

OPEN SEARCH

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India, Poland agree to double bilateral trade by 2030

NEW DELHI : (AGENCY)

Prime Minister Narendra Modi and his Polish counterpart Donald Tusk on Thursday agreed on a goal to double bilateral trade between the two nations by 2030, according to a joint statement issued following their meeting here.

The leaders pressed for the prompt signing and ratification of the EU-India Free Trade Agreement (FTA), along with its timely implementation, to unlock new opportunities for commerce and investment, diversify and reinforce vital value chains, and open new markets, the statement noted.

PM Modi invited Polish enterprises to expand their investments and operations in India, encouraging them to capitalise on India's expansive market, proficient workforce and growing manufacturing and innovation ecosystem.

Tusk expressed appreciation for Indian investments in Poland and underscored Poland's position as a gateway for Indian firms seeking to broaden their footprint across Central and Eastern Europe and the wider European market. Both leaders consented to



PM Modi, Polish counterpart Tusk condemn terrorism and violent extremism

Prime Minister Narendra Modi and his Polish counterpart Donald Tusk on Thursday condemned terrorism and violent extremism, pressing the global community to persist in eradicating terrorist safe havens and infrastructure. The two leaders advocated robust and unified measures against terrorists and terrorist entities, encompassing those listed by the United Nations Security Council (UNSC) 1267 sanc-

tions committee. During their meeting at Hyderabad House in New Delhi on Thursday, PM Modi and PM Tusk held comprehensive discussions covering bilateral, regional and global matters of shared concern. "The two leaders unequivocally condemned terrorism and violent extremism leading to terrorism in all their forms and manifestations, irrespective of their motivations, including cross-border terrorism.

broaden cooperation in agriculture through the resumption of activities by the bilateral working group, designed to intensify bilateral trade and cooperation.

Additionally, the leaders welcomed the India-Poland Business Forum conducted during the visit, featuring the active participation of prominent chief executives

and industry representatives from both nations. They urged businesses to forge partnerships across sectors encompassing industrial machinery,

defence, infrastructure, pharmaceuticals, mining and critical minerals, energy, ICT and other areas of mutual interest. They emphasised the significance of resilient and diversified supply chains, the promotion of medium and small enterprises, innovation-led growth and digital transformation. Furthermore, the leaders acknowledged the transformative impact of digital technologies and artificial intelligence on economic growth, productivity and public service delivery. Noting the India-EU Comprehensive Strategic Agenda, both leaders also agreed to undertake collaborative research on AI, semiconductors and quantum technologies, alongside strengthening start-up partnerships. They resolved to foster closer collaboration among enterprises, research institutions and innovation ecosystems in both countries. The leaders identified cooperation within the space sector as a key element of the Strategic Partnership and promoted stronger institutional and industry-level engagement, welcoming efforts to identify concrete areas of mutually beneficial cooperation.

President releases 200 commemorative coin honouring Pujya Mata Hasi Devi

RAIPUR. OPEN SEARCH

President Smt. Droupadi Murmu on Thursday released a 200 commemorative coin in honour of Pujya Mata Hasi Devi at Chhattisgarh Mandapam in Lok Bhavan, in the presence of Governor Shri Ramen Deka and Chief Minister Shri Vishnu Deo Sai.

The coin has been issued by the Union Ministry of Finance to mark the 200th birth anniversary of Mata Sahib Hasi Devi, the fifth spiritual head (Peethadheesh) of Pujya Shadani Darbar in Raipur. The release of a commemorative coin honouring the revered Sindh spiritual figure marks a historic occasion for the community and is a matter of pride for crores of Sindhis living in India and abroad.

Following its unveiling, devotees and coin collectors will be able to book the commemorative coin through various units of Shadani Darbar.

The special coin features an image of Pujya Mata Hasi Devi. One side bears the Lion Capital of Ashoka, along with the denomination of 200. The initiative aims to preserve



President Droupadi Murmu Receives Warm Welcome on the Sacred Land of Chhattisgarh

Governor Shri Ramen Deka and Chief Minister Shri Vishnu Deo Sai warmly welcomed President Smt. Droupadi Murmu upon her arrival at Swami Vivekananda Airport in Raipur today. On behalf of the people of Chhattisgarh, Chief Minister Shri Vishnu Deo

Sai extended a heartfelt welcome and greetings to President Smt. Murmu on the sacred land of Chhattisgarh, the 'Nanihaal' of Lord Shri Ram and the land of Mata Kaushalya. Chief Minister Shri Sai said that President Murmu's participation in the historic.

and carry forward her life, teachings and spiritual contributions for future generations.

The welcome address was delivered by Sant Dr Yudhishtir Lal, Peethadheesh of Pujya Shadani Darbar, Raipur. The event was attended by Smt. Rani Deka Kakoti, First Lady of Chhattisgarh; MP Shri Brijmohan Agrawal; MLAs

Shri Purandar Mishra, Shri Sunil Soni and Shri Motilal Sahu; Chief Secretary Shri Vikas Sheel; Director General of Police Shri Arun Dev Gautam; Governor's Secretary Dr CR Prasanna; senior officials; members of Shadani Darbar; and public representatives and members of the Sindhi community from across the country.

INDIA bloc leaders' virtual meeting to discuss roadmap for 'vote chori' protests deferred

NEW DELHI : (AGENCY)

The proposed virtual meeting of the INDIA Bloc on the future course of action on protests against Chief Election Commissioner Gyanesh Kumar has been deferred, sources said. The meeting was to be held on Thursday evening to deliberate on the roadmap for protests over the "vote chori" issue and on ways to press for the Chief Election Commissioner's resignation, the sources added. Congress president Mallikarjun Kharge was to chair the meeting, which will also review the preparations for the INDIA bloc's rally in Delhi on November 1, they said.



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cuss ways to corner the government over the 'vote chori' issue soon during the meeting. There was no intimation about the next meeting of the grouping. The meeting also assumes significance as it comes at a time when there is speculation over the government

convening Parliament for passing a Constitution amendment bill, involving delimitation, for the early implementation of the Women's Reservation Act. Last week, the protests over the "vote theft" charge reached the Supreme Court's doorstep. On October 12, Opposition stalwarts, joined by activists and civil society members, took part in a "March for Democracy" along a heavily barricaded route and filed a joint petition against Special Intensive Revision (SIR) of electoral rolls, alleging poll irregularities, in a major show of strength in the national capital. Congress leader Rahul Gandhi also hosted INDIA bloc leaders for tea at his home on October 13. After the meeting, the opposition bloc vowed to continue resisting.

4,000 Indian pilgrims stranded in Makkah, Madina as flights cancelled

NEW DELHI : (AGENCY) Around 4,000 Indian pilgrims are stranded in the Saudi Arabian holy cities of Makkah and Madina following flight cancellations, prompting AIMIM chief Asaduddin Owaisi to urge the government and aviation regulator to arrange additional flights to bring them home. Owaisi said the pilgrims had travelled to Saudi Arabia on IndiGo, Akasa Air and Air India but were unable to return after the airlines cancelled services amid heightened security concerns in the region. In a post on X, he urged the Directorate General of Civil Aviation (DGCA) to allow airlines to operate larger aircraft to accommodate the stranded passengers or arrange special flights if regular services could not be restored. "The Indian pilgrims have been abandoned by their travel agents," Owaisi alleged, seeking urgent government intervention and immediate assistance for those stranded. The Ministry of External Affairs (MEA), meanwhile, said about 3,000 stranded Umrah pilgrims had returned to India from Saudi Arabia over the past week on available flights, while more than 10,000 other pilgrims had also travelled back during the same period.

Tourism development roadmap prepared in line with Haryana Vision-2047 to give fresh boost to rural economy

VIJAY KUMAR. OPEN SEARCH

CHANDIGARH. Haryana Chief Minister Sh. Nayab Singh Saini said that the state government will now provide financial assistance to 100 pilgrims each every year for the Swarna Jayanti Guru Darshan Yatra, Kailash Mansarovar Yatra and Sindhu Darshan Yatra. So far, financial assistance has been provided to 50 pilgrims annually under each of these three pilgrimage schemes. He also directed that registration for these yatras be carried out online through a dedicated portal. The Chief Minister issued these directions while chairing a review meeting on Thursday at the Haryana Civil Secretariat to discuss the Tourism Department's action plan for the next five years under Haryana Vision-2047. He issued comprehensive directions to improve the functioning of the department and develop Haryana into a tourism hub. Tourism Department Commissioner and



Double the Number of Pilgrims to Receive Financial Assistance for Guru Darshan, Kailash Mansarovar and Sindhu Darshan Yatras : CM Nayab Singh Saini

Secretary Dr. Amit Agrawal informed the meeting that the Haryana Government provides financial assistance of 20,000 per pilgrim for the Swarna Jayanti Guru Darshan Yatra,

250,000 per pilgrim for the Kailash Mansarovar Yatra and 20,000 per pilgrim for the Sindhu Darshan Yatra. At present, 50 pilgrims receive assistance annually under each scheme. The Chief Minister directed that the number of beneficiaries be increased from 50 to 100 annually for each of the three yatras. He also instructed the department to develop an online registration portal and ensure that only pilgrims registered through the portal receive financial assistance. Dr. Amit Agrawal informed the meeting that the Tourism Department currently has 42 tourist complexes, 21 banquet and convention halls, 35 conference halls, 842 air-conditioned rooms, eight dormitories, 243 shops and 1,192 acres of tourism-related land. The state also operates five institutes of hotel management and 15 petrol pumps. The Chief Minister directed the department to renovate important tourism sites wherever required.

Indian killed as attacks hit Saudi airport, Aramco oil field; New Delhi condemns strikes

NEW DELHI : (AGENCY)

India on Thursday strongly condemned attacks on Saudi Arabia's civilian and energy infrastructure after an Indian national was killed and three others injured in separate incidents targeting King Fahd International Airport in Dammam and Saudi Aramco's Shaybah oil field, raising fresh concerns over the safety of Indians amid escalating regional hostilities. The Ministry of External Affairs said one Indian national died and two were injured in the attack on Dammam airport on Wednesday, while another Indian sustained injuries in the incident at the Shaybah oil field in the kingdom's Eastern Province. "We strongly condemn the continued attacks on civilian and energy infrastructure in Saudi Arabia," the government



said, describing the strikes as unacceptable and calling for an immediate cessation of such attacks. New Delhi conveyed condolences to the family of the Indian national killed in Dammam and wished those injured a speedy recovery. The Indian Embassy in Riyadh is in contact with Saudi authorities and will provide all possible assistance, the MEA said. The Dammam attack killed two people, including an Indian resident, and injured eight others, according to Saudi Arabia's General Authority of Civil Aviation. The injured included expatriates of several nationalities, with some reported to be in serious condition.

Shah attends the inauguration and foundation-stone laying ceremony of Yamuna rejuvenation related projects worth 8,941 crore in Delhi

AJEET KUMAR. OPEN SEARCH

NEW DELHI. Union Home Minister and Minister of Cooperation Shri Amit Shah today attended the inauguration and foundation-stone laying ceremony of projects worth 8,941 crore related to the rejuvenation of the Yamuna in Delhi. On this occasion, Lieutenant Governor of Delhi Shri Taranjit Singh Sandhu and Chief Minister Smt. Rekha Gupta, along with several other dignitaries, were present. In his address, Union Home Minister Shri Amit Shah said that today the inauguration and foundation-stone laying of important projects worth nearly 9,000 crore for the purification of the Yamuna took place here. Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi, as soon as our party's government was formed in Delhi, called a major meet-



ing and placed his vision of purifying the Yamuna before the Delhi Government and the Ministry of Home Affairs. In such a short time, we have achieved more than 40 per cent success.

Shri Amit Shah said that for the past 30 years, previous governments allowed Delhi's sewage water to be discharged into the Yamuna and dumped 2,000

tonnes of cow dung from dairies into the Yamuna every day. At one time, governments of the main opposition party's allies were in power in Uttar Pradesh and Haryana, and industrial waste water from Haryana as well as dirty water from Uttar Pradesh also flowed into the Yamuna. He said that today our party's governments are in power at the Centre and in Delhi,

Haryana and Uttar Pradesh. Our governments in these four states have jointly prepared time-bound roadmaps for Uttar Pradesh, Haryana and Delhi, through which we will make the Yamuna clean by 2029. Shri Shah said that we want to build a Delhi where homes are beautiful, water is pure, streets are clean, there are no mountains of garbage, and the Yamuna, once

As soon as our government was formed in Delhi, Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi placed before the Delhi government a plan of action to make the Yamuna pollution-free; so far, 40% of the work under this plan has been completed

cleansed, can bestow its blessings on the people from here all the way to the Sangam. He said that Prime Minister Modi has taken up this work as an unwavering resolve, and today a very large part of that resolve is being fulfilled.

Union Home Minister said that 10 projects were inaugurated and 33 projects were initiated here today. He said that through the schemes started at a total cost of 8,941 crore,

several lakh litres of water will be purified and flow into the Yamuna. Projects related to several areas of Delhi were inaugurated here today, and the foundation stones were also laid for the upgradation of existing STPs and the installation of new STPs. A decentralised STP pumping station has also been set up here today, and work has begun to connect sewer lines to households. We are taking forward sewer rehabilitation, tapping and drainage work. The Home Minister expressed confidence that we will purify the Yamuna before May 2029. Shri Amit Shah said that some political parties only indulge in the politics of excuses. Previous governments in Delhi used to make excuses that they did not get any help. He said that we have answers to every claim of theirs.

CM Saini reviews the five-year action plan of the Archaeology and Museums Department under Haryana Vision 2047

VIJAY KUMAR.OPEN SEARCH

CHANDIGARH : Haryana Chief Minister Sh. Nayab Singh Saini said that the state is home to numerous historical sites that reflect its glorious past and the struggles of its ancestors. To familiarise people with this rich heritage, a new corridor connecting historical sites should be developed in Haryana so that future generations can learn about the stories of brave heroes who sacrificed their lives for the nation.

