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The Researchers'

Former Japan PM Yasuo Fukuda dies at 90

TOKYO.(Agency)

Former Japanese Prime Minister Yasuo Fukuda, known for trying to build stable ties with China, has died at the age of 90, a ruling party official said Monday. Fukuda passed away on October 22, the official from the Liberal Democratic Party told AFP. He led Japan for a year from September 2007 after replacing the late premier Shinzo Abe, who's first term ended after just 12 months. During his stint in power, he sought to improve relations with China and invited then Chinese president Hu Jintao to visit Japan. Hu's trip in May 2008 made him the first Chinese head of state to visit the country in a decade. The two leaders issued a joint statement committing to a "mutually beneficial relationship based on common strategic interests". Fukuda resigned in September 2008 as his approval ratings dropped. He retired as a politician in 2012. But as Tokyo's ties with Beijing worsened over a disputed island chain and other historical issues, Fukuda visited China in 2014 to hold talks with President Xi Jinping, paving the way for a summit between Xi and Abe during his second term in power.

Netanyahu might be finished but his policies toward the Palestinians will largely endure

JALUD, West Bank.(Agency)

Israel's elections Tuesday could mark the end of Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu's decades-long political career. But his legacy in the Israeli-occupied West Bank — of massive settlement expansion, the displacement of tens of thousands of Palestinians and the empowerment of armed settler extremists — will likely endure, even if his opponents seek to rein it in. Israelis are deeply divided over Netanyahu's leadership and moral character, but they largely support settlement expansion and are opposed to a Palestinian state. So while Netanyahu's opponents have vowed to crack down on settler violence and remove the most contentious outposts, they are mostly against a two-state solution, seen internationally as the only realistic way to resolve the conflict. "There shouldn't be any illusions," said Mairav Zonszein, senior Israel analyst at the International Crisis Group. "At best, (a new government) would be able to slow down the extremely crazy acceleration that we've seen in the last four years of every aspect of Israel's aggression in the occupied territories and inside Israel itself."

Ukraine drone attack on Russia's Voronezh kills two, wounds 17

MOSCOW.(Agency)

A Ukrainian drone attack on Russia's Voronezh killed two people and wounded 17, with many of the injured passengers on a commuter train hit by falling debris, regional governor Alexander Gusev said Monday. "Following a terrorist attack in Voronezh, two people have unfortunately been killed... and 17 have been injured," he posted on Telegram, adding that "more than 70 drones" were shot down over the city between late Sunday and early Monday. "A significant number of the injured, including two seriously wounded, were on a train that was moving in the left-bank suburb of Voronezh when debris from a UAV fell on it," Gusev said. He did not specify where the two people were killed. The attack also caused fires at "a number of industrial businesses (without significant damage), a business center in the central part of the city, and a residential building," the governor said.

Serbia's student movement ousts longtime leader in parliament poll

The victory in the snap vote comes after nearly two years of anti-government protests sparked by the 2024 collapse of a canopy at Novi Sad railway station that killed 16 people.

BELGRADE.(Agency)

Serbia's student-led movement declared victory in parliamentary elections Sunday, ending 14 years in power for Aleksandar Vucic's right-wing populist party. The victory in the snap vote comes after nearly two years of anti-government protests sparked by the 2024 collapse of a canopy at Novi Sad railway station that killed 16 people. The disaster has been widely blamed on

corruption and triggered some of Serbia's largest protests since the fall of strongman Slobodan Milosevic in 2000.

"Preliminary results show that students are convincingly leading in almost all polling stations," Radomir Saicic, a candidate for the Students' List, said in a speech at the movement's election HQ. "Students won and with them also a hope that Serbia can be a country of justice, freedom and dignity." Voters cast ballots in huge numbers on Sunday, with the country recording its highest parliamentary election turnout in more than three decades. Vucic conceded defeat less than two hours after polls closed, triggering raucous scenes in the capital as supporters of the movement celebrated the defeat of a government they blamed for deep-rooted corruption. "I feel incredible," student Mila Martic told AFP from the List's headquarters. "I feel as though I am finally living in a free country." Thousands poured into the capital's streets to celebrate the victory, with passing cars honking, crowds

chanting, and fireworks lighting up the skyline. According to the country's election officials, nearly 65 percent of its 6.4 million registered voters had cast their ballots by 6:00



pm (1700 GMT), two hours before polls closed. The figure surpassed the 1993 parliamentary election, when just over 61 percent voted. Dream has come true. During his speech to supporters, Vucic said preliminary figures suggested the student movement could win between 135 and 140

seats, handing it an outright majority in the 250-seat parliament. The 56-year-old statesman, who has maintained close ties with Russia throughout his tenure, blamed foreign powers for the result. "I want people to know, this was the validation of a revolution carried out with the direct support of various European countries and the US deep state, the one that is also against President Trump," he said. For nearly two years, students have staged rallies and marched across the Balkan nation to reach voters directly and counter the media machine of Vucic's Serbian Progressive Party. Their protests have drawn huge crowds, a final pre-election rally in Belgrade on Thursday attracting around 150,000 people, according to an independent protest monitor. EU chief Ursula von der Leyen and Hungarian Prime Minister Peter Magyar congratulated the Students' List on their victory. "We stand ready to support reforms on the rule of law, media freedom, the fight against corruption and strong democratic institutions."

Trump says Canada trade deal coming 'soon'

WASHINGTON.(Agency)

A trade agreement between the United States and Canada would be reached "pretty soon," President Donald Trump told a campaign rally on Sunday, nine days ahead of crucial US midterm elections. Tensions between the North American neighbors have been high since trade talks broke down in August, with Trump imposing a slew of new tariffs in response. "We'll have that settled pretty soon. They're willing to give us anything at this moment," the president said of an agreement during the rally in Port Huron, a Michigan town on the US-Canada border hit hard by his tariff war. Trump once again defended

his levies on Canada and accused it of "ripping off the United States for years." The tariffs enforced after the August



talks broke down impacted around USD 20 billion worth of goods, ranging from hockey sticks to cement. In response, Canada imposed tolls on an equivalent amount of American products, leading

Trump to retaliate with another round of levies of as much as 50 percent on certain goods. The White House removed some of them on Friday, in response to a request from Senator Susan Collins who represents the border state of Maine, which has been disproportionately impacted by the trade war. Democrats are targeting Collins's seat in their attempt to win control of the Senate from the Republicans in next Tuesday's midterms. Since the start of his second term, Trump has upended the global trade order by imposing wide-ranging tariffs on friend and foe, saying they had been taking advantage of the United States.

Jordan arrests three over church attack

AMMAN.(Agency)

Jordanian security forces arrested three people over the unprecedented attack on a Greek Orthodox church that killed nine people and wounded 25 others, state TV reported on Monday. Following a joint security operation, specialised investigation and raid teams apprehended the three terrorists responsible for the cowardly terrorist attack," the broadcaster said on X, adding that all three were wounded during an armed clash. Gunmen stormed the compound of St George's Church in the village of Hammoud in Karak governorate during a funeral procession on Friday and opened fire, Jordanian authorities said. Karak is home to a significant Christian community in the Muslim-majority kingdom, where Christians make up between two and three percent of the population. "We



have apprehended the killers, we are examining all the circumstances that lead young people toward extremism,

and we will hold accountable everyone found to have been involved," Jordan's Interior Minister Mazen Al-Faraya said.

Bolsonaro calls for Brazil election results to be 'annulled' after loss to Lula

RIO DE JANEIRO.(Agency)

Brazil's President Luiz Inácio Lula da Silva, a vocal critic of President Donald Trump, was reelected Sunday in a result that provides relief to critics of widening US influence in Latin America. With 100 percent of the vote counted, Brazil's electoral court announced that the soon to be 81-year-old Lula had a lead of nearly 4.4 million votes -- 51.8 per cent of the total vote -- over opponent Flávio Bolsonaro. The



announcement capped an evening of chaos at polling places across Brazil, following a last-minute decision to extend voting by two hours. Late Sunday, Bolsonaro refused to concede defeat, calling the move to extend voting hours unprecedented -- though both he and Lula made the request -- and asked for the election results to be annulled, saying they were impossible to accept. Lula's triumph bucks a trend in Latin America where increasing numbers of right-of-centre presidential candidates allied with Trump have been winning. Lula's victory leaves Mexico and

Brazil, Latin America's two most populous nations, with left-of-centre leaders. It also positions Latin America's largest economy, with a GDP of USD 2.6 trillion per year, to remain independent of the US, despite the pressure of increased tariffs imposed by Trump. Lula's win confirmed by electoral court. A video published by Lula's campaign shows the veteran leader celebrating with First Lady Rosângela da Silva and allies after his runoff victory was confirmed by Brazil's electoral court. Wearing star-shaped red glasses, he kissed his wife. Hundreds of his supporters began gathering on São Paulo's main artery to celebrate the victory. In Rio de Janeiro, cars beeped their horns and a woman dressed in red -- the colour of Lula supporters -- shouted "You lost! Cry harder!" to four men in yellow and green sipping beers, Bolsonaro's signature colors. A huge roar echoed in the street as the result was confirmed. Rodrigo Valentim, a 51-year-old businessman and supporter of Bolsonaro, said that another Lula government would harm the economy. He pointed to financial markets' positive reaction to the result of the first round, when Bolsonaro bested Lula. "I don't understand how people can vote for Lula," he said. "The country is collapsing."

Bolsonaro had yet to conform to Lula's apparent victory, which, if confirmed by electoral authorities, will give him his non-consecutive fourth term as president. The next term begins on Jan. 5, 2027.

Saudi coalition says intercepted missile after Houthis hit Riyadh airport

world.(Agency)

The Saudi-led military coalition said Monday it intercepted a ballistic missile fired by Yemen's Houthis, after the Iran-backed group claimed a new attack on the international airport in Riyadh. The operation came a day after explosions rattled the Saudi capital and authorities sent text messages to residents warning them of a "hostile aerial threat" targeting the city. The Houthis have carried out waves of strikes on the King Khalid International Airport in Riyadh, including an attack this month that killed 13 people and wounded more than 300, the deadliest in the kingdom in more than a decade. Coalition spokesman Turki Al-Malki said on Monday that air defences "intercepted and destroyed a ballistic missile" fired by the Houthis toward Riyadh, and destroyed two ballistic missile launchers in Yemen's capital Sanaa. "We continue the process of dismantling the ballistic missile network of the terrorist Houthi militia," Al-Malki wrote on X. Houthi military spokesman Yahya Saree said Monday the group "successfully targeted" the airport with a ballistic missile, and struck oil pumping stations with drones. "The Yemeni Armed Forces carried out two qualitative military operations targeting the Saudi enemy troop concentrations and weapons depots" in the Aden and Lahj governorates in Yemen, which caused

"dozens of casualties", Saree added.

On Sunday, the Houthis said they had launched an attack on the airport in Riyadh, after the kingdom's airport closure was a major blow for Saudi Arabia, forcing the postponement of the kingdom's flagship investment conference until 2027 and disrupting travel plans for thousands of passengers. The Dakar Rally also joined a growing list of events that were cancelled, postponed or relocated amid the fallout from the war. Saree had earlier warned that Riyadh airport was still "unsafe" and a "military target", and urged airlines and travellers to avoid it, announced that flights had resumed. The Saudi regime shall bear the consequences of any operations at the airport," the spokesman said. Saudi Arabia and the government it backs in Yemen have come under sustained attack in recent weeks from the Houthis as a years-long truce broke down in the summer, shifting the focus of the wider US-Iran war that erupted in February. Everything is shaking. As operations resumed at Riyadh airport, Greek Prime Minister Kyriakos Mitsotakis met Saudi de facto ruler Crown Prince Mohammed bin Salman. During the meeting, Mitsotakis "responded favourably to the kingdom's request to keep the Patriot system in Saudi Arabia, given the current challenging circumstances", his office said.

New Delhi Municipal Council plans to develop tulip garden inside Nehru Park

Delhi.(Agency)

The New Delhi Municipal Council (NDMC) is planning to develop a larger tulip garden inside Nehru Park, with dedicated parking and recreational activities, to allow visitors to spend more time enjoying the seasonal blooms, its chairman Manoj Kumar Dwivedi said on Sunday. The civic body has identified a site for the proposed garden and started preparations, Dwivedi said in a post on X, adding that the new facility would supplement the existing tulip displays along Shanti Path. The tulip blooms along Shanti Path attract visitors every year, but the lack of parking facilities often leads to traffic congestion and roadside parking, making it



difficult for people to spend extended periods at the site, he said. “The proposed garden at Nehru Park will have dedicated parking and activities such as music and drone photography, allowing families to enjoy the flowers and spend more time at the venue without traffic-related hassles,” Dwivedi said. The NDMC will continue to plant tulips along Shanti Path, with the larger garden being an additional attraction, he added. Tulips typically bloom for around 20 to 25 days. The civic body plans to develop the Nehru Park site into a year-round floral attraction, featuring seasonal flowers throughout the year, Dwivedi said.

Jamia Millia Islamia agrees to student union polls, revokes suspensions with riders

Delhi.(Agency)

Delhi’s Jamia Millia Islamia (JMI) university Monday agreed to hold students’ union elections once the union’s constitution receives official approval, ending a two-week student protest. This decision follows a meeting Sunday night between JMI officials and protesting students seeking the reinstatement of the union. “The Jamia Millia Islamia Student’s Union Election will be held after 15 days, from the date of approval of the constitution of the student’s union of Jamia Millia Islamia,” the order issued by the registrar’s office states. However, the order does not set a fixed timeline for forming the constitution. The order also gives students two other assurances: suspension and showcase notices issued to them during the protest period will be revoked. It also says that a committee will be constituted to inquire into the actions of security staff during the protest. The university’s written response follows a letter submitted by the hunger strikers and their delegates, titled ‘Demand of Hunger Strike Students’. In their submission, the students made it clear that they needed a written commitment to end their demonstration. “We will call off the hunger strike and sit-in protest only upon receiving a written agreement from the university administration accepting them,” the letter stated. The primary demand of the hunger strike was a fixed timeline for restoring the Jamia Millia Islamia Students’ Union, which has remained dissolved since 2006. The protesters also demanded the revocation of disciplinary actions initiated against participating students and an official inquiry into the conduct of university security personnel. **Conditional requirements** The administration’s order includes conditional requirements for the protesting students. First, it records an undertaking by the students to issue a public apology at a press conference for any “defamatory statements/actions/posts” made against the administration during the protest. It directs that all such social media posts be taken down immediately, noting that compliance will be actively monitored.

Delhi Waqf Board remains headless three years after elected body’s tenure ended

The crisis began on August 26, 2023, when the tenure of the board chaired by AAP MLA Amanatullah Khan ended. Khan had led the board since November 2020, following earlier stints as chairperson.

Delhi.(Agency)

More than three years after the tenure of the elected Delhi Waqf Board ended in August 2023, the statutory body responsible for protecting and managing Waqf properties in the national capital remains without a duly constituted board. What was initially a temporary administrative arrangement has turned into a prolonged vacuum, marked by changing administrators, disruptions in day-to-day functioning and continuing legal battles. The recent intervention came in September 2026, when the Delhi High Court sought responses from the Centre and the Delhi government on a petition seeking the constitution of a fresh board. Justice Anish Dayal, in an order dated September 8, granted the authorities four weeks to file their replies. The matter is listed for further hearing on December 10. The petition argued that the continued absence of a board violates the statutory obligation to constitute one under the Waqf Act, as amended in 2025. The crisis began on August 26, 2023, when the tenure of the board chaired by AAP MLA Amanatullah Khan ended. Khan had led the board since November 2020, following earlier stints as chairperson. No new elected body was constituted after the expiry of its tenure. On January 10, 2024, the Delhi government appointed senior IAS officer Ashwani Kumar, then Principal Secretary



(Home), as administrator until the board was reconstituted. However, the arrangement continued without a new board being constituted. The absence of a functioning governing body also affected administrative operations. In July 2024, the HC dealt with a petition filed by the board’s employees’ association seeking the release of outstanding salaries and timely payment of wages. The dispute highlighted the difficulties confronting employees and other beneficiaries dependent on the institution. The situation became more complicated in January 2025, when then Lieutenant-Governor Vinai Kumar Saxena approved the appointment of Azimul Haque as chief executive officer in additional charge. The post had

reportedly remained vacant since November 28, 2024, with the delay affecting routine operations, including payments to imams and mutawallis, or custodians of Waqf properties. **Leadership crisis** Delhi HC seeks Centre, govt replies on fresh board Court grants four weeks to file replies; hearing Dec 10 AAP MLA Amanatullah Khan chaired the board until Aug ’23 Ashwani Kumar was appointed administrator on Jan 10, 2024 Employees sought outstanding salaries and timely payment Azimul Haque appointed CEO in additional charge in Jan 2025 Waqf land disputes involve Shahi Idgah, Bhure Shah Dargah Vacant CEO post reportedly affected payments to imams and mutawallis

Fire reported at Delhi's North Block housing Home, Finance ministries

- A fire broke out in an old plastic water tank on the roof of the North Block, but labourers managed to douse the flames. No casualties were reported in the immediate aftermath of the incident.

Delhi.(Agency)

A fire was reported at New Delhi’s North Block, which houses the Union Ministries of Home Affairs and Finance, after thick smoke was spotted rising from the iconic British-era administrative building. The situation was eventually brought under control. According to the police, renovation work was underway on the rooftop of the building, where



labourers were present.

A fire broke out in an old plastic water tank on the terrace, but the labourers managed to douse the flames. Six fire tenders were rushed to the spot after Delhi Fire Services received information about the smoke at 11.10 am, according to an official cited by news agency PTI.

Despite government measures, Delhi continues to grapple with deteriorating air quality

Government initiatives offer hope, but sustained action and accountability must take precedence over announcements to find a permanent solution, writes city team.

Delhi.(Agency)

For years, winters in the capital have been synonymous with air pollution. Despite multiple government measures, awareness campaigns, and court orders, citizens continue to grapple with deteriorating air quality as temperatures fall and atmospheric conditions trap pollutants close to the ground. This year, the situation is no different. As the winds cool down, the question looms again that Delhi, ironically one of the greenest capitals, is ready to tackle the problem. The query also assumes importance because the Supreme Court of India has recently allowed partial use of fireworks this festive season. **Multiple sources of the problem** Delhi’s winter pollution cannot be explained by a single source, said experts. While smoke from stubble burning is one of the major

causes, local emissions from vehicles, industries, construction activities, road dust and open waste burning also contribute to the problem. “Stubble burning in Punjab and Haryana can send smoke towards the capital, but vehicle exhaust, road dust, construction work, industrial emissions and waste burning also contribute to the problem,” said Alash Vashistha, environmentalist and NGT lawyer. A Noida-based environmental activist, Manoj Kumar, opined that weather conditions play an important role as well. “During October and November, lower wind speeds and changes in temperature can trap pollutants close to the ground, making the air more harmful to breathe. Firecrackers during festivals can add to the pollution load. The exact contribution of each source varies with the season and weather,” he said. Experts called for a

strategy that combines regional coordination with local enforcement, addressing both the pollutants entering from outside and those generated within the capital. Some even



asked if the odd-even mechanism for vehicles could be reintroduced to tackle the problem better. The question assumes significance since vehicles were the single largest contributor to Delhi’s PM2.5 pollution Saturday, accounting for 25%,

according to data generated by the Indian Institute of Tropical Meteorology’s (IITM) newly inaugurated Integrated Atmospheric Chemistry and Aerosol Toxicity Analysis Laboratory (AATAL). Secondary organic aerosols contributed 18.4%, followed by secondary inorganic aerosols (16.5%), road dust (10.9%) and waste burning (5%). The laboratory, which was inaugurated in New Rajendra Nagar by Union Minister of State Jitendra Singh, provides real-time source-apportionment data. The data generated over the past five days show that vehicles, secondary organic aerosols and secondary inorganic aerosols have consistently been the top contributors to Delhi’s PM2.5 levels. The data shows that on Friday, when AQI was in the poor category, secondary organic aerosols, which form when volatile organic compounds (VOCs) released by vehicles.

