

'OUR GOVT IS COMMITTED TO GOOD GOVERNANCE': **CHHATTISGARH CM**



NASA ASTRONAUT SUNITA WILLIAMS TO ADDRESS EARTH FROM ORBIT



A shot in the arm for

AAP in Haryana, may

prove a blow for Cong

A VICTORY FOR TEAMWORK AND **DEDICATION**

KEJRIWAL WALKS OUT OF JAIL AS SC GRANTS BAIL

Delhi CM asked not to make any public comment on merits of case Justice Ujjal Bhuyan questioned timing of Kejriwal's arrest by the CBI

AGENCIES

he Supreme Court on Friday granted bail to Delhi Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal in the corruption case lodged by the CBI in connection with the excise policy 'scam', saying prolonged incarceration amounts to unjust deprivation of liberty.

A bench of Justices Surya Kant and Ujjal Bhuyan granted the relief to Kejriwal on furnishing a bail bond of Rs 10 lakh, and two sureties of like amount.

Kejriwal, who was arrested by the ED in the excise policy case on March 21, was granted interim bail on May 10 for campaigning in the Lok Sabha polls and has been in jail since June 2 when he surrendered.

The top court directed Kejriwal not to make any public comment on the merits of the case and added that terms and conditions as imposed in the ED case would



Delhi Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal addresses the party workers after being released from Tihar Jail in New Delhi on Friday. (ANI)

CAGED PARROT?

"The CBI must dispel notion of being a caged parrot, must show it is an uncaged parrot -Ujjal Bhuyan



'Jail has only strengthened my resolve'

TDG NETWORK

In his first remarks after being released from the Tihar Jail, Delhi CM Arvind Kejriwal said he will continue to fight "anti-national" forces working to weaken the nation, and asserted the incarceration has only strengthened his resolve. He stepped out of the jail to a resounding welcome by his party leaders and supporters.

DETAILS **№**P5 "They put me in jail to break me but my resolve has only grown stronger. Fails cannot break me -Arvind Kejriwal

Kejriwal still can't enter CM office, sign files

NEERAJ MOHAN

jriwal.

The Aam Aadmi Party has

got a significant boost ahead

of Haryana assembly elec-

tions as the Supreme Court

has granted the bail to the

party's top leader and Delhi

chief minister Arvind Ke-

The Supreme Court's rul-

ing has injected new energy

into the party's campaign.

The party's Haryana unit

posted a video of Kejriwal

with a fire emoji, exclaim-

With the collapse of its al-

liance talks with Congress,

AAP is now set to contest

Haryana elections alone.

The party's campaign has

been gaining momentum,

with leaders predicting that

Kejriwal's return will signif-

icantly bolster their efforts.

"I congratulate everyone and

there is excitement in Hary-

ana. Arvind Kejriwal, who

has already been named

among the star-campaign-

ers of the party will come to

Haryana and we will form

the government in Harv-

ana," stated an enthusiastic

Kejriwal's reentry into

Haryana's political scene

AAP leader.

ing: "He is back".

AGENCIES

Notwithstanding the relaxation in bail conditions by the Supreme Court while releasing him in the CBI's corruption case in excise policy 'scam', Delhi Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal still cannot visit his office at the secretariat and sign any official file.

A bench of Justices Surya Kant an Ujjal Bhuyan retained only two bail conditions that he shall remain present before the trial court on each and every date of hearing, unless exempted and fully cooperate in expeditious conclusion of the trial.

It decided to do away with the conditions that the chief minister cannot go to Delhi Secretariat or sign files.

anti-BJP votes, particularly in constituencies near the Punjab border and National Capital Region.

cate matters for Congress,

as it may lead to a split in

Despite past setbacks, including an unsuccessful Lok Sabha alliance with

"We will now fight the polls with double energy. Kejriwal ji will soon start his campaign in Haryana -Sushil Gupta AAP Haryana chief

Congress, AAP is vigorously campaigning in Haryana, the home state of Kejriwal.

The party, having already established governments in neighboring Punjab and Delhi, has mobilized its leaders, including Punjab Chief Minister Bhagwant Mann, Senior Leaders Sanjay Singh, Manish Sisodia, Sandeep Pathak, and Sunita Keiriwal, who have collectively addressed over

Swiss authorities have fro-

zen USD 311 million (Rs

2,610 crore) held by a Tai-

wanese resident in multiple

Swiss bank accounts as

part of money laundering

probe, suspecting he may

be a frontman from the

Adani group -- a charge the

conglomerate vehemently

denied saying it was neither

involved in any Swiss court proceedings nor any of its

accounts are subject to se-

US-based short-seller Hin-

AGENCIES

Hindenburg: \$311mn

of Adani proxy frozen

by Swiss authorities

could potentially compli- 40 rallies in Haryana.

Political analysts suggest that a Congress-AAP alliance would have been advantageous for both parties given the current multi-cornered electoral landscape in Haryana. With the state facing a fragmented vote, such an alliance could have mitigated vote-splitting and potentially enhanced both parties' chances. The Congress high command had supported the idea, recognizing that vote division could jeopardize their prospects, especially considering that in the last elections, the winning margins in ten constituencies were below 2,000 votes.

Soon after the Supreme Court's decision, AAP's Haryana unit chief, Sushil Gupta, emphasized that Kejriwal's release has revitalized party workers. With the arrival of Arvind Kejriwal, the enthusiasm among all the party workers has increased, especially in Haryana. We will now contest this election with even more strength," Gupta declared in a video message.