The Chief Minister issued these directions while chairing a review meeting on Thursday at the Haryana Civil Secretariat to assess the five-year action plan of the Archaeology and Museums Department under Haryana Vision 2047. He also issued comprehensive directions to further improve the functioning of the Tourism Department and develop Haryana into a tourism hub. The Chief Minister said that stories of the struggle waged by Haryana's ancestors for India's independence are scattered across every corner of the state. The First

CHANDIGARH : OPEN SEARCH

Haryana Labour Minister Sh. Anil Vij has urged Union Minister of Labour and Employment Dr. Mansukh Mandaviya to take the necessary steps to expedite the construction of the proposed Employees' State Insurance Corporation (ESIC) Hospital in Sector 33, Ambala, and ensure that the project is completed within a stipulated timeframe. In a letter to the Union Minister, Sh. Vij highlighted the importance of the project and requested him to direct the concerned ESIC authorities to expedite the requisite administrative and technical procedures. In his letter, Sh. Anil Vij said

CHANDIGARH : OPEN SEARCH

The Haryana government on Thursday approved procurement and service proposals worth approximately Rs. 3.26 crore to upgrade district hospitals, strengthen blood banks and diagnostic laboratories, improve pharmaceutical quality testing and create a centralised digital inventory of medical equipment across all districts of the state.

The decisions were taken at separate meetings of the State Health Procurement Special Standing Purchase Committee, chaired by the Additional Chief Secretary, Health Department, Dr. Sumita Misra. The committees approved two-year rate

CHANDIGARH : OPEN SEARCH

Haryana Energy Minister Sh. Anil Vij, commenting on the strike by Haryana electricity employees in protest against licences granted for power distribution in Gurugram and Nuh, said that all arrangements have been made and the strike is unnecessary because the Haryana Electricity Regulatory Commission has ordered that electricity be supplied to the private company. However, the department opposed the company with full strength, engaging a senior lawyer before the regulator.

But it is an autonomous body; the government had not sought applications for privatising electricity. Under



War of Independence in 1857 began from Ambala Cantonment, and to raise public awareness about this historic event, the government has constructed a grand and magnificent Shaheed Smarak in Ambala Cantonment.

All the locations associated with the freedom struggle depicted at the memorial still exist in Ambala and other districts. These sites need not only to be preserved but also developed in an integrated manner to create a new corridor that enables the public to learn about Haryana's history. He directed the officials

to prepare a comprehensive action plan in this regard. Dr. Amit Kumar Agrawal, Commissioner and Secretary, Archaeology and Museums Department, presented details of the department's five-year action plan under the Vision 2047 framework. The plan aims to preserve the state's ancient civilisation, historical treasures and cultural heritage while promoting tourism.

He said the objective was to explore, preserve and promote Haryana's nearly 10,000-year-old heritage and develop the state into a leading centre for cul-

tural tourism. The plan places special emphasis on scientific excavations at archaeological sites, documentation of historical heritage, conservation and restoration of monuments, modernisation of museums, and increased public participation.

Between 1972 and 2025, archaeological excavations were conducted at nine sites in the state. The department plans to undertake excavations at 21 new sites in the coming years. In the first phase, excavations are planned at Siswal in Hisar district during 2026-27. This will be fol-

lowed by excavations at Kharar Alipur in two phases. During 2029–31, sites will be selected from Balu, Jogna Khera, Tigadana and Rakhigarhi based on archaeological priorities.

Chief Minister Sh. Nayab Singh Saini directed that the number of protected monuments in the state be increased from the current 72 to more than 120 by 2031. He called for the identification, documentation and scientific conservation of historical forts, ancient stepwells, temples and havelis. He also pointed out that inscriptions in a language dating back to the Mahabharata era are present inside a temple at Brahma Sarovar in Kurukshetra and stressed the need to preserve them.

He directed officials to ensure that the temple's original structure remains untouched. He also instructed them to preserve bridges and historic buildings constructed during British rule. Dr. Amit Kumar Agrawal informed the meeting that the department plans to renovate six museums: the Panipat Museum, Jahaj Kothi Museum in Hisar,

Deenbandhu Sir Chhotu Ram Museum in Garhi Sampla, Jayanti Devi Museum in Jind, Bhima Devi Temple Museum in Pinjore, and Guru Gobind Singh Martial Arts Museum at Kapal Mochan. The Chief Minister directed that the historical site at Shahzadpur and the rest house at Narayangarh police station also be included in the list. In addition, plans are underway to develop six new museums, including a State Museum in Panchkula, a museum at Rakhigarhi, Sikh and Ravidas museums in Kurukshetra, Swami Omnanand Museum in Jhajjar, and a museum at Kunal.

The Chief Minister said that Rakhigarhi should be developed as a major archaeological and tourism destination, while work should also be undertaken on the concept of a Saraswati-Indus Heritage Corridor. The proposed corridor will connect prominent sites, including Rakhigarhi, Bharadana, Tigadana, Banawali, Kunal, Balu, Bhagwanpura and Kharar Alipur.

CHANDIGARH : OPEN SEARCH

Haryana Cooperation, Archaeology, Heritage and Tourism Minister Dr. Arvind Sharma said that significant steps are being taken to give the historic archaeological site of Rakhigarhi, one of the prominent sites of the Harappan Civilisation, global recognition. The work on the modern museum complex at Rakhigarhi will be completed soon, with 180 crore approved for the remaining works. The project will give a new dimension to Rakhigarhi's historical heritage and help establish the site as a major cen-



tre for archaeological research, cultural activities and tourism. Dr. Arvind Sharma was addressing an international conference organised as part of the Rakhigarhi Festival. He said that Rakhigarhi is an important symbol of India's ancient civilisation, scientific thinking, advanced urban planning and rich cultural traditions. The government is making continuous efforts

to preserve its historical heritage, present archaeological discoveries effectively and enhance its recognition both nationally and internationally.

The Minister said that the modern museum complex, being developed at a cost of ?180 crore, would mark a significant milestone in the development of Rakhigarhi. An auditorium will also be constructed as

CHANDIGARH : OPEN SEARCH

The Sirsa MP, Former Union Minister, General Secretary of the All India Congress Committee and Congress Working Committee (CWC) member Kumari Selja has raised serious questions over the functioning of the BJP government in Haryana, saying that a lack of coordination between the government and the administration is becoming evident in the state. She said announcements were sometimes followed by further announcements on the same issue, raising questions about how the state was being governed.



Expressing concern over Haryana's situation during the 'Vote Bachao-Des Bachao' public movement march held in Ratia, Fatehabad district, on Thursday, Kumari Selja said crime, drug abuse and unemployment had become serious challenges. The education system needed improvement while the shortage of employment opportunities was leaving young people troubled.

CHANDIGARH : OPEN SEARCH

Haryana Health, Medical Education and AYUSH Minister, Ms Arti Singh Rao, said the State Government has accorded administrative approval for construction works worth about Rs. 423.48 lakh at various health institutions to strengthen healthcare services in rural and urban areas. The initiative aims to provide modern, standardised buildings to Sub-Health Centres that currently lack their own buildings or operate from panchayat buildings and other premises.

The Cabinet Minister said that the approved works include the construction of new buildings for Sub-Health Centres at

CHANDIGARH : OPEN SEARCH The Haryana State AIDS Control Society (HSACS), functioning under the National AIDS Control Organisation (NACO), Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, Government of India, will seek the assistance of registered Non-Governmental Organisations (NGOs) and Community-Based Organisations (CBOs) for the implementation of Care Support Services in the state. The initiative is being launched as a community-based intervention under the National AIDS and STD Control Programme (NACP), funded through the Domestic Budget Grant. Its primary objective is to provide outreach services and support for continuity of treatment to people living with HIV (PLHIV). A government spokesperson stated that the scheme will be implemented in two major clusters in the state: the Faridabad Cluster, comprising Faridabad, Mahendragarh, Gurugram, Nuh, Rewari and Palwal districts; and the Kurukshetra Cluster, comprising Kurukshetra, Panchkula, Ambala, Yamunanagar, Karnal, Kaithal and Sonapat districts. Following their selection, the concerned organisations will be responsible for carrying out several important activities, including tracking patients who have interrupted their treatment; providing tracking and outreach services to newly diagnosed patients until their first viral load test; tracking patients due for viral load testing; counselling patients with high viral loads; providing care and support to HIV-positive pregnant women and their infants; and linking eligible patients with social security schemes. The spokesperson further stated that applications have been invited from NGOs/CBOs for undertaking these activities.

CHANDIGARH : OPEN SEARCH. Haryana has intensi-

its efforts to control air pollution through measures covering stubble burning, vehicular emissions, road dust, construction activities and industrial pollution. These measures were reviewed at a high-level meeting chaired by the Chairman of the Commission for Air Quality Management (CAQM) Sh. Rajesh Verma and Haryana Chief Secretary Sh. Anurag Rastogi here today. The meeting reviewed the progress of ongoing initiatives and enforcement measures being implemented across the state to improve air quality. Director, Agriculture, Sh. Amit Khatri informed that Haryana has distributed 13,200 crop-residue management machines against a target of 9,000, exceeding the target by 47 per cent. To prevent stubble burning, 52 FIRs have been registered this year and 21 people have been arrested. Environmental compensation of ₹10,000 has been recovered. Red entries have also been made in farm records in cases related to stubble burning. The state is using a mobile application developed by the National Remote Sensing Centre to verify burnt areas at the village level, helping authorities monitor incidents using satellite data. To promote the use of paddy residue as a resource, district-level agreements have been made with industries to utilise 27.10 lakh metric tonnes of paddy residue during the current season. The meeting was informed that biomass-based power projects had consumed 7.284 lakh metric tonnes of paddy straw by September 30, achieving 77.16 per cent of their annual target. Compressed biogas plants had consumed another 1.053 lakh metric tonnes.

CHANDIGARH : OPEN SEARCH. The Haryana

Government has directed Market Committee Secretaries to coordinate with the Revenue Department and ensure immediate verification of farmers registered on the 'Meri Fasal Mera Byora' portal whose paddy crops could not be verified for certain reasons, even though they have already brought their produce to the mandis. The move aims to ensure that farmers do not face any inconvenience. Senior officers have also been appointed as nodal officers at the mandis. A spokesperson for the Food, Civil Supplies and Consumer Affairs Department said that paddy procurement at mandis and procurement centres was proceeding smoothly and with complete transparency. The Kharif procurement season began on September 29, 2026, with the Government of India setting a paddy procurement target of 58 lakh metric tonnes (MT). He stated that, as of October 21, 2026, the state's estimated non-basmati paddy production stood at approximately 60.67 lakh MT, against which around 30.26 lakh MT of paddy had arrived at mandis. This represents approximately 52 per cent of both the procurement target set by the Government of India and the total estimated production projected by the Agriculture Department.

already have the requisite human resources. They will now be provided with permanent, modern buildings based on standard designs covering 187.60 square metres, prepared by the Department of Architecture in accordance with the Indian Public Health Standards (IPHS), 2022. In addition, the State Government has approved the construction of a new Primary Health Centre at Sakras village in Nuh district.

The Health Minister said that the State Government is committed to constructing new health institutions during the financial year 2026-27 and has made adequate budgetary provisions for this purpose.



Rajgarh and Kalinga-II villages in Bhiwani district, Mangorka and Gadpuri villages in Palwal district, and Dewrar and Dharoli villages in Jind district. Land filling and laying of interlocking pavement blocks for the Block Public Health Unit (BPHU) at the Community Health Centre, Rania, in Sirsa district have also been approved. She said that all these Sub-Health Centres are fully functional and

Mere participation in protest not enough to show intention to disobey, obstruct police : HC

NEW DELHI : (AGENCY)

The Delhi High Court has said that mere participation in a demonstration does not by itself establish a “common intention” to disobey police directions or obstruct police personnel. Justice Sanjeev Narula made the observation while quashing an FIR against an SSC aspirant who was booked by Delhi Police in 2025 for allegedly failing to disperse from Ramlila Maidan despite repeated announcements to vacate the protest venue. The petitioner had participated in the protest at Ramlila Maidan in August last year over alleged irregularities in the conduct of the SSC entrance examination. The prosecution claimed that certain organisers refused to conclude the demonstration after the expiry of the permitted time and instigated the gathering to remain



at the venue until their demands were fulfilled. The police registered the FIR alleging that certain protesters disobeyed the prohibitory orders under Section 163 of the Bharatiya Nagarik Suraksha Sanhita (BNSS) as they continued to occupy the ground and some of them pushed and scuffled with police person-

nel. Giving relief to the petitioner, the court stated that neither the FIR nor the subsequent status report attributed any criminal conduct specifically to him, and his mere presence among the protesters, in the absence of a common intention to commit a crime with others, was not sufficient to establish the offence under sec-

tion 223(a) of the Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita (BNS). The provision penalises disobedience of an order lawfully promulgated by a public servant, where the person concerned has knowledge of such order and the disobedience causes, or tends to cause, obstruction, annoyance etc to persons lawfully employed. “The petitioner

The petitioner had participated in the protest at Ramlila Maidan in August last year over alleged irregularities in the conduct of the SSC entrance examination.

cannot be subjected to criminal proceedings merely on account of his presence amongst the protesters, in the absence of material indicating his knowing participation in the alleged disobedience or any common intention to commit the offence. The continuation of the proceedings against him, in these circumstances, would serve no worthwhile purpose,” said the court in the order passed on October 13. Mere participation in the same demonstration does not, by itself, establish a common intention to disobey lawful directions or obstruct.

Delhi HC refuses to halt release of film 'Doosra' on Sourav Ganguly's plea

NEW DELHI : (AGENCY)

The Delhi High Court on Thursday refused to stop the theatre release of the film 'Doosra' on October 23 on a plea filed by cricketer Sourav Ganguly. A vacation bench of Justice Dinesh Bhatt orally observed that the 'balance of convenience' favours the makers of 'Doosra', stated to be the story of a middle-class Rajasthani girl who draws inspiration from certain sporting events involving the former India captain. “It is due to release tomorrow (Friday). Balance of convenience prima facie does not favour you. You may have a valuable right. (But) We are not stopping the film today,” the judge orally told the plaintiff.