Flight trip from Delhi to Thailand turns awry for 98 people as cash worth nearly Rs 3 lakh stolen

Delhi.(Agency)

A company-organised trip to Thailand for 98 high-performing dealers ended in a theft, with nearly Rs 3 lakh in cash allegedly stolen from their checked-in bags during their onward and return journeys. The dealers, who are based in Rajasthan, have filed multiple e-FIRs at the Delhi airport police station. The thefts took place during the trip between October 9 and 12 but came to light only after the dealers returned home. Lakshya Sethi, a dealer from Kota who lost Rs 1.5 lakh, said the group flew to Thailand



on Thai Airways flight TG 32 on October 9. “After reaching Thailand, my friend Praveen found out that Rs 25,000 was stolen from the bag he had given for check-in. This really upset him. Our group returned to Delhi on October 12 by another Thai Airways flight TG 315. It was only reaching my house in Kota that I

realised my money was missing when I unpacked my bag.” Sethi then informed fellow travellers through their common WhatsApp group. “I received shocking feedback. I recall at least eight of them responding saying that they had lost money in the bags they had given for check-in. Each one had assumed they had missed it somewhere. We then understood that it was a planned theft which had taken place,” the dealer said. He added that the locks on the bags had been broken and replaced, while number locks had also been tampered with. The victims have individually filed e-FIRs. Sethi said, “This is a matter of serious concern. I have travelled to many countries with much higher amounts of cash in the check-in baggage. My money has never been stolen like this in the past. I am shaken by this incident.” On Sunday (October 25), Sethi posted on X seeking help from Delhi and Thailand airports to recover the stolen money. Responding to his complaint, Delhi airport said, “As per a recent directive of the Director General of the Bureau of Civil Aviation Security, passengers are requested to file an e-FIR with Delhi police in case of any theft or pilferage from the baggage.” The airport also shared a link to the website for filing an e-FIR.

Jamia announces union polls, but protesters flag ambiguity in order

The protest unfolded amid repeated restrictions, clashes, detentions and an unprecedented show of solidarity from students, former students and supporters beyond the campus.

Delhi.(Agency)

After 14 days of hunger strike, protests, detentions and mounting pressure from across university campuses, Jamia Millia Islamia on Monday finally announced that its students’ union elections would be held 15 days after the approval of the union’s constitution. The order, issued by the university’s Office of the Registrar on October 26, came just as the agitation was heading into its 15th day, following a night of marches, heightened security and growing concern over the health of students on hunger strike. What began with one student, Jasim Khan, a master’s student who went on hunger strike demanding the restoration of student union elections, gradually grew into a collective agitation involving five students, including a woman student. The protest unfolded amid repeated restrictions, clashes, detentions and an unprecedented show of solidarity from students, former students and supporters beyond the campus. The university, meanwhile, had shut parts of the campus, closed libraries and shifted classes online as tensions escalated. With police and Rapid Action Force personnel deployed in large numbers, the campus increasingly resembled a fortress, with

security personnel at several points appearing to outnumber the protesting students. The agitation took another turn when women students joined the protest in significant numbers, including amid concerns over restrictions and directions asking some hostel residents to vacate. On the 14th night, Jasim’s health



deteriorated, and he was taken to hospital, intensifying concerns among protesters. Sunday midnight, however, saw students continue their juloos marches at Gulistan-e-Ghalib. Protesters also alleged that food and water were being prevented from entering the campus. When Jasim returned from hospital at around 3.30 am, the administration’s decision was understood to have been conveyed to the protesting students as celebrations had begun on the campus.

'He has a habit of making such remarks': Athawale targets Kharge over 'Modi ka baap' remarks

New Delhi . (Agency).

Union Minister Ramdas Athawale on Monday criticised Congress president Mallikarjun Kharge for his remarks against Prime Minister Narendra Modi, describing them as inappropriate and unacceptable. Speaking to reporters in Nagpur, Athawale stated that Kharge heads a major political party that remained in power for 60 years and that it was not appropriate for the president of such a party to insult the Prime Minister. "Mallikarjun Kharge is the president of a major party—a party that remained in power for 60 years. It is not appropriate for the president of such a party to insult the Prime Minister. It seems that he has a habit of making such remarks, which is not right at all. Making such comments is completely unacceptable; it constitutes a grave insult to the Prime Minister...", he said. BJP MP Manoj Tiwari criticised Congress president Mallikarjun Kharge over his remarks concerning Prime Minister Narendra Modi's late father, calling them unacceptable, and accused Lok Sabha Leader of Opposition Rahul Gandhi of acting at the behest of foreign powers.

BJP launches 'Save Democracy, Remove Anarchy' campaign amid Opposition protests

New Delhi (Agency).

Amid ongoing Congress-led Opposition protests across the country, particularly in Delhi, the Bharatiya Janata Yuva Morcha (BJYM) on Sunday launched a nationwide youth outreach campaign, ‘Arajakta Hatao, Loktantra Bachao’ (Remove Anarchy, Save Democracy), which will continue until November 30. The campaign aims to engage young citizens in meaningful discussions on democracy, counter misinformation and encourage informed participation in nation-building. The BJP said the initiative would also seek to counter what it described as the Opposition's false narratives on the Special Intensive Revision (SIR) of electoral rolls and other issues.

To mark the launch, BJYM state units organised the ‘Mann Ki Baat Yuvaon ke Saath’ programme, inviting young professionals to listen to Prime Minister Narendra Modi's monthly radio broadcast, Mann Ki Baat, followed by discussions on national development and youth participation.

"These interactive sessions were held across more than 600 locations nationwide, with over 50,000 young professionals participating in the programme, across all the states and districts of the Nation. The session involved discussion on the role of professionals in achieving the vision of Viksit Bharat and discussion on the opportunities created by the Modi government across various fields was also held", the BJP said in a statement issued late on Sunday evening.

BJP To Launch Nationwide Protests Against Mallikarjun Kharge Over Remarks On PM Modi

New Delhi (Agency).

The Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) has announced nationwide protests on Monday against what it described as "insulting, indecent and offensive" remarks made by the Congress President Mallikarjun Kharge regarding Prime Minister Narendra Modi's late father. According to a statement from the party, the BJP will stage demonstrations at all its state headquarters across the country on Monday. The party said the protests are being organised in response to the remarks made by the Congress President in Patna, which it termed highly objectionable and an attack on the dignity of the Prime Minister's family. BJP leaders said the comments made by the Congress President crossed all limits of political discourse and amounted to a personal attack rather than a critique of governance or policy. They added that targeting the family members of political leaders, especially those who are no longer alive, reflects a new low in public debate. The BJP has directed its

Rahul Gandhi acquitted by UP court in 2018 Amit Shah defamation case

Rahul Gandhi was acquitted by a Sultanpur court in a 2018 defamation case over remarks about Amit Shah. The case, filed by BJP leader Vijay Mishra, saw several hearings, witness statements and legal challenges over a voice sample.

Sultanpur, Uttar Pradesh(Agency).

A special MP/MLA court in Uttar Pradesh's Sultanpur on Monday acquitted Congress leader Rahul Gandhi in a 2018 criminal defamation case over remarks against Union Home Minister Amit Shah, citing a lack of evidence. Gandhi appeared before the court for the pronouncement of the verdict. His supporters welcomed the decision and expressed happiness and gratitude. The case was filed by BJP leader Vijay Mishra, a resident of Hanumanganj under the Kotwali Dehat police station limits in Sultanpur and a former chairman of the Sultanpur District Cooperative Bank. Mishra filed the complaint on August 4, 2018, over remarks Gandhi made about Shah during a campaign rally in Bengaluru ahead of the 2018 Karnataka Assembly elections. **WHAT DID BOTH SIDES ARGUE?** During the final hearings, Gandhi's lawyer acknowledged that the Congress leader had



made the remarks but argued that they were made in good faith and without any intention to insult anyone. The defence also contended that the remarks had been distorted and presented out of context. The complainant's lawyer, meanwhile, urged the court to convict Gandhi, arguing that his admission to making the remarks was grounds for holding him guilty. After hearing arguments from both sides, the court reserved its decision. Special Magistrate Shubham Verma acquitted Gandhi on Monday, giving the Congress leader relief in the long-running case.

CASE PROCEEDED FOR 8 YEARS The case proceeded through several stages over the years. Gandhi surrendered before the court in February 2024 and was granted bail. His statement was recorded in July 2024, while the court also examined the complainant and other witnesses during the proceedings. Arguments in the case began on October 6, 2026, and concluded on October 12. The court had scheduled the verdict for October 26. Additional Civil Judge Shubham Verma had initially scheduled the verdict for October 13 before fixing October 26 as the date for its pronouncement. The case relates to remarks Rahul Gandhi made about then-BJP president Amit Shah at a campaign rally in Bengaluru during the 2018 Karnataka Assembly elections. BJP leader Vijay Mishra, a former chairman of the Sultanpur District Cooperative Bank, filed a defamation complaint against Gandhi on August 4, 2018. Gandhi surrendered before the court on February 20, 2024, and was granted bail. His statement was recorded on July 26, 2024, followed by the examination.

Indians don't indulge in vandalism, says Piyush Goyal as protests rock Europe

Addressing members of the Indian community in Berlin during his two-day visit to Germany, Goyal said Indians had earned respect overseas for their peaceful conduct and family-oriented lives.

New Delhi(Agency)

Union Commerce and Industry Minister Piyush Goyal praised the Indian diaspora as “peace-loving”, saying Indians are welcomed in host countries because they do not indulge in vandalism or disrupt public life. His remarks came against the backdrop of protests in France and other parts of Europe, some of which have turned violent. Addressing members of the Indian community in Berlin during his two-day visit to Germany, Goyal said Indians had earned respect overseas for their peaceful conduct and family-oriented lives. They know that the Indian people and the Indian community are peace-loving. They live with their families; they care for their families,” Goyal said. He added that Indians were welcomed in host



countries because they were known for being law-abiding citizens. “An important statistic is how well you are respected in this country. The good part is you are very wanted, very welcome here. They know you don't indulge in vandalism. They know you don't go on the streets and create a disturbance to society, like

we are seeing in other parts of Europe,” he said. Protests over rising living costs, wages and public services have continued in several European countries, including France and Italy. While many demonstrations have remained peaceful, some have escalated into clashes, looting and vandalism. **GOYAL URGES INDIAN DIASPORA TO SUPPORT STUDENTS** During his interaction with the Indian community in Berlin, Goyal also urged members of the established diaspora to support Indian students moving to Germany, particularly those from financially weaker backgrounds. He said support from fellow Indians could help newcomers adjust to an unfamiliar environment and navigate the challenges of studying and living abroad.

DK Shivakumar's Warning To Bengaluru IT Firms After 'No Jobs For Kannada Speakers' Video Goes Viral

New Delhi (Agency).

Karnataka Chief Minister DK Shivakumar on Sunday warned private companies that the state government would act against them if they were found to have deliberately kept Kannadigas out of jobs, declaring that "in Karnataka, the Kannadiga is sovereign". The remarks came a day after a video of a young woman alleging language-based discrimination in hiring by Bengaluru's IT companies went viral on social media. Shivakumar said in a post on X, "If it is found that any private institution has deliberately sidelined Kannadigas, the government will take appropriate action." He added, "In Karnataka, the Kannadiga is sovereign. The government will not allow the rights, dignity, and opportunities of Kannadigas to be disregarded for any reason." Referring to the city's global standing in the IT sector, Shivakumar said, "The world sees Bengaluru as India's technology capital, and we take immense pride in the talent, skills, and capabilities of our Kannadigas." He said the government, as "the voice of Kannadiga interests", remained committed to responding to their concerns. In the video, the woman alleged that candidates who listed Kannada as their mother tongue were eliminated at the interview stage, or even at the shortlisting stage. She claimed companies were instead giving preference to Telugu and Tamil speakers, recruiting young people from Tamil Nadu, Andhra Pradesh and Telangana at lower salaries. She also alleged, "Campus interviews are not being conducted in Bengaluru colleges," and urged the chief minister, "Please provide a solution to this problem." A prominent Kannada activist, Rupesh Rajanna, who shared the video on X, alleged that such practices had been going on for a long time.

"Change Party Name To Samajwadi Yadav Parivar": A Owaisi Jabs Akhilesh Yadav

Lucknow (Agency).

Ahead of the 2027 Uttar Pradesh Assembly elections, AIMIM chief Asaduddin Owaisi said the Samajwadi Party's name should be changed to 'Samajwadi Yadav Parivar', targeting party chief Akhilesh Yadav over the representation of Muslim leaders in constituencies such as Azamgarh and Firozabad. "Akhilesh Yadav, the name of your party should be changed from Samajwadi to Samajwadi Yadav Parivar," Owaisi said while addressing a rally in Uttar Pradesh's Kairana district on Sunday. "There was a time when a Muslim used to win from Azamgarh. Now



Akhilesh's brother has become MP from there. There was a time when a Muslim MP became MP from Firozabad. Now Akhilesh's family members became MP from there," he added. Further, Owaisi criticised Akhilesh Yadav

over the Muzaffarnagar riots, alleging that around 50,000 people were displaced from their homes during the violence when the Samajwadi Party was in power in Uttar Pradesh. "So tell me, the people of Muzaffarnagar and Kairana, isn't it true that when Akhilesh was the Chief Minister, right on this land, you, we, the world saw with our own eyes how the Muzaffarnagar riots happened. 50,000 people were driven out of their homes," he said. The AIMIM chief further alleged that girls were attacked and children were orphaned during the riots, while families who had lived in their villages for generations were left homeless

PM congratulates Brazil's Lula on election win, vows to deepen India-Brazil ties

New Delhi(Agency).

Prime Minister Narendra Modi congratulated Brazilian President Luiz Inacio Lula da Silva on winning an unprecedented fourth presidential term, after the 80-year-old leader defeated Senator Flavio Bolsonaro in a closely contested election that defied opinion polls. Calling Lula his “dear friend”, PM Modi said he looked forward to working with the Brazilian leader to deepen the India-Brazil Strategic Partnership. “I look forward to working closely with him to further deepen and expand the multifaceted India-Brazil Strategic

Partnership,” he added. PM Modi said the two countries would continue to strengthen cooperation across diverse sectors, advance the shared priorities of the



Global South and work towards a more inclusive, equitable and sustainable world. **LULA DEFEATS BOLSONARO IN A CLOSE**

CONTEST

Lula secured another term after defeating Flavio Bolsonaro, the eldest son of former Brazilian president Jair Bolsonaro, in Sunday's presidential runoff. The result marked a remarkable comeback for the veteran left-wing leader and went against a broader rightward shift in Latin American politics. Flvio Bolsonaro had finished ahead of Lula in the first round of voting and sought to revive his father's far-right political movement. However, Lula's better-than-expected performance in the runoff helped him secure victory despite concerns over rising prices, corruption scandals and dissatisfaction.

In a message posted on social media platform X, PM Modi described Lula as his "dear friend" and congratulated him on what he called a "remarkable re-election victory."

Kicking the butt alone won't do it

Two recent media reports highlighted the dangers posed by novel nicotine delivery devices like vapes and liquid nicotine pouches. Last month, the Bombay High Court ruled that duty-free shops operating at the international departure or arrival areas of Indian airports cannot sell imported nicotine pouches which are banned under the Indian law. The court said that duty-free shops are not exempt from domestic health regulations even if they are freed from the taxes levied in the domestic markets of India. Those who mounted a legal challenge to the government regulation sold imported nicotine pouch brands without holding the required import licences. The court rejected the petitioners’ plea that duty-free shops operate beyond the Indian customs barriers and, hence, not governed by Indian laws. That was a strange argument, in any case. If a traveller assaults an employee of the duty-free shop or even another shopper, would the Indian laws not apply?

The Indian government has banned the sale of electronic cigarettes, liquid nicotine vaporisers (vapes) and nicotine pouches for good reason. Nicotine is a highly addictive chemical, with several harmful health effects. It is considered to be as addictive as heroin and cocaine, by the World Health Organization (WHO), the American Psychiatric Association and the US surgeon general. On entering the blood stream via the lungs (vaping) or sub-lingual absorption, nicotine quickly activates brain receptors which trigger pleasure and reinforcement responses. The addictive effect is even stronger in the developing brains of children and adolescents, where even brief experimentation can entrap them in a deadly habit. A nicotine pouch mainly contains nicotine, water, flavourings, sweeteners and plant-based fibres. As they come in various dosages, some have more nicotine than others. While the intent of the original developers of these products were to aid tobacco cessation, tobacco industry majors have acquired most of these companies. They wish to profit from a diversity of smoked and non-smoked nicotine-containing products to benefit from the addictions of smokers as well as non-smokers. Indeed, the tobacco industry is as adept at coming up with variations in its products as the Covid-19 virus was in creating new variants. Earlier versions of modified cigarettes were presented as ‘low tar, low nicotine’ cigarettes and sold as ‘Milds’. Studies showed that the health effects continued to be as bad because smokers addicted to nicotine simply smoked more of them.

While the global public health community was united in their battle against smoking of tobacco leaf products, it became divided in the case of novel nicotine delivery products. A section argued that since there was no combustion and harmful particulate matter (PM 2.5), nitrosamines and carbon monoxide did not enter the body through smoked tobacco products, the nicotine delivery devices did not pose the risk of cancer or cardiovascular disease. They argued that as nicotine satisfied the smoker’s craving without the harmful chemical add-ons from tobacco leaf, nicotine delivery devices should be regarded as ‘harm reduction’ products that would promote smoking cessation. Public health agencies in the UK, Australia, New Zealand and some other countries accepted that argument. Recently, these countries have woken up to the dangers of youth addiction to vaping and the alluring marketing tactics of the marketing industry. These governments are now attempting to regulate against the addition of flavouring agents and sale to minors.