Gupta also expressed confidence that Kejriwal's cam-

denburg Research, which

had last year targeted the

Adani group in a damning

report that led to wiping

away of USD 150 billion in

market value of listed firms

of the conglomerate in the

following weeks, in a post

on X cited "newly released

Swiss criminal records re-

ported by Swiss media outlet" to state that "Swiss au-

thorities have frozen more than \$310 million in funds

across multiple Swiss bank

accounts as part of a money

laundering and securities

forgery investigation into

Chandigarh grenade blast was ISI-backed terror attack: Police

TARUNI GANDHI

In a significant breakthrough, the Punjab Police in joint operation with Central agencies on Friday cracked the Chandigarh grenade blast case, masterminded by ISI-backed. Pakistan-based terrorist Harwinder Singh alias Rinda of Babbar Khalsa



A team of CSFL inspects the spot where a suspicious explosion took place at a residence in Chandigarh.

International (BKI) and **USA-based Harpreet Singh** alias Happy Passia with the arrest of a main perpetrator. Director General of Police (DGP) Gaurav Yadav has identified the arrested accused person as Rohan Masih, a resident of village Passia in Amritsar. Police teams have also recovered one sophisticated 9MM

Four Army soldiers injured in gunfight with terrorists in J&K

Four army soldiers were injured in a gunbattle with terrorists in Jammu and Kashmir's (J-K) Kishtwar district on Friday, said officials.

"Based on the intelligence inputs, a joint operation with Jammu and Kashmir Police was launched in area Chatroo at Kishtwar. A contact has been established with the terrorists at 1530

Based on the intelligence inputs, a joint operation with Jammu and Kashmir Police was launched in area

hrs. In the ensuing firefight, four army personnel have been injured. The opera-

Chatroo at Kishtwar.

tion is in progress," posted White Knight Corps of In-

dian Army on X. According to Indian Army officials, "Four Indian Army soldiers have been injured in the ongoing encounter with terrorists in Kishtwar. One of the injured has been evacuated to the nearby Command Hospital for treatment, while three are being treated locally."

"The security forces have



Prime Minister Narendra Modi blesses Paralympics Bronze medalist Archer Sheetal Devi during an interaction with the Indian Contingent of the Paralympic Games Paris 2024, in New Delhi on Thursday. ANI

Port Blair renamed Sri Vijaya Puram

TDG NETWORK

Union Home Minister Amit Shah on Friday announced that Andaman and Nicobar Island's capital, Port Blair, has been renamed as "Sri

"Inspired by the vision of PM @narendramodi Ji, to free the nation from the colonial imprints, today we have decided to rename Port Blair as 'Sri Vijaya Puram...." the Home Minister posted on

Doctors seek PM's intervention to resolve impasse

SUPROTIM MUKHERJEE

Junior doctors in West Bengal have reached out to President Droupadi Murmu and Prime Minister Narendra Modi, seeking urgent intervention to resolve the impasse surrounding the rape and murder of a trainee doctor at RG Kar Medical College and Hospital.

The West Bengal Junior Doctors' Front (WBJDF)



murder and rape case amid heavy rains, at Swasthya Bhawan in Kolkata on Friday. ANI

penned a four-page letter to President Murmu, which was also copied to Prime Minister Narendra Modi, Vice-President Jagdeep Dhankhar, and Health Minister JP Nadda.

The letter detailed a series of recent attacks on the hospital campus, including vandalism and ransacking by a mob. The violence, which followed the tragic incident on August 9, has led to an extended strike by

junior doctors in the Staterun Government hospitals.

A post-graduate trainee was raped and murdered in the State-run RG Kar Medical College and Hospital on August 9. Junior doctors have been on "cease work" since then.

"We humbly place the issues before your esteemed Excellency, as the Head of State, so that our unfortunate colleague who has

Ford decides to drive back to India, two years after its exit

questration.

US carmaker Ford on Friday announced its intent to restart operations at its manufacturing plant in Tamil Nadu.

The news was shared by Kay Hart, President of Ford's International Markets Group, through a LinkedIn post, where she revealed that the company had submitted a Letter of Intent (LOI) to the Tamil Nadu Government, outlining plans to repurpose its Chennai facility for export-

focused manufacturing. The decision follows several high-level discussions between Ford Motor Company and the Tamil Nadu government, including a



recent meeting between Hart and Tamil Nadu's Chief Minister M K Stalin during his visit to the United States.

Hart expressed her gratitude for the support the government has extended as the company explored various options for the plant's future use. She noted that Ford intends to leverage TN's manufacturing expertise.

Hart posted, "I am pleased to share that today we are announcing that we have submitted a Letter of Intent (LOI) to the Government of Tamil Nadu in India, outlin-

ing Ford's intention to utilize our Chennai plant for manufacturing for export. The decision follows multiple meetings with the Tamil Nadu Government, including one I had last week with the Chief Minister of the Government of Tamil Nadu as part of his visit to the US. We appreciate their ongoing support as we have explored different options for the plant."

"This step underscores our ongoing commitment to India as we intend to leverage the manufacturing expertise available in TN to serve new global markets. I know people will be curious, but we will have more to share about the type of manufacturing and which export markets we'll be focusing on, in due course.'

SECURITY FORCES BUST TERRORIST HIDEOUT IN J&K'S SURANKOTE

SURANKOTE

ecurity forces busted a terrorist hideout during a joint operation at Surankote town in Jammu and Kashmir's (J-K) Poonch district, police said on Friday.

J-K Police, in a statement, said, "On 12.09.2024, on specific information, a joint search operation was launched by Police/Army and CRPF in the general area of Chamerd Surankot in the wee hours."

"The area was cordoned off and the target area was searched. During the search, the security forces were fired upon by the hiding militants. However, the fire was retaliated by the security forces. Taking advantage of the thick



forest cover, the militants managed to slip away. Additional forces have been pushed in, and the whole area is cordoned off," the police said in their state-

"During the search, security forces busted a hideout and recovered some arms/