The court listed the matter for hearing on



A vacation bench observes that the 'balance of convenience' favours the makers of 'Doosra', stated to be the story of a middle-class Rajasthani girl who draws inspiration from certain sporting events involving the former India captain

Friday. Besides Ganguly, Luv Films LLP, which is producing a biopic on the former cricket captain, is also a plaintiff in the lawsuit. The senior counsel appearing

for the filmmakers assured that 'Doosra' was not a biopic and that due permissions were taken for the use of certain clips involving the plaintiff. Ganguly's counsel apprehended a violation of his personality rights, asserting that no licence was taken from him for the production of 'Doosra'. The court was informed that a biopic on Ganguly's life was already under production. Balance of convenience is a legal test used by courts to decide.

CAQM meets with Delhi govt agencies to review dust pollution issues

NEW DELHI : (AGENCY)

The Commission for Air Quality Management in NCR and Adjoining Areas (CAQM) on Wednesday held a meeting with concerned Delhi government agencies to review dust pollution issues and strengthen coordinated action for effective air pollution mitigation in Delhi. During the meeting, the CAQM emphasised that all agencies must strictly comply with its statutory directions issued from time to time and ensure their strict implementation. “The Municipal Corporation of Delhi (MCD) was specifically directed to strengthen dust mitigation measures on roads and open areas under its jurisdiction,” the commission said in a statement on Wednesday. It added that many agencies and depart-



ments involved in construction across Delhi were not ensuring dust mitigation measures like installing wind barriers, dust screens, etc., or taking precautions for digging work that leads to dust accumulation. BuyMaps “The concerned departments were directed to take prompt action on identified dust pollution issues and take strict action against the concerned officials and project proponents/ implementing agencies in cases of violation and ensure compliance,” said the CAQM. The commission on Wednesday.

Where do we belong : Delhi tenants worry over SIR deletions

NEW DELHI : (AGENCY)

For several residents of Jagdamba Camp in Malviya Nagar, the Special Intensive Revision (SIR) of Delhi's electoral rolls has raised questions about their voter status, residential records and the verification process. Some have received notices questioning their place of residence, while others say their names have been removed from the electoral rolls or that they have been asked to submit fresh forms. Several residents say they submitted documents but received little clarity on the status of their cases.

Similar concerns have emerged in Okhla Vihar, where one family claims that the names of seven members have been removed from the voters'



list. In Bela Estate, families whose homes were demolished during flyover construction and who subsequently lost access to land they used for cultivation say they are now struggling to establish their voter status.

Several such instances have come to light during the exercise to revise voter rolls. By October 13, approximately 20 lakh cases had been resolved out of

33.1 lakh notices issued. However, the figure includes both cases in which voters' details were verified for inclusion in the final roll and cases that were rejected. The number of resolved cases, therefore, does not by itself establish how many voters have secured their place on the electoral roll. Delhi had approximately 1.45 crore electors before the revision began on June

The petitioner had participated in the protest at Ramlila Maidan in August last year over alleged irregularities in the conduct of the SSC entrance examination.

30. The draft electoral roll published on August 31 contained around 97.5 lakh names, leaving approximately 47.5 lakh names from the draft list. Reported reasons for these omissions included deaths, duplication, relocation and voters who could not be traced. These figures relate to a different category from the 33.1 lakh electors who received notices and should not be treated as interchangeable. Election officials have also begun re-verifying people excluded.

Delhi SIR : Over 1 lakh of 4.56 lakh Form 6 applications disposed of

NEW DELHI : (AGENCY)

More than 1 lakh of the 4.56 lakh Form 6 applications seeking inclusion in Delhi's electoral rolls have been disposed of since August 31, when the draft rolls were published, as the exercise to verify and update voter lists under SIR is nearing its final phase, according to officials. BuyMaps A total of 4,56,913 Form 6 applications were received till October 20, including 2,12,400 by August 30 and another 2,44,513 between August 31 and October 20, officials said.

Form 6 is used by eligible citizens, including first-time voters and those whose names are missing from the electoral rolls, to seek enrolment.

“Around 1.15 lakh applications were disposed of between August 31 and October 20,” an official said, adding that the figures were provisional as constituency-wise data for all 70



Assembly segments was yet to be uploaded and updated on the website of the Delhi Chief Electoral Officer (CEO). The draft rolls published on August 31 listed 97.53 lakh electors, down from 1.45 crore before the revision, after around 47.5 lakh names were removed and placed under the Absent, Shifted, Dead and Duplicate (ASDD) categories.

Of these, around 43.3 lakh were marked absent or permanently shifted, 2.82 lakh as deceased, and 1.41 lakh as duplicate voters. The

extent of verification has varied across constituencies. In Okhla, details could be verified for only 54.6 per cent of existing electors, while the proportion was 44.5 per cent in R K Puram and 44 per cent in Kasturba Nagar. Officials attributed Okhla's low verification rate possibly to higher migration.

Seekampur, by comparison, recorded verification of 76.6 per cent of its electors, while the figures for Rohini, Shakur Basti and Mangolpuri stood at 83 per cent, 81 per cent and 78 per

Form 6 is used by eligible citizens, including first-time voters and those whose names are missing from the electoral rolls, to seek enrolment.

cent, respectively. Among the Assembly constituencies for which figures were available, around 2,000 Form 6 applications had been disposed of each in Okhla, Kasturba Nagar and Jangpura, while Tughlaqabad, Matia Mahal and R K Puram had recorded around 1,500 disposals each. The figure stood at around 1,000 in Kalkaji and 260 in Babarpur, according to poll officials. The immediate focus, officials said, is on disposing of 33.12 lakh notices issued to electors whose records were flagged for non-mapping with the 2002 electoral rolls or for “logical discrepancies, including inconsistencies in personal details.

Delhi Metro to plant over 28,000 trees, saplings across 991 locations

NEW DELHI : (AGENCY)

The Delhi Metro Rail Corporation (DMRC) will plant over 28,000 trees and saplings across 991 locations in the national capital, mainly in MCD parks, to compensate for trees to be felled or transplanted for a Phase IV corridor. BuyMaps The plantation drive is linked to the construction of the Rithala-Bawana Industrial Area section of the Rithala-Kundli corridor. DMRC has issued a tender for the work, with an estimated cost of Rs 291.80 lakh, according to its document.

A total of 28,454 plants will be planted under the project, adding greenery to designated Municipal Corporation of Delhi (MCD) parks across the city. The plantation will be carried out on municipal land as part of the compensatory plantation required under the Delhi Preservation of



Trees Act, 1994. BuyMaps

The plan includes planting healthy saplings and ensuring they receive adequate water, manure and care to grow. The species and number of plants at each location will be decided as part of the project, it said. The plantation work is scheduled to be completed within three months, followed by six months of maintenance. During this period, the newly planted trees and saplings will be watered, pruned and protected against pests and diseases to improve their chances of survival, according to the corporation. DMRC has set a minimum survival target of 90 per cent.

No consistent improvement of Delhi's winter air quality in past four years

NEW DELHI : (AGENCY)

Delhi's winter air quality has shown no consistent improvement in the four years since revision of the Graded Response Action Plan (GRAP) in 2022, with the city experiencing high pollution levels despite frequent imposition of stringent curbs, according to an analysis by the Centre for Research on Energy and Clean Air (CREA). The city's mean air quality index (AQI) rose from 280 in the winter of 2022-23 to 304 in 2023-24, declined to 285 in 2024-25 and increased again to 295 in 2025-26, said Manoj Kumar, an analyst at CREA.

The median AQI also fluctuated, rising from 294 in 2022-23 to 324 in 2023-24, falling to 289 in 2024-

25 and climbing to 305 last winter. The findings indicate that the capital's winter air quality has not followed a sustained downward trend since the revised GRAP framework was introduced, with both mean and median AQI levels in 2025-26 higher than those recorded in 2022-23.

The analysis, based on daily AQI readings and GRAP stages between October 2022 and February 2026, found that Delhi spent around 78 to 83 per cent of observed days across the four winters under Stage II or higher of the pollution-control plan.

The city recorded 32 days under GRAP Stages III and IV in 2022-23, 39 in 2023-24, 57 in 2024-25 and 42 in 2025-26. “That is



roughly four out of every five days,” the analysis mentions. Although the number of days under the two most stringent stages declined last winter compared with the year before, the mean and median AQI remained higher than those in 2022-23, the analysis said. To examine pollution trends

following escalation of emergency measures, CREA analysed 12 instances in which Delhi moved from GRAP Stage II or below to Stage III or Stage IV curbs, identifying three episodes in each of the four winters. The mean AQI in the seven days following the escalation was higher than in the

The city's mean air quality index (AQI) rose from 280 in the winter of 2022-23 to 304 in 2023-24, declined to 285 in 2024-25 and increased again to 295 in 2025-26, said Manoj Kumar, an analyst at CREA.

preceding seven days in 10 of the 12 instances. The sharpest increase followed the November 2, 2023, episode, when the mean AQI rose from 317 in the preceding week to 431 in the following week, an increase of 114 points. Other significant increases were recorded following episodes on October 29,

2022, and January 3 and January 28, 2025. The day-by-day analysis showed that average AQI logged around 25 per cent increase from the preceding seven-day average on the first and second days after the escalation of measures. By the seventh day, it remained around 15 per cent above that baseline. However, the analysis cautioned that these trends do not establish whether GRAP restrictions caused changes in pollution levels, as AQI is also influenced by weather conditions and the measures have evolved over the four winters. GRAP, first introduced in 2017 and substantially revised in 2022, is an emergency response mechanism intended to address deteriorating.

Briefs News

Water, power supply cut for houses near Race Course Mosque, say officials

NEW DELHI : (AGENCY) After serving an eviction notice to the more than 100-year-old Race Course Mosque and disconnecting its water and electricity supply, officials on Wednesday said the amenities have been cut in the mosque's vicinity too, as part of a demolition drive. Senior officials of the New Delhi Municipal Council (NDMC) said the action extends beyond the mosque located near the Prime Minister's residence; several families in the surrounding area are also affected. According to the officials, the mosque management received an eviction notice around October 19 and was given six days to vacate the premises. The notice, which identified the land as belonging to the Land and Development Office (LDO) under the Union government, warned against unauthorised occupation and construction. The mosque's water and electricity supply was reportedly disconnected by the NDMC on October 7. “There is an ongoing demolition drive going on in the area on the court's order. Many properties, including the mosque, got their water and electricity connections disrupted after the LDO's order,” a senior NDMC official said on condition of anonymity. The mosque, which predates Independence, is listed on the NDMC's heritage list in Grade-2 monument. The LDO maintains that the structure stands on government land and considers it an encroachment. Nearly 700 families are likely to be displaced amid a demolition drive in the Race Course Road area. According to officials, residents in the area have been asked to vacate and were provided alternative accommodation a few kilometres away. Even as uncertainty loomed over the mosque's future, prayers were offered there on Tuesday, they said.

Delhi Police to probe viral video of alleged sexual harassment, racial abuse of Tripura youth

NEW DELHI . (AGENCY) The Delhi Police's Intelligence Fusion and Strategic Operations (IFSO) unit will investigate a viral social media video purportedly showing a man allegedly sexually harassing a young tribal man from Tripura and subjecting him to racial abuse. According to the Delhi Police's Special Unit for Northeastern Region (SPUNER), it received information about the matter on Wednesday evening. The SPUNER wing has submitted a written communication to the IFSO unit, which will investigate the video. The Delhi Police is also in constant touch with the Tripura Police. The undated video, which has triggered outrage on social media, purportedly shows a content creator directing racial slurs at the young man, including calling him “Chinese”. It also appears to show the man using offensive language and allegedly touching the victim's private parts inappropriately. Inspector General of Police (Law and Order) Manchak Ipper said the Tripura Police would take strict action in the matter. A case was expected to be registered shortly, and the state police was coordinating with the Delhi Police, he said. Meanwhile, the Tripura Students' Forum Delhi has lodged a complaint with the Delhi Police, seeking registration of an FIR and an urgent investigation into the alleged sexual assault, racial harassment and humiliation of the young tribal man. The creator reportedly apologised after the video circulated widely on social media, drawing criticism over the alleged conduct.

Congress slams BJP, MCD as dengue cases rise in Delhi

NEW DELHI. (AGENCY) Delhi Pradesh Congress Committee (DPCC) president Devender Yadav on Wednesday accused the BJP Government and the Municipal Corporation of Delhi (MCD) of failing to contain vector-borne diseases, citing 695 dengue cases recorded in the Capital this year, including 286 in September. According to Yadav, Delhi reported 98 fresh dengue cases and 23 malaria cases in the first week of October. The Capital has also recorded 266 malaria and 29 chikungunya cases so far this year, he said, describing the figures as alarming. Yadav said stagnant water accumulated after rainfall, overflowing sewage and heaps of rotting garbage were creating favourable conditions for mosquito breeding. He alleged that the Delhi Government and the BJP-ruled MCD had failed to take effective measures to check the spread of dengue, malaria and chikungunya. He identified West Delhi, Central Zone and Shahdara North among the areas reporting high concentrations of vector-borne disease cases, claiming that the situation reflected the failure of the authorities. He also pointed out that these areas included Assembly segments represented by the Chief Minister and several ministers.

Open Search

EDITORIAL

A new direction for global cooperation and democratic dialogue

The two-day conference of the BRICS Parliamentary Forum holds considerable significance in the context of global politics, economic cooperation and international relations. At a time when the world is facing numerous challenges, bringing parliamentary representatives from different countries together on a common platform is not merely an opportunity to exchange ideas but also a means of strengthening mutual trust, cooperation and prospects for shared development. Parliamentary dialogue among BRICS countries is particularly important because these nations represent a significant proportion of the world's population, emerging economies and play a crucial role in the evolving global order.