Editorial

The politics of fire and fury

The Great Game: The art of the repartee has more or less disappeared. The time for fun and games is shrinking

BY the time RSS chief Mohan Bhagwat delivered his annual Vijayadashami speech earlier this week in Nagpur, underlining the organisation’s support for PM Modi and the BJP by ruling out “regime change”, arsonists had touched off bookstalls wielding Left literature in Bengal, customarily set up around Durga Puja pandals. The book vandalism, no doubt, reminded you of Ray Bradbury’s famous 1953 novel, Fahrenheit 451, subtitled, ‘the temperature at which book-paper catches fire and burns’ — a novel written at the height of the McCarthy era in the US, which harked back to the book burnings in Nazi Germany as well as the repression of the Soviet Gulag, when anti-national reading, writing and thinking invited severe punishment. Of course the Bengali comparison is overdrawn. In any case, the state Finance Minister, Swapan Dasgupta — who no doubt has read a book or two more than Chief Minister Suvenudhikari, who seems to delight in his own anti-intellectualism — has sort of redeemed his government by saying that he hangs his head in shame at the manner in which lumpen elements and goons have trashed Leftist bookstalls during the just-concluded Durga Puja festivities. (Do read too, Dear Reader, the eminent journalist Shikha Mukerjee’s article on this very subject in The Tribune’s pages earlier this week, for a deeper understanding of the matter.) Dasgupta had the courage to speak up this week because he understands that the idea of Bengal is larger than Suvenudhikari — just like Jyoti Basu, the larger-than-life former CPI(M) leader and chief minister who spoke out against his own party back in 1996, when he described its refusal to let him become Prime Minister as a “historic blunder”. The point here is that both gentlemen, belonging to starkly different ideologies, one to the Left and the other to the Right, are/were clearly able to accept disparate ideas in the same crucible. It is the essence of democracy. Dasgupta stood up for the right of the opposing idea to oppose. Many in the Left are unable to shout “lal salaam” and imbibe the sonorous recitation of the Mahalaya in the same breath. But the good comrade, Jyoti Babu, understood that even if religion was the opium of the masses, there was always the exception to the rule — the celebration of the goddess Durga. And the goddess Kali. And the goddess Saraswati. That’s why the misquoted cliché, misattributed to Gopal Krishna Gokhale, for a long while held true : What Bengal thinks today, the rest of India thinks tomorrow. (Gokhale did not say this in 1905.) Still, the problem is not with Bengal or Bengalis, notwithstanding Suvenudhikari, but that the idea of being different in India today, of swimming against the tide, is slowly fading. To be sure, this has been happening for some time. The art of the repartee, of skewering your opponent with a knife tipped with satire, not rage, has more or less disappeared. Politics is much more angry these days. Perhaps everyone has much more to be angry



about. That’s why the Delhi street protests — when the police have allowed them to be held, that is — at least in parts, have been a refreshing change. The “ek kachori, do samosa” sloganeering works because the girls of Miranda House are spoofing Delhi Police : where are you, when we most need you? Or when Neha Bora demands that the cops, who have just detained her and her compatriots, should give them all a cup of tea? The students have understood the age-old dictum : When your opponent is far stronger than you, make fun of him. Still, something is already shifting in Delhi. The mood is getting tougher. It’s clear the government is employing a two-pronged approach — first, shut down all popular dissent, both street protests as well as its manifestations, including photographs from an exhibition showcasing the protests. The time for fun and games is shrinking. Second, target the main Opposition party. No matter the Congress has shrivelled up in most parts of the country, PM Modi fully recognises it as the only political group that still has the capacity to reinvent itself. It was hardly a coincidence that Modi’s comments at the NDTV World Summit on Thursday spoke of the expanding influence of “dimagi Naxals” or “intellectual Naxals” on the Congress. It is hardly a coincidence the BJP is targeting Rahul Gandhi’s alleged holiday abroad at this time — he is believed to be in Vietnam — asking, who he’s meeting there. It’s quite another matter that Rahul Gandhi has walked right into the tiger’s lair by even bothering to allegedly holiday

abroad at a time like this — thereby putting into question the entire Opposition’s gambit. (Or if he isn’t, no one in the Congress is confirming or denying.) The balloon is already deflating. Both the government and the Opposition recognise that political parties like the Congress, and coalitions like the INDIA bloc — not ragtag outfits who take heart from being “cockroaches” and at best can play the role of a spirited distraction — must lead the charge. That’s why Mohan Bhagwat’s comment ruling out “regime change” in his Vijayadashami address is so important. For a start, his line this time was much tougher compared to when he spoke to GenZ and GenAlpha students in August, admitting the “time for obedience” was over. Second, with elections in key states like Uttar Pradesh and Punjab round the corner, Bhagwat knows there can be no sunlight between the BJP and the RSS. Time, then, to return to both Bengal and Ray Bradbury — what does it mean when Suvenudhikari is not chastised by his party for stoking the idea of book vandalism? As for Bradbury, horrified by the “book burnings of Nazi Germany”, who told an interviewer he wrote Fahrenheit 451 because he was worried at the way things were going in 1950s America, where “too many people were afraid of their own shadows”. Perhaps, when all is said and done, the only question that remains is whether this is really the temperature at which paper burns. Or if you need a brand-new idea to coax the fire into lighting up again

Indian not alone in facing market rout as outlook gets knottier

As markets grapple with West Asian supply disruptions and other trade uncertainties, the AI-heavy markets that thrived on liquidity are cracking under tighter financial conditions that are worsening the already-complicated outlook

The Indian stock market seems to be at sea at the moment. The benchmark indices crashed through the week, with the Sensex logging its longest weekly losing streak in 25 years and the Nifty50 marking its third-longest technical correction in October. Rising inflation, crude oil surging past \$114 a barrel, persistent foreign capital outflows, hardening global bond yields, a strengthening US dollar and a higher interest rate trajectory are fuelling the intense market selloff. So far in 2026, the Sensex and the Nifty have lost about 15 percent and 14 percent, respectively, making it one of the worst-performing major equity markets this year despite India’s resilient economic fundamentals. Renewed price pressures, thinning corporate margins and muted festive demand are expected to further boost risk-averse sentiments in the coming weeks. The consoling news is that India isn’t alone in this gloom and global markets, including all Asian economies, are suffering a similar fate. China just entered a technical bear market after falling 20 percent from its June peak, marking 10 consecutive weeks of



losses as concerns over technology valuations, domestic consumption slowdown and lack of government support are triggering a correction. Chinese stocks lost a staggering \$2.4 trillion in market value with the sell-off spreading to Hong Kong-listed Chinese equities and other Asian markets. Indonesia, too, witnessed its worst

two-day crash since the 1998 Asian financial crisis, with global index provider MSCI considering downgrading it to a ‘standalone’ status from ‘emerging market’ and causing a bloodbath that wiped out \$65 billion in one session. Then there’s South Korea’s benchmark Kospi, which suffered a historic crash of 40 percent from its June peak early this month. As market heavyweights Samsung Electronics and SK Hynix remain vulnerable, the Kospi is experiencing frequent trading halts. It seems trouble is coming from all directions at once. As markets grapple with West Asian supply disruptions and other trade uncertainties, the AI-heavy markets that thrived on liquidity are cracking under tighter financial conditions that are worsening the already-complicated outlook. The only respite this week was the rupee, which corrected to about 94.50 from record lows of near 97 against the US dollar. The Indian currency is holding up well, thanks to heavy RBI intervention; but it too would face the music if the dollars deplete faster than expected.

India—US defence ties: The strategic anchor the bilateral relationship needs

The strategic case for closer cooperation extends naturally into the Indian Ocean.

Defence cooperation between two countries is rarely confined to the military domain. It builds habits of consultation, institutional familiarity and mutual trust that can influence the entire spectrum of bilateral relations. This becomes particularly important during periods of geopolitical uncertainty, when crises test the resilience of partnerships and trust becomes a strategic asset. For India and the United States, a deeper defence relationship could therefore do more than strengthen their respective military capabilities. It could provide a firmer foundation for their broader strategic partnership, including economic cooperation and trade. The relationship between New Delhi and Washington has made considerable progress over the past two decades. Yet, despite growing convergence on the Indo-Pacific and regional security, bilateral cooperation has not always advanced evenly across different domains. Trade negotiations, for instance, have at times proved difficult, with differences over market access, tariffs and domestic economic priorities complicating efforts to reach mutually satisfactory outcomes. It is difficult to establish whether a stronger defence relationship would, by itself, have resolved these differences. But it is reasonable to argue that deeper strategic trust and a greater convergence of interests could create a more favourable environment for addressing them. Defence cooperation should not be expected to substitute for commercial negotiations; it can, however, strengthen the wider relationship within which such negotiations take place. This is why India and the United States should view defence cooperation not merely as one component of their bilateral agenda, but as a potential strategic anchor for the relationship as a whole. Defence partnerships involve sustained engagement between governments, military establishments, research institutions and industrial enterprises. They require long-term planning, dependable commitments and a degree of

confidence in the intentions and reliability of the partner. Over time, these interactions can build relationships that endure beyond individual political disagreements or differences on particular issues. When a crisis emerges, such institutional connections can facilitate communication, improve mutual understanding and help prevent tactical differences from escalating into broader strategic misunderstandings. The task, therefore, is not simply to increase defence purchases but to develop a more ambitious and durable framework of cooperation. For India, strategic autonomy must mean the capacity to design, manufacture, maintain and upgrade critical defence systems, rather than simply diversifying its sources of supply. For the United States, a technologically stronger India offers a more capable partner in the Indo-Pacific, a potential contributor to resilient defence supply chains and an opportunity to deepen cooperation with a major democratic power. These interests are complementary, provided both sides are willing to move beyond a transactional approach. The changing character of warfare makes this imperative more urgent. Artificial intelligence, autonomous platforms, robotics, advanced sensors, electronic warfare and counter-drone technologies are transforming military operations. Recent conflicts have demonstrated how relatively inexpensive unmanned systems can impose significant costs on sophisticated military platforms, while the integration of software, surveillance and precision capabilities can change the balance on the battlefield. India and the United States should identify priority areas in which joint research, development and production can generate tangible results. Counter-drone and anti-swarm systems, unmanned technologies, artificial intelligence applications and selected aerospace capabilities offer promising avenues for collaboration. Such cooperation must also address the difficult questions

of technology transfer and intellectual property. India cannot build lasting technological strength if its participation remains confined to assembling systems designed and developed elsewhere. Equally, American concerns over sensitive technologies and security safeguards cannot simply be disregarded. The two countries need clearer, more predictable arrangements governing co-development, production, intellectual



property ownership and access to international supply chains. The objective should be to identify technologies that can be shared, establish workable safeguards and create partnerships in which both countries have meaningful industrial and strategic stakes. India’s expanding private-sector defence industry has an important role to play in this process. Initiatives such as Innovations for Defence Excellence (iDEX) and the India—US Defence Acceleration Ecosystem (INDUS-X) provide a foundation for connecting start-ups, established manufacturers, universities and defence research

institutions. The next step should be to translate these connections into sustained programmes of joint research, commercial production and technological innovation. American defence companies should see India not only as a market for their platforms but also as a partner in manufacturing and development. Indian enterprises, in turn, should have opportunities to become increasingly sophisticated contributors to global defence supply chains. The strategic case for closer cooperation extends naturally into the Indian Ocean. Maritime security, the protection of critical infrastructure and the uninterrupted movement of trade and energy are central to the interests of both countries. Disruptions around the Red Sea and Bab-al-Mandeb illustrate how insecurity at strategic chokepoints can affect global commerce far beyond the immediate conflict zone. Cooperation in maritime domain awareness, information-sharing, surveillance, undersea infrastructure protection and regional capacity-building can translate shared concerns into practical action. Stronger industrial and technological collaboration would reinforce this effort by improving the capabilities available to both partners. None of this implies that defence ties can eliminate disagreements over trade, tariffs or other sensitive issues. India and the United States will continue to have distinct domestic priorities, and a mature partnership must accommodate differences rather than assume they will disappear. Nor should defence cooperation become contingent on the resolution of every other bilateral issue. Its value lies precisely in creating a durable foundation that can withstand disagreements elsewhere and sustain engagement when political or economic circumstances become difficult. The larger lesson is that strategic partnerships acquire depth when cooperation generates mutual confidence, shared capabilities and enduring institutional connections.

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দিও় পৰৱৰ্ত্ত অনুষ্ঠান: গগা ফাল্ল নদীতে ব্যাপক উপস্থিতি শ্রাবী

গগা, বর্ষিঃ: আজ পড়ি পর ২০২৬-এর দ্বিতীয় দিনে গগার পবিত্র ফাল্ল নদীর তীরে শুকি ও ব্রহ্মশিৱে এক গজের প্রদর্শনী অনুষ্ঠিত হয়। প্রায় ৬০,০০০ এরও বেশি শুকু পি দান ও ব্রহ্ম অনুষ্ঠানে অংশ নতি এখানে জড়্য হন। মন্ত্রপাঠেরে ছন্দ, ধূপারে সুবাস এবং পুর্ণাংশীদরে স্নানপ্রার্থীরা প্রাথমিক অঞ্চে পুরো পরিবেশে মুগ্ধরতি ছিলি।

আবগ্ৰেহন পরবিধে পুরাতো তাদের মাটার জন্ম প্রতিপন করলনে, কন্যারা যৌগদে যৌগদে তাদের পতিমাটার প্রতি বন্দিয় জানালনে, আর এক শশ্টি তার প্রচাত মাযারে ব্রহ্ম অর্পণ করে উপস্থিতি প্রবাহ মনকে সম্বন্ধ করে দখিছে। এই অনুষ্ঠান, যা শুদি ব্রহ্মশিৱে গজের অংশ, জীবতি ও প্রচাতরে মধ্যে পবিত্র প্রস্তুতকরে প্রতীক, যা প্রজন্মারে আত্মার শাস্তি ও মুক্তির আশ্রায় দখে বলে বশিষ্ঠ করা হয়।

দীঘ শ্রিত্রি ও দাশক তাপ প্রবাহও শুকুরা তাদের আত্ম নষ্ঠিা প্রদর্শন করলনে। বশিষ্টেজায়ে ত্রিভিতি পশিষ্টে জল, তলি ও পতিপণ করে নদীতে পবিত্র স্নান করলনে।

পুরাতোহিতরে ভাবগাম্ভীৰ্যপূর্ণ ন্ষিমে প্রসম্ম অনুষ্ঠান পরচালনা করে পূজামপরে আধ্যাত্মিক পরিবেশে আরও দৃষ্টি করলনে। গগা, যা গড়ন-শ্বধ-এর ভূমি শ্ষিৱে পরচিতি, পড়ি পরৱে প্রমশঃ বশিষ্টে তাৎপর্য ধারণ করাে।

এ প্রমশ দশরে কোণাকূর্ণি থকে এবং বন্দিষ্টে থকেও রাজারো পূর্ণাংশী এখানে আসে। সম্ভান্তীয় রুপরে জাতখিছে, এই বছরারে উপস্থিতি প্রচাত্যার আতকে ওপরে গথিছে, যা প্রাগৈত ব্রহ্মশিৱে প্রতি আট্টে শ্রদ্ধার পরচিযক। একজন শুকু বলনে, “এই রীতিনীতি শ্বধুপ্রাপ্ত একটি ব্রহ্মশি নয, এটি পড়িপূরুষারে প্রতি ক্র তক্ততা প্রকাশ এবং আশ্রায়ের পবিত্র রুপদ্য পালনেই প্রাথম।” শ্রদ্ধার্থার দক্ষি থথাত আকাশ যীরে যীরে অন্ধকারাশ্রতি শেখ লাগল, ফাল্লর পাড্য প্রদীপরে আলো নদীতে ভাগ্নে লাগল, যা চরিত্রনৈ ভ্রাত্রি প্রতীক শ্ষিৱে বদলন করছিলি।

दिवाली से ठीक पहले सोना में तेज गिरावट

नई दिल्ली, एजेंसी। दिवाली से ठीक पहले सोने की कीमतों में तेज गिरावट देखी गई है। इससे खरीदारों और निवेशकों के लिए एक अहम सिगнал खड़ा हो गया है। क्या यह गिरावट कीमती धातु को जमा करने या खरीदने का मौका है या कीमतें स्थिर होने से पहले और गिर सकती हैं इस हफ्ते सोने की अंतरराष्ट्रीय कीमतों में लगभग 4 प्रतिशत की गिरावट आई। यह चार महीनों से अधिक समय में उसका सबसे कमजोर साप्ताहिक प्रदर्शन है। कच्चे तेल की बढ़ती कीमतों, नए सिरे से महंगाई की चिंताओं और संख्य अमेरिकी मौद्रिक नीति की आशंकाओं के कारण सोना 4,000 डॉलर प्रति औंस तक फिसल गया।

इस गिरावट का असर घरेलू बाजारों पर भी पड़ा है। हफ्ते के दौरान एमसीएक्स सोने के वायदा भाव लगभग 4 प्रतिशत लुढ़क गए। यह 1,41,334 रुपये के इंट्रा-दीक लो को छूने के बाद 1,42,024 रुपये प्रति 10 ग्राम के करीब बंद हुआ। शुक्रवार को वायदा सोना 0.92 प्रतिशत या 1,315 रुपये गिरकर लगभग

1,41,994 रुपये प्रति 10 ग्राम पर बंद हुआ।

क्यों गिर रही हैं सोने की कीमतें तेल की बढ़ती कीमतें सोने के लिए बड़ी बाधा बनकर उभरी हैं। सऊदी अरब के ऑयल इंफ्रास्ट्रक्चर पर हूती



विद्रोहियों के हमलों के बाद एनर्जी संवर्धन में व्यवधान की चिंताओं के बीच ब्रेंट क्रूड 112 डॉलर प्रति बैरल से ऊपर चढ़ गया। कच्चे तेल की ऊंची कीमतें महंगाई को बढ़ावा दे सकती हैं। इससे संभावित रूप से केंद्रीय बैंक ब्याज दरों को लंबे समय तक ऊंचा रखने के लिए प्रेरित हो सकते हैं।

ऊंची ब्याज दरें और ट्रेजरी यील्ड आम तौर पर सोने की अपील को कम कर देती हैं। कारण है कि धातु इंटरेस्ट इनकम जेनरेट नहीं करती है। अपेक्षाकृत मजबूत अमेरिकी डॉलर ने दबाव बढ़ा दिया है।

अलग-अलग एसेट क्लास में बिकवाली ने भी गिरावट में योगदान दिया है। आर्टिफिशियल इंटेलिजेंस (एआई) से संबंधित शेयरों से जुड़े इक्विटी बाजार में करेक्शन ने निवेशकों को मार्जिन कॉल को पूरा करने के लिए लिक्विड होल्डिंग्स बेचने के लिए प्रोत्साहित किया। इससे कीमती धातुओं पर दबाव बढ़ गया।

