investment and technological cooperation between the two countries.

The visit also highlights Poland's growing importance as a partner for India in Central Europe. Both countries are looking to strengthen economic links and explore new avenues for collaboration amid changing global trade dynamics. The talks are expected to help identify practical areas of cooperation and build on the existing relationship between the two nations.

Shorties

Delhi Court Orders Release of CJP Leaders Saurav Das, Ashutosh Ranka



New Delhi: A Special Executive Magistrate Court in Delhi on Wednesday ordered the release of CJP leaders Saurav Das and Ashutosh Ranka following the completion of their judicial custody in connection with an October 14 protest at Jantar Mantar.

The two appeared before the magistrate, where their sureties were also submitted. They had been remanded to five days of judicial custody on October 14 for allegedly entering the denotified protest area at Jantar Mantar and violating peace bonds.

SBI Confirms Personal Data of 3,897 Customers Found on Dark Web

RNS: State Bank of India (SBI) has confirmed that the personal information of 3,897 customers was found on the dark web following a cyberattack. In a stock exchange filing, the bank said it received an alert from a threat intelligence provider and relevant agencies on October 16.

An investigation into around 3.75 lakh records found on the dark web revealed that only 3,897 contained SBI customers' personal details, including names, mobile numbers, dates of birth, email IDs and residential addresses. The bank said its regular operations and banking services remained unaffected.

SBI has activated its cyber incident response and containment measures and is investigating the exposed records. The bank said it would take appropriate action in accordance with regulatory guidelines.

IIT-ISM Dhanbad Scholar Palak Jaiswal Wins JST-LOTUS Fellowship 2026



Dhanbad: Palak Jaiswal, a doctoral scholar in the Department of Chemistry and Chemical Biology at IIT (ISM) Dhanbad, has been awarded the prestigious JST-LOTUS Fellowship 2026 under the ASPIRE category, opening new avenues for research collaboration with Japan. The fellowship, offered under an initiative of the Japan Science and Technology Agency (JST), aims to strengthen scientific cooperation between India and Japan through academic exchange and joint research. It promotes knowledge sharing among researchers and encourages stronger institutional partnerships in science and technology.

ology Agency (JST), aims to strengthen scientific cooperation between India and Japan through academic exchange and joint research. It promotes knowledge sharing among researchers and encourages stronger institutional partnerships in science and technology.

Bihar Kesari Shri Krishna Babu's Birth Anniversary Celebrated in Chas



Bokaro: The birth anniversary of Dr. Shri Krishna Singh, popularly known as 'Bihar Kesari' and the first Chief Minister of undivided Bihar, was celebrated at Jagdamba Mandir in Chas, Bokaro, on Tuesday.

Arun Kumar Sharma, president of Swami Sahajanand Saraswati Seva Samaj, Chas, highlighted Shri Krishna Babu's contribution to the establishment of Bokaro Steel Plant, describing it as a reflection of his vision and efforts. He recalled that Shri Babu prioritised irrigation facilities and electricity for farmers and worked for the welfare of the poor and the unity of society.

Sharma also highlighted Shri Babu's emphasis on social inclusiveness and his efforts to promote harmony among different sections of society.

Rajniti Singh, Sukhdev Rai, Nagendra Singh, Bipin Rai, Ram Prabhesh Singh, Rakesh Madhu, Jai Shankar Singh, Subodh Singh, Tulu Singh, Shailendra Singh, Prem Rai, Pankaj Singh, Bipin Singh, Krishna Rai, Anuranjan Sharma, Ranjeet Pandey and other community members attended the commemorative programme.

Punjab CM Bhagwant Mann Fined ₹50,000 at Delhi Airport After Paris Visit

New Delhi: Punjab Chief Minister Bhagwant Mann was reportedly fined ₹50,000 by customs officials at Delhi's Indira Gandhi International Airport after returning from Paris, following an inspection of his luggage.

According to reports, Mann was stopped for nearly three hours after allegedly using the green channel despite carrying items requiring customs clearance. Sources said the luggage contained items such as clothes, shoes, watches, belts and jewellery.

The Aam Aadmi Party (AAP), however, alleged that Mann was deliberately held at the airport and issued a challan under pressure from higher authorities. Punjab AAP media in-charge Baltej Pannu termed the incident an in-



sult to Punjab and accused the Centre of targeting the chief minister. The party linked the episode to earlier disputes over permission for Mann's foreign visits.

Mann had travelled to Paris to promote Punjab's agricultural produce at the SIAL 2026 international food exhibition. The incident has triggered a political controversy, with AAP questioning the circumstances surrounding the action.

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हस्त रेखा विशेषज्ञ, कुंडली निर्माण, केसरी रीडर

आपके जीवन के हर प्रश्न का ज्योतिषीय समाधान

करियर एवं व्यवसाय, विवाह एवं वैवाहिक जीवन, स्वास्थ्य एवं परिवार, धन, संपत्ति एवं सुख-समृद्धि, विदेश यात्रा एवं शिक्षा, जीवन की हर दिशा में मार्गदर्शन

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आपकी समस्या से हमारा जुड़ाव

पश्चिम बंगाल: भगदड़ में गलत आंकड़े फैलाने पर एक गिर तार

कोलकाता। पश्चिम बंगाल में मंगलवार को वरिष्ठ अधिकारी ने बताया कि पश्चिम बंगाल पुलिस के विशेष कार्य बल (एसटीएफ) ने कूचबिहार जिले से एनुल हक को गिरफ्तार किया है। उस पर उत्तर कोलकाता के चोरबागान दुर्गा पूजा पंडाल में 3 दिन पहले हुई भगदड़ में मरने वालों की संख्या को लेकर सोशल मीडिया पर गलत जानकारी फैलाने का आरोप है। शनिवार शाम हुई भगदड़ में 19 लोगों की मौत हो गई थी, जबकि 25 अन्य घायल हो गए थे। एनुल हक ने दावा किया था कि हादसे में 60 लोग मारे गए हैं, जबकि आधिकारिक आंकड़ा 19 मौतों का था। राज्य सरकार के अधिकारी ने बताया कि एनुल को सोमवार को उसके घर से हिरासत में लिया गया। उन्होंने स्पष्ट किया कि राज्य में कानून- व्यवस्था बिगाड़ने की किसी भी कोशिश को बर्दाश्त नहीं करंगा और सोशल मीडिया पर झूठी सूचनाओं के प्रसार पर भी चिंता व्यक्त की।