BRICS, originally comprising Brazil, Russia, India, China and South Africa, has gradually expanded its membership and broadened its significance over the years. Today, the grouping seeks to increase the participation of developing countries in the global economic system, strengthen multilateral cooperation and promote more balanced representation in international institutions. In this context, the parliamentary forum assumes particular importance because parliaments represent the aspirations of the people, democratic values and national policies. The growing influence of digital technology and artificial intelligence is also an important subject for parliamentary discussion. Technology has created new opportunities in administration, education, healthcare and trade. However, concerns remain regarding the digital divide, the protection of personal information and the impact of technological advancements on employment. It is the responsibility of parliaments to work towards developing laws and policies that ensure the benefits of technological progress reach every section of society. The purpose of technology should not be limited to economic growth; it should also be to make human life easier, safer and better.

The BRICS Parliamentary Forum can also provide a new direction to discussions on reforming global governance. Developing countries have long called for greater representation in international institutions in accordance with their population and economic contribution.

The mirror speaks

MANOJ KUMAR JHA

Responding to the famous provocation — If you're an egalitarian, how come you're so rich? — by the political philosopher, G.A. Cohen, about the gap between believing in economic equality and living a wealthy lifestyle, can neither be easy nor comfortable. The numbers should make this discomfort unavoidable. The World Inequality Report 2026 estimates that India's richest 10% receive 57.7% of the national income and own 65% of the country's wealth. The top 1% alone accounts for 22.6% of income and 40.1% of wealth, while the bottom half receives 15% of income and owns just 6.4% of wealth. These are not merely numbers for economists as they tell us something about the India in which the word, 'merit', is deployed. We have a Constitution that promises equality, but we ultimately live in a society in which birth still influences education, occupation, income, social networks and dignity. We speak endlessly about merit, but rarely about the conditions that produce it. The familiar argument goes like this: I worked hard, I succeeded, therefore I deserve what I have. But before congratulating ourselves on the purity of individual effort, we should ask a few inconvenient questions as well.

Who among us has had access to better schools? Who grew up in a house with books? Who could afford private tuitions? Who could speak English with confidence because it was spoken at home? Who could afford to fail an examination once or twice? Who inherited a house, land, business, professional contacts or social confidence? Who knew how to navigate an elite institution because someone in the family had already done it? None of these questions makes hard work irrelevant, but they make the mythology of the entirely self-made individual difficult to sustain. This is where India's caste question becomes unavoidable. Caste has historically determined access to land, education, occupations, networks, status and power. The fact that discrimination is prohibited does not mean that the accumulated consequences of centuries of exclusion disappear overnight. This is why the caste census matters. It can potentially tell us something we have too often preferred not to know about the graded access to opportunity and resources. There will, of course, be arguments over methodology, categories and the use of the data. Those arguments are necessary. But refusing to look at inequality does not make inequality disappear. A democracy cannot seriously debate social justice while insisting on debating it without adequate knowledge of the society it seeks to change. The argument against affirmative action often invokes merit: why should someone receive an opportunity because of the group into which he or she was born rather than because of what he or she has achieved? The question sounds compelling until one asks whether opportunity itself is distributed equally. If inherited wealth, inherited education, and inherited networks are allowed to pass from one generation to another without being described as an assault on merit, why should corrective measures for inherited disadvantage be treated as a violation of merit?

This does not mean that every person born into privilege is personally responsible for historical injustice. It means privilege is a social fact and pretending otherwise does not make the social order more just. This is perhaps the most useful lesson one can draw from Cohen. Justice cannot be left entirely to Parliament, courts and government schemes. Institutions matter enormously, particularly in a country with India's history of exclusion. But institutions operate through people, and social inequality is reproduced not only by laws but also by everyday choices. Let us consider the perfectly legal life of privilege. A wealthy family buys the best education it can afford, lives in a secure neighbourhood, uses private healthcare and gives its children every possible advantage. It employs domestic workers and pays them what the market permits. None of this is necessarily illegal. Yet, when millions of such choices accumulate, they help reproduce a society in which some children begin life several steps ahead of others. This is also why equality cannot be reduced to charity.

GULSHAN SACHDEVA

Most of these protests began with specific demands from younger generations, such as dissatisfaction with school conditions in France.

Protests across Europe have a shared crisis, different contexts

Although dramatic images of violent protests in France have dominated the headlines, protests are also sweeping across major European cities in Spain, Italy, Portugal, Belgium and even Albania. Most of these protests began with specific demands from younger generations, such as dissatisfaction with school conditions in France. They soon drew in other sections of society, particularly trade unions and those affected by related issues, including the cost-of-living crisis. Protests in one country are also inspiring similar movements elsewhere. With major elections approaching in France, Italy and Spain, domestic political dynamics have further complicated the situation, as political parties seek to capitalise on public discontent to advance their electoral agendas.

Multiculturalism across Europe. As members of the eurozone, these countries must also operate within the EU's fiscal framework, which sets limits on budget deficits and public debt. This constrains their fiscal space, limiting the scope for increased public spending on essential services, including education. Younger generations feel less secure about their future than earlier generations who benefited from more generous welfare systems.

For years, right-wing parties have channelled public anger towards outsiders and gained electorally, while the radical left is also gaining ground in some countries as centrist parties are seen as failing to deliver. The problem, therefore, cannot be attributed simply to misguided policies of either the left or the right.

These countries are



governed by coalitions spanning very different ideological positions: from France's liberal-centrist government and Italy's right-wing parties to Spain's left-wing coalition, a mixed coalition in Portugal and Belgium's centre-right government.

In France, street protests are deeply embedded in the country's political culture. From the French Revolution and 19th-century insurrections to the student-led occupations of Paris in 1968, demonstrations against policy roll-backs in the 1980s and 1990s, the 2005 suburban riots and the Yellow Vest movement of 2018–2020, la rue has long served as a means of challenging state authority. Linking the current unrest primarily to migration would therefore be an oversimplification. The political climate is also increasingly polarised, with two veteran figures, far-

right leader Marine Le Pen and far-left leader Jean-Luc Mélenchon, potentially emerging as leading contenders in France's next presidential election. In countries such as Italy, Spain and Portugal, the housing crisis, particularly for younger generations, has been a major concern for years. The influx of millions of tourists has fuelled anti-tourism protests in several cities in the past, as short-term rentals through platforms such as Airbnb have reduced the availability of affordable housing in city centres. The surge in energy prices following the war in Ukraine has further intensified the cost-of-living crisis. Together, rising living costs and the housing emergency have become serious concerns for young people and low-paid workers across southern Europe.

Spain's left-wing government sought to cap rents, restrict evictions of vulnera-

ble groups and curb investment by corporate funds through new legislation. However, right-wing and regional opposition parties blocked the minority government's emergency housing decrees in Congress. Amid the political impasse, Prime Minister Pedro Sánchez called a snap national election, placing housing affordability and the right to housing, particularly for younger generations, at the centre of the country's political battle.

Inspired by the French protests, students in many Italian cities took part in large-scale "No Meloni Day" demonstrations. Universities, seeking to strengthen their finances, are increasingly recruiting international students, raising concerns among local students about mounting pressure on campus infrastructure. These protests are also unfolding amid a major shift in European

defence policy. Under the EU's ReArm Europe/Readiness 2030 initiative, substantial resources are being mobilised to strengthen Europe's defence capabilities, with plans to facilitate up to €800 billion in defence spending. Students are protesting against proposed cuts to education funding and questioning the priority given to rising defence expenditure over public services.

Protests in Albania, one of Europe's lower-income countries, reflect a different set of grievances.

For months, demonstrators have taken to the streets as part of the so-called "Flamingo Revolution", driven by anger over alleged government corruption, economic hardship and a controversial luxury tourism project on the southern coast linked to Jared Kushner, Donald Trump's son-in-law.

Why GenZ won't forgive Punjab's polity

THE acute fiscal stress confronting Punjab has mortgaged its economic future. This has destroyed inter-generational equity by saddling future generations with an insurmountable debt burden, eroding the state's fiscal autonomy. It is the consequence of conscious and disastrous policy choices made by the political class over the past 30 years. The state has been living beyond its means for well over a couple of decades. Outstanding liabilities are projected to reach Rs 4,47,754 crore by March 2027, roughly 45% of the Gross State Domestic Product (GSDP), a ratio that has stubbornly hovered between 43% and 48% despite nominal growth in GSDP.

The Comptroller and Auditor General (CAG) has flagged off-budget borrowings of Rs 4,092.78 crore raised through public sector undertakings and parastatals as of March 2024, liabilities that do not flow through the consolidated fund but must still be serviced from the budget. Today, that figure stands at Rs 23,654 crore.

Debt servicing alone is estimated at over Rs 42,000 crore in 2026-27, with interest payments consuming 20-25% of the revenue receipts. The share of capital expenditure has collapsed to under 5% of the total spending, at just 3.88% of the total expenditure in 2023-24 and only 4.4% of the total borrowings deployed for asset creation. The committed expenditure (salaries, pensions and interest) averaged around 78% of the revenue receipts between 2019 and 2024, rising to 80% in 2023-24. A state that commits four-fifths of its recurring income before it has funded a single school,



hospital or road has already surrendered the discretion that fiscal policy is supposed to confer. The revenue deficit has widened from Rs 7,311 crore in 2016-17 to Rs 27,007 crore in 2025-26 (revised estimates), and the fiscal deficit for 2026-27 is budgeted at Rs 39,971 crore (4.1% of GSDP).

The political economy that produced this outcome is not a mystery. The credit is due (no pun intended) to governments of different parties that found it electorally advantageous to expand committed expenditure and off-budget liabilities while deferring the adjustment costs to a successor government.

Freebies, particularly power subsidies that absorb around 20% of the revenue receipts (making it the highest subsidy-to-revenue ratio among all states), have become a symbol of a governing model that treats the treasury as a patronage instrument rather than a development instrument. The result is a budget in which over 90% of the projected revenue receipts are consumed by interest,

salaries, pensions and power subsidy, leaving barely Rs 11,000 crore for infrastructure and flagship schemes.

The incoming government in March 2027 will inherit a budget in which the first charge on revenue is not its own manifesto but the accumulated claims of its predecessor governments. The State Finance Commission projects that the debt-to-GSDP ratio could rise to 62% by 2030-31 if present trends continue. The first part of any corrective action requires political will and courage to confront the myopia of short-term electoral gains. Overwhelming and wasteful social welfare expenditure on freebies must be radically restructured. It is not the duty of the state to provide unnecessary handouts or subsidise consumption for all; its fundamental duty is to create social overhead capital and foster efficient community resources that empower citizens to become productive agents of economic growth.

The "aamdani athanni, kharcha rupaiya" phenomenon that a proud Punjabi

must now confront is a reality that the state's political class has long refused to acknowledge. The pursuit of fiscal prudence is a precondition for development. The second, and more hopeful, part of the corrective action is to break free from the intellectual and economic shackles of the past. Punjab must stop seeing itself as an agricultural state that needs industry and, instead, reinvent itself as an advanced agri-industrial state where its farms feed its factories. This requires a conscious move away from the low-value, water-intensive paddy-wheat cycle towards high-value horticulture, food processing and agricultural exports. Economic zones, anchored by specialised industrial nodes, would allow the state to build on existing capabilities. The north zone (Pathankot and Gurdaspur) could specialise in defence and aerospace components, avionics and precision engineering, leveraging its proximity to major military installations. This would be the dual-use, high-tech hub, with horticulture focused on high-value, perishable

produce for the air-freight market. The central-west zone (Amritsar and Tarn Taran) could focus on processed vegetables, fruits, dairy, spices and ready-to-eat foods, leveraging the airport for cargo. It could also expand into textiles, sports goods and light engineering. The central zone (Ludhiana, Jalandhar and Kapurthala) must be encouraged to move up the value chain, from bicycles to e-bikes, motors and exports; from simple machine tools to advanced manufacturing and railway equipment, building on the Rail Coach Factory in Kapurthala.

The south-west zone (Bathinda, Mansa and Ferozepur) can become the agro-processing capital, specialising in agricultural machinery, seed processing, and solar and electrical equipment. The districts of Rupnagar, Shaheed Bhagat Singh Nagar (Nawanshahr) and Hoshiarpur can easily become an extension of the Baddi pharma ecosystem. Finally, the east zone (Mohali, Patiala and Sangrur) should be a niche hub for AI, software, biotechnology, medical technology and semiconductor design, creating a seamless pipeline from universities to laboratories to start-ups and product companies. To connect these nodes to the world, a network of airport-oriented export hubs is critical. Amritsar, Mohali, Halwara, Adampur, Bathinda and Pathankot airports must be transformed into dedicated freight terminals that fly high-value, low-weight goods. The roadmap must also include an energy strategy that targets solar, biomass and storage solutions, and a long-term plan to develop 1,400 MW of nuclear capacity by 2040, ensuring reliable.

How to Choose the Right ULIP Plan : Factors You Must Consider

NEW DELHI. (AGENCY)

ULIP combines life insurance coverage with market-linked returns, letting individuals achieve long-term financial objectives while providing them financial protection. However, choosing the right ULIP needs an understanding of the features, applicable charges, associated risks, and investment options. Investors should evaluate the financial objectives and risk tolerance level while choosing a plan since the returns depend on the performance of the chosen funds. An investor must analyse and evaluate the future financial objectives, such as the creation of wealth, children's education, building a house, retirement planning, etc. Thereafter, an investment plan that best aligns with your financial goals should be chosen.

There are many ULIP plans that provide an investor with multiple investment options. One should select a plan that is flexible in terms of switching between the funds, partial withdrawals, premium payments, etc. Make a comparison of all the ULIP plans available with different insurance companies.



Evaluate certain factors, such as features, charges, advantages, etc., to choose a plan that best suits your requirements. Solvency ratios help in measuring a company's ability to clear its long-term debt obligations, including policyholders' claims. This ratio depicts the financial worth and the compliance of an insurance company; i.e., it indicates an insurer's ability to meet financial obligations, which include policyholders' liabilities. One should analyse the risk tolerance level along with the financial status while choosing a plan. Fund selection should depend on risk tolerance, investment horizon and financial objectives; debt funds also carry risks. Making an investment strategy depends on the

financial objectives, which further helps an investor to get returns when required. ULIPs offer dual benefits of savings and investments. Under this plan, the investment growth through market-linked investments, along with financial safety, offers an extensive solution that aligns well with financial requirements. This ratio measures the percentage of claims settled by an insurance company out of the total number of claims received during a financial year. A higher CSR can be a useful indicator of an insurer's claim settlement history, but it should be considered along with other factors, such as customer service, financial strength, and policy terms. For those wondering about the ULIP

full form, it stands for Unit Linked Insurance Plan. It combines life insurance coverage with market-linked investments, letting policyholders build wealth while providing financial protection. ULIPs offer dual benefits of life coverage and investment growth, which helps secure a financial future along with growth in wealth.