आग की घटना पर थिंक गैस का स्पटीकरण

भोपाल। भोपाल के भानपुर ब्रिज के पास 24 अक्टूबर को थिंक गैस की गैस पाइपलाइन के निकट आग लगने की घटना से संबंधित मीडिया रिपोर्टों के संदर्भ में कंपनी की ओर से निम्नलिखित स्पष्टीकरण दिया जा रहा है। घटना की सूचना मिलते ही थिंक गैस की इमरजेंसी रिसपॉन्स टीम तत्काल मौके पर पहुंची और जनसुरक्षा सुनिश्चित करने तथा स्थिति को और गंभीर होने से रोकने के लिए गैस आपूर्ति को तत्काल बंद करने सहित आवश्यक एहतियाती कदम उठाए। इसके बाद टीम ने आवश्यक सुधार एवं संरम्मत कार्य शुरू किया और चरणबद्ध तरीके से गैस आपूर्ति बहाल की। प्रारंभिक जानकारी के अनुसार, गैस पाइपलाइन के आसपास अज्ञात व्यक्तियों द्वारा कचरा या मलबा जलाए जाने के कारण आग लगने की आशंका है। घटनास्थल पर बैरिकेडिंग भी की गई थी। हालांकि, घटना के सटीक कारणों और परिस्थितियों का पता लगाया जा रहा है। इस मामले की जांच सुनिश्चित करने और घटना के लिए जिम्मेदार लोगों की पहचान करने के उद्देश्य से थिंक गैस अज्ञात व्यक्तियों के खिलाफ पुलिस में शिकायत दर्ज करा रही है। थिंक गैस का भोपाल जिले में व्यापक सिटी गैस डिस्ट्रीब्यूशन नेटवर्क है। भूमिगत गैस पाइपलाइनों की सुरक्षा के लिए नेटवर्क पर रूट मार्कर, संवाधनी संबंधी चेतावनी बोर्ड और आपातकालीन संपर्क नंबर प्रदर्शित करने वाले बोर्ड लगाए गए हैं। कंपनी निर्धारित सुरक्षा मानकों और आपातकालीन प्रतिक्रिया प्रक्रियाओं का पालन करती है। आमजन की सुरक्षा और गैस वितरण नेटवर्क की संरक्षा कंपनी की सर्वोच्च प्राथमिकताएं हैं। हाल ही में भोपाल के जिला कलेक्टर ने विभिन्न यूटिलिटी एजेंसियों, जिनमें सड़क चौड़ीकरण का कार्य करने वाले ठेकेदार भी शामिल हैं, के साथ बैठक कर गैस पाइपलाइनों के आसपास काम करते समय निर्धारित सुरक्षा प्रोटोकॉल का सख्ती से पालन करने की सलाह दी थी।

नेटवेब टेक्नोलॉजी ने जारी कर दिया क्यूडब्ल्यू रिजल्ट, 60 प्रतिशत बढ़ा नेट प्रॉफिट

नईदिल्ली, एजेंसी। एआई कंपनी नेटवेब टेक्नोलॉजी ने तिमाही नतीजों का ऐलान कर दिया है। कंपनी की तरफ से कल शनिवार को तिमाही नतीजों की जानकारी दी गई है। तिमाही दर तिमाही के आधार पर कंपनी के नेट प्रॉफिट में 60 प्रतिशत का इजाफा हुआ है। वहीं, रेवन्यू में 61 प्रतिशत की बढ़ोतरी देखने को मिली है। एआई कंपनी ने दी जानकारी में कहा है कि दूसरी तिमाही के दौरान कुल रेवन्यू 1323 करोड़ रुपये रहा है। पहली तिमाही में कंपनी का रेवन्यू 819 करोड़ रुपये रहा था। नेट प्रॉफिट कंपनी का 60.60 प्रतिशत बढ़ा है। यह पहली तिमाही के दौरान 127 करोड़ रुपये रहा है। पहले क्वार्टर में यह 85.30 करोड़ रुपये रहा था। बता दें, कंपनी का पहली तिमाही के दौरान 119.80 करोड़ रुपये रहा था। जोकि इस बार 197 करोड़ रुपये के स्तर पर पहुंच गया है।

इस कंपनी के पास 30 सितंबर 2026 तक कुल 2629 करोड़ रुपये का ऑर्डर बुक था। कंपनी ने बताया है कि 11151.80 करोड़ रुपये का काम पाइपलाइन में है। इसपर बातचीत चल रही है।

कंपनी ने दी जानकारी में कहा है कि दूसरी तिमाही में एआई सिस्टम का योगदान 1283.60 करोड़ रुपये रहा है। जोकि ऑपरेटिंग रेवन्यू का 59.90 प्रतिशत है। बता दें, पहली छमाही के



तिमाही में यह आंकड़ा 205.80 करोड़ रुपये रहा था। शुक्रवार को बाजार के बंद होने के समय पर बीएसई में यह स्टॉक 5.57 प्रतिशत की गिरावट के बाद 4335.85 रुपये के स्तर पर बंद हुआ था। पिछले एक महीने के दौरान कंपनी के शेयरों की कीमतों में 8 प्रतिशत की गिरावट देखने को मिली है। हालांकि, इसके बाद भी 2026 में एआई कंपनी के शेयरों का दाम 41 प्रतिशत बढ़ा है। एक साल में इस स्टॉक की कीमतों में 15 प्रतिशत की तेजी दर्ज की गई है। बता दें, दो साल में कंपनी ने पोजीशनल निवेशकों को 64 प्रतिशत का रिटर्न दिया है। तीन साल से शेयरों को होल्ड करने वाले निवेशकों को 416 प्रतिशत का रिटर्न इस कंपनी ने दिया है।

ओप्पो इंडिया ने नई ओप्पो फाईंड एक्स10 सीरीज के साथ

प्रीमियम फ्लैगशिप स्मार्टफोन्स का स्तर और ऊंचा किया

नई दिल्ली, एजेंसी। ओप्पो इंडिया ने अपनी नई ओप्पो फाईंड एक्स10 सीरीज लॉन्च की है, जिसमें ओप्पो फाईंड एक्स10 और ओप्पो फाईंड एक्स10 प्रो मैक्स शामिल हैं। इसके साथ ही ओप्पो की इनोवेटिव और प्रीमियम फ्लैगशिप फाईंड एक्स सीरीज की 10वीं पीढ़ी की शुरुआत हो गई है। प्रीमियम स्मार्टफोन अनुभव का एक नया पैमाना तय करने के लिए तैयार की गई फाईंड एक्स10 सीरीज में शानदार टर्न्-टू-लाइफ़ इमेजिंग, बेमिसाल परफॉर्मंस, जबरदस्त बैटरी बैकअप और आकर्षक रिफाईंड डिजाइन का मेल है। इसके साथ ही, नया कलरओएस 17 यूजर्स को एक बेहतरीन और स्मूथ सॉफ्टवेयर अनुभव प्रदान करता है। ओप्पो ने अपने प्लैगशिप कनेक्टेड इकोसिस्टम का विस्तार करते हुए ओप्पो एनको एक्स4 और ओप्पो पैड मिनी भी पेश किए हैं, ताकि यूजर्स बिना किसी रुकावट के एक ही फ्लो में तस्वीरें ले सकें, कंटेंट बना सकें और शेयर कर सकें। कुल मिलाकर, यह पूरा फ्लैगशिप पोर्टफोलियो रोजमर्रा के अनुभव को और बेहतर बनाता है, जिससे हर एक शॉट, एडिट और शेयर बिल्कुल वास्तविक और उस पल के करीब महसूस होता है।

ओप्पो फाईंड एक्स 10 सीरीज में ऐसा कैमरा सिस्टम दिया गया है, जिसे वास्तविक जीवन में दिखाई देने वाले दृश्यों के और करीब तस्वीरें लेने के लिए तैयार किया गया है। फाईंड एक्स 10 में डुअल



200 एमपी कैमरा सिस्टम दिया गया है, जबकि ओप्पो फाईंड एक्स 10 प्रो मैक्स में क्रांतिकारी ट्रिपल 200 एमपी कैमरा सिस्टम पेश किया गया है। इसमें पीछे दिए गए तीनों कैमरों में 200 एमपी का रिजॉल्यूशन मिलता है। हैबलब्लैड के साथ मिलकर विकसित किए गए इस कैमरा सिस्टम में नया ल्यूमो टर्न् इमेज इंजन और दूसरी पीढ़ी का टर्न् कलर कैमरा दिया गया है, जो तस्वीरों में प्राकृतिक रंग, टोन और बारिकियों को बेहतर तरीके से पेश करता है। वहीं, ल्यूमो कलर पैलेट की मदद से यूजर्स इन प्राकृतिक रंगों के आधार पर अपनी पसंद की अलग स्टाइल तैयार कर सकते हैं। वीडियो रिकॉर्डिंग के लिए भी इसमें सिनेमाई स्टार के फीचर्स दिए गए हैं। इनमें 4 के सिने-ग्रेड एचडीआर वीडियो, डॉलबी विजन और

ओपन गेट कैप्चर शामिल हैं। नया कलरओएस 17 एआई माईंड पायलट के साथ आता है, जिसमें एजेंट मोड दिया गया है। यह डिवाइस में मौजूद फोटो और फाईलों के साथ काम करके चर्चणीय वाले कार्यों को पूरा कर सकता है।इस सीरीज में 8000 एमएएच तक की बैटरी दी गई है। वहीं, ओप्पो फाईंड एक्स 10 प्रो मैक्स में 2 एनएम तकनीक पर आधारित मीडियाटेक डाइमेंसिटी 9600 प्रो प्रोसेसर दिया गया है। इसके अलावा, सीरीज में नया बॉर्डरलेस डिजाइन भी पेश किया गया है। ओप्पो फाईंड एक्स 10 सीरीज के साथ ओप्पो पैड मिनी भी पेश किया गया है। यह कंपनी का पहला कॉम्पैक्ट 8.8 इंच का टैबलेट है, जिसमें छोटे और आसानी से साथ ले जाने योग्य डिजाइन के साथ फ्लैगशिप स्तर की परफॉर्मंस और एआई आधारित प्रोडक्टिविटी फीचर्स दिए गए हैं। इसके अलावा, ओप्पो एनको एक्स 4 भी पेश किया गया है, जिसे डाइनऑडियो के साथ मिलकर विकसित किया गया है। इसमें शानदार साउंड क्वालिटी के साथ प्रीमियम ऑडियो अनुभव मिलता है। ये दोनों डिवाइस स्मार्टफोन से आगे ओप्पो के फ्लैगशिप अनुभव का विस्तार करते हैं। इनकी मदद से यूजर्स रोजमर्रा के कामों में बेहतर कनेक्टिविटी, उत्पादकता, रचनात्मकता और मनोरंजन का सहज अनुभव प्राप्त कर सकते हैं। लॉन्च के मौके पर ओप्पो इंडिया की कन्सुनिकेशंस प्रमुख गोल्डी पटनायक ने कहा, पिछली

10 पीढ़ियों से ओप्पो फाईंड एक्स सीरीज स्मार्टफोन इनोवेशन की सीमाओं को आगे बढ़ाती रही है। ओप्पो फाईंड एक्स 10 सीरीज के साथ हम उन समस्याओं को दूर करने की कोशिश कर रहे हैं, जिनका सामना कनेटेड क्रिएटर्स को सबसे ज्यादा करना पड़ता है। इनमें आंखों से दिखाई देने वाले दृश्य और तस्वीरों के बीच अंतर, रेशनी बदलने के साथ तस्वीरों के परिणाम में बदलाव और ऐसे एआई फीचर्स शामिल हैं, जो काम आसान करने के बजाय प्रक्रिया को और लंबा बना देते हैं। पैड मिनी के जरिए ओप्पो एक नया डिवाइस फॉर्म फैक्टर पेश कर रहा है, जो कॉम्पैक्ट होने के साथ कंटेंट क्रिएटर्स के लिए भी उपयोगी है। वहीं, एनको एक्स 4 के साथ कंपनी ने अपने कनेक्टेड इकोसिस्टम को पूरा किया है, जिससे यूजर्स एक ही सहज प्रक्रिया में कंटेंट कैप्चर कर सकते हैं, उसे तैयार कर सकते हैं और शेयर कर सकते हैं। हैसलब्लैड के साथ मिलकर विकसित की गई ओप्पो फाईंड एक्स 10 सीरीज में हाई-रिजॉल्यूशन कैमरा हार्डवेयर और ओप्पो की नवीनतम क्यूट्यूशनल फोटोग्राफी तकनीक का संयोजन किया गया है। एल्यूएमओ टर्न् इमेज इंजन को प्राकृतिक रंगों, रंगों की गहराई और बारीक विवरणों को बरकरार रखने के लिए तैयार किया गया है। इससे तस्वीरें ज़रूरत से ज्यादा प्रोसेस की हुई दिखने के बजाय वास्तविक दृश्य के अधिक करीब नजर आती हैं।



से जान सकें। इससे उत्पाद नवाचार और उसके फायदों को उपभोक्ताओं तक पहुंचाना और अधिक प्रासंगिक व सहज रूप से समझना आसान हो जाता है। इमर्सिव ब्रांड वर्ल्ड, विशेषज्ञों के साथ बातचीत, इंटरैक्टिव मास्टरक्लास और लाइव डेमोंस्ट्रेशन के जरिए, यह अनुभव रोजमर्रा के उत्पादों के पीछे की कहानियों को जीवंत कर देता है। यह कार्यक्रम पी एंड जी के आईकोनिक ब्रांडों और उनके नवीनतम उत्पादों को भी सामने लाता है। यह दर्शाते हैं कि कैसे उपभोक्ताओं की समझ, वैज्ञानिक विशेषज्ञता और निरंतर नवाचार मिलकर ऐसे उत्पाद तैयार

रोजमर्रा के जीवन को बेहतर बनाना और उपभोक्ताओं की उन ज़रूरतों को पूरा करना है, जिनके लिए अभी पर्याप्त समाधान उपलब्ध नहीं हैं। पी एंड जी इंडिया के सीईओ कुमार वेंकटसुब्रमणियन ने कहा, पी एंड जी में, नवाचार की शुरुआत उपभोक्ताओं की गहरी समझ और उनकी बदलती ज़रूरतों को पूरा करने की प्रतिबद्धता से होती है। उपभोक्ता को प्राथमिकता देने की सोच के अनुरूप, हम विज्ञान, शोध और उपभोक्ताओं की समझ को एक साथ लाते हैं।

84,084 करोड़ का मेगा प्लान, गहरे समंदर में छिपा खजाना तलाशेगी सरकार

नई दिल्ली, एजेंसी। सरकार 84,084 करोड़ रुपये की ‘समुद्र मंथन’ योजना के तहत ऊर्जा कंपनियों के साथ गहरे पानी (डीपवाटर) में तेल और गैस की खोज (एक्सप्लोरेशन) का खर्च साझा करेगी। इसके तहत जोखिम भरे कुओं की खुदाई के खर्च का एक हिस्सा सरकार उठाएगी। ऑफशोर बेसिन की सिस्मिक मैपिंग के लिए फंड देगी। साथ ही साझा उत्पादन सुविधाएं बनाने में मदद करेगी।

पेट्रोलियम और प्राकृतिक गैस मंत्रालय ने ‘समुद्र मंथन’ कार्यक्रम के लिए दिशा-निर्देश जारी किए हैं। इसका मकसद भारत के गहरे पानी और बहुत गहरे पानी (अल्ट्रा-डीपवाटर) वाले क्षेत्रों में तेल-गैस खोजने के काम को आर्थिक रूप से बेहतर बनाना है। अभी तक यहां खुदाई का बहुत अधिक खर्च और भूगर्भीय अनिश्चितताओं के कारण निवेश कम रहा है। अयातत पर भारत की भारी निर्भरता को कम करना है। दिशा-निर्देशों के अनुसार, यह योजना वित्त वर्ष 2030-31 तक चलेगी। इसमें वित्त वर्ष 2026-27 को तैयारी के वर्ष के रूप में रखा गया है, जबकि वित्त वर्ष 2027-28

से 2030-31 तक के समय को ‘चरण-1’ (फेज-1) माना जाएगा। पेट्रोलियम



सचिव नीरज मित्तल ने दिशा-निर्देशों की प्रस्तावना में इस योजना को हाल के समय में तेल और गैस क्षेत्र (अपस्ट्रीम) में शुरू की गई सबसे महत्वाकांक्षी पहल बताया है। उन्होंने कहा कि इससे भारत के रिजर्व में 60 करोड़ टन से अधिक तेल के बराबर संसाधन जुड़ सकते हैं। प्लान के मुख्य हिस्से के तहत सरकार गहरे पानी और बहुत गहरे पानी वाले क्षेत्रों में 56 खोज कुओं (एक्सप्लोरेटरी वेल्स) और चार

स्ट्रैटिग्राफिक कुओं के लिए वित्तीय सहायता देगी। दिशा-निर्देशों के अनुसार, 400 मीटर

से अधिक गहरे पानी की ‘डीपवाटर’ और 1,500 मीटर से अधिक गहरे पानी में तेल और गैस क्षेत्र (अपस्ट्रीम) में शुरू की गई सबसे महत्वाकांक्षी पहल बताया है। उन्होंने कहा कि इससे भारत के रिजर्व में 60 करोड़ टन से अधिक तेल के बराबर संसाधन जुड़ सकते हैं। प्लान के मुख्य हिस्से के तहत सरकार गहरे पानी और बहुत गहरे पानी वाले क्षेत्रों में 56 खोज कुओं (एक्सप्लोरेटरी वेल्स) और चार

मन्नत हर खुशी पानेकी का एक नया चैप्टर शुरू होने जा रहा है

मुंबई। सफलता का स्वाद चखने और दर्शकों का दिल जीतने के बाद, कलर्स का ‘मन्नत हर खुशी पाने की’ एक रोमांचक नए अध्याय के साथ दर्शकों का मनोरंजन करने के लिए तैयार है। तन्वी डोगरा और नमिक पॉल इस शो में नए मुख्य किरदारों के रूप में नज़र आएंगे। यह कहानी दो बेहद स्वतंत्र सोच रखने वाले लोगों की है, जिनकी बिल्कुल अलगअलग दुनियाएं खाने के जरिए एकदूसरे से टकराती हैं। मन्नत जुनेजा (तन्वी डोगरा), जो अपने परिवार का विराट दाढ़ा चलाती है, मानती है कि खाने की असली पहचान उसकी सच्चाई, प्यार और उससे जुड़ी यादों में होती है। वहीं कबीर ओबेरॉय (नमिक पॉल), जो शानदार फाइनडाइनिंग रेस्तरां मेज़बानी का मालिक है, सटीकता, नवाचार और परफेक्शन को सबसे अधिक महत्व देता है। एक मध्यमवर्गीय पंजाबी परिवार में पलीबढ़ी मन्नत के लिए यह दाढ़ा सिर्फ एक कारोबार नहीं, बल्कि उसके पिता सुरिंदर से मिली एक अनमोल विरासत है, जिसमें उसके परिवार की यादें और सपने बसे हुए हैं। वहीं, वह अपराधबोध से जुझते हुए अपनी माँ के भरोसे पर खरा उतरने की कोशिश भी करती है। दूसरी ओर, एक संपन्न परिवार द्वारा गोद लिए गए कबीर ने अपनी पहचान महत्वाकांक्षा, अनुशासन और उन लोगों के प्रति वफादारी के आधार पर बनाई है, जिन्होंने उसे घर दिया। लेकिन उसके सधे हुए व्यक्तित्व के पीछे एक जटिल अतीत छिपा है और उस त्रासदी का अपराधबोध भी, जिसने मन्नत के परिवार को बिखेर दिया था। जैसेजैसे विराट दाढ़ा की मिट्टी से जुड़ी गर्मजोशी और मेज़बानी की नफासत आमनेसामने आती है, उनके बीच व्यंजनों, महत्वाकांक्षाओं और अहंकार की टक्कर शुरू हो जाती है। उन्हें करीब लाएंगे, या फिर उनके दिलों में छिपे सच उन्हें एकदूसरे से दूर कर देंगे? तन्वी डोगरा मन्नत जुनेजा और नमिक पॉल कबीर ओबेरॉय की भूमिका में नज़र आएंगे। इनके साथ किशोरी शहाणी सारिका ओबेरॉय और सुप्रिया शुक्ला जॉली जुनेजा के किरदार में दिखाई देंगी।

Ranji Trophy: Ravindra Jadeja fan Arjun Sharma is in no hurry to stop dreaming

New Delhi.(Agency)

On a slow surface at the Palam Airforce Ground in Delhi, Arjun Sharma kept coming back for another spell. Across Services' two home matches this season, the left-arm spinner bowled tirelessly, working away without much fuss as he looked to prise out wickets. There was little of the attention that often follows a bowler who is enjoying the kind of run he has had over the past year. For Arjun, though, the job was straightforward: keep bowling, keep finding ways to take wickets and give his team a chance.The 30-year-old has



become increasingly difficult to ignore on the field. He finished the 2025-26 Ranji Trophy season with 34 wickets, having taken 28 the previous year. He began the current Ranji Trophy campaign with four wickets in the first innings against Maharashtra before claiming five more in the second. Against Bengal, he followed up with three wickets in the first innings and two in the second.