दिल्ली-मुंबई ए सप्रेसवे पर भीषण सड़क हादसा: पीएसआई समेत तीन युवकों की मौत, कार के उड़े परखच्चे

भरुच। भरुच के पास दिल्ली-मुंबई एक्सप्रेसवे पर एक भीषण सड़क हादसे में पुलिस सब-इंस्पेक्टर (पीएसआई) यश पटेल समेत तीन युवकों की दर्दनाक मौत हो गई। हादसा मनुबर गांव के पास उस समय हुआ, जब वडोदरा से भरुच की ओर जा रही एक कार आगे चल रहे टैंपो से जोरदार तरीके से टकरा गई। टक्कर इतनी भीषण थी कि कार के परखच्चे उड़ गए। हादसे के बाद मौके पर चीख-पुकार मच गई। प्राप्त जानकारी के अनुसार, कार में कुल चार लोग सवार थे। कार दिल्ली-मुंबई एक्सप्रेसवे पर मनुबर गांव के पास पहुंची, तभी वह आगे चल रहे टैंपो से टकरा गई। टक्कर के कारण कार बुरी तरह क्षतिग्रस्त हो गई और उसमें सवार लोग गंभीर रूप से प्रभावित हुए। इस दर्दनाक हादसे में वडोदरा में पीएसआई के पद पर तैनात यश पटेल, पार्थ पटेल और अस्फाक मोमिन की घटनास्थल पर ही मौत हो गई। वहीं, कार में सवार चौथे व्यक्ति के घायल होने की जानकारी सामने आई है। हादसे की सूचना मिलते ही स्थानीय पुलिस और राहत दल घटनास्थल पर पहुंचे। टीम ने क्षतिग्रस्त कार से लोगों को बाहर निकालने और राहत कार्य शुरू करने की कार्रवाई की। दुर्घटना के बाद घटनास्थल पर अफरा-तफरी का माहौल बन गया। इस हादसे ने एक बार फिर तेज रफ्तार और हाईवे पर सड़क सुरक्षा को लेकर गंभीर सवाल खड़े कर दिए हैं। हालांकि, दुर्घटना के सटीक कारणों की पुष्टि जांच के बाद ही हो सकेगी।

दिल्ली में कॉकरोच के पुतला दहन पर विवाद, एडवोकेट बलराज मलिक का विरोध

नई दिल्ली। दिल्ली के पीतमपुरा में श्री केशव रामलीला समिति द्वारा दशहरे पर रावण, कुंभकर्ण और मेघनाद के पुतलों के साथ 30 फुट ऊंचे कॉकरोच के पुतले के दहन की घोषणा पर विवाद छिड़ गया है। इस मामले मे एडवोकेट बलराज मलिक के विरोध किया है। समिति के अध्यक्ष एवं भाजपा विधायक अशोक गोयल के अनुसार, कॉकरोच का पुतला गंदगी और अस्वच्छता का प्रतीक है। इसका उद्देश्य स्वच्छ भारत और स्वच्छ दिल्ली का संदेश देना, समाज में स्वच्छता के प्रति जागरुकता बढ़ाना है। वहीं बलराज मधोक ने कॉकरोच को आम जनता का प्रतीक बताया है। सारे देश में कॉकरोच जनता पार्टी का आंदोलन चल रहा है। आयोजकों की इस पहल के पीछे आयोजकों की राजनीतिक मंशा बताया जा रहा है। उन्होंने चेतावनी देते हुए कहा है कि यदि कॉकरोच का पुतला जलाया गया तो वह रामलीला समिति के जो आयोजक हैं उनके खिलाफ कानूनी कार्रवाई करेंगे और इस तरह के कृत्य का विरोध करेंगे।

यूपी विधानसभा चुनाव: भाजपा राजा भैया को साधने की जुगत में? हिंदुत्व और हिंदू हितों के समर्थन में बयान दे रहे राजा भैया

लखनऊ, एंजेंसी। देश के सबसे बड़े राज्य उत्तरप्रदेश में होने वाले विधानसभा चुनाव के पहले एक महत्वपूर्ण राजनैतिक घटनाक्रम के तहत भाजपा प्रदेश अध्यक्ष अश्वक्ष चुनच चौधरी ने जनसत्ता दल के अध्यक्ष रघुराज प्रताप सिंह उर्फ राजा भैया के लखनऊ स्थित आवास रामायण पर अचानक मुलाकात की। इस राजनैतिक बैठक ने नए सियासी समीकरणों और अटकलों को जन्म दे दिया है, खासकर आगामी विधान परिषद सदस्य (एमएलसी) चुनावों और 2027 के विधानसभा चुनाव से पहले भाजपा और राजा भैया के बीच बढ़ती संभावित नजदीकियों को लेकर सियासी गलियारों में चर्चा शुरू हुई है। इस मुलाकात की तात्कालिक वजह 11 सीटों पर हो रहे विधान परिषद सदस्य चुनाव को माना जा रहा है, जहां भाजपा को कुछ सीटों पर कड़ी टक्कर मिलने की खबरें हैं। इसके बाद राजनीतिक दलों और प्रभावशाली नेताओं के समर्थन की संभावनाएं अहम होती हैं। राजा

मनरेगा की जगह वीबी-जी राम जी: सामाजिक सुरक्षा पर सर्जिकल स्ट्राइक -कांग्रेस का आरोप- कई ग्रामीणों को महीनों से कोई काम नहीं मिला