This plan offers an option to switch between the funds, depending on the investment objectives, risk tolerance level, market-linked trends, etc. It also allows you to align the financial objectives with your investments. ULIPs may also allow additional investments and partial withdrawals to meet changing financial requirements. This plan offers clarity in knowing the fund's performance, strategies, charges, etc., which helps make an informed decision.

This plan may qualify for deduction u/s 80C of the Income Tax Act, 1961, subject to applicable terms and conditions. Maturity proceeds may be exempt u/s 10(10D) depending on the issue date, premium limits, and other applicable conditions. This long-term investment plan helps build a cor-

pus for future financial objectives, such as a child's education, marriage, and buying a house property. The final corpus depends on the market performance, applicable charges.

And investment duration. An investor, while looking for the right ULIP plan, should consider certain tips that will help them make an informed decision.

Nestlé India Delivers Strong Volume-Led Growth across Product Groups

PANAJI : OPEN SEARCH

Rising inflation, particularly food inflation, is a reality. We remain focused on navigating these external challenges through continuous innovation and renovation, sustained investments behind our brands, and an intensified focus on productivity and operational efficiencies to mitigate commodity cost pressures. I would like to thank our teams for their extraordinary commitment, resilience, and unwavering focus on execution in this challenging environment. At Nestlé India, food safety and quality are the foundation of consumer trust. I am proud of the unflinching commitment of our colleagues across our manufacturing



units and would like to congratulate them for receiving the CII Food Safety & Quality Awards for our Sanand and Ponda factories and the Nestlé Global Quality Award for the Samalkha factory. These recognitions reaffirm our commitment to delivering safe, high-quality products to millions of consumers every day. Commenting on the results, Mr. Manish Tiwary, Chairman and Managing Director, Nestlé India, said: "I am pleased to share that the quarter saw a continuation of strong and broad-based growth across all product groups, with total sales reaching INR 6,782.2 crore, with a growth of 20.5%, that was driven by robust, double-digit volume growth."

KIND ATTENTION RAIL PASSENGERS! IMPORTANT INFORMATION

RUN OF MORE FESTIVAL SPECIAL TRAINS-2026
In order to clear extra rush of passengers during this Festival Season, Railways have decided to run the following additional Festival Special Trains as per details given below :-

02253/02254 Patna Jn. - New Delhi - Patna Jn. Reserved Vande Bharat Festival Special Express Train						Trips
Train No. 02253		STATIONS		Train No. 02254		
Arr.	Dep.			Arr.	Dep.	
--	10:00		Patna Jn.	21:30	--	
23:30	--		New Delhi	--	08:35	

Days of Run: 02253 Ex Patna Jn. on every Saturday, Monday & Wednesday from 24.10.2026 to 28.11.2026 and 02254 Ex New Delhi on every Sunday, Tuesday & Thursday upto 26.11.2026. **Accommodation:** AC Chair Car. **Stoppages:** Ara, Buxar, Pt. Deen Dayal Upadhyaya Jn., Prayagraj Jn., Kanpur Central & Aligarh Jn. Stations.

02252/02251 New Delhi - Patna Jn. - New Delhi Reserved Vande Bharat Festival Special Express Train						Trips
Train No. 02252		STATIONS		Train No. 02251		
Arr.	Dep.			Arr.	Dep.	
--	08:35		New Delhi	23:30	--	
21:30	--		Patna Jn.	--	10:00	

Days of Run: 02252 Ex New Delhi on every Monday, Wednesday & Saturday upto 25.11.2026 and 02251 Ex Patna Jn. on every Tuesday, Thursday & Sunday upto 26.11.2026. **Accommodation:** AC Chair Car. **Stoppages:** Aligarh Jn., Kanpur Central, Prayagraj Jn., Pt. Deen Dayal Upadhyaya Jn., Buxar & Ara Stations.

04536/04535 Chandigarh - Barauni Jn. - Chandigarh Reserved Festival Special Express Train						Trips
Train No. 04536		STATIONS		Train No. 04535		
Arr.	Dep.			Arr.	Dep.	
--	23:45		Chandigarh	03:35	--	
00:30	--		Barauni Jn.	--	02:35	

Days of Run: 04536 Ex Chandigarh on every Friday from 23.10.2026 to 27.11.2026 and 04535 Ex Barauni Jn. on every Sunday from 25.10.2026 to 29.11.2026.

Accommodation: AC 2 Tier & AC 3 Tier. **Stoppages:** Ambala Cantt., Yamunanagar Jagadhri, Saharanpur Jn., Moradabad, Bareilly, Shahjehanpur, Sitapur Jn., Gonda Jn., Gorakhpur, Deoria Sadar, Siwan, Chhapra, Sonpur, Hajipur Jn. & Shahpur Patoree Stations.

01913/01914 Khajuraho - Hazrat Nizamuddin - Khajuraho Festival Special Train (Tri-Weekly)						Trips
Train No. 01913		STATIONS		Train No. 01914		
Arr.	Dep.			Arr.	Dep.	
--	22:15		Khajuraho	03:30	--	
11:00	--		Hazrat Nizamuddin	--	12:30	

Days of Run: 01913 Ex Khajuraho upto 18.11.2026 on every Monday, Wednesday & Saturday and 01914 Ex Hazrat Nizamuddin on every Tuesday, Thursday & Sunday upto 19.11.2026. **Accommodation:** AC 3 Tier, Sleeper & General.

Stoppages: Duriya Ganj, Chhatrapur, Tikamgarh, Dailwara, Virangana Lakshmbhai Jhansi, Datia, Dabra, Gwalior Jn., Morena, Dhaulpur Jn., Agra Cantt., Mathura Jn. & Kosi Kalan Stations.

08407/08408 Khurda Road Jn. - Anand Vihar Terminal - Khurda Road Jn. Puja Special Train						Trips
Train No. 08407		STATIONS		Train No. 08408		
Arr.	Dep.			Arr.	Dep.	
--	12:15		Khurda Road Jn.	10:45	--	
22:30	--		Anand Vihar Terminal	--	00:30	

Days of Run: 08407 Ex Khurda Road Jn. on 25.10.2026 (Sunday) and 08408 Ex Anand Vihar Terminal on 23.10.2026 & 27.10.2026 (Friday & Tuesday)

Accommodation: AC 2 Tier, AC 3 Tier, Sleeper & General. **Stoppages:** Bhubaneswar, Cuttack, Jaipur Keonjhar Road, Bhadrakh, Balasore, Hiji, Midnapore, Bishnupur, Bankura, Adra Jn., Gomoh Jn., Koderma, Gaya Jn., Dehri-On-Sone, Sasaram, Bahawal Road, Pt. Deen Dayal Upadhyaya Jn., Subedarganj, Govindpur, Tundla Jn. & Ghaziabad Jn. Stations.

04652/04651 Amritsar-Jaynagar-Amritsar Reserved Festival Special Express Train						Trips
Train No. 04652		STATIONS		Train No. 04651		
Arr.	Dep.			Arr.	Dep.	
--	10:55		Amritsar	15:00	--	
02:30	02:40		Lucknow	22:30	22:40	
20:00	--		Jaynagar	--	04:15	

Days of Run: 04652 Ex Amritsar on every Wed, Fri, Sun upto 29.11.26 & 04651 Ex Jaynagar on every Fri, Sun, Tue upto 01.12.26. **Stoppages:** Jalandhar Cant, Ludhiana Jn, Ambala Cantt, Panipat Jn., Delhi Jn, Moradabad, Lucknow Jn, Shahganj Jn, Phephna Jn, Ballia, Sahatwar, Bakulha, Chhapra, Muzaffarpur Jn, Samastipur Jn, Darbhanga Jn & Madhubani stations

04406/04405 Shukur Basti-Mansi Jn.- Shukur Basti Unreserved Festival Special Exp. Train						Trips
Train No. 04406		STATIONS		Train No. 04405		
Arr.	Dep.			Arr.	Dep.	
--	19:10		Shukur Basti	11:30	--	
02:30	--		Mansi Jn.	--	04:30	

Days of Run: 04406 Ex Shukur Basti on 05.11.26, 06.11.26, 07.11.26, 10.11.26, 11.11.26, 12.11.26, 13.11.26 & 14.11.26 & 04405 Ex Mansi Jn. on 07.11.26, 08.11.26, 09.11.26, 12.11.26, 13.11.26, 14.11.26, 15.11.26 & 16.11.26.

Stoppages: New Delhi, Ghaziabad, Aligarh Jn, Tundla Jn, Etawah Jn, Kanpur Central, Unnao Jn, Aishbagh, Badshahnagar, Barabanki Jn, Gonda Jn, Basti, Khatilabad, Gorakhpur Jn, Deoria Sadar, Siwan Jn, Chhapra, Sonpur, Hajipur Jn, Shahpur Patoree, Barauni Jn, Begusarai & Khagaria Jn. stations

Accommodation: Sleeper & General

For any kind of information and detailed time-table etc., passengers are requested to contact RailMadad Helpline No. 139 or may visit Indian Railways website <https://enquiry.indianrail.gov.in> or NTES App.

04638/04637 Amritsar Jn.-Chhapra- Amritsar Jn. Reserved Festival Special Express Train						Trips
Train No. 04638		STATIONS		Train No. 04637		
Arr.	Dep.			Arr.	Dep.	
---	19:40		Amritsar Jn.	00:20	---	
20:45	---		Chhapra	---	22:15	

Days of Run: 04638 Ex Amritsar Jn. on every Monday upto 30.11.26 & 04637 Ex Chhapra on every Tuesday upto 01.12.26. **Accommodation:** Sleeper Classes

Stoppages: Beas Jn., Jalandhar City Jn., Phagwara Jn, Dhandari Kalan, Sirhind, Rajpura, Ambala Cantt, Yamunanagar Jagadhri, Saharanpur, Moradabad, Bareilly, Shahjahanpur, Sitapur Jn, Gonda Jn., Gorakhpur Jn, Kaptanganj Jn, Padrauna, Tamkuhi Road, Thawe Jn, Siwan Jn & Ekma stations

04640/04639 Chheharta-Muzaffarpur Jn.- Chheharta Reserved Festival Special Express Train						Trips
Train No. 04640		STATIONS		Train No. 04639		
Arr.	Dep.			Arr.	Dep.	
---	08:35		Chheharta	21:30	---	
18:05	18:13		Moradabad	11:00	11:10	
13:10	---		Muzaffarpur Jn.	---	16:00	

Days of Run: 04640 Ex Chheharta on every Monday upto 30.11.26 & 04639 Ex Muzaffarpur Jn. on every Tuesday upto 01.12.26

Stoppages: Amritsar Jn., Beas Jn., Jalandhar City Jn., Ludhiana Jn, Sirhind, Rajpura, Ambala Cantt, Yamunanagar Jagadhri, Saharanpur, Moradabad, Bareilly, Shahjahanpur Jn., Sitapur Jn., Gonda Jn., Gorakhpur Jn., Kaptanganj Jn, Siwa Bazar, Bagaha, Narkatiaganj Jn, Bettiah & Sagauli Jn stations

01207/01208 Nagpur Jn.-Samastipur Jn.- Nagpur Jn. Weekly Special Train						Trips
Train No. 01207		STATIONS		Train No. 01208		
Arr.	Dep.			Arr.	Dep.	
---	10:40		Nagpur Jn.	11:30	---	
08:13	08:15		Barabanki Jn.	15:08	15:10	
23:45	---		Samstipur Jn.	---	03:00	

Days of Run: 01207 Ex Nagpur Jn. on every Wednesday upto 11.11.26 & 01208 Ex Samastipur Jn. on every Friday from 23.10.26 to 13.11.26. **Accommodation:** 3 Tier AC, Sleeper & General Class. **Stoppages:** Betul, Itarsi Jn., Bhopal Jn., Virangana Lakshmbhai Jhansi Jn., Kanpur Central, Aishbagh Jn., Barabanki Jn., Gonda Jn., Basti, Gorakhpur Jn., Chhapra Jn., Sonpur Jn., Hajipur Jn. & Muzaffarpur Jn. stations

09617/09618 Udaipur City-Delhi Sarai Rohilla - Udaipur City Festival Special Express Train (Weekly)						Trips
Train No. 09617		STATIONS		Train No. 09618		
ARR.	DEP.			ARR.	DEP.	
---	21:15		Udaipur City	04:00	---	
11:15	---		Delhi Sarai Rohilla	---	13:45	

DAYS OF RUN: 09617 Ex. Udaipur City on every Wednesday upto 25.11.2026 and 09618 Ex. Delhi Sarai Rohilla on every Thursday upto 26.11.2026. **ACCOMMODATION:** AC 2 Tier, AC 3 Tier, AC 3 Tier Economy, Sleeper & General.

STOPPAGES: Mavli Jn., Chanderia, Bhiwara, Bijainagar, Ajmer Jn., Kishanganh, Phulera, Ringas Jn., Nim Ka Thana, Narnaul, Ateli, Rewari Jn., Gurgaon & Delhi Cantt. Stations.

Train No. 05048/05047 Banaras - Kolkata - Banaras Special Train						10 Trips
Train No. 05048		STATIONS		Train No. 05047		
Arr.	Dep.			Arr.	Dep.	
--	10:45		Banaras	04:15	--	
10:55	11:00		Varanasi Jn.	03:55	04:00	
06:15	--		Kolkata	--	08:25	

Days of Run: 05048 Ex Banaras on every Tuesday upto 24.11.2026 and 05047 Ex Kolkata on every Wednesday upto 25.11.2026. **Accommodation:** AC 3 Tier.