Mourinho finds peace of mind as Madrid beat Barcelona with Mbappe's brace



New Delhi.(Agency)

Jose Mourinho said Real Madrid's 2-1 victory over Barcelona at Camp Nou gave his side "peace of mind" after Kylian Mbappe's brace helped them end the league leaders' unbeaten start to the LaLiga season on Sunday. The win also brought Madrid to within three points of Barcelona at the top of the table, giving Mourinho's side a significant boost in the title race."It gives us peace of mind, and it's well deserved," Mourinho said after Madrid secured their first victory over Barcelona in LaLiga this season. Returning to El Clasico 13 years after his first spell at Real Madrid ended, the Portuguese manager saw his team withstand Barcelona's second-half response before Mbappe struck late to settle a nervy contest.Mourinho was pleased with the way Madrid handled Barcelona's aggressive pressing and maintained their composure when the hosts threatened to take control of the game. "It was a high-level game. I'm sure football fans around the world stopped to watch it and weren't disappointed," he said.As far as we're concerned, the boys put in an extraordinary performance. They showed a lot of courage in playing out from the back against an opponent who presses very aggressively. We created some good chances to score."Mourinho acknowledged that Barcelona responded strongly after the break but praised his players for refusing to lose their shape or composure under pressure."Obviously, Barcelona reacted strongly in the second half, but we stayed calm and organised. We never lost our composure. For me, it was a great victory for the boys," he added. WHO MADE THE DIFFERENCE FOR REAL MADRID? Madrid's greater conviction in attack was evident in the opening exchanges.

Michael Carrick leaves a hero but fans boo Man United players in stunning video

Manchester United supporters sang for Michael Carrick before booing his players after Bournemouth's 3-0 win. The contrasting reaction showed that anger over United's slump extends beyond the manager.

New Delhi.(Agency)

Manchester United fans made their feelings clear after the club's humiliating 3-0 defeat to Bournemouth at Old Trafford on Sunday, with a viral video capturing a striking contrast in the reception for Michael Carrick and his players. While supporters sang for Carrick as he walked off the pitch, the chants quickly turned into loud boos as the Manchester

United players followed their manager towards the tunnel.es from different stages of his career.The moment offered a glimpse into where the frustration at Old Trafford is currently directed. Despite United's dismal run of results, the supporters appeared to reserve their sympathy for Carrick, who helped revive the team's fortunes last season, while making their anger towards the players unmistakable.As Carrick approached the tunnel, he tapped a hand to his heart in acknowledgement of the fans who had stayed behind to sing his name. Once he disappeared from view, however, the atmosphere changed. The players walking off behind him were greeted with a chorus of boos after another performance that left United supporters with little to cheer. The defeat has put Carrick under renewed pressure, with United languishing in 16th place in the Premier League table on seven points from eight matches. They are just one point above the relegation zone and have not

won a league game since beating Ipswich midweek. The latest defeat intensified the Town on August 30.Yet the scenes at Old scrutiny on Carrick, but the supporters' Trafford suggested that, for at least some of response suggested that the players were also the supporters, the manager is not the only firmly in their crosshairs.



struggles. WHY DID FANS BOO THE PLAYERS? The contrasting reactions came after a miserable afternoon for United, who were beaten by Bournemouth following a 4-1 Champions League thrashing at Como in

The home crowd had already made its frustrations known before half-time, unfurling a giant banner reading "Standards" featuring club icons Eric Cantona, Roy Keane and Bryan Robson. Bournemouth fans, meanwhile, taunted Carrick with chants of "You're getting sacked in the morning".United's own supporters took a different approach. Late in the game, they sang "It's Carrick you know!" in a show of support for the manager. But that backing did little to soften their reaction to the players once the final whistle arrived.Thousands of fans began leaving before the match had ended, particularly after Evanilson scored Bournemouth's third. The final whistle was met with loud boos, and the anger continued as the players made their way off the pitch.

On comeback, Bhuvneshwar Kumar told not to chase anything, block expectations

New Delhi.(Agency)

Bowling coach Morne Morkel has offered Bhuvneshwar Kumar a reassuring message as the veteran pacer returns to international cricket after four years. Speaking to the press on the eve of the third T20I against New Zealand in Wellington, Morkel said he empathised with the senior fast bowler, who is looking to find his feet in international cricket again.Bhuvneshwar, 36, made his return to India's T20I squad for the fifth match against the West Indies in Bengaluru on October 17, but did not get an opportunity to bowl as rain interrupted the contest. His first two outings against New Zealand, however, have been challenging. He conceded 49 runs without taking a wicket in the series opener in Christchurch before giving away 50 runs in the second T20I, in which he picked up a wicket in the powerplay."Look, I've got a lot of sympathy for his return," Morkel said. "The reason why I say that is, one, there will be expectation after four years to come out. He's done exceptionally well in the IPL. He's bowled really well. One is to block the expectation factor out."Bhuvneshwar earned his recall on the back of two productive IPL seasons, in which he stood out despite playing on flat pitches that offered limited assistance to bowlers. The medium-pacer took 17 wickets in the 2025 season before returning with 28 in 2026, playing a key role in Royal Challengers Bengaluru's back-to-back title triumphs. The 36-year-old had not played competitive cricket for four months before his return to the national set-up. He was called up for the West



Indies series while preparing for India's New Zealand tour at the Centre of Excellence in Bengaluru, leaving him with little time to make the transition from training to international match conditions.Morkel acknowledged the lack of match practice, pointing out that preparing for a return to international cricket is different from simply training with the team. "Two, leading into his selection, I mean, there was a month of cricket where, yes, he trained, but this is a different beast coming and playing international cricket where the margins are small. So he had to come in with limited training because of the schedule to get himself ready," Morkel said. 'ALLOW HIM TO FIND HIS FEET' Despite Bhuvneshwar's experience, Morkel believes the expectations surrounding his comeback could make the transition difficult.

Uttarakhand to host 100 miles Himalayan Endurance Ultra Run from Mana Pass to Auli next May: CM Dhami

New Delhi.(Agency)

Uttarakhand is stepping up efforts to establish itself as one of India's leading adventure tourism destinations. Chief Minister Pushkar Singh Dhami participated in the Adi Kailash Parikrama Run 2.0 in Gunji, a remote border region of Pithoragarh district, on Sunday and announced that the '100 Miles Himalayan Endurance Ultra Run' will be organised during the first week of May next year.The proposed race will begin at Mana Pass, located at an altitude of approximately 5,600 metres, and pass through Badrinath and Joshimath before concluding at Auli.The Chief Minister felicitated the winners of the 70-km and 42-km races and encouraged runners who had arrived from different states across the country. He said that participating in such competitions in the high Himalayas, amid challenging terrain, extreme weather conditions and low oxygen levels, reflects exceptional courage, discipline and determination. Taking Uttarakhand's Border Regions The Chief Minister said that the Adi Kailash Parikrama Run is much more than a sporting event. It is an important platform to showcase the natural beauty, cultural heritage and tourism potential of Uttarakhand's border regions at the national and international levels. More than 700 runners participated in the inaugural edition of the event in 2025, giving fresh recognition to the adventure

tourism potential of the Adi Kailash region.to the Global Adventure Tourism MapDhmi noted that the number of Inner Line Permits issued for the Adi Kailash region has increased significantly compared with the previous year, reflecting the growing interest of tourists and pilgrims in the region. 100 Miles Ultra Run to Connect Mana Pass, Badrinath, Joshimath and Auli The proposed 100 Miles Himalayan Endurance Ultra Run is expected to give a new dimension to long-distance endurance running in Uttarakhand's high-altitude Himalayan terrain. The planned route will start at Mana Pass and



proceed through Badrinath and Joshimath before reaching Auli. The Chief Minister said the event would provide runners from India and abroad an opportunity to experience the Himalayas' distinctive geography and Uttarakhand's spectacular natural landscapes. It is also expected to encourage tourism in border areas and create new employment and self-employment opportunities for local youth.

India have bulletproof plan for bowlers' workload management on NZ Tour: Morkel

India have a 'bulletproof' workload management plan for their packed New Zealand tour, bowling coach Morne Morkel said. Arshdeep Singh is among the options being considered as India prepare to rotate their bowlers across formats.

Wellington.(Agency)

India have a "bulletproof" plan to manage their bowlers through a packed tour of New Zealand, bowling coach Morne Morkel said, with Arshdeep Singh also in contention for a potential Test debut.India are scheduled to play five T20Is, five ODIs and two Tests on the tour. With the first Test starting on November 19, just four days after the ODI series ends, the team plans to rotate its bowlers to keep them fresh for the red-ball leg.Morkel said the strategy had been mapped out well in advance, with players clear about their expected workloads and the role they would play across formats."We've mapped out this tour once before. Every bowler is clear in terms of what's expected of them in terms of workloads, in terms of bowling," Morkel said on the eve of the third T20I.India will also draw on players preparing for red-ball cricket



at the moment in terms of how we've mapped everything out, but unfortunately, not everything goes according to plan," he said."The backup we've got, the combinations are all in place in terms of rotation and making sure we get ready for the red-ball Tests and the 50-over series. Everybody's ready, including Bumrah," Morkel added.

ARSHDEEPI N CONTENTION

Arshdeep could be among the options India turn to for additional pace cover during the Test series. The left-arm pacer has yet to make his Test debut, but his ability to swing the ball both ways has kept him in the conversation. India are considering retaining a group of bowlers in New Zealand as cover, with the final make-up of the attack to be decided once the team has a clearer understanding of the conditions. "We are planning a group of bowlers that we would like to potentially stay behind as cover because of the schedule. Closer to the time, once we get a better understanding of the conditions at this time of the year, we'll get a clear picture regarding the make-up of our bowling unit," Morkel said. The bowling coach backed Arshdeep's ability to adapt to the longer format, pointing to his work ethic and skill set.On paper and in the back of our minds, there is a nice group of bowlers that can suit all conditions, and Arshdeep is definitely in that conversation. He's a guy that always works hard and ticks all the boxes, so if needed with the red ball, I'm pretty sure he'll be fine," Morkel said. India will finalise their Test bowling combination closer to the series, once conditions become clearer. For Arshdeep, the tour could offer an opportunity to move beyond his established role in white-ball cricket and enter the red-ball reckoning.

Injured Ishan Kishan ruled out of 3rd T20I as India eye series win vs New Zealand



New Delhi.(Agency)

India wicketkeeper-batter Ishan Kishan has been ruled out of the third T20I against New Zealand as he continues to recover from a right adductor strain. The Board of Control for Cricket in India (BCCI) confirmed on Monday that Kishan is recovering well but is yet to regain match fitness ahead of the match in Wellington on October 27.Kishan sustained the low-grade strain during the opening T20I of the five-match series last week. He missed the second match as well, with teenage batting sensation Vaibhav Sooryavanshi coming into the playing XI in his absence."The BCCI Medical Team is monitoring Ishan's progress," the board said in a statement, adding that uncapped wicketkeeper-batter Kumar Kushagra would continue to be part of the squad for the third T20I.Kishan's absence means India will have to wait for the left-handed batter to return to full fitness, with the team management opting against rushing him back into action. A right adductor strain affects the muscles on the inner side of the thigh and can hamper a player's movement and running between the wickets. HOW HAS ISHAN KISHAN BEEN RECOVERING? India's bowling coach Morne Morkel said Kishan would miss the third T20I as a precautionary measure. The BCCI's update also indicated that the wicketkeeper-batter was making progress, although he had not yet reached the level of fitness required for a match.



Tamannaah Bhatia

Marks First Day Of Navratri With 5-Hour Mata Ki Chowki, Mrunal Thakur Joins

Actress Tamannaah Bhatia marked the first day of Navratri by attending a ‘Mata Ki Chowki’. She even treated the netizens to some glimpses from the devotional evening, where she was seen fully immersed in the music and stories about “Maa”. The photos and videos showed Tamannaah participating in the aarti and enjoying the bhajans. One of the clips published by Tamannaah also shows actress Mrunal Thakur. Tamannaah’s parents were also present at the ‘Mata Ki Chowki’.

Tamannaah wrote on her IG, “Through soaring bhajans, stories of Maa and a vivid journey through the mountains to Vaishno Devi, @preetypathania15 makes you experience devotion, not just hear it. With every song, every story and every beat, you can almost feel the climb, the sacred paths unfolding and the pilgrimage carrying you



deeper within (sic).” Talking about her experience, she added that being immersed in music and prayer made her introspect, along with creating a sense of calm. “There’s something beautiful about this duality. The music rises, the energy moves through the room, and the atmosphere pulses with devotion – yet, somewhere within, a deep stillness begins to unfold. All that sound and movement draw you inward, guiding you back to your centre, back to yourself. Five hours of music, prayer and surrender that felt like a single, timeless moment. Jai Mata Di,” the post further read.

Earlier, Tamannaah revealed how she had a spiritual experience while shooting for the Chhath song from her movie, ‘The Vvaan’.

“I have always held a deep reverence for Chhath Puja. Before we started shooting for the song, I spent time studying and understanding the significance of the ritual and how it is performed in Bihar and Patna. Honestly, I was stunned to learn the power it holds. The strong connection I felt with Chhathi Maiyya is something I cannot put in words. I found myself feeling deeply connected to her,” she shared.

Madhuri Dixit

Reveals Why She Chose Heart Surgeon Dr Shriram Nene As Her Husband: ‘He Mends Hearts’

Bollywood superstar Madhuri Dixit revealed the reason behind her decision to marry cardiovascular surgeon Dr. Shriram Nene. The actress offered a witty response to actress Sonali Bendre’s observation about the heartbreak her wedding caused among her fans.

The conversation took place on the grand premiere episode of the quiz reality show, Kon Honar Crorepati, where Sonali joined host Madhuri on the hot seat. Recalling the actor’s wedding, Sonali said, “When you got married... a lot of people were heartbroken.” Madhuri, who married Dr. Shriram Nene in 1999, responded with a laugh and said, “That’s why I married someone who mends hearts!” Speaking in Marathi, the actor jokingly explained that she chose someone who treats hearts, referring to her husband’s profession as a cardiovascular surgeon. Madhuri’s marriage to Dr. Nene, who was based in the United States when they met, marked her departure from Bollywood at the peak of her career. The couple have since built a life together and have two sons, Arin and Ryan.

After spending a few years in the USA, the actress returned to India to resume her career in Bollywood. Madhuri marked her return to Bollywood after a hiatus with Aaja Nachle in 2007. She went on to



feature in films such as Yeh Jawaani Hai Deewani, in which she appeared in the popular song ‘Ghagra’, Dedh Ishqiya and Gulaab Gang.

She later appeared in Total Dhamaal and Kalank, followed by the Marathi film Bucket List, Maja Ma, and Bhool Bhulaiyaa 3. The actor also ventured into the digital space with The Fame Game, in which she played a celebrated actor whose disappearance sets off a series of revelations. She then featured in Mrs. Deshpande, taking on a darker role as a convicted serial killer.

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Imran Khan’s GF Lekha Washington Clarifies They Went To Enquire About Detained Friends: ‘There Was No Gathering’



Bollywood actor Imran Khan’s girlfriend Lekha Washington has shared her account of what happened when she, Imran, his mother Nuzhat Khan, his cousin Zayn Marie Khan reached Mumbai’s August Kranti Maidan on Saturday, October 10. Lekha shared a statement on Instagram, stating that they had gone to enquire about their detained friends and clarifying that they were present as individuals, not as part of any organisation. For the unversed, Imran, best known for films such as Jaane Tu... Ya Jaane Na and I Hate Luv Storys, was detained in Mumbai along with Lekha and Zayn on October 10. They were released hours later.

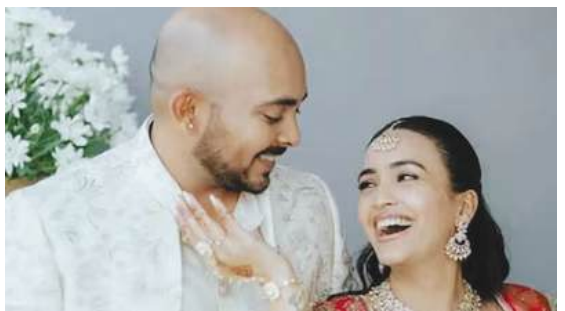
Why Did Imran Khan And Lekha Washington Go To August Kranti Maidan?

According to Lekha Washington, the group reached August Kranti Maidan at around 5 pm to ask about their friends who had been detained. “On Saturday around 5pm, Zayn Marie, Nuzhat (Imran’s mother), my partner Imran, myself and others walked towards August Kranti maidan to ask about friends of ours who had been detained,” she wrote on Instagram.

Lekha claimed there was no gathering taking place when they arrived. She said police barricades had been put up on all sides and a considerable number of media personnel were present. According to her account, the media surrounded Imran and began asking him questions. The ‘Jaane Tu... Ya Jaane Na’ actor responded by saying that the group had no demands, did not belong to an organisation and was present as a group of individuals.

“Before he could even finish his sentence, with the weight of the media from one side, loud, incessant whistle blowing disrupted everything,” she added. “A stream of uniformed persons grabbed both Zayn and me, bruising us. They forced us all into the vehicle and then drove us around for a couple of hours. Subsequent to that, they did not allow us to take public transport,” she alleged.

Prithvi Shaw, Akriti Agarwal Back Together After Calling Off Engagement; She Says ‘I Was Misguided’



Weeks after announcing that she and cricketer Prithvi Shaw had called off their engagement, actor and influencer Akriti Agarwal has now confirmed that the couple has reconciled. In a fresh statement shared on Instagram, Akriti said the two have spoken openly about their differences and have decided to give their relationship another chance. Akriti also addressed her role in the earlier split, saying that opinions from people close to her had influenced how she looked at Prithvi and their relationship. The development comes less than a month after she publicly announced their separation in September. The couple had got engaged earlier this year.