नई दिल्ली, एंजेंसी। कांग्रेस ने केंद्र सरकार पर महात्मा गांधी राष्ट्रीय ग्रामीण रोजगार गारंटी अधिनियम (मनरेगा) को विकसित भारत-गारंटी फॉर रोजगार एंड आजीविका मिशन (ग्रामीण) अधिनियम (वीबी-जी राम जी) से बदलने के कदम को ग्रामीण भारत के सामाजिक सुरक्षा तंत्र पर एक सर्जिकल स्ट्राइक बताया है। कांग्रेस नेता और राज्यसभा में सांसद जयराम रमेश ने आरोप लगाया कि यह बदलाव ग्रामीण मजदूरों को मिलने वाले आवश्यक सहारे को कमजोर कर देगा। सोशल मीडिया पोस्ट में कांग्रेस नेता रमेश ने महाराष्ट्र की गंभीर स्थिति का हवाला दिया, जहां बीड सहित कई जिलों में बीते एक दशक का सबसे भीषण सूखा पड़ा है। उन्होंने रेखांकित किया कि इस्तराह के बेहद चुनौतीपूर्ण समय में, मनरेगा ग्रामीण आबादी के लिए जीवनरेखा और सुरक्षा की गारंटी प्रदान करता था। लेकिन, इस प्रतिष्ठित योजना को वीबी-जी राम जी से बदलना, ग्रामीण भारत को एक महत्वपूर्ण सुरक्षा कवच से वंचित करने जैसा है।



विस्तृत जमीनी जांच का हवाला देकर कांग्रेस नेता रमेश ने चौंकाने वाले आरोप लगाए। रिपोर्ट के अनुसार, कई ग्रामीणों को महीनों से कोई काम नहीं मिला है, जबकि सरकारी दस्तावेजों में उन्हें काम पर लगा हुआ दिखाया गया है। उन्होंने दावा किया कि लोकल राजनेता, जो कथित तौर पर सत्ताधारी दल से जुड़े हैं, मजदूरों की मेहनत की कमाई को हड़प रहे हैं। कांग्रेस नेता रमेश ने केवल भ्रष्टाचार नहीं, बल्कि मजदूरों की मजदूरी की व्यवस्थित चोरी करार दिया।

उन्होंने दावे को पुष्ट करने के लिए उत्तर प्रदेश और अन्य भारतीय जनता पार्टी (भाजपा) शासित राज्यों में सामने आए फर्जी उपस्थिति और क्लोन एप्लीकेशन से जुड़े घोटालों का जिक्र किया। कांग्रेस नेता रमेश ने आरोप लगाया कि केंद्र सरकार ने ग्रामीण मजदूरी चोरी को पूरी तरह से अंजाम दिया है, जिससे देश के सबसे कमजोर तबके को सीधे तौर पर नुकसान हो रहा है। बात दें कि वीबी-जी राम जी अधिनियम को संसद के 2025 के शीतकालीन सत्र में मंजूरी मिलने के बाद, यह 1 जुलाई 2026 से लागू हो गया है। इस नए कानून में मनरेगा के तहत मिलने वाली 100 दिनों की रोजगार गारंटी को बढ़ाकर 125 दिनों की गारंटी किया गया है। हालांकि, विपक्ष ने इसकी तीखी आलोचना की है। प्रमुख आपत्तियों में से एक यह है कि योजना से महात्मा गांधी का नाम हटाया गया है। इसके अलावा, केंद्र और राज्य सरकारों के बीच फंडिंग का अनुपात बदलकर 60:40 किया गया है, जिस पर भी कई सवाल उठ रहे हैं।

शिवा हत्याकांड की मुख्य आरोपी श्रद्धा दुबे नागपुर से गिरफ्तार

- 11 दिन से चल रही थी फरार, बहन रश्मि और झ्रझवर भी पकड़े गए

लखनऊ। लखनऊ के कैफे संचालक शिवा शर्मा की सदिय्ध मौत के मामले में मुख्य आरोपी श्रद्धा दुबे को उत्तर प्रदेश पुलिस ने महाराष्ट्र के नागपुर से गिरफ्तार कर लिया है। पुलिस ने मंगलवार को एक फ्लैट पर छपा मारकर श्रद्धा के साथ उसकी बहन रश्मि दुबे और झ्रझवर को भी पकड़ा। तीनों पर 50-50 हजार रुपये का इनाम घोषित था। पुलिस के मुताबिक, घटना के बाद से फरार श्रद्धा की तलाश में उत्तर प्रदेश पुलिस और स्पेशल टास्क फोर्स (एसटीएफ) जुटी हुई थीं। अब उसे ट्रांजिट रिमांड पर लखनऊ लाने की तैयारी है। पुलिस के अनुसार, श्रद्धा दुबे सड़क मार्ग से आगरा होते हुए नागपुर पहुंची थीं। वहां एक परिचित के फ्लैट में उसके ठहरने की व्यवस्था की गई थी। एसटीएफ ने उसकी लोकेशन ट्रेस की और नागपुर पुलिस की मदद से गिरफ्तारी की कार्रवाई की। मंगलवार को टीम ने फ्लैट पर छपा मारकर तीनों को गिरफ्तार कर लिया। पुलिस का दावा है कि श्रद्धा अपनी बहन और झ्रझवर के साथ लगातार बुरा पहनकर यात्रा कर रही थीं, ताकि पहचान छिपाकर गिरफ्तारी से बच सकें। बताया जा रहा है कि वह अग्रिम जमानत लेने की कोशिश भी कर रही थीं। हालांकि, इस संबंध में विस्तृत आधिकारिक जानकारी सामने आना बाकी है।