Stoppages: Varanasi Jn., Aunrihar Jn, Ghazipur City, Ballia, Reoti, Suraimanpur, Chhapra Jn., Dighwara, Sonpur Jn., Hajipur Jn., Shahpur Patoree, Barauni Jn., Kiul Jn., Jhajha, Jasidih Jn., Madhupur Jn, Chittaranjan, Asansol Jn., Durgapur, Bardhaman Jn., Bandel Jn. & Naihati Jn. Stations.

Train No. 01079/01080 Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj (T) - Gorakhpur Jn. - Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj (T) Special Train (Daily)						52 Trips
Train No. 01079		STATIONS		Train No. 01080		
Arr.	Dep.			Arr.	Dep.	
--	22:30		Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj (T)	00:40	--	
04:05	04:15		Lucknow	19:45	19:55	
10:00	--		Gorakhpur Jn.	--	14:30	

Days of Run: 01079 Ex Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj (T) upto 16.11.2026 (Daily) and 01080 Ex Gorakhpur Jn. upto 18.11.2026. (Daily) **Accommodation:** AC 3 Tier, Sleeper & General.

Stoppages: Dadar, Thane, Kalyan Jn., Igatpur, Nashik Road, Manmad Jn., Jalgaon Jn., Bhusaval Jn., Khandwa, Itarsi Jn., Bhopal Jn., Bina Jn., Virangana Lakshmbhai Jhansi, Orai, Kanpur Central, Lucknow, Gonda Jn., Mankapur Jn., Basti & Khalilabad Stations.

Train No. 01415/01416 Hadapsar - Gorakhpur Jn. - Hadapsar Special Train (Daily)						51 Trips
Train No. 01415		STATIONS		Train No. 01416		
Arr.	Dep.			Arr.	Dep.	
--	07:05		Hadapsar	03:30	--	
09:55	10:05		Lucknow	22:25	22:35	
16:00	--		Gorakhpur Jn.	--	17:30	

Days of Run: 01415 Ex Hadapsar upto 16.11.2026 (Daily) 01416 Ex Gorakhpur Jn. upto 17.11.2026 (Daily). **Accommodation:** AC 3 Tier, Sleeper & General. **Stoppages:** Daund Chord Line, Ahmednagar, Belapur, Kopergaon, Manmad Jn., Bhusaval Jn., Khandwa, Itarsi Jn., Bhopal Jn., Bina Jn., Virangana Lakshmbhai Jhansi, Orai, Kanpur Central, Lucknow, Gonda Jn., Mankapur Jn., Basti & Khalilabad Stations.

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SERVING CUSTOMERS WITH A SMILE

Briefs News

Practical Skills, in Person, From Local Experts

MUMBAI : (AGENCY) The night before a job interview, most people do the same thing. They rehearse their answers alone, out loud, to an empty room, and hope the real thing goes better. Timefolk, live since 26 September 2026, offers another option: a practical session, in person, with a local expert who works in the field. Timefolk is a marketplace for practical, in-person sessions with local experts. A client chooses a skill, sees which experts offer it nearby and schedules a session at a fixed session fee, in a public place. The goal is simple. Clients should leave with something finished: an interview rehearsed, a CV fixed, a pitch deck read by someone who knows what to look for, a conversation held in a new language, or a checklist for a city they have only just arrived in. The know-how people need often sits with practitioners, and there has been no simple way to reach them. Someone with an interview tomorrow has no one to rehearse with who has hired for the role. Someone new in a city faces paperwork, transport and local systems with no one to ask. Someone with a deck, a CV or a language to sort out wants one honest read from a person who does it every day. Most platforms ask people to browse profiles. Timefolk starts with the skill. The range is practical by design: interview practice, cabin crew interview preparation, language conversation and pronunciation, Business English, Arabic for daily life, CV review, pitch-deck feedback, newcomer help and AI tools for work.

Top 10 Facts About India Recognized and Trusted Astrologer of the Year 2026

NEW DELHI : (AGENCY) As public interest in personalized astrology, numerology and predictive consultation continues across India and among overseas Indian communities, clients are increasingly looking beyond generalized horoscope content and seeking more structured, question-specific analysis. Among practitioners associated with this analytical style is Acharya Devraj Ji, an astrology consultant whose work focuses on combining traditional Jyotish systems with mathematical chart calculation, layered verification and practical interpretation. His approach draws on Vedic Astrology, Krishnamurti Paddhati, Advanced Nadi Astrology, Prashna Jyotish, BNN and Vedic Numerology. His consultation work spans career, business, marriage, relationships, education, foreign opportunities and other major life decisions. 1. More Than Two Decades of Astrology Practice Astrology Expert in India Acharya Devraj Ji has more than 20 years of experience in astrology consultation and predictive chart analysis. Long-term practice can be especially important in astrology because interpretation involves more than memorizing planetary meanings. It requires comparing different combinations, timing systems, house significations and life events across many charts.

Why Navion Pro is Putting Trader Education at the Centre of it's Offering."

NEW DELHI : (AGENCY) Navion Pro, a global multi-asset trading platform, has launched with a proposition that runs against the direction of most of its industry. Rather than competing on speed or cost, the company's position is that the constraint on retail trading is no longer access but understanding. The financial markets have never been more accessible. Opening an account, exploring different asset classes and placing a trade can happen in a matter of minutes. The global multi-asset trading platform believes that while technology has made it easier for individuals to participate in financial markets, understanding the markets remains a significant challenge. For someone entering trading for the first time, access to leverage and a wide range of instruments can come long before a clear understanding of the risks involved.

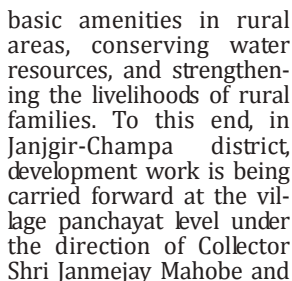
Elista Unveils Special Diwali Launch with New 14 kg Semi-Automatic Washing Machines

NEW DELHI. (AGENCY)

Elista, a consumer electronics and home appliances brand, today announced a special Diwali launch of two new 14 kg semi-automatic washing machines, strengthening

RAIPUR. OPEN SEARCH

Under the leadership of Chief Minister Shri Vishnu Dev Sai, the state government is continuously working towards expanding



the guidance of District Panchayat Chief Executive Officer Shri Vinay Kumar Poyam. The construction of water structures such as ponds and tanks under the scheme is an important initiative towards water conservation in rural areas. These structures will help in rainwater harvesting.

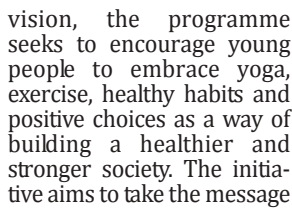
groundwater recharge, and increasing local water availability. Conserving water resources will prove beneficial for farmers and rural families, especially in an agriculture-based rural economy. The construction of unpaved drains will help improve drainage systems and strengthen water man-

agement.

Employment in the village itself, support to the livelihood of rural families. Providing local employment opportunities is an important objective of rural development projects. The involvement of local workers in pond, tank, and other construction projects provides them with work in their own villages. This provides economic support to rural families and also creates useful and lasting assets in villages. The scheme simultaneously advances employment generation and rural infrastructure development.

Along with water conservation, cleanliness is also being prioritized.

CHANDIGARH : OPEN SEARCH



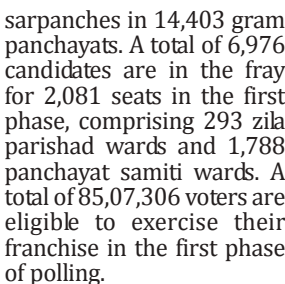
of Swami Vivekananda beyond campuses and into the wider community, inspiring the youth to choose health over addiction, discipline over distraction and purpose over harmful habits.

CHENNAI : (AGENCY) A Class XI Dalit student was found dead at his home in Coimbatore, Tamil Nadu, on the day he returned to school after the Puja holidays. His parents have alleged that the boy faced discriminatory practices at his school. Police are treating the death as a case of suicide and investigating allegations raised by his parents. In a police complaint filed after the tragedy, the boy's parents alleged that he was subjected to discriminatory treatment at the government-aided school. They claimed that a section of students subsequently stopped talking to him, leaving him distressed. Police have invoked provisions of the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes (Prevention of Atrocities) Act and are investigating the role of the school principal, a teacher and others in connection with the allegations. We are investigating the role of the school, the principal, class teacher and any others. We have filed a case under the SC/ST Act," a senior police officer. Asked specifically whether any teacher had been arrested, the officer said, "If required, we will." Police said the parents had not lodged a police complaint before the student's death, but had taken up the issue with the school. Police sources said there was only minimal intervention from the school. Sources indicate that the alleged discrimination was triggered by the family's caste and their food choices. These details are part of the emerging account and are yet to be independently established through the investigation. The police are examining the circumstances surrounding the student's death and the allegations of discriminatory practices within the school. The incident comes amid earlier allegations of caste-based discrimination in schools in Coimbatore.

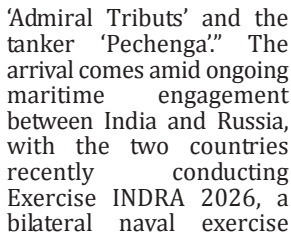
PATNA : (AGENCY) A 25-year-old migrant labourer from Bihar has been arrested by Bengaluru Police for allegedly creating and sharing an AI-generated video showing a bomb blast at Vidhana Soudha, the seat of the Karnataka government. The accused, identified as Hazrath Ali, had been working as a daily-wage pipefitter in Bengaluru for the past few months, police said. The video, which went viral on social media on October 20, shows a person mimicking the act of pulling a trigger, followed by an explosion that appears to destroy the Vidhana Soudha building. The clip was reportedly shared on Instagram from an account named Jnx king Hg, with a caption claiming that the user had blown up the building. The fabricated video triggered outrage on social media, with several users tagging Bengaluru Police and demanding strict action against the person responsible. The Instagram account has since been deactivated. Police clarified that no actual explosion had taken place and that the video was artificially generated. An FIR is being registered following complaints, while the accused is being questioned to establish his motive. Vidhana Soudha is a high-security government building that houses the Karnataka legislature. Officials have warned that the creation and circulation of fabricated videos depicting attacks on sensitive installations could cause public panic and raise security concerns. Police have also cautioned against the misuse of artificial intelligence to create and circulate threatening or misleading content. Further details are awaited.

CHENNAI : (AGENCY) A bus driver and its conductor kicked and assaulted a drunk passenger who was attempting to board the vehicle in Tamil Nadu's Tiruppur district, with the video of the incident going viral. The nearly two-minute disturbing video purportedly showed the passenger wobbling and appearing to be intoxicated as he stood near the entrance of the bus amid rain after approaching to board the bus. A man in a blue state transport uniform, appearing to be the driver, is then seen kicking the passenger in the chest outside the bus, causing him to fall onto the road. The driver is heard saying "Podu" in Tamil, loosely translated as "go away." Moments later, another man dressed in khaki, appearing to be the conductor, is seen kicking the passenger in the face while he is lying on the ground. The vehicle appeared to be a government bus bearing registration number TN 38 N 2986. "The man was drunk, and that's why the driver and conductor had kicked him.

JAIPUR : (AGENCY)



KOCHI : (AGENCY)



aimed at strengthening operational coordination and interoperability. The Indian and Russian navies held the opening ceremony of the exercise's harbour phase in Vladivostok on October 15, bringing together personnel from

TRANS GLOBE NKS HOLDINGS LIMITED (Formerly Known as NKS Holdings Private Limited consequent Upon its name change and Conversion as well as Merger of Trans Globe Textiles Limited) CIN: U65993DL2006PLC156860 Regd. Off: 47/18, Old Rajinder Nagar, Rajendera Place Metro Station, New Delhi-110060 Email Id: nksholdings123@gmail.com, website:www.transglobenks Holdingsltd.com Mobile: +91-9891095232													
Unaudited Financial Result for the Quarter and Half year Ended on 30.09.2026													
(IN LAKHS)													
S.N	Particulars	STANDALONE						CONSOLIDATED					
		Three Months Ended			SIX Months Ended		Year Ended	Three Months Ended			SIX Months Ended		Year Ended
		CURRENT QUARTER	PREVIOUS QUARTER	CORRESPONDING QUARTER	CURRENT YEAR TO DATE	CORRESPONDING YEAR TO DATE	FIGURES FOR PREVIOUS YEAR	CURRENT QUARTER	PREVIOUS QUARTER	CORRESPONDING QUARTER	CURRENT YEAR TO DATE	CORRESPONDING YEAR TO DATE	FIGURES FOR PREVIOUS YEAR
		01.07.2026 to 30.09.2026	01.04.2026 to 30.06.2026	01.07.2025 to 30.09.2025	01.04.2026 to 30.09.2026	01.04.2025 to 30.09.2025	01.04.2025 to 31.03.2026	01.07.2026 to 30.09.2026	01.04.2026 to 30.06.2026	01.07.2025 to 30.09.2025	01.04.2026 to 30.09.2026	01.04.2025 to 30.09.2025	01.04.2025 to 31.03.2026
		Unaudited	Unaudited	Unaudited	Unaudited	Unaudited	Audited	Unaudited	Unaudited	Unaudited	Unaudited	Unaudited	Audited
1	Total Income from operations	(33.44)	35.75	-	2.31	-	42.73	(33.44)	35.75	-	2.31	-	42.73
2	Net Profit / Loss for the period before tax and exceptional items	(37.00)	15.48	(3.39)	(21.52)	(7.99)	(5,087.79)	(37.00)	15.48	(3.39)	(21.52)	(7.99)	(5,087.79)
3	Net Profit/ Loss for the period before tax (after exceptional items)	(37.00)	15.48	(3.39)	(21.52)	(7.99)	(5,087.79)	(37.00)	(536.99)	1,570.95	(612.87)	1,559.70	(3,674.74)
4	Net Profit/ Loss for the period after tax (after exceptional items)	(37.00)	15.48	(3.39)	(21.52)	(7.99)	(5,087.72)	(37.00)	(536.99)	1,570.95	(612.87)	1,559.70	(3,674.67)
5	Total Comprehensive income/ loss for the period (comprising profit/ loss for the period (after tax) and other comprehensive income/ loss (after tax))	(37.00)	15.48	(3.39)	(21.52)	(7.99)	(5,087.72)	(37.00)	(536.99)	1,570.95	(612.87)	1,559.70	(3,674.67)
6	Paid up equity share capital	1,214.72	1,214.72	1,214.72	1,214.72	1,214.72	1,214.72	1,214.72	1,214.72	1,214.72	1,214.72	1,214.72	1,214.72
7	Earning per share (of Rs. 10/- each) Basic & Diluted	(0.30)	0.13	(0.03)	(0.18)	(0.07)	(41.88)	(0.62)	(4.42)	12.93	(5.05)	12.84	(30.25)

Note :

1. The above is an extract of the detailed format of quarterly and Half year end financial results filed with the stock exchange under regulation 33 of the SEBI (Listing obligations and disclosure requirements) Regulations 2015, the full format of the quarterly and year end financial results is available on the company's website and also available on the website www.transglobenks Holdingsltd.com, of MSEILimited i.e. www.mseindia.com

2. The above unaudited standalone financial results for the quarter and half year ended on september 30, 2026 were reviewed by the Audit Committee at the meeting and approved by the Board of Directors and taken on record at the meeting held on 22-10-2026.