Akriti Agarwal Says She Was ‘Misguided’

Akriti titled her new Instagram statement “A personal clarification” and spoke directly about what led her to call off the engagement.

“When I called off our engagement, I let the opinions of people close to me — who seemed to know our relationship better than we did — influence how I saw my fiancé and our relationship. I feel I was misguided, and I made a decision without giving us the honest conversation we deserved,” she wrote. She did not name the people whose opinions had influenced her decision. Akriti also took responsibility for how things unfolded, adding, “I take responsibility for that decision and the hurt it caused.”

‘We Have Chosen To Be Together Again’

Akriti then confirmed that she and Prithvi had worked through the situation privately before deciding to reconcile. “We have since spoken openly, understood each other and chosen to be together again,” her statement read.

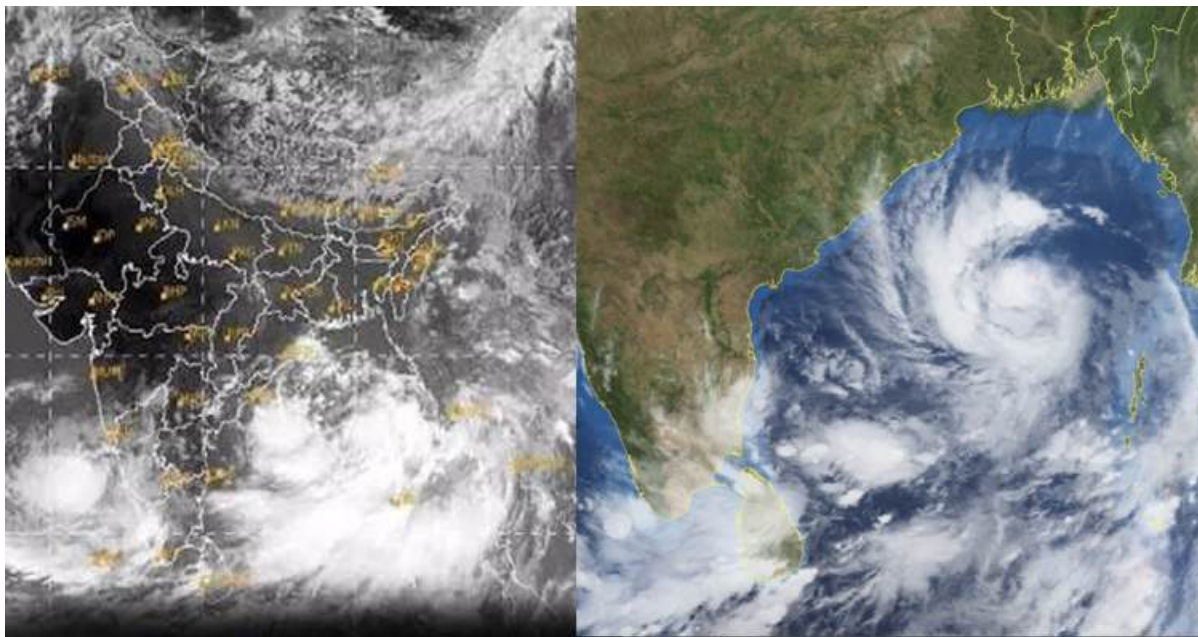
She added, “Together, we are enough for each other, and we don’t need anyone else.” Akriti said that she now wants decisions about their future to remain between the two of them rather than being influenced by outside voices.

“This time, I want our future to be guided by our own understanding, trust and love,” she wrote, before ending the note with, “Please respect our decision as we begin again.”

Cyclone Arnab Intensifies Over Bay of Bengal, Red Warning for Andhra Coast; Landfall on October 28

Visakhapatnam: Cyclone Arnab is gathering strength over the Bay of Bengal and advancing towards India's eastern coast, prompting the India Meteorological Department (IMD) to issue a red-message cyclone warning for coastal Andhra Pradesh and adjoining southern Odisha. Satellite imagery shows a well-organised cloud system swirling over the sea as the storm intensifies. The cyclone is forecast to strengthen into a severe cyclonic storm by midnight on October 26 and a very severe cyclonic storm on October 27, raising concerns over destructive winds, heavy rainfall and coastal disruption. According to the IMD, Cyclone Arnab, pronounced 'Ornab', is expected to cross the Andhra Pradesh and Yanam coasts between Bapat-

la and Visakhapatnam, close to Yanam, by the forenoon of October 28. At landfall, the storm could generate maximum sustained winds of 115-125 kmph, with gusts reaching 140 kmph. **Cyclone Moves Closer to Eastern Coast** In its morning bulletin on October 26, the IMD located the cyclone over the east-central and adjoining west-central Bay of Bengal near latitude 15.4°N and longitude 88.5°E. The system was then moving westwards at around 15 kmph. By 5.30 pm, the cyclone had moved west-northwestwards and intensified into a severe cyclonic storm. It was located approximately 490 km south-east of Gopalpur in Odisha and 490 km east-southeast of Visakhapatnam in Andhra Pradesh.



The storm is expected to continue moving west-northwestwards before turning northwest towards the

Andhra Pradesh coast. Its projected track and increasing intensity have placed coastal communities on

heightened alert. **Strong Winds, Heavy Rain Pose Major Threat** The approaching cyclone

could damage vulnerable houses, uproot trees, disrupt electricity supplies and affect road and rail connectivity.

Heavy to very heavy rainfall may trigger waterlogging and flooding in low-lying areas, depending on the storm's track and local weather conditions. Rough to very rough sea conditions are also expected over affected parts of the Bay of Bengal, posing risks to fishing boats and other maritime operations. The IMD has advised fishermen not to venture into the southwest and adjoining central Bay of Bengal, as well as along and off the coasts of Andhra Pradesh, Odisha and Yanam, from October 26 to 29. **Emergency Preparedness Intensified** The National Crisis Management Committee reviewed preparedness for the approaching cyclone on October 26. State administrations

have reported arrangements for shelters, evacuation measures and the deployment of National Disaster Response Force and State Disaster Response Force teams on standby. District control rooms have also been activated. Residents in vulnerable coastal districts have been urged to follow official weather bulletins and local administration advisories. Authorities are monitoring the cyclone's movement as preparations intensify ahead of its expected landfall. With Cyclone Arnab forecast to reach very severe intensity before crossing the coast, the next two days will be crucial for emergency preparedness. The final impact will depend on the cyclone's actual path, strength and rainfall distribution as it approaches land.

Amity University Jharkhand Opens 2-Day Literary and Cultural Fest LITFEST 3.0



Ranchi: Amity University Jharkhand inaugurated LITFEST 3.0, a two-day literary and cultural festival, on Sunday, bringing together literature, art, music, cinema and performing arts. Organised by the Department of English Studies and Research, the event will continue till October 27, providing students a platform to showcase their creativity and talent.

Dean Dr Abhishek Tripathi welcomed the guests and participants, emphasising the role of literary and cultural activities in fostering creativity, confidence and holistic development. The university's Vice Chancellor extended his best wishes to the organisers, while principals of several Ranchi schools appreciated the initiative for encouraging young learners to explore their abilities and express themselves.

Students have played a key role in planning and coordinating the festival, demonstrating teamwork, leadership and a passion for creative expression. The event aims to promote critical thinking, imagination, communication skills and cultural appreciation beyond classroom learning.

LITFEST 3.0 seeks to connect academic learning with artistic experiences, highlighting the continuing relevance of literature and culture in an increasingly digital world. The second day of the festival is expected to continue the celebration of student talent, ideas and creativity.

Rail Passengers Can Opt for ₹10 Lakh Travel Insurance at 45 Paise from October 27

RNS: Railway passengers booking reserved tickets at reservation counters will be able to opt for travel insurance from October 27. The Railway Board has issued instructions to all zonal railways to extend the facility to passengers purchasing tickets offline.

Under the scheme, passengers can obtain insurance coverage of up to ₹10 lakh by paying a nominal premium of 45 paise.

The cover will provide financial protection against specified accidents during train journeys, subject to the applicable policy terms and conditions.

The insurance benefits include up to ₹10 lakh in case of accidental death or permanent total disability, ₹7.5 lakh for permanent partial disability and ₹2 lakh for hospital treatment.

History@80: Lula Secures 4th Term, Defeating Bolsonaro's Son

Brasília: Brazil's left-wing President Luiz Inácio Lula da Silva has won a fourth, non-consecutive presidential term, defeating far-right challenger Flávio Bolsonaro in a closely contested runoff election. Lula, 80, secured 51.79 per cent of the valid votes against 48.21 per cent for Flávio, the eldest son of former president Jair Bolsonaro. The result marked a remarkable comeback after Lula finished behind his rival in the first round of voting. Thanking supporters, Lula said the victory belonged to Brazilians who believed in building a more just, sovereign and democratic country. A former metalworker and trade union leader, Lula first became president in 2003 and served two consecutive terms until 2010. He returned to power in 2023 after defeating Jair Bolsonaro in the 2022 election. His political career was overshadowed by corruption investigations, but Brazil's Supreme Federal Court annulled his convictions in 2021, restoring his eligibility to contest elections. Lula's victory ensures the



continuation of his left-wing agenda, centred on social welfare, poverty reduction, workers' rights and economic inclusion. His government is also expected to maintain its focus on climate action and protecting the Amazon rainforest. The election produced an unprecedented turnaround in Brazil's presidential runoff history. Despite trailing Flávio in the first round, Lula gained momentum through street demonstrations, youth participation and extensive social media outreach. The outcome highlighted the importance of

voter mobilisation in a fiercely contested election. However, the narrow victory highlights Brazil's deep political divisions and the continued strength of the right-wing movement associated with the Bolsonaro family. The new mandate will require Lula to navigate a divided electorate while addressing concerns over inflation, living costs, public security and economic growth. The challenge extends beyond winning political support. Conservative forces have retained considerable influence in

Brazil's Congress and regional politics, potentially complicating Lula's efforts to implement his legislative agenda. His ability to build political alliances and deliver tangible economic benefits will be crucial to sustaining support during his fourth term. On the international front, Lula is expected to continue advocating a greater role for developing countries in global decision-making while strengthening Brazil's engagement on climate change, trade and diplomacy.

CCL Inaugurates Vigilance Awareness Festival-2026, Honours Women Employees

Ranchi: Central Coalfields Limited (CCL) inaugurated Vigilance Awareness Festival-2026 at its headquarters, Darbhanga House, Ranchi, on Monday, highlighting the importance of integrity, transparency and ethical practices in the workplace. CCL Chairman-cum-Managing Director Nilendu Kumar Singh attended the inaugural ceremony as the chief guest, along with Directors Pawan Kumar



Mishra (Finance), Harsh Nath Mishra (Personnel), Chandra Shekhar Tiwari (Technical/Operations) and Chief Vigilance Officer Pankaj Kumar. A live

painting workshop featuring more than 30 artists from across the country was also inaugurated. As part of the festival, CCL organised a 'Nari

Shakti Vandan' programme to recognise the contributions of women employees from various departments and regions. Priti Singh, president of Arpita Mahila Mandal, attended as the chief guest, along with other members of the organisation. Notably, under CMD Nilendu Kumar Singh's leadership, CCL continues to promote inclusive development and employee welfare through various initiatives.

Shorties

DVC CTPS Employees Take Integrity Pledge, Support Drug-Free India Campaign



Bokaro: Officials and employees of Damodar Valley Corporation's (DVC) Chandrapura Thermal Power Station took the Integrity Pledge and pledged their support to the 'Nasha Mukh Bharat' campaign during a programme organised by the Vigilance Department on Monday. Chief General Manager and Project Head Ramkumar Anubhav, along with Deputy General Manager (Administration) Neeraj Sinha, administered the oaths in Hindi and English. Addressing the gathering, Anubhav stressed that true commitment to integrity begins with performing one's duties honestly and responsibly.

He said corruption obstructs the country's economic, political and social progress and called for collective efforts by the government, citizens and private sector to eliminate the menace.

He also emphasised transparency, accountability, strict action against corrupt practices and adherence to ethical standards and good governance.

The participants pledged not to offer or accept bribes and to promote fairness, regulatory compliance, grievance redressal and mechanisms for reporting irregularities.

They also vowed to refrain from substance abuse and spread awareness about its harmful effects, encouraging their families and communities to contribute towards a healthier, drug-free India.

Several DVC deputy general managers, senior managers, other officials and Central Industrial Security Force (CISF) personnel including DGM Rajiv Kumar, Amit Kumar Sinha, Rajiv Ranjan Ojha, Rajiv Ranjan, Pratap Singh, and Devi Kant Gupta Bhaya, Senior Managers Abhishek Ghosh, Vinay Krishna Das, Satyendra Kumar, Surya Dalai, Pawan Kumar, Mohammad Imtiyaz, Taruneshwar Prasad, Kanchan Smita Toppo, Ajay Satish Toppo, Rajkumar Chaudhary, Rajiv Kumar Tiwari, Braj Vibhuti Vilochan, Roshan Kumar Singh, Golam Moynuddin, Sudhanshu Ranjan, Akshay Kumar, Mohammad Tanveer Akhtar, Suman Kumar, Mahendra Singh, and Prafulla Bhandari, as well as officers and personnel from the Central Industrial Security Force (CISF) attended the programme.

Mithila Sanskritik Parishad Celebrates Kojagara Festival with Traditional Fervour in Bokaro

by Arun Pathak

Bokaro: The Mithila Sanskritik Parishad celebrated the traditional Kojagara festival with enthusiasm at Vidyaapati Auditorium of Mithila Academy Public School in Sector 4E, Bokaro, on Sunday evening. The programme showcased Mithila's rich cultural heritage through traditional music and songs. The event was inaugurated by Parishad vice-president Shrawan Kumar Jha, general secretary Neeraj Chaudhary, school president Rajendra Kumar and other office-bearers. Addressing the gathering, Chaudhary highlighted the significance of Kojagara, celebrated on the full moon night of Ashwin. He said Lakshmi Puja and staying awake throughout the night are important traditions associated with the festival, which holds special significance



cance in the homes of new-llyweds. He urged the community to preserve and promote Mithila's age-old customs and cultural traditions. The programme was organised with the active involvement of several members, including Ravindra Jha, Sumit Kumar Jha, Vishwanath Jha and Govind Kumar Jha. Hundreds of people attended the celebration, including Parishad board members Krishna Chandra Jha and Vijay Kumar Jha, along with other prominent members including

Vijay Shankar Mallik 'Sudhapati', Mihir Kumar Jha 'Raju', Avinash Jha 'Avi', Dr. U. C. Jha, Vinay Darihare, Shambhu Jha, Shrimohan Jha, Shailendra Kumar Mishra, Sudip Kumar Thakur, B. N. Thakur, A. K. Mishra, D. C. Mishra, Meera Mishra, Poonam Jha, Kalikant Mishra, Soni Pathak, Arvind Mishra, Pashupati Jha, S. K. Jha, Meera Mishra, Rajiv Kanth, Gangesh Kumar Pathak, S. K. Singh, Ganesh Jha, Vijay Kumar Mishra, Kanhaiya Jha, Bhrigunandan Thakur, Rishikesh Chaudhary, and Amarjit Chaudhary.

Arif Mohammad Khan Unveils English Translation of 'The Story of Vande Mataram'

New Delhi: Former Bihar and Kerala Governor Arif Mohammad Khan on Monday unveiled the English translation of The Story of Vande Mataram at the Constitutional Club in New Delhi. Translated by Dr Mercy Jill, the book was originally written in Malayalam by veteran RSS leader Ranga Hari. Speaking at the launch, Khan said the book traces the history of Vande Mataram, highlighting its significance and contribution to India's freedom struggle. He also recalled his personal interactions with Ranga Hari, describing him as a distinguished scholar, accomplished writer and committed patriot. The event highlighted the enduring significance of Vande Mataram in India's national and cultural identity.

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वागमण सिमी प्रशिक्षण शिविर मामला : अब्दुल सुभान कुरैशी को सात साल की कठोर कैद

केरल। वर्ष 2007 के वागमण सिमी प्रशिक्षण शिविर मामले में केरल की विशेष अदालत ने आरोपी अब्दुल सुभान कुरैशी को सात साल के कठोर कारावास की सजा सुनाई है। राष्ट्रीय अन्वेषण अभिकरण (एनआईए) से जुड़े मामलों की विशेष अदालत ने फैसला आरोपी द्वारा अपने ऊपर लगे आरोप स्वीकार करने के बाद सुनाया। अदालत ने विभिन्न धाराओं के तहत सुनाई गई सजाओं को एक साथ चलाने का आदेश दिया है। विशेष अदालत के न्यायाधीश हफीज मोहम्मद ने महाराष्ट्र के ठाणे निवासी कुरैशी को विधिविरुद्ध क्रियाकलाप (निवारण) अधिनियम (यूपीए) की धारा 10(ए) के तहत एक साल तथा धारा 20 और 38 के तहत पांच-पांच साल के कठोर कारावास की सजा सुनाई। इसके अलावा, विस्फोटक पदार्थ अधिनियम और भारतीय दंड संहिता की धारा 120बी के तहत भी सात –सात साल की कैद का आदेश दिया गया। अदालत ने कुछ धाराओं के तहत 25 – 25 हजार रुपये का जुर्माना भी लगाया। आरोपी पहले जेल में जितनी अवधि बिता चुका है, उस अवधि को सजा में समायोजित किया जाएगा। अभियोजन पक्ष के मुताबिक, प्रतिबंधित संगठन स्टूडेंट्स इस्लामिक मूवमेंट ऑफ इंडिया (सिमी) के सदस्यों के लिए प्रशिक्षण शिविर आयोजित करने की कथित साजिश में 38 आरोपी शामिल थे। इसी सिलसिले में 10 से 12 दिसंबर 2007 के बीच केरल के वागमण स्थित थंगलपारा में शिविर आयोजित किया गया था। अभियोजन में आरोप लगाया था कि शिविर में प्रतिभागियों को गोली चलाने, बम बनाने और विस्फोटकों के इस्तेमाल का प्रशिक्षण दिया गया। इसके अलावा, मोटरसाइकिल चलाने, चढ़ानों पर चढ़ने और जिहाद से संबंधित कक्षाएं आयोजित करने की बात भी सामने आई थी।

झांसी में सड़क जाम और हंगामे के आरोप में पांच किन्नर गिरफ्तार, केस दर्ज

झांसी। उत्तर प्रदेश के झांसी में बघाई मांगने को लेकर हुए विवाद के बाद सड़क पर हंगामा करने और यातायात बाधित करने के आरोप में पुलिस ने पांच किन्नरों को गिरफ्तार किया है। पुलिस ने आरोपियों के खिलाफ भारतीय न्याय संहिता (बीएनएस) की विभिन्न धाराओं में प्राथमिकी दर्ज की है। पुलिस ने बताया कि गिरफ्तार आरोपियों की पहचान अनुष्का उर्फ अभिषेक, पूजा, नयनतारा रशियन, ममता और महावीरन के रूप में हुई है। पुलिस के मुताबिक, इनके खिलाफ बलवा, लोक सेवक को घोट पहुंचाने, सरकारी काम में बाधा डालने, सांजनीक रास्ता अवरुद्ध करने, अश्लील हरकत और निषेधाज्ञा के उल्लंघन से संबंधित आरोप लगाए गए हैं।