एसटीएफ की मदद से मिली कामयाबी

श्रद्धा की गिरफ्तारी के लिए लखनऊ पुलिस को उत्तर प्रदेश एसटीएफ का सहयोग मिला। मंगलवार को ही एसटीएफ को उसकी तलाश तेज करने के निर्देश दिए गए थे। पुलिस के मुताबिक, मामले की जांच लखनऊ पुलिस ही करेगी। गिरफ्तारी के बाद अब आरोपी से पूछताछ और मामले से जुड़े अन्य तथ्यों की पड़ताल की जाएगी।

चौथी मंजिल से गिरकर हुई थी शिवा की मौत

लखनऊ के हजरतगंज स्थित अवध ग्रीन अपार्टमेंट में 9 अक्टूबर 2026 को कैफे संचालक शिवा शर्मा की चौथी मंजिल से गिरकर मौत हो गई थी। घटना के बाद शिवा के परिजनों ने इसे हत्या बताते हुए आरोपियों की जल्द गिरफ्तारी की मांग की थी। पुलिस के अनुसार, श्रद्धा दुबे करीब 11 दिनों से फरार थीं।

नई दिल्ली , एंजेंसी।

केंद्रीय रक्षा मंत्री राजनाथ सिंह ने आतंकवाद को शांति और विकास के लिए सबसे गंभीर खतरों में से एक बताकर इसके पूरे तंत्र को सामूहिक रूप से समाप्त करने का सशक्त आह्वान किया है। ताजिकिस्तान की राजधानी दुशान्बे में शंघाई सहयोग संगठन (एससीओ) की शासनाय्यक्ष परिषद की बैठक को संबोधित करते हुए, उन्होंने स्पष्ट किया कि आतंकवाद की किसी भी परिस्थिति में सही नहीं ठहराया जा सकता, और इससे निपटने में दोहरे मापदंड नहीं दिखा सकते हैं। राजनाथ सिंह ने जोर दिया कि आतंकवादियों को आर्थिक मदद देने, उनका समर्थन करने या उन्हें सुरक्षित ठिकाने उपलब्ध

करने वालों को कोई जगह नहीं होनी चाहिए। रक्षा मंत्री ने कहा कि आतंकवाद न केवल निंदोषों की जान लेता है, बल्कि निवेश और व्यापार को भी प्रभावित करता है, समाज को कटुता की ओर धकेलता है, और युवाओं को अवसरों से वंचित करता है। उन्होंने बिस्केट शिखर सम्मेलन में प्रधानमंत्री नरेंद्र मोदी द्वारा संगठन के लिए सुरक्षा, संपर्क और अवसर के तीन स्तंभों के आह्वान को दोहराया। राजनाथ सिंह ने इन स्तंभों को एक-दूसरे का पूरक बताया, जहां सुरक्षा निवेश के अवसर पैदा करती है, संपर्क व्यापार को बढ़ावा देता है और इन दोनों के माध्यम से लोगों के लिए नए अवसर तैयार होते हैं। भारत ने ताश्कंद में

सार्वभौमिक केंद्र और दुशान्बे में मादक पदार्थ विरोधी केंद्र को एससीओ की स्थायी संस्थाएं बनाने के फैसले का स्वागत किया, हालांकि उनकी उपयोगिता आपसी तालमेल और कार्य निष्पादन की गति पर निर्भर करेगी। क्षेत्रीय सुरक्षा चुनौतियों से निपटने के लिए सदस्य देशों के बीच बेहतर समन्वय और प्रभावी कार्रवाई आवश्यक है। आर्थिक सहयोग पर अपने दृष्टिकोण को साझा करते हुए, राजनाथ सिंह ने समावेशी भागीदारी की वकालत की, जिससे प्रत्येक सदस्य देश को लाभ मिले। उन्होंने मजबूत और संकटों का सामना करने में सक्षम आपूर्ति श्रृंखलाएं बनाने, व्यापार व निवेश को आसान बनाने तथा विकास के लिए

आशुतोष-सौरवकी कस्टडी बढ़ने पर भड़कीं ममता बनर्जी... देश में लोकतंत्र पर हमला, सीजेपी ने ममता को कहा धन्यवाद

नई दिल्ली, एंजेंसी। दीएमसी प्रमुख और बंगाल की पूर्व मुख्यमंत्री ममता बनर्जी ने आशुतोष और सौरव की हिरासत बढ़ाए जाने पर सवाल उठाकर बढ़ाए जाने पर निशाना साधा है। वहीं सीजेपी ने सोशल मीडिया पर पोस्ट कर उनके समर्थन के लिए आभार जताया। पश्चिम बंगाल की पूर्व मुख्यमंत्री ममता बनर्जी ने कांकिरोच जनता पार्टी (सीजेपी) के नेताओं आशुतोष रांका और सौरव दास की कस्टडी बढ़ाए जाने पर नाराजगी जाहिर की है। उन्होंने पोस्ट कर दोनों की तत्काल रिहाई की मांग की। ममता के बयान पर सीजेपी के आधिकारिक हैंडल से प्रतिक्रिया देकर लिखा, 'मैम, आपके सहयोग के लिए धन्यवाद'।

प्रौद्योगिकी का उपयोग करने पर जोर दिया। आर्थिक सहयोग का लाभ समाज के सभी वर्गों तक पहुंचना चाहिए। साझा समृद्धि के लिए संपर्क व्यवस्था को महत्वपूर्ण बताते हुए, भारत ऐसी संपर्क परियोजनाओं का समर्थन करता है जो बाजारों को जोड़ें, व्यापार को आसान बनाएं और विकास के नए अवसर पैदा करें, जैसे कि अंतरराष्ट्रीय उत्तर-दक्षिण परिवहन गलियारा और चाबहार बंदरगाह। हालांकि, रक्षा मंत्री ने स्पष्ट किया कि सभी संपर्क परियोजनाएं परामर्श और उनमें शामिल प्रत्येक देश की संप्रभुता तथा क्षेत्रीय अखंडता के सम्मान पर आधारित होनी चाहिए, क्योंकि इन सिद्धांतों का सम्मान न करने वाली परियोजनाएं टिकाऊ नहीं हो सकतीं।