For and on behalf of board of directors of

TRANS GLOBE NKS HOLDINGS LIMITED

DEEPU SINGH

(Managing Director)

DIN: 06786614

Date : 22.10.2026

Place : New Delhi

Krishna-Nithya pair, Suhas Yathiraj, Abhijeet win bronze in badminton

AICHI-NAGOYA : (AGENCY)

India added three more bronze medals to its para badminton tally at the Asian Para Games 2026 on Thursday, with Krishna Nagar-Nithya Sre, Suhas Lalinakere Yathiraj and Abhijeet Sakhuja finishing third in their respective events after semifinal defeats. Krishna Nagar and Nithya Sre lost 0-2 to Indonesia's Rina Marlina and Subhan in the mixed doubles SH6 semifinal. Suhas Yathiraj also went down 1-2 to Indonesia's Fredy Setiawan in the men's singles SL4 semifinal, while Abhijeet Sakhuja suffered a 0-2 defeat against compatriot Naveen Sivakumar in an all-Indian semifinal clash in the same event. The Indian pair of Krishna and Nithya



went down 14-21, 18-21 in straight games, with the Indonesian duo winning both games to book their place in the final. On the other hand, Suhas narrowly lost the opening game 21-23 but bounced back strongly in

the second, winning 21-8 to force a decider. The third game remained closely contested until the 11-point mark, after which Setiawan pulled ahead to secure a 23-21, 8-21, 21-15 victory in the singles semifinal event. Meanwhile, Sakhuja went

down to compatriot Sivakumar 13-21, 15-21. The bronze medals took India's tally at the ongoing Asian Para Games to 68, comprising 15 gold, 22 silver and 31 bronze medals. Earlier in the day, Indian para-shuttlers Manisha

Ramadass and Pramod Bhagat also settled for the bronze medal in the mixed doubles SL3-SU5 event after losing their semifinal against Indonesia's Oktia Leani Ratri and Hikmat Ramdani. The Indian pair went down 21-16, 13-21, 17-21 in a three-game contest, conceding the match after winning the opening game. Meanwhile, India's Dilip Gavit and Bhavik Bharwad qualified for the men's 400m T47 final, clocking 50.21 seconds and 49.05 seconds, respectively. Ravanni Valasanaini also advanced to the women's 400m T11 final with a personal-best time of 1:03.80. Earlier in the day, Suvarna Raj won the gold medal in the women's discus throw F54 event with a best effort of 15.66 metres.

India register podium sweep in men's high jump T63 as medal rush continues in para-athletics

AICHI-NAGOYA : (AGENCY)



India's medal count at the Asian Para Games continued to climb, with Kapil Kumar capturing a silver medal in para-swimming and a flurry of medals coming in the para-athletics events, including a sensational podium sweep in the men's high jump T63 event on Thursday. Para athletics continued to give India plenty of laurels on Thursday, with a double podium finish coming in the women's 400 m T47 event final as well, as per ESPN. Kapil Kumar secured the para-swimming silver medal in the men's 400m freestyle S10, with a time of 4:38.44, way behind the gold medalist Akito Minai (Japan), who registered a

time of 4:27.44. Swastik Patil also got India another medal, a bronze in the men's breaststroke SB9 final, with timings of 1:13.77. Also in the para-badminton competition, Manisha Ramadass secured a bronze medal, losing to compatriot Thulasimathi Murugesan 21-19, 15-21, and 13-21 in the semifinal of the women's singles SU5 event. Surya Kant Yadav and Naveen Sivakumar won bronze, losing to the Indonesian pair of Suryo

Nugroho and Muh Al Imran by 2-1 (8-21, 21-19, 16-21). Coming to para-athletics, India achieved their third podium sweep at the continental showpiece in the men's high jump T63 event, with Shailesh Kumar establishing a new Asian Games record with an attempt of 1.89 m, followed by a silver for Varun Bhati with a jump of 1.84 m (his season best) and a bronze for Rahul with a best attempt of 1.81 m (personal best). Also, a double podium finish came in the women's 400 m T47 event, with Anjanaben Bumbadiya bagging the gold by clocking timings of 59.97 seconds and Jayanti Behera winning silver with timings of 1:00.65 seconds. In the women's 400m T12 final, Tejalben Damor bagged the silver.

Briefs News

Asian Para Games 2026: Swati Chaudhary wins silver in women's W1 archery

AICHI-NAGOYA : (AGENCY) Indian para-archer Swati Chaudhary won the silver medal in the women's W1 individual archery event at the Asian Para Games 2026 after losing to China's Mengkan Cen 4-6 in the final on Thursday. Chaudhary's medal marked India's 63rd medal in the ongoing Asian Para Games and the country's first on Day 4 of the competition, kicking off what is expected to be another medal-filled day for the Indian contingent. Of India's 63 medals won so far, 14 are gold, 22 silver and 27 bronze. Swati had a chance to win India's first gold medal in archery at the ongoing edition, taking a 4-2 lead after three ends. However, Cen staged a comeback to win the final 6-4, leaving the Indian archer with the silver medal. Earlier on Day 3 of the competition, India moved up from sixth to fifth in the overall standings of the Asian Para Games 2026. Indian athletes broke Games Records, set personal bests and swept all three medals in an event in Aichi-Nagoya. The throwing arena was the highlight of the day. India claimed all three medals in the Men's Shot Put F46. Sachin Khilari won gold with a Games Record of 15.79m on his very first attempt, with all his throws exceeding 15m. Mohd Yasser took silver with a season-best throw of 15.06m, while Praveen added bronze with 13.83m. Ayush Verma won gold in the Men's Shot Put F53 with a throw of 8.16m. Bhagyashri Jadhav took silver in the Women's Shot Put F34 with a personal best of 8.19m, while Ravi Rongali won bronze in the Men's Shot Put F40 with a throw of 10.02m.

Nico Paz scores brace as Como stun Manchester United 4-1 in Champions League

COMO : (AGENCY) Como 1907 registered a commanding 4-1 victory over Manchester United on Wednesday in Matchday 3 of the UEFA Champions League 2026-27 at the Stadio Giuseppe Sinigaglia, with Argentine midfielder Nico Paz scoring twice to lead the hosts to a memorable win. Cesc Fabregas' side made a flying start, taking the lead in the second minute through Paz, who capitalised on a midfield turnover before firing a left-footed shot into the net. Manchester United attempted to respond, but Como's organised defensive setup restricted the visitors' attacking opportunities and kept them from finding an equaliser before half-time. Como extended their lead four minutes into the second half when Tasos Douvikas finished a quick attacking move down the right flank in the 49th minute to make it 2-0. Paz then doubled his personal tally in the 57th minute, producing a composed finish from the edge of the penalty area following a swift counter-attack to put the hosts firmly in control. Manchester United struggled to contain Como's attacking threat, and the Italian side added a fourth goal in the 75th minute. Jacobo Ramon rose to meet a well-delivered corner and headed the ball into the net, further extending the hosts' advantage. United managed to score a consolation goal in stoppage time through substitute Joshua Zirkzee, who converted a low cross from Amad Diallo in the 90+1st minute. However, the late strike did little to change the outcome as Como secured a comprehensive victory.

Sheetal Devi-Toman Kumar win archery gold at Asian Para Games 2026

AICHI-NAGOYA : (AGENCY) Indian para archers Sheetal Devi and Toman Kumar won gold in the compound mixed team event at the Asian Para Games 2026, defeating Indonesia's Teodora Audi Ayudia Ferelly and Ken Swagumilang 151-148 to secure India's first archery gold medal of the edition. The Indian pair started strongly in the final, taking a narrow 38-37 lead after the first end. They extended their advantage to 77-73 with a score of 39 in the second end. Sheetal and Toman scored 36 in the third end but maintained a three-point lead heading into the end. The duo then bounced back with a score of 38 to seal the gold medal with a 151-148 victory over the Indonesian pair. Earlier, Sheetal and Toman had booked their place in the final with a hard-fought 142-141 win over Chinese Taipei's Yunhsien Lee and Jyun-kai Yang. India held a 112-103 lead after the third end, but a missed shot by Toman in the end put pressure on the pair. However, the Indian duo recovered by hitting three consecutive shots in the 10-ring to secure the victory and advance to the final, where they went on to claim the gold medal. Sheetal Devi-Toman Kumar's victory marked India's 16th gold medal in the ongoing Asian Para Games and the second on Thursday. Earlier today, Suvarna Raj won a gold medal in the women's discus throw F54 event with a best effort of 15.66 metres.

I-League 3 2026-27: 19 clubs set to compete across four groups

NEW DELHI : (AGENCY)



The 2026-27 season of I-League 3, the fourth tier of the Indian men's football league system, will commence on October 22, 2026, with group-stage matches being held across four venues. The participating clubs will compete in a single round-robin format within their respective groups, according to the media release by the All India Football Federation (AIFF). Group A, comprising TRAU FC, NEROCA FC, Southern Sporting Union, and KLASA FC, will play its matches at Khuman Lampak Stadium in Imphal,

Manipur. Group B contains Garhwal Heroes FC, Sher-e-Punjab SC, Corbett FC, Techtro Swades United FC and Ghaziabad City FC. Fixtures will take place at Amenity Football Academy in Rudrapur, Uttarakhand. Kuppuraj FC, Lakecity FC, Nongkseh SS&CC, Godavari FC and Chhaygaon FC are placed in Group C and will play their matches.

Phillips smashes 82* to guide NZ to 225/4, Bhuvneshwar underwhelms on return

CHRISTCHURCH : (AGENCY)

A hard-hitting 82* by Glenn Phillips and powerplay pyrotechnics from Finn Allen and Tim Seifert helped New Zealand end at 225/4, their highest in home T20Is, against India in the first T20I of the five-match series at Christchurch on Thursday. Bhuvneshwar Kumar's return after four years was an underwhelming one as he was carted for 49 in four overs. Arshdeep Singh, Mayank Yadav and Axar Patel got a wicket each, but each leaked runs in excess of 10 per over, with Glenn (82* in 40 balls, with

eight fours and three sixes), Finn Allen (45 in 24 balls, with five fours and two sixes) and Bevon Jacobs (31 in 16 balls, with three sixes) firing all cylinders. Bhuvneshwar Kumar opened the bowling for India, bowling a tidy four-run over. In the next over, Finn Allen struck Arshdeep Singh for a boundary over mid-off, making it the first boundary of the match. This opened the floodgates as Bhuvneshwar was taken apart by Seifert in his second over, leaking two boundaries and a six. The explosive hitter asserted his dominance over Bhuvneshwar with a four and a six over long-on to



make it 17 runs in the over. In the next over, Arshdeep leaked four boundaries against the Kiwi pair, including a hat-trick of boundaries by Allen. Express pacer Mayank Yadav put a half on flow of runs, getting Seifert

to nick one to Sanju Samson as he tried to go big. Mayank finished his over with a wicket of Seifert for 17-ball 24, with three fours and a six. NZ was 49/1 in five overs. Allen dispatched Axar Patel for a six over long-off, bringing NZ's 50-run mark in 5.2 overs before Daryl Mitchell followed it with another one soon after.

Axar's over leaked 16 runs, and Kiwis ended the powerplay at 65/1, with Allen (33*) joined by Mitchell (7*) unbeaten. Allen continued to look imposing against Indian bowlers, but Axar got him caught by Tilak Verma

straight down at long-off for 24-ball 45, with five fours and two sixes. NZ was 80/2 in 7.4 overs. Halfway through, NZ was 98/2 in 10 overs, with Glenn Phillips (12*) and Mitchell (15*) unbeaten. Mitchell got in his groove with back-to-back fours against Mayank in the 11th over, with Phillips dispatching Nitish Kumar Reddy for a six over deep backward square leg.

The budding partnership was ended by Arshdeep, as he got Mitchell for a 19-ball 28 as he attempted to pull but was caught by Bhuvneshwar Kumar. NZ was 122/3 in 12.1 overs. On the next ball,

Bevon Jacobs smoked Arshdeep for a towering six over the sightscreen. Phillips looked in a fine flow, collecting a hat-trick of boundaries to end the spinner's spell at 1/51 in four overs. At the end of 15 overs, NZ was 158/3, with Phillips (41*) and Jacobs (16*) unbeaten. In the next over bowled by Bhuvneshwar, he was taken apart for 14 runs, including two sixes by Bevon, as he also sustained a hit on his wrist. Phillips reached his 13th T20I fifty in 27 balls, with three fours and three sixes. The Kiwis continued to smash Indian bowlers, with Bevon and Phillips.