जहरीली शराब से पार्षद सहित दो की मौत, एक गंभीर

जांजगीर। छत्तीसगढ़ के जांजगीर जिले के पामगढ़ में जहरीली शराब के सेवन से पार्षद सहित दो लोगों की मौत हो गई, जबकि एक अन्य व्यक्ति की हालत गंभीर बनी हुई है। घटना के बाद क्षेत्र में हड़कंप मच गया। मृतकों के परिजनों में शोक का माहौल है। गंभीर रूप से बीमार व्यक्ति को उपचार के लिए अस्पताल में भर्ती कराया गया है, जहां चिकित्सकों की निगरानी में उसका इलाज जारी है। प्रारंभिक जानकारी के अनुसार, शराब पीने के बाद तीनों की तबीयत बिगड़ गई। हालत गंभीर होने पर उन्हें अस्पताल ले जाया गया, जहां दो लोगों को बचाया नहीं जा सका। घटना की सूचना मिलने के बाद पुलिस और प्रशासन सक्रिय हो गए। जहरीली शराब के सेवन की आशंका को देखते हुए मामले की जांच की जा रही है। शराब के नमूनों की जांच और मौत के वास्तविक कारणों का पता लगाने के लिए आवश्यक कार्रवाई की जा रही है। घटना ने अवैध शराब के कारोबार और उसकी रोकथाम को लेकर एक बार फिर सवाल खड़े कर दिए हैं।

यूपी चुनाव: सपा-कांग्रेस गठबंधन में सीट बंटवारे पर पैंच, 60 से शुरु होगा मोलभाव

लखनऊ, एजेंसी। उत्तर प्रदेश विधानसभा चुनाव को लेकर समाजवादी पार्टी (सपा) और कांग्रेस के बीच गठबंधन में सीटों के बंटवारे का मुद्दा अहम होता जा रहा है। दोनों दलों के बीच सीटों की संख्या को लेकर सहमति बनाना आसान नहीं दिख रहा है। कांग्रेस जहां अधिक सीटों पर चुनाव लड़कर प्रदेश में अपनी राजनीतिक जमीन मजबूत करना चाहती है, वहीं सपा गठबंधन में अपने नेतृत्व और चुनावी रणनीति को प्राथमिकता देना चाहती है। इसके बाद सीटों के बंटवारे पर बातचीत चुनावी प्रदर्शन और जीत की संभावनाओं के आधार पर आगे बढ़ने की उम्मीद है। चर्चाओं के मुताबिक, कांग्रेस पहले 150 से कम सीटों पर चुनाव नहीं लड़ने की बात कर रही थी, लेकिन अब उसकी दावेदारी 200 सीटों तक पहुंच गई है। दूसरी ओर, सपा अपने आकलन के आधार पर कतब 60 से 65 सीटों से बातचीत शुरू करने की तैयारी में है। हालांकि, सीट बंटवारे को लेकर दोनों दलों के बीच अंतिम सहमति सामने आना बाकी है। सपा अध्यक्ष और पूर्व सीएम अखिलेश यादव



पहले ही कह चुके हैं कि गठबंधन में सीटों की संख्या से ज्यादा महत्व जीत की संभावना का है। इसी आधार पर दोनों दलों के संगठन की सक्रियता, स्थानीय नेतृत्व, संभावित प्रत्याशियों और सामाजिक समीकरणों का आकलन किया जा सकता है। बीते चुनावों के नतीजे भी बातचीत में महत्वपूर्ण भूमिका निभाएंगे। वर्ष 2022 के विधानसभा चुनाव में कांग्रेस ने 399 सीटों पर उम्मीदवार उतारे थे, लेकिन केवल दो सीटों पर जीत मिली थी। सपा के लिए यह प्रदर्शन कांग्रेस की अधिक सीटों की मांग पर सवाल उठाने का आधार बन सकता है। वहीं, कांग्रेस वर्ष 2024 के लोकसभा चुनाव के नतीजों को अपनी दावेदारी के समर्थन में

रख सकती है। उस चुनाव में सपा ने 37 और कांग्रेस ने छह लोकसभा सीटों पर जीत दर्ज की थी। विधानसभा क्षेत्रों के लिहाज से सपा को 183 और कांग्रेस को 39 क्षेत्रों में बढ़त मिली थी। सपा से जुड़े सूत्रों के मुताबिक, पार्टी ने प्रदेश की सभी विधानसभा सीटों का आकलन किया है। इस आकलन में पिछली जीत के साथ संभावित प्रदर्शन को शामिल किया गया है। पार्टी को उम्मीद है कि बड़ी संख्या में सीटों पर उसकी स्थिति मजबूत रह सकती है। हालांकि, सपा के सामने अपने लोकल नेताओं और टिकट के दावेदारों को संतुष्ट रखने की चुनौती भी होगी। जिन क्षेत्रों में पार्टी नेताओं को टिकट मिलने की उम्मीद है, वहां सीट कांग्रेस के खाते में जाने से असंतोष पैदा हो सकता है। दूसरी ओर, कांग्रेस को कम सीटें मिलने पर उसके कार्यकर्ताओं में गठबंधन में सीमित भूमिका का संदेश जाने की आशंका है। इसके बाद दोनों दलों के लिए सीटों की अदला-बदली, प्रत्याशियों की स्वीकार्यता और जीत की संभावना के बीच संतुलन बनाना महत्वपूर्ण होगा।

Delhi

लोकसभा अध्यक्ष बिरला ने की रूसी संसद के अध्यक्ष व्याचेस्लाव वोलोडिन से मुलाकात



संपर्क द्विपक्षीय संबंधों को मजबूत बनाने में महत्वपूर्ण भूमिका निभाते हैं। लोकसभा अध्यक्ष ने भारत और रूस की संसदों के बीच अंतर-संसदीय आयोग की अगली बैठक आयोजित

करने की संभावनाओं पर विचार करने का सुझाव दिया। उन्होंने कहा कि दोनों देशों के सांसदों और संसदीय प्रतिनिधिमंडलों के बीच लगातार संवाद से आपसी समझ बढ़ेगी और साझा हितों

कहीं भी होने वाला युद्ध, हर जगह की शांति को खतरे में डालता : जयशंकर



नई दिल्ली, एजेंसी। भारतीय विदेश मंत्री एस जयशंकर ने आतंकवाद और दुनिया के विभिन्न हिस्सों में जारी संघर्षों को लेकर भारत का रुख साफ किया। उन्होंने कहा कि आतंकवाद को राज्य की नीति के साधन के रूप में इस्तेमाल करना पूरी तरह गलत है। आतंकवाद को किसी भी परिस्थिति में उचित नहीं मन सकते है उन्होंने वैश्विक शांति के लिए बातचीत, कूटनीति और आतंकवाद के खिलाफ एकजुट प्रयासों को जरूरी बताया। नई दिल्ली में चिन्मय मिशन की 75वाँ वर्षगांठ के मौके पर आयोजित कार्यक्रम में विदेश मंत्री जयशंकर ने कहा कि आतंकवाद विश्व शांति के सामने गंभीर चुनौती है। उन्होंने

अंतरराष्ट्रीय समुदाय से इसके सभी रूपों और अभिव्यक्तियों के खिलाफ एकजुट होकर कार्रवाई करने की अपील की। उनके मुताबिक, दुनिया के देशों को साझा खतरे के प्रति सतर्क रहने और आतंकवाद के खिलाफ दृढ़ संकल्प के साथ खड़े होने की जरूरत है। विदेश मंत्री जयशंकर ने किसी देश का नाम लिए बिना कहा कि इतिहास से सबक मिलने के बावजूद कुछ देश आतंकवाद के मुद्दे पर राजनीतिक फायदे और नुकसान को प्राथमिकता दे रहे हैं। उन्होंने कहा कि जब तक सभी देश आतंकवाद के प्रति शून्य सहिष्णुता की नीति नहीं अपनाते, तब तक इस खतरे से प्रभावी ढंग से निपटना मुश्किल होगा। दुनिया में जारी संघर्षों का उल्लेख कर जयशंकर ने शांति के महत्व पर जोर दिया। उन्होंने कहा, "आज के समय में कहीं भी होने वाला युद्ध, हर जगह की शांति को खतरे में डालता है।" उनका यह बयान तब आया है, जब यूक्रेन युद्ध और पश्चिम एशिया में जारी तनाव को लेकर अंतरराष्ट्रीय स्तर पर चिंताएं बनी हुई हैं। विदेश मंत्री जयशंकर ने कहा कि किसी भी विवाद का समाधान बातचीत और कूटनीति के माध्यम से निकाला जाना चाहिए। उन्होंने वैश्विक समुदाय से शांति स्थापित करने के लिए मिलकर प्रयास करने की अपील की।

2029 तक भारत में चार सक्रिय लांच साइट, इसरो प्रमुख ने भविष्य की योजनाएं बताई

नई दिल्ली , एजेंसी। भारतीय अंतरिक्ष अनुसंधान संगठन (इसरो) के अध्यक्ष वी. नारायणन ने कहा है कि वर्ष 2029 तक भारत में चार सक्रिय प्रक्षेपण स्थल तैयार हो जाएंगे। इससे देश की अंतरिक्ष गतिविधियों का विस्तार होगा और वैश्विक स्तर पर उपग्रह प्रक्षेपण की बढ़ती मांग को पूरा करने में मदद होगी। उन्होंने स्पष्ट किया कि इसरो का निजीकरण नहीं होगा, हालांकि अंतरिक्ष क्षेत्र में निजी कंपनियों और स्टार्टअप की भागीदारी बढ़ाई जाएगी। इसरो प्रमुख नारायणन ने निजी विश्वविद्यालय के दीक्षांत समारोह में इसरो की भावी योजनाओं की जानकारी दी। उन्होंने बताया कि तूतीकोरिन जिले के कुलसेकरपट्टिनम में करीब 2,000 एकड़ भूमि पर लघु उपग्रह प्रक्षेपण

यान (एसएसएलवी) के लिए अलग प्रक्षेपण परिसर विकसित किया जाएगा। यहां रॉकेट के विभिन्न हिस्सों और प्रणालियों को जोड़ने, प्रक्षेपण की तैयारी, निगरानी, नियंत्रण और आंकड़े प्राप्त करने जैसी सुविधाएं उपलब्ध होंगी। इसरो प्रमुख नारायणन, अंतरिक्ष क्षेत्र में तेजी से बढ़ती गतिविधियों के लिए निजी उद्योगों के साथ साझेदारी महत्वपूर्ण है। इसरो स्टार्टअप और निजी कंपनियों को तकनीकी विशेषज्ञता तथा आवश्यक सहयोग उपलब्ध कराएगा। इससे आर्थिक विकास को गति मिलने के साथ उच्च प्रौद्योगिकी वाले क्षेत्रों में रोजगार के नए अवसर पैदा होने की उम्मीद है। इसरो प्रमुख नारायणन ने गगनयान मिशन को लेकर महत्वपूर्ण जानकारी दी। उन्होंने बताया कि इसरो अगले

दो महीनों में पहला मानवरहित परीक्षण करने की योजना बना रहा है। अंतरिक्ष यात्रियों को भेजने से पहले दो और मानवरहित परीक्षण किए जाएंगे। इन परीक्षणों में सुरक्षा प्रणालियां, वातावरण नियंत्रण, आपातकालीन बचाव व्यवस्था और अंतरिक्ष यान की सुविधाओं की जांच की जाएगी। उन्होंने कहा कि मिशन के लिए जमीन पर लगभग 8,000 प्रयोग पूरे किए जा चुके हैं और चर्यनित चार अंतरिक्ष यात्री विशेष प्रशिक्षण ले रहे हैं। भविष्य की योजनाओं में चंद्रयान-5 मिशन शामिल है, जो कि जापान की अंतरिक्ष एजेंसी के सहयोग से विकसित करने की योजना है। इसके तहत लगभग 350 किलोग्राम का रोवर चंद्रमा पर भेजने का लक्ष्य है, जो वहां 100 दिनों तक प्रयोग करेगा।

गोवा में कन्नड़ बोलने से नहीं मिलेगा वोट, मुख्यमंत्री सावंत का कांग्रेस पर निशाना

पणजी , एजेंसी। गोवा के मुख्यमंत्री प्रमोद सावंत ने कांग्रेस पर निशाना साधकर कहा कि राज्य में कन्नड़ भाषा बोलने से वोट हासिल नहीं हो सकते, क्योंकि यहां के लोग कोंकणी भाषा अच्छी तरह समझते हैं। उनका यह बयान कर्नाटक के मुख्यमंत्री डीके शिवकुमार के गोवा में कन्नड़ भाषा में दिए गए भाषण को लेकर आया है। दोनों राज्यों में राजनीतिक बयानबाजी के बीच यह मुद्दा चर्चा में है। सीएम सावंत ने मुरगांव तालुका में भारतीय जनता पार्टी (भाजपा) के कोरटालिम विधानसभा क्षेत्र कार्यालय का उद्घाटन कर यह टिप्पणी की। उन्होंने कहा कि गोवा की अपनी भाषाई और सांस्कृतिक पहचान है तथा यहां के मतदाताओं से संवाद करने के लिए लोकल भाषा और भावनाओं को समझना जरूरी है। दरअसल, कर्नाटक के मुख्यमंत्री डीके शिवकुमार ने आठ अक्टूबर को कांग्रेस की 'गोय राखण यात्रा' के दौरान कोरटालिम में आयोजित जनसभा को कन्नड़ भाषा में संबोधित किया था।

चक्रवात का अलर्ट: ओडिशा के पांच जिलों में स्कूल-कॉलेज बंद, अधिकारियों की छुट्टियां रह

भुवनेश्वर, एजेंसी । ओडिशा में संभावित चक्रवाती तूफान के खतरे को देखकर राज्य सरकार ने तैयारियां तेज कर दी हैं। आंध्र प्रदेश के तट पर 28 अक्टूबर को भीषण चक्रवात के टकराने की आशंका के बीच ओडिशा के 5 जिलों में स्कूल, कॉलेज और आंगनवाड़ी केंद्र बंद रखने का आदेश दिया है। वहीं, सभी जिलाधिकारियों और महत्वपूर्ण विभागों में तैनात अधिकारियों की छुट्टियां रद्द कर उन्हें तत्काल मुख्यालय लौटने के निर्देश दिए हैं। भारत मौसम विज्ञान विभाग (आईएमडी) के मुताबिक, बंगाल की खाड़ी के ऊपर बना गहरा दकाव का क्षेत्र बेहद गंभीर चक्रवाती तूफान में बदल सकता है। इसके आंध्र प्रदेश में बापटला और विशाखापत्तनम के बीच 28 अक्टूबर को तट से टकराने की संभावना है। इस दौरान हवा की रफ्तार 115 से 125 किलोमीटर प्रति घंटे तक रह सकती है, जो बड़कर 140 किलोमीटर प्रति घंटे तक पहुंच सकती है। ओडिशा के मुख्यमंत्री मोहन चरण मांडी ने कहा कि भले ही चक्रवात के आंध्र प्रदेश के तट से

टकराने का अनुमान है, लेकिन ओडिशा सरकार किसी भी तरह का जोखिम नहीं लेना चाहती। उन्होंने अधिकारियों को लोगों की सुरक्षा, संवेदनशील क्षेत्रों से लोगों को निकालने और आपात स्थिति में तत्काल कार्रवाई सुनिश्चित करने के निर्देश दिए हैं। मुख्यमंत्री मांडी के अनुसार, गंजाम, गरूपति, रायगढ़, कोरापुट और मलकानगिरि जिलों में 28 और 29 अक्टूबर को सभी शैक्षणिक संस्थान बंद रहने वाली है। अन्य जिलों में स्कूल-कॉलेज बंद करने का नियंत्र संबंधित जिलाधिकारी स्थिति के आकलन के बाद लेने वाले है। मौसम विभाग ने 27 से 29 अक्टूबर तक ओडिशा में बहुत भारी बारिश की चेतावनी दी है। 28 अक्टूबर के लिए पांच जिलों में रेड अलर्ट जारी किया गया है। कुछ स्थानों पर 20 सेंटीमीटर से अधिक बारिश हो सकती है। दक्षिणी और तटीय इलाकों में 70 से 90 किलोमीटर प्रति घंटे की रफ्तार से हवाएं चलने की आशंका है। प्रशासन में मछुआरों को समुद्र में नहीं जाने की सलाह दी है और आपदा प्रबंधन से जुड़ी तैयारियां तेज कर दी हैं।



कथित 'शुद्धिकरण' की घटना का उल्लेख कर मामले की जांच की मांग भी उठाई। खरोगे ने दावा किया कि भाजपा अध्यक्ष जेपी नड्डा ने जांच का आश्वासन दिया था, लेकिन बाद में राहुल गांधी के हलद्वानी दौरे के दौरान उनके खिलाफ प्राथमिकी दर्ज कर दी गई।

BRIFF NEWS

CBSE makes AI a part of formal teaching, NCERT develops module



New Delhi, Agency: From spotting deepfake to questioning a chatbot's confident but incorrect answers, artificial intelligence (AI) is moving from being an optional subject towards becoming a basic skill for CBSE school-children. Taking a step towards more formal AI teaching in schools, NCERT has developed a 20-hour introductory module for Classes IX-XII, which it has earmarked for school-based assessment. Separate AI textbooks are also being prepared for students pursuing the subject at a more advanced level.

The move is part of a wider effort to make AI literacy accessible to students, irrespective of whether they study computers or choose AI as an elective. The idea is to first familiarise children with how the technology works, its uses and limitations, before moving towards more structured teaching through textbooks. NCERT developed the module on computational thinking (CT) and AI in consultation with IIT Madras and IIT Jodhpur.

In an April-9 circular, CBSE had announced that NCERT would provide modules for Classes IX-XII for internal assessment during the 2026-27 academic session. Under the board's revised scheme, CT and AI modules are compulsory for Class IX, while Class X continues under the existing scheme.

BSF apprehends four Pakistani fishermen in Kutch, seizes boat



New Delhi, Agency: The Border Security Force (BSF) has apprehended four Pakistani fishermen who allegedly entered Indian waters for crab-catching activities and seized a fishing boat near the India-Pakistan border in Gujarat's Kutch district.

According to news agency Media, the fishermen were apprehended from the Sir Creek area on Sunday following specific intelligence inputs, an official said. The fishermen were identified as Kadir Thaimor, Muhammad Mussa, Azgar Thaimor and Ahsan Jat, all residents of Chach Jaan Khan village in Pakistan's Sindh province, according to information provided by the BSF.

Sir Creek is a narrow, marshy tidal channel in the Rann of Kutch, along the coastal region between Gujarat and Pakistan's Sindh province. The area is strategically sensitive because the longstanding India-Pakistan boundary dispute over the creek affects the demarcation of the maritime boundary in the Arabian Sea. The region's shallow waters, tidal channels and extensive marshlands make navigation and border surveillance challenging. Fishing activities in the area can also lead to fishermen crossing into the other country's waters, prompting apprehensions by security personnel.