पंजाब में अमित शाह ने पीड़ित परिवारों से की मुलाकात -विक्रमजीत और गुलजार सिंह के परिजनों को न्याय का दिलाया भरोसा

गुरदासपुर, एंजेंसी। केंद्रीय गृहमंत्री अमित शाह ने पंजाब दौरे के दौरान नशाखोरी के खिलाफ आवाज उठाने के बाद जान गंवाने वाले विक्रमजीत और गुलजार सिंह के परिवारों से मुलाकात की। शाह करीब 20 दिन के भीतर दूसरी बार पंजाब पहुंचे हैं। अमृतसर के श्री गुरु रामदास जी अंतरराष्ट्रीय हवाई अड्डे से हेलीकॉप्टर के जरिए वे सीधे गुरदासपुर पहुंचे, जहां उन्होंने दोनों पीड़ित परिवारों से मिलकर उनकी समस्याएं सुनीं और न्याय दिलाने का भरोसा दिया। केंद्रीय मंत्री शाह सबसे पहले विक्रमजीत के घर पहुंचे। विक्रमजीत की 15 अक्टूबर को गोली मारकर हत्या कर दी गई थी। बताया गया कि उन्होंने इलाके में नशा बेचने वालों का विरोध किया था, जिसके बाद उनकी हत्या कर दी गई। इसके बाद गृहमंत्री संगरूर जिले के तूर वंजारा गांव पहुंचे और गुलजार सिंह के परिजनों से मुलाकात की।



सकतीं।

गुलजार सिंह ने पंजाब के वित्तमंत्री हरपाल सिंह चीमा की सभा में नशे के मुद्दे पर सवाल उठाया था। इसके बाद उन्हें कथित तौर पर परेशान किया गया। बाद में उन्होंने जहर खा लिया, जिससे उनकी मौत हो गई। शाह ने करीब 10 से 12 मिनिट तक उनके परिवार के साथ बातचीत की और मुलाक्रम की जानकारी ली।

गुलजार सिंह के बेटे ने गृहमंत्री

से अपने पिता की मौत के लिए जिम्मेदार लोगों को सजा दिलाने की मांग की। उन्होंने कहा कि मामले में पांच लोगों को गिरफ्तार किया गया है, लेकिन उनके अनुसार मुख्य आरोपी बताए जा रहे हरपाल सिंह का नाम एफआईआर में शामिल नहीं है। परिवार ने पूरे मामले की सीबीआई जांच कराने की मांग भी उठाई। परिजनों की मांग पर शाह ने भरोसा दिलाया कि जो भी दोषी पाए जाएंगे, उन्हें सजा दिलाई जाएगी।

गुलजार सिंह के परिवारों से की मुलाकात

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BRIFF NEWS

AAIB chief gets a year's extension as many key probes, including AI 171, on



New Delhi, Agency: Govt has granted a one-year extension to Aircraft Accident Investigation Bureau (AAIB) director-general G V G Yugandhar, with some key ongoing investigations - including Air India AI 171 crash - awaiting their final reports. The reason: Having a new DG at a time like this could delay the final report into the June 12, 2025, Ahmedabad crash. Accordingly the aviation ministry had recommended an extension for Yugandhar, who retired as Indian Air Force group captain earlier this year, and the same was approved about a month back.

The key probes that are currently underway have AI 171 Air India right at the top followed by Air India's turbulent Phuket-Delhi flight of Aug 4, 2026, and some other crucial cases. AI 171 report is learnt to be in its final stage and will be shared with stakeholders as per rules once ready. People in the know say while the aviation ministry "keeps the aircraft accident investigating agency at an arm's length and does not interfere in its working in any way," it is taking steps to strengthen the AAIB.

'Youth on streets are revolutionaries'

Uddhav Thackeray calls for 'regime change'



New Delhi, Agency: Shiv Sena (UBT) chief Uddhav Thackeray on Tuesday called for a regime change, accused the government of undermining electoral rights. He backed the youth protests, calling them revolutionaries meanwhile asserting his party's claim to the saffron identity at the party's annual Dussehra rally at Shivaji Park in Mumbai.

According to Media, Thackeray said young people had the right to protest against alleged electoral irregularities, particularly those affecting new voters. He also called for a change in the political establishment and asserted that the saffron identity could not be taken away from his party.

"Protest is the right of youth because 'vote chori' is happening with everyone, especially new voters," Thackeray said.

"We are standing up to bring about a 'regime change'," the former Maharashtra chief minister said at the rally. "Youth who have hit the streets are not Naxalites, they are revolutionaries seeking their rights," Uddhav Thackeray said.

Reiterating his party's claim to the saffron identity, Thackeray said, "Bhagwa (saffron) is our identity; no one can steal our identity."

He also called for the saffron flag to be unfurled at both the state and national levels. "We have to unfurl Bhagwa (saffron flag) not only atop Maharashtra Vidhan Sabha but also on Lal Qila," Thackeray said. Uddhav Thackeray was addressing his supporters at Shivaji Park which has been more than a rally ground for SHiv Sena. It is where Bal Thackeray launched the party's public political journey in 1966, and where Uddhav Thackeray continues to invoke that legacy amid the battle over the party's identity.

Jhota murder case: CBI registers FIR in murder of anti-drug activist, team reaches Punjab

New Delhi, Agency: The Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) has registered a case into the murder of anti-drug activist Parvinder Singh Jhota in Punjab's Mansa and taken over the investigation, officials said on Wednesday.

According to news agency Media, a team of CBI officials has reached Punjab to investigate all aspects of the killing, they said, a day after chief minister Bhagwant Singh Mann announced that the case would be transferred to the central agency following a demand from

Jhota's family. Jhota was shot dead in broad daylight inside a medical store in a busy marketplace in Mansa on October 13. He was known for raising his voice against the alleged illegal sale of addictive substances at chemist shops.