FMSCI Indian National Car Racing Championship 2026 set for season opener in Coimbatore



COIMBATORE : (AGENCY)

The next chapter of Indian circuit racing begins at Kari Motor Speedway, Coimbatore, as the FMSCI Indian National Car Racing Championship 2026 gets underway on October 24-25. Now in its 29th season, the championship will bring together emerging talent and experienced racers across six categories, with 17 races scheduled over the weekend, as per a press release. The season marks a new chapter for Indian motorsport, bringing together JK Tyre and CTR (Chennai Turbo Riders) in a partnership focused on strengthening the country's racing ecosystem and providing a competitive platform for drivers to develop their skills. From single-seater racing and touring car competition to single-make championships, the opening weekend will offer a diverse programme of racing, with

competitors looking to establish early momentum in their respective categories. The weekend will feature the LGB Formula 4, Royal Enfield Continental GT Cup, Novice F1300, Super Saloon, IJTC, ITC, ISTC and JK Tyre Levitas Cup categories. With races spread across Saturday and Sunday, the opening round will test drivers on speed, consistency, race craft and their ability to manage pressure across multiple sessions. LGB Formula 4 is the first step into single-seater racing and remains one of the most economical single-seater racing series. The cars are powered by a carburetted 1,298cc Suzuki Swift engine, feature an Esteem five-speed gearbox and are built around a chrome-molybdenum tubing frame. The category, which is in its 29th year, will feature 3 races over the weekend. With seasoned drivers like Dhruv Goshwani, Monith

Srinivasan, Sandeep Kumar, and Saran Vikram forming the grid, the opening round will offer the first indication of the competitive order in a category where consistency, precision and race craft can prove decisive. The Royal Enfield Continental GT Cup, which is in its sixth edition, has an exciting change in categories, with the Amateurs and Professionals racing on separate grids and different platforms, the GT-R650 and GT-R750, respectively. Twenty amateurs and fifteen Professionals form the grids, guaranteeing exciting action across both fields. The category will feature 3 races each in both the categories. Kabir Sahoch and Saurav Dey will be among the drivers to watch in the Amateur class, while Senthil Kumar, Anish D Shetty, and Allwin Xavier will look to challenge for the leading positions in the Professional category.

The JK Tyre Novice Cup serves as the foundational stepping stone from go-karting into full-scale open-wheel formula racing, helping emerging drivers transition to single-seater competition. The category will feature two races across the weekend. The opening round will reward drivers who combine strong starts with consistency and composure. The Super Saloon category.

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Kylie Revives Coquette Glam with A Pink Halter look and Playful Hair Bow



Kylie Jenner is bringing coquette glam back into the spotlight, as she embraced the romantic aesthetic with a fresh dose of feminine charm. Known for her ever-evolving style, the beauty mogul is making a case for soft glam and flirty silhouettes. Announcing her latest beauty launches, Kylie channelled a soft-girl aesthetic in

softly defined brows, rosy blush, and glossy nude-pink lips. Her long, jet-black hair was styled poker-straight with a shiny finish. A pale satin pink bow with long tails was pinned to one side of her head, giving her entire look a playful, ballet-core-inspired touch. To finish off the look, she added diamond stud earrings to bring everything together. Making a departure from her signature full-glam, this look combined coquette femininity with modern bombshell glamour. Kylie channelled the coquette look days after making her debut on the Victoria's Secret runway. Kylie walked the runway in the brand's gemstone-encrusted Fantasy Bra, which returned to the show after eight years. The reality TV star-turned entrepreneur stepped out onto the runway wearing a gauzy mini skirt, clear statement heels, and white feathered wings. But it was the Fantasy Bra that stoked the show. The piece featured 4,410 natural diamonds surrounding a 75.54-carat, radiant-cut fancy vivid yellow diamond. It took 15 craftspeople more than 1,000 hours to build it, and the finished product weighs under four pounds. The bra costs a whopping \$50 million, the highest price for a fantasy bra to date. The piece was designed in collaboration with luxury jeweller Jacob & Co. According to a report by USA TODAY, a representative for Jacob & Co. revealed that this year's bra will return to the company's boutique in New York and will eventually be made available. (AGENCY)

'Rosemary's Baby' and 'A Quiet Place' set for Halloween re-release at PVR INOX

Roman Polanski's psychological horror classic Rosemary's Baby, and John Krasinski's thriller A Quiet Place are set to return to the big screen on October 30 as part of the PVR INOX Halloween Film Festival. Released in 1968, Roman Polanski's Rosemary's Baby, starring Mia Farrow, is widely regarded as one of the most influential psychological horror films ever made. The film will return in Paramount's 4K restoration, marking its 55th anniversary. Rosemary's Baby follows Rosemary Woodhouse, a young woman who begins to suspect that something sinister surrounds her pregnancy



and the seemingly benevolent people in her life. John Krasinski's A Quiet Place (2018) offers a contemporary take on survival horror, set in a world where mysterious creatures hunt by sound. Starring Emily Blunt and Krasinski, the film follows a family forced to live in near-total silence to survive. "India has always had a deep fascination with horror as a genre. We have

grown up listening to fantastical tales, folklore, and stories of the supernatural, making the unknown and the unexplained an intrinsic part of our cultural imagination. Bringing back two exceptional films that have defined fear on the big screen in very different ways to PVR INOX is therefore extremely exciting," said Niharika Bijli, Lead Strategist, PVR INOX Ltd. "Audiences love these films; while Rosemary's Baby draws you into a world of psychological unease and creeping paranoia, A Quiet Place keeps you on the edge of your seat with its ingenious use of silence and suspense. (AGENCY)

Bengali actress Rukmini Maitra to star in Bollywood film 'Samuk'

Bengali actress Rukmini Maitra has landed her second Bollywood project as one of the lead cast members in the film Samuk, production banner Sunshine Pictures announced on Thursday. The 35-year-old actress made her debut in Hindi cinema with the 2021 action drama Sanak, co-starring Vidyut Jammwal.

The 35-year-old actress made her debut in Hindi cinema with the 2021 action drama Sanak, co-starring Vidyut Jammwal.

for Samuk. Here's to another exciting journey together," the production banner wrote on Instagram. A blend of military realism, survival horror, and alien mythology, Samuk is reported to be directed by Kanishk Varma. Further details about the cast is yet to be announced

by the makers. Maitra is currently in Kochi shooting for the upcoming film. On the work front, the actress last appeared in Arnab K Mishra's slice-of-life drama Haati Haati Paa Paa alongside Tollywood actor Chiranjit Chakraborty. Her next Bengali film is Bike Ambulance Dada, co-starring actor-politician Dev. The film, based on the life of Karimul Haque, a tea-garden worker and social worker from West Bengal, is currently in production. (AGENCY)



'Rise and Fall' Season 2: Rishabh Jaiswal, Jaswanth Bopanna sent to Basement



Wildcard contestants Rishabh Jaiswal and Jaswanth Bopanna were sent to the Basement in the latest episode of Rise and Fall Season 2. As the race for control intensified, Niharika Tiwari found herself with a choice that could change both the Penthouse prize pot and the Basement's fate. Pawan Singh offered her two options: send both Rishabh and Jaswanth Bopanna to the Basement and double the Penthouse prize pot, or send just one of them downstairs and leave the money unchanged.

As the Ultimate Ruler, Niharika chose the bigger gamble of doubling the prize pot and sending both men downstairs. Her reasoning was simple: her friends were no longer in the Basement.

The decision soon became the talk of the Tower, with Karan Patel, Shehzad Poonawalla and Niharika speculating about the trouble Rishabh and Jaswanth could face in the Basement. But while some were busy predicting the duo's fate, Swara Bhasker's conversation with the duo irritated Karan and Shehzad.

As Rishabh and Jaswanth settled into their new reality downstairs, Pawan, too, made his way to the Basement, where the conversations took a more candid turn. He opened up about once feeling underconfident and nervous about performing alongside actresses, before explaining why he prefers to keep his interactions with women limited. When asked about it, he had a perfectly timed explanation: "Jaha mein kuch bola, woh controversy ka roop pakad leta hai". But even as Pawan brought his trademark candour to the room, old disagreements refused to stay buried. Sonam confronted Priyanka Chahar Choudhary over what she saw as a failure to stand by her own words, going so far as to call her a liar. Their icy exchange brought trust and loyalty back into question, with the Workers gathering to discuss Priyanka and her equations. Meanwhile, the Workers got a shot at Takhta Patat in a printing press challenge. The Penthouse held Rs 15 lakh, while the Basement had Rs 7.3 lakh. The task required the Workers to print pam-

phlets featuring tags for the Rulers, match each pamphlet to the correct colour and deliver it to the designated boxes outside the Rulers' house. The Rulers chose the hardest level, leaving the Workers with just one hour to print and deliver 50 pamphlets. If they succeeded, the Workers would walk away with Rs 12 lakh; if they failed, Rs 8 lakh would be added to the Rulers' prize pot. Karan took charge as supervisor, while Priyanka joined from the Workers' side. Before the task could get underway, Karan spotted a potential loophole and raised the possibility of disqualification. Swara suggested consulting the Workers first, but what could have been a discussion quickly turned into a clash, with Karan and Shehzad questioning whose side she is really playing for. Swara refused to be pushed around, and the disagreement escalated into a shouting match.

Meanwhile, Niharika urged the Workers to read the rules closely, pointing out a loophole on the Rulers' side, a move that brought her into a face-off with Shehzad, whom she told not to interfere. Produced by Banijay Asia, Rise and Fall Season 2 streamed free on Prime Video, with new episodes released daily at 12 noon. (AGENCY)

Ahead of 'Avengers: Doomsday' release, Chris Pratt says Star-Lord will return to the MCU

Hollywood actor Chris Pratt has confirmed that his character Star-Lord will return to the Marvel Cinematic Universe (MCU), though he stopped short of revealing when the superhero will make his comeback. Pratt, best known for playing Star-Lord in the Guardians of the Galaxy franchise, said he has been in ongoing discussions with Marvel Studios president Kevin Feige and executive Louis D'Esposito about the character's return, Variety reported. "I have a great relationship with Kevin and Lou, and there have been both ongoing conversations about how we make good on that promise and also hard action taken to make sure that we make good on that promise," Pratt said on The Playlist's Bingeworthy podcast. So yeah, you'll see Star-Lord again, which is very exciting, but I'm not at



liberty to say when that's going to be, but he's not going anywhere." The confirmation comes months after Pratt revealed that he had pitched an idea for Star-Lord's return to Feige and D'Esposito. During an earlier appearance on the Happy Sad Confused podcast, the actor had expressed his eagerness to reprise the role and contribute to the franchise's future. "I'm happy to do anything they want me to do and will.. And also, I personally have a really strong vision of what I would want him to do. And I think it's f****g great." When asked whether. (AGENCY)

Can Thanos beat Doctor Doom in a face-off? Here's what Josh Brolin thinks

Actor Josh Brolin has opened up about Marvel Studios' latest villain, Doctor Doom, who will make his debut in the upcoming film Avengers: Doomsday, slated to hit theatres on December 18. Downey, who last appeared as Tony Stark/Iron Man in 2019's Avengers: Endgame, is returning to the MCU after seven years as Victor Von Doom, the antagonist of the upcoming superhero film. Brolin was asked whether he would be open to a crossover between his character Thanos and Downey Jr.'s Doctor Doom.



Expressing enthusiasm for the possibility, he said, "Having been in that situation with Robert (Downey Jr.), in that scenario, I would love a different scenario. I would love it. It would be great. And who wouldn't want to see it?" He was then asked if he thinks Thanos could take down Doctor Doom, Brolin noted, "Dude, does it matter what I say at this point? Leave the mystery. Embrace the mystery." Brolin's Thanos met his end in the 2019 film Avengers: Endgame, directed by the Russo brothers. Marvel Studios recently showcased Downey's Doctor Doom in a special look at Avengers: Doomsday during the D23 presentation, offering fans a first extended glimpse of the new villain. The film is expected to bring together heroes from Earth-616, Earth-828 and other universes as they confront Doom, whose threat could have consequences for the multiverse. The story reportedly takes place 14 months after the events of Thunderbolts*. Directed by Anthony and Joe Russo, Avengers: Doomsday features a large ensemble cast, including Downey, Evans, Chris Hemsworth, Pedro Pascal, Paul Rudd, Anthony Mackie. (AGENCY)

Why Diljit Dosanjh's top ticket costs Rs 18,000 while Arijit Singh's a whopping Rs 11.8 lakh?

For music fans in India, catching their favourite singer live can cost anywhere from Rs 999 to several lakhs, depending on how close they want to get to the action. The contrast is particularly striking with Arijit Singh's upcoming tour, where a premium package for 15 persons reportedly costs Rs 11.8 lakh, and Diljit Dosanjh's Aura tour, where the most expensive ticket is capped at around Rs 18,000.

However, the two prices are not directly comparable. Arijit's premium offering is a group package for 15 persons, which works out to approximately Rs 78,667 per person, before accounting for any additional costs that may apply. Diljit's reported top ticket price, meanwhile, is for an individual ticket. According to thumpN, the official ticketing partner for Arijit's tour, ticket prices range from Rs 999 to Rs 11.8 lakh. The upcoming Mumbai concert has drawn attention for its premium hospitality package, reportedly priced



at Rs 11.8 lakh for a group of 15 persons. Across cities, the top-tier packages for Arijit's tour are reportedly priced between Rs 7 lakh and Rs 10 lakh on average. The premium package includes couch seating, exclusive gifts, premium alcohol bottles, and separate entry, exit and lavatory facilities. It also comes with a content creator who will shoot an Instagram Reel of the guests at the concert and deliver it the following day. And did you know that three years ago, when there was no indication of his retirement, a 40-seater pre-

mium lounge at his Pune concert reportedly sold out for Rs 16 lakh? Arijit's upcoming tour will begin in Ahmedabad on January 9, 2027, followed by Chandigarh on January 23, Jaipur on February 7, Mumbai on February 20, Bengaluru on March 13, New Delhi on March 27, Pune on April 10, Indore on May 1, and Hyderabad on May 15, 2027. Diljit's Aura tour presents a different pricing structure, with the most expensive ticket reportedly capped at around Rs 18,000. (AGENCY)

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