EAM to UN: Lead during global crises, don't just be a spectator

New Delhi, Agency: Urging UN to show leadership, and not remain a mere spectator to global crises, external affairs minister S Jaishankar said Sunday large parts of the world cannot be left out from decision-making. At an event on UN Day, he underlined the need for long-awaited reforms.

"We live in an imperfect world but we all continuously strive towards greater perfection. Where UN is concerned, that means recognising its shortcom-

ings and limitations and seeking its improvement. The case for reformed multilateralism gets stronger by the day," he said.

Jaishankar spoke about how countries with little say were paying the price for conflicts in West Asia and Ukraine. He also underscored the threat to peace from terrorism, saying its usage as an instrument of statecraft is simply unacceptable.

"It can never be justified; it can never be rationalised. Yet, it continues



because not all states really display zero-tolerance. Despite history holding so many lessons, some still allow political calculations to take precedence."

"The world must develop sharper awareness about this common threat. And it must come together with stronger resolve and counter terrorism in all its forms

and manifestations," he added. He said the world cannot advance half-prosperous and half-denied and in an era of intricate supply chains, of globalised markets and of common resources, this is simply a prescription for continuous instability. "The Global South today faces a 4F crisis: of finance, fuel, food, and fertiliser. The Global North must realise it has equal stakes in finding solutions. International economy must be urgently de-risked and nations pro-

vided with more diversified options. Market distortions through constriction and choke-points only add to suffering. A genuine dialogue in this regard is overdue," the minister said.

Underlining the significance of AI as the mother of all change, Jaishankar said something so sweeping and consequential cannot be left in the hands of just a few. "That would go counter to the trends of freedom and democratisation that the world has seen over the last eighty years," he added.

EPFO considers Rs 25,000cr war chest to stabilise interest payouts

New Delhi, Agency: Employees' Provident Fund Organisation is discussing a dedicated Rs 25,000-crore Interest Stabilisation Reserve, designed to insulate the annual interest payouts of its nearly 30 crore members from the turbulence caused by corporate bond defaults and forced-exit losses. Officials said EPFO and government want a stable regime for its subscribers and wish to avoid any sharp fall or spike in rates due to market conditions or defaults.

Under existing regulatory frameworks, credit losses and exit haircuts, resulting from downgraded securities, directly impact EPFO's interest account and depress the annual interest rate for members.

Report on ISR sent to panel



studying EPFO investment framework. A proposal submitted by IIM Kozhikode, which among other things studied the feasibility of creating an Interest Stabilisation Reserve (ISR), was discussed in detail by EPFO's investment committee (IC) Thursday. Media has learnt. The report has now been sent to a high-powered panel constituted to examine the agency's investment framework and recognise non-performing investments.

The report suggested building the stabilisation reserve progressively

via surplus ETF capital gains and excess interest income and investing it strictly in liquid govt securities (G-Secs) to ensure absolute capital safety, sovereign backing, immediate liquidity, and risk-free yield, said persons familiar with the deliberations.

The reserve will not only shield subscribers but will also back active exit policies and empower portfolio managers to execute disciplined, multi-year exits from troubled assets without hesitation. The report took into account the current realities of India's over-the-counter (OTC) corporate bond market, which remains shallow and illiquid, such that when institutional holders such as EPFO are forced to exit distressed assets, thin market depth results in severe haircuts.

'Too deferential to govt': Former SC judge questions ex-CJI Chandrachud's approach to appointments

New Delhi, Agency: Former Supreme Court judge Justice Sanjay Kishan Kaul has criticised former Chief Justice of India (CJI) D Y Chandrachud's approach to judicial appointments, alleging that he was "too deferential to the government" and expressing concern over the practice of discussing candidates with the executive before formal Collegium deliberations.

In his forthcoming memoir, *Without Fear or Favour*, Justice Kaul recounts a Collegium meeting to fill six vacancies in the Supreme Court, during which five names had been agreed upon in advance. He alleges that Justice Chandrachud proposed a sixth candidate at the last minute and considered seeking the gov-



ernment's view on the appointment.

"The Chief Justice drew me aside into a separate room and wondered aloud whether he should telephone out to check the government's view," Kaul wrote in his book.

Speaking to news portal The Wire about his memoir, Kaul said the Collegium must resist executive pressure to safeguard judicial independence.

Massive fire engulfs Shiv Market near Jammu Railway Station, 35-40 shops gutted

New Delhi, Agency:

Around 35 to 40 shops were completely gutted after a massive fire broke out at Shiv Market, opposite Jammu Railway Station, in the early hours of Monday. No casualties or injuries have been reported so far, while fire and emergency services teams were working to bring the blaze under control. The cause of the fire remains unknown.

BJP MLA Vikram Randhawa said the fire reportedly began due to a short circuit in one shop before spreading rapidly to adjoining establishments. Shiv Market is a major commercial hub with shops selling dry



fruits and blankets, as well as eateries and dhabas.

"The fire started with a short circuit in one shop and spread rapidly, engulfing surrounding shops. By the time the fire brigade arrived, the entire market had been consumed by the flames. In my estimation, about

35 to 40 shops have been completely gutted," Randhawa said.

Describing the fire-fighting efforts, the MLA said the blaze had engulfed the entire market by the time the situation could be brought under control. He added that police personnel and senior officers were

actively involved in managing the situation.

"As it kept growing, by the time the whole system came under control, it had already engulfed the entire market. Right now, our police are completely alert and actively controlling the situation. You can see that from the SHO to our SP, everyone is personally involved, even holding and dragging pipes all the way to the shops," Randhawa said.

A shopkeeper said at least 25 to 30 shops had suffered total losses and urged the administration to provide compensation to those affected.

Give mayors real powers, ensure timely civic audits, urban body heads tell Centre

New Delhi, Agency:

Even as the Centre moots directly elected mayors with a fixed five-year tenure and a mayor-in-council system, municipal heads from different cities at National Urban Conclave flagged that the move would serve little purpose without giving mayors adequate powers. Rajkot mayor Nehal Shukla also called for time-bound financial audits of civic bodies, saying that "no municipal body can function without financial irregularities". Participating in a discussion on proposed changes to the Model Municipal Law, Shukla said mayors in municipal governance were like governors, while standing committees wielded financial powers and executive officials remained under the control of state govts.

"Wherever we have directly elected mayors,



we must have a mayor-in-council. If you don't give power to the mayor, direct election hardly serves any objective," he said.

Under the mayor-in-council system, executive powers to run a city on a day-to-day basis are shared between the mayor and a small, cabinet-like group of elected councillors, who are individually accountable for their respective portfolios.

Shukla also suggested that municipal elections be conducted by the Election Commission, citing its track record of holding timely general and assembly elections.

He said state govts invariably found one reason or another to delay municipal polls. "The biggest missing thing that needs to be fixed is timely audits to bring financial discipline. Audit reports are delayed by six to eight years, and that's why irregularities do not come to light. We all know that no municipal body can function without financial irregularities," he said.

Shukla pointed out that rules require tenders to be floated for works or services costing more than Rs 5 lakh, but alleged that this was often not followed. Municipal com-

missioners, he said, were aware of such violations but approved the transactions because otherwise civic bodies could not function.

He suggested that audits be conducted by the Comptroller and Auditor General (CAG). If state auditors continued to conduct them, he said, the law should ensure that the audit backlog did not exceed two years.

Bhubaneswar mayor Sulochana Das, who also participated in the discussion, said municipal laws were robust on paper, but the ground reality was different. "People have more expectations from directly elected mayors. But we have no power. Executive officers such as municipal commissioners are beyond the control of mayors, as we cannot write their annual performance reports or have any say in their appointments."

Former CJI D Y Chandrachud was more deferential to government than needed, says Justice Kaul

New Delhi, Agency:

Former CJI D Y Chandrachud was more deferential to the govt than necessary in matters of judicial appointments, former SC judge Justice Sanjay Kishan Kaul has said in his forthcoming book *Without Fear Or Favour*, and claimed that he was prevented from hearing petitions for re-examination of the validity of provisions of PMLA.

Kaul also claimed Justice Chandrachud had, allegedly under pressure from govt, withdrawn a case from him in which a bench headed by him had questioned delays in implementation of the SC collegium's resolutions for appointment of judges. This, he said, "troubled him the most" as the case was assigned years ago and was taken away all of a sudden. Reacting to the claims, Justice Chandrachud said, "There was never even a dissent by any member of the collegium over any name during discussions for appointments to the SC."

Sources said resolutions passed by the collegium for appointments to the SC during Justice Chandrachud's tenure



were unanimous and signed by all members of the collegium without recording a single dissent. In this case, a bench of Justices Kaul and Sudhanshu Dhulia had pulled up govt for its alleged pick-and-choose policy in clearing names sent by the collegium and had on Nov 20, 2023, asked why Centre was not transferring four judges from Gujarat HC and not appointing two Sikh lawyers for Punjab and Haryana HC as recommended by the collegium. The case was thereafter taken away from his bench and it has not been listed in the last three years.

In an interview to Karan Thapar for The Wire, Justice Kaul claimed the former CJI took him aside during a collegium meeting and asked whether he should telephone govt to ascertain its views on the proposed appointments.

FASHION BEYOND TRENDS

Dressing for a Better Future: The Rise of Sustainable Style

Fast Fashion, Lasting Consequences — The Hidden Cost of Cheap Clothes

The fashion industry has built its success on a simple promise: new styles, affordable prices and the excitement of constantly changing one's appearance. A dress inspired by a runway collection can appear in a high-street store within weeks, while online platforms introduce fresh designs almost every day. For consumers, this makes fashion more accessible than ever. Yet behind the convenience of inexpensive clothing lies a growing concern about how garments are produced, used and discarded.

Fast fashion refers to a business model that produces clothing quickly and frequently in response to changing trends. Its popularity has transformed shopping habits, particularly among younger consumers who want to experiment with different looks without spending too much. However, when clothes are designed to be worn only a few times before being replaced, the environmental

and social costs can become considerable.

The production of clothing requires raw materials, energy, water, dyes and transportation. Cotton cultivation can demand substantial water resources, while synthetic fabrics such as polyester are derived largely from fossil fuels. Dyeing and finishing processes may also create polluted wastewater when industrial facilities fail to manage chemicals responsibly. The precise impact varies according to the material, manufacturing process and location, but the overall production chain makes clothing a resource-intensive product.

The problem does not end when a garment reaches a shop. Rapidly changing trends encourage consumers to buy more than they need, while low prices can make repairing or altering an old garment seem less attractive than purchasing a replacement. Clothing that is thrown away may be resold,



reused, recycled or sent to landfill or incineration, depending on local waste systems. Many discarded textiles are difficult to recycle because they combine different fibres, dyes, buttons and other materials.

India faces both sides of this challenge. It has a large textile and garment industry, a long tradition of clothing repair and reuse, and a growing market for affordable fashion. At the same

time, urban consumption patterns are changing as online shopping, influencer culture and frequent sales encourage new purchasing habits. The country's traditional practices of passing clothes between family members, altering garments and reusing fabric offer useful lessons for a more responsible future.

Consumers do not need to stop enjoying fashion to reduce

its impact. A more practical approach begins with asking whether a garment will be worn regularly, whether its quality justifies its price and whether it can be combined with existing clothes.

Buying fewer but more versatile pieces can reduce unnecessary spending as well as wardrobe clutter. Washing garments carefully, following care labels, repairing loose seams and replacing missing buttons can also extend their useful lives.

Businesses have an equally important responsibility.

Transparent sourcing, safer production methods, better-quality materials, fair working conditions and realistic product durability can help move the industry beyond disposable consumption. Brands can support repair services, resale schemes and take-back programmes, although these initiatives must lead to meaningful reuse or recycling rather

than simply becoming another marketing strategy.

Governments, manufacturers and consumers all have roles in improving textile waste management. Better collection systems, clearer product information and investment in textile recycling can make responsible choices easier. However, recycling alone cannot solve the problem if clothing production and consumption continue to rise without limits.

Fashion has always been a form of personal expression, but its value need not depend on constant replacement. The real measure of a wardrobe is not how frequently it changes, but how well its clothes serve the people who wear them. Affordable style can coexist with responsibility when quality, usefulness and longer product life become priorities. The future of fashion will depend on whether the industry can make lasting clothing as desirable as the latest trend.

From Old to Outstanding — How Thrift Shopping Is Changing Fashion



Fashion has traditionally been associated with buying something new. A new season often brings new colours, new silhouettes and new reasons to visit clothing stores. Yet a different idea is gaining attention: the next great addition to a wardrobe may already belong to someone else. Thrift shopping, vintage clothing and pre-owned fashion are encouraging people to rethink the relationship between style, ownership and waste.

Thrift shopping involves purchasing previously owned garments, usually through second-hand stores, resale platforms, community markets or individual sellers. Vintage fashion often refers to older clothing valued for its design, quality or connection to a particular period. Although the two categories overlap, not every second-hand garment is vintage, and not every vintage item is necessarily expensive or rare.

One reason for the growing appeal of pre-owned clothing is affordability. Students, young professionals and budget-conscious families can sometimes find useful garments at prices below those of new products. It can also provide access to distinctive designs that are no longer widely available. An older denim jacket, a classic handbag or a patterned shirt may offer a more individual look than a mass-produced item sold in large quantities.

The environmental argument is equally important. Extending the life of a garment can reduce the need to purchase a new replacement and help keep usable textiles in circulation. The benefit depends on what happens next: buying a second-hand coat that replaces a new purchase is different from adding another item that is rarely worn. Transport, cleaning and packaging also influence the overall impact. Nevertheless, reuse can be a valuable part of reducing textile waste when it genuinely displaces unnecessary new consumption.

Digital platforms have made

pre-owned fashion easier to discover. Sellers can photograph garments, describe their condition and reach buyers beyond their local neighbourhoods. Social media creators have also helped make thrifted outfits visible, showing how older pieces can be styled with contemporary clothing. This has challenged the assumption that used clothing is automatically outdated or undesirable.

In India, resale culture connects with practices that have existed for generations. Families often pass clothes between siblings, alter garments to suit different people and reuse fabric for household purposes. Local markets have long provided opportunities to buy affordable clothing and textiles. Online resale has introduced new ways of discovering pre-owned fashion, but the basic principle remains familiar: a garment can have value beyond its first owner.

However, thrift shopping requires attention. Buyers should examine seams, zips, buttons, stains, odours and signs of wear. Measurements are often more reliable than labelled sizes, particularly for vintage garments whose sizing standards may differ from modern ones.

For online purchases, clear photographs, return policies and seller descriptions are important. Delicate fabrics may need specialist cleaning, and items should be washed or cleaned appropriately before use.

There are also concerns about the commercialisation of second-hand fashion. When resale becomes a trend driven by excessive buying, consumers can end up accumulating more clothing rather than reducing consumption. In some markets, increased demand for desirable vintage pieces can raise prices and make certain items less accessible to people who rely on second-hand clothing for affordability. Responsible resale should therefore focus on extending garment life, not simply creating another cycle of compulsive shopping.

Indian Handlooms and Natural Fabrics Find a New Generation

India's fashion story begins long before the arrival of modern fashion weeks, international labels and digital shopping platforms.

Across the country, generations of weavers, dyers, embroiderers and craftspeople have developed textile traditions shaped by local climates, materials, communities and artistic expression. Today, these traditions have an opportunity to connect with a new generation of consumers seeking clothing that combines individuality, cultural identity and responsible production.

Indian textiles are extraordinarily diverse. Handloom cotton, silk, khadi, ikat, block-printed



fabrics and regional weaving traditions each have their own techniques and visual language.

The appearance and character of these textiles depend on the fibres, weaving methods, dyes and skills involved. They are not simply materials for making garments; they also carry

knowledge passed between generations and reflect the histories of the places where they are produced. For many years, modern fashion was frequently associated with western silhouettes, factory-made clothing and rapidly changing international trends. Yet traditional Indian fabrics have

continued to adapt. Designers combine handwoven textiles with contemporary cuts, create jackets from regional fabrics, pair traditional skirts with modern tops and reinterpret familiar garments for everyday use. Sarees are styled in new ways, while kurtas, dupattas and embroidered pieces are incorporated into wardrobes that move between work, college and social occasions.

This fusion can make traditional clothing more accessible to younger buyers.

A handwoven fabric does not have to be reserved for weddings or festivals; it can become a shirt, a work jacket, a relaxed dress or an everyday accessory.

The Capsule Wardrobe — More Style, Less Waste



An overflowing wardrobe does not always make getting dressed easier. Many people own clothes they rarely wear, purchase new outfits for individual occasions and still feel they have nothing suitable to put on. The capsule wardrobe offers a different approach: instead of collecting as many garments as possible, build a smaller, carefully chosen collection of clothing that works together and suits everyday needs.

A capsule wardrobe generally consists of versatile pieces that can be com-

bined in multiple ways. It may include comfortable trousers, well-fitting shirts, a jacket, everyday footwear, a few dresses or traditional garments, and accessories that complement different outfits. There is no universally correct number of items. The idea is to select clothing based on personal lifestyle, climate, comfort, budget and individual taste rather than following a rigid formula.

The concept challenges the assumption that fashionable people must constantly purchase new clothes. A single neutral shirt, for example, can be paired with jeans for a casual outing, tailored trousers for work or a skirt for an evening event. A versatile jacket can transform several outfits without requiring an entirely new wardrobe. Thoughtful combinations allow familiar garments to create different looks.

This approach can also make shopping more deliberate. Before purchasing something, consumers can consider

whether it matches clothes they already own, whether it fills a genuine gap and whether it is comfortable enough to be worn regularly. <

A garment that looks attractive in a shop but works with nothing else may remain unused. By contrast, an ordinary-looking item that fits well and suits multiple occasions can become one of the most valuable pieces in a wardrobe.

For Indian consumers, a capsule wardrobe does not need to follow a strictly western or monochromatic style. It can include kurtas, salwar suits, sarees, shirts, jeans, dupattas and regionally appropriate clothing. Someone living in a hot climate may prioritise breathable fabrics and lightweight layers, while someone working in a formal office may need several professional combinations. Festive and traditional clothing can also form part of a capsule wardrobe when it is chosen according to actual needs.

Can Fashion Become Truly Sustainable? Challenges and Opportunities

Fashion is an industry of creativity, identity and economic opportunity, but it is also an industry facing difficult questions about resources, waste and working conditions. As consumers become more interested in the origins of their clothes, designers and businesses are under growing pressure to explain how garments are produced and what happens to them after use. The challenge is not simply to make fashion look environmentally responsible, but to change the systems that determine how clothing is designed, manufactured, sold and dis-



carded.

One of the most promising opportunities lies in designing garments for longer use. Clothing that fits well, uses suitable materials and can withstand regular washing is more likely to

remain in a wardrobe. Repairable construction, replaceable buttons and accessible alterations can extend product life. Brands that focus on durability rather than constant replacement can help consumers

develop a different relationship with clothing.

Material innovation is another important area. Recycled fibres can make use of existing resources, while improved production techniques may reduce waste or energy requirements. However, recycled materials are not automatically the best choice in every situation. Some fibre blends are difficult to recycle, and synthetic garments can release microfibres during washing. Natural materials also have environmental impacts linked to cultivation, processing and land use.