According to the police, store owner Ashwani Kumar opened fire on Jhota after the activist questioned him for selling drugs to an elderly man. Kumar was later taken into custody from Salasar in Rajasthan.

The incident took place while Jhota was hosting a



Facebook Live session and triggered a political row in Punjab, which is scheduled to go to the polls early next year.

Family demands CBI investigation: Announcing the decision on Tuesday, Mann said the government had accepted the family's

demand for a CBI investigation. "We stand firmly with the father and the family of Parvinder Singh Jhota, who was fighting against drugs. Accepting the demand of the family, we are handing over this case to the CBI. Our fight against drug peddlers is all-out. We will not back down from whatever tough steps we have to take to make Punjab drug-free," Mann said in a post on X in Punjabi.

The chief minister reiterated that his government would continue taking stringent measures against

drug trafficking and work towards making Punjab drug-free.

AAP leader Manish Sisodia also welcomed the decision, saying the transfer of the case to the CBI had been made in response to the family's demand.

Punjab cabinet minister Harpal Singh Cheema said the government's campaign against drugs would continue and noted that the state police had already taken action against those accused in the case, the newspaper reported.

Amit Shah questions handling of other drug-

related cases: Union home minister Amit Shah welcomed the transfer of Jhota's murder case to the CBI but criticised the Punjab government for not handing over two other cases involving people affected by drug-related activities.

Speaking in Punjab on Tuesday after meeting families from Mansa, Sangrur and Gurdaspur, Shah said the cases involving Gulzar Singh of Sangrur and Bikramjit Singh of Gurdaspur should also be transferred to the central agency.

'My journey began with Ramleela': Ravi Kishan portrays Lord Ram during Dussehra celebrations in Delhi

New Delhi, Agency: Actor and BJP MP Ravi Kishan portrayed Lord Ram during Ramleela celebrations in Delhi on Tuesday, marking the occasion of Dussehra.

Dressed in traditional warrior attire and carrying a bow and arrow, Kishan shared pictures of his portrayal on X, writing, "By the grace of Lord Shri Ram, the Ram Lila of Ayodhya was staged in Ram Lila (Delhi). Jai Shri Ram."

Kishan said his journey with Ramleela began in Ayodhya, but he had never portrayed Lord Ram before.

"My journey began with Ramleela in Ayodhya, but I had never portrayed Lord Ram before. Today, by the grace of Lord Ram, I am getting the opportunity to take on this role. I have come before all of you in this form for Dussehra,



and I am very happy about it. Yesterday went well, and by the grace of Lord Ram, may he guide today's performance just as beautifully. Let us see how the Lord makes today's Ramleela unfold on stage," he said.

The actor also extended Dussehra wishes to his fans and the people of India, urging them to

overcome the evils within themselves and society.

"Victory to Lord Ram, to Maryada Purushottam, to the best among men. In the same way, we need to destroy the Ravana in our own lives, the Ravana inside us, and the Ravana in society. May humanity awaken and there be love in everyone," he said.

India, US 'perfectly aligned' on key issues: Marco Rubio; defends ties with Pakistan

New Delhi, Agency: US secretary of state Marco Rubio urged businesses to view the India-US relationship as a strategic partnership spanning technology, trade and security, saying the two countries were "perfectly aligned" on issues that would shape the 21st century, even as he acknowledged that disagreements between them would persist. Addressing a gathering of India Inc's leading business figures at a Freedom 250 event at BKC, Rubio said the relationship between the two countries could help shape the future of the global economy, particularly as advances in artificial intelligence and quantum computing transform industries and societies. "I truly believe the relationshipNEW DELHI: Security agencies probing the attack on actor Tiger Shroff are investigating the role of Lawrence Bishnoi's top-tier



US-based operative Randeep Malik, notwithstanding gangster Anil Pandit claiming responsibility for it on social media. Malik is considered very close to both Lawrence and his brother Anmol, who are also likely to be questioned in their respective jails in Gujarat and Delhi soon, sources have said.

Pandit and Shroff 's shooter Rehan both reported to Malik and were considered "his men" till a few months ago, a source said.

India & United States to boost defence, energy ties, Marco Rubio says trade deal close

New Delhi, Agency: Foreign Minister S Jaishankar met his US counterpart Marco Rubio in Mumbai, agreeing to further expand cooperation in energy, defence and technology ties and committing to an early conclusion of the trade deal still under discussion.

While Rubio emphasised the role that the US can play in the diversification of India's energy and defence supplies, Jaishankar said in a post on X that they also discussed people-to-people ties, alluding to India's concerns over immigration and H-1B governance issues. Speaking at the US anniversary celebrations later, Jaishankar said in Rubio's presence that Indian talent and skills have helped shape the tech era in the US.

The ministers met ahead of a likely meeting between PM Modi and President Donald Trump next month on the margins of the Asean summit in Manila, and also before Modi's visit to the US in December for the G20 meet. A State Department readout said Jaishankar and Rubio discussed regional and global issues, including



developments in West Asia.

Only a small number of items left to wrap up: Rubio on Indo-US deal

Rubio reiterated that increased energy trade with the US could play a transformative role in diversifying India's supply chains while meeting its sizeable consumer demand.

Rubio's second visit to India comes against the backdrop of the US's Sanctioning Russia and Iran Act, which is intended to penalise countries purchasing Russian oil, and Trump's subsequent temporary suspension of related tariffs. India maintains that its oil procurement is essential not only for its own energy

security but also for the stability of global markets. Rubio lauded the "substantial progress" made by India in diversifying its energy portfolio.

Rubio also focused on reducing India's reliance on Russia for defence supplies, stressing the deepening of defence interoperability and framing increased Indian purchases of US technology as a win-win situation for both countries.

According to the US readout, Rubio also commended recent progress in bilateral defence and civil nuclear cooperation and advocated increased purchases of US technologies and

New Delhi, Agency: A 30-foot cockroach effigy was burnt alongside those of Ravan, Kumbhakaran and Meghnad during Dussehra celebrations at Netaji Subhash Place in Delhi on Tuesday. The move drew sharp reactions from Cockroach Janta Party (CJP) leaders and sparking a debate on social media.

While the organisers said the effigy symbolised filth and promoted cleanliness, CJP founder Abhijeet Dipke thanked them for the "free publicity". "Thank you for the free publicity," Dipke said on X, sharing a post about the effigy.

In a separate post he



also shared a snippet from the film Swades, featuring the lyrics "mann se raavan jo nikaale, ram uske mann mei hai (One who casts Ravana out through contemplation, Ram dwells there)".

CJP legal head Ratna

Singh described the development as "tamasha" as she wrote, "Tamasha kara lo bas is desh mein (Just let this country turn everything into a spectacle.)"

Tamasha Kara lo bas is desh mein. In another post, she said the incident

showed that the CJP had "done something right".

"Burning a cockroach effigy on Dussehra only shows how rattled the ruling party is... Good to know we are making enough of an impact for you to see us as competition," she said. Burning a cockroach effigy on Dussehra only shows how rattled the ruling party is. It's importance de rahe hain aap log! Good to know we are making enough of an impact for you to see us as competition. Clearly, we are doing something right. :) Give your IT cell some time off as well.

Two Andaman, one Chhattisgarh site added to Unesco World Heritage tentative list



New Delhi, Agency: Three sites from India have been added to the tentative list of United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization's World Heritage Convention, the Permanent Delegation of India to UNESCO announced on Tuesday.

The three sites are the Karst-mud-volcano Complex of Baratang and Andaman Subduction Volcanoes in the Andaman and Nicobar Islands, and the Sirpur Cultural and Archaeological Landscape in Chhattisgarh.

In a press release dated October 20, the Permanent Delegation of India to Unesco, based in Paris, announced the additions to India's Tentative List under the UNESCO World Heritage Convention.

Inclusion on the tentative list is a prerequisite for any property to be considered for nomination to the World Heritage List. The delegation also acknowledged the

Archaeological Survey of India (ASI) for its work in the process.

The additions mark a step towards the possible future nomination of the three sites for Unesco World Heritage status.

India has 45 UNESCO World Heritage Sites, including 37 cultural sites, seven natural sites and one mixed site, following the inscription of the ancient Buddhist site of Sarnath in July 2026.

India ranks sixth globally and second in the Asia-Pacific region. The five countries with the highest numbers are Italy with 62 sites, China with 61, France with 56, Germany with 55 and Spain with 50. India's first four sites were inscribed in 1983: the Ajanta Caves and Ellora Caves in Maharashtra, and Agra Fort and the Taj Mahal in Uttar Pradesh. These were all cultural sites recognised for their historical, architectural and artistic significance.

Degrees, Skills and Jobs: What Does India's Youth Really Need?

Beyond Degrees: Preparing India's Youth for the Jobs of Tomorrow

As workplaces evolve with artificial intelligence, automation and digital transformation, the challenge is no longer just educating young people, but equipping them with practical skills, confidence and the ability to adapt

India's classrooms are filled with young people who dream of becoming engineers, teachers, managers, accountants, designers, government employees and entrepreneurs. For many families, a college degree represents years of sacrifice, savings and hope. Parents invest in their children's education believing that academic success will open the doors to financial security and social progress. Yet, for many graduates, the journey from receiving a degree to securing suitable employment is far more difficult than expected.

The problem is not that education has lost its value. Education remains essential for developing knowledge, independent thinking and professional competence. The challenge is that a qualification alone cannot guarantee that a candidate possesses the practical abilities required by a particular job. The India Employment Report 2024, prepared by the International Labour Organization and the Institute for Human Development, examined the



relationship between young people's education, skills and employment, highlighting the continuing difficulties surrounding the transition from education to work.

Many students spend years studying theories and preparing for examinations but receive limited exposure to actual workplace situations. A commerce graduate may understand accounting principles but struggle with business software. An engineering student may perform well in examinations but lack experience in solving practical problems. A management graduate may know the terminology of customer rela-

tions yet find it difficult to communicate confidently with clients. Such gaps become apparent when employers assess candidates for entry-level positions.

Another challenge is the changing nature of recruitment. Employers increasingly look beyond marksheets to evaluate communication, teamwork, critical thinking, adaptability and the ability to learn quickly. In customer service, for instance, an employee may need to explain a complicated issue patiently. In administration, accuracy and organisation are important. In technology-related roles, the ability to learn unfamiliar tools can be

as valuable as existing technical knowledge.

Educational institutions must therefore create stronger connections between classroom learning and professional practice. Internships, industry projects, practical assignments, simulations and career guidance can help students understand workplace expectations before graduation. Teachers can encourage students to solve real-world problems rather than depend entirely on memorisation. Colleges should also invite professionals to explain how knowledge is applied in different industries.

Employers have a responsibility too. Companies cannot expect every fresher to possess years of experience. Structured induction programmes, apprenticeships, mentoring and entry-level training can help capable young people develop the required competence.

Recruitment processes should distinguish between skills that candidates must already possess and those that can reasonably be learned on the job.

Communication and Confidence

The Skills That Turn Knowledge into Opportunity



A candidate enters an interview carrying an impressive academic record, relevant qualifications and a strong desire to succeed. The interviewer asks a simple question: "Tell me about yourself." The candidate knows the answer but struggles to organise thoughts, explain experience or maintain a natural conversation.

Another applicant, perhaps with similar qualifications, communicates clearly and describes practical examples. The difference may influence who moves forward in the recruitment process.

This situation illustrates an important reality of the modern workplace: technical knowledge matters, but the ability to communicate that knowledge is equally significant in many occupations. India's young job seekers need more than certificates. They need confidence, listening skills, clarity

of expression, professional behaviour and the ability to work constructively with others.

Communication is not limited to speaking fluent English. India is multilingual, and employees work in environments where Hindi, regional languages and English all have important roles.

Depending on the job, a person may need to explain information in a local language, write a formal email in English, understand customer concerns or communicate instructions accurately. Effective communication means making information understandable to the intended audience.

Yet, many students associate professional success with flawless English and become hesitant because they fear making mistakes. This anxiety can prevent them from asking questions, participating in discussions or applying for suitable positions.

Artificial Intelligence and the Future of Youth Employment — Threat or Opportunity?



Artificial intelligence is changing how people write, analyse information, design products, communicate with customers and complete routine office tasks. For India's young workforce, this transformation brings both excitement and uncertainty. Students wonder whether the jobs they are preparing for will still exist when they graduate. Employers are exploring automated systems, while workers are learning how to use new tools without losing the human judgement that many roles require.

The debate is often presented as a simple choice between humans and machines. In reality, the effect of artificial intelligence is more complicated. Some tasks can be automated, some occupations may change substantially, and new responsibilities may emerge. The consequences will vary across industries, regions, businesses and skill levels. The International Labour Organization's India Employment Report 2024 identifies technological change as an important factor shaping the coun-

try's labour market and the future of youth employment.

Consider a routine administrative role. Software may help organise documents, prepare summaries, schedule meetings or process standard information.

However, employees may still need to check accuracy, protect confidential information, resolve unusual cases and communicate with people.

In customer service, automated chat systems may answer straightforward questions, but complicated complaints can require empathy, judgement and negotiation.

This means young people must learn to work with technology rather than simply fear it. Digital literacy should extend beyond operating a smartphone or using basic office software. Students should understand how to evaluate information, protect personal data, recognise fabricated content

and use AI-generated material responsibly. They should also learn that automated answers can be incorrect, incomplete or misleading.

Educational institutions can respond by integrating relevant technology into practical assignments. Students might use digital tools to analyse a business problem, compare possible solutions or prepare a presentation, while explaining how they verified the results. Such exercises encourage responsible use instead of dependence on automated output.

Examinations and assessments should reward original thinking, reasoning and application, not merely the reproduction of information.

Employers also have a role in preparing young workers for technological change. Organisations introducing automation should provide appropriate training, explain how roles will evolve and help employees acquire new competencies.

Vocational Education and Apprenticeships — Giving Practical Skills the Respect They Deserve

For generations, academic degrees have often been treated as the most respectable route to professional success. Families encourage children to pursue university education, while technical trades and vocational courses sometimes receive less attention. Yet, a modern economy needs more than graduates with theoretical knowledge. It also needs skilled electricians, technicians, healthcare assistants, machine operators, repair specialists, hospital-ity professionals and trained workers who can turn ideas into practical results.

Vocational education offers an important route into employment for young people who prefer hands-on learning or wish to enter a particular occupation. It can also complement university education by providing practical competence alongside academic qualifications. The challenge is to make these pathways accessible, credible and connected to

actual labour-market needs.

India's Periodic Labour Force Survey annual report for 2025, released by the government in March 2026, estimated that only 5% of people aged 15–29 had received formal vocational or technical training. The finding points to considerable scope for expanding practical training and making it a more familiar part of young people's educational journeys.

A student who learns electrical installation, computer hardware maintenance, welding, food production or medical laboratory techniques needs more than a classroom explanation. Such work

requires supervised practice, safety awareness, familiarity with equipment and the ability to diagnose problems. Similarly, hospitality students benefit from practising customer service, while those preparing for administrative roles need experience with office software, records and professional communication.

Apprenticeships can bridge this gap. Under a structured apprenticeship, learners gain practical experience while receiving guidance from experienced workers. They observe how workplaces operate, learn professional discipline and understand the standards expected in their chosen field



Building a Job-Ready India — What Colleges, Employers and Government Must Do Together

Preparing India's youth for employment cannot be the responsibility of students alone. Young people must learn, practise and remain adaptable, but their efforts need support from educational institutions, employers and policymakers.

When colleges teach outdated material, businesses provide few opportunities for beginners and career guidance remains limited, even hard-working students can struggle to find their place in the economy.

The central challenge is to build a stronger connection between learning and earning without reducing education to a narrow exercise in job preparation. Schools and universities

must continue developing knowledge, curiosity, creativity and civic understanding. At the same time, students need opportunities to apply what they learn, explore occupations and develop the competencies that modern workplaces require.

The need is significant. The government's Periodic Labour Force Survey for 2025 estimated that 25% of people aged 15–29 were not in employment, education or training.

This measure includes people in different circumstances and should not automatically be interpreted as an unemployment rate, but it highlights the importance of understanding why some young peo-



ple remain disconnected from both learning and work.

Colleges can begin by reviewing how they teach and assess students.

Practical projects, labo-

ratory work, internships, field assignments and industry-led workshops should complement classroom instruction. Students studying commerce could work with realistic business records;

engineering students could solve applied technical problems; and humanities students could develop research, writing and communication portfolios. Such activities help learners demonstrate their abilities beyond examination marks.

Career guidance should begin before the final semester. Students need reliable information about different occupations, qualifications, salaries, working conditions and opportunities for further training.

Counselling can help them recognise their strengths and make informed decisions instead of selecting courses solely because of social pressure or incomplete information. Institutions should also explain

that careers often develop through several stages rather than following a single fixed path.

Employers must become active partners in this process. Businesses can offer internships, apprenticeships, mentoring and realistic workplace projects.

They can share information about changing skill requirements and help institutions understand how new technologies are affecting particular occupations.

Recruitment should evaluate practical ability and learning potential while avoiding unrealistic demands for prior experience in every entry-level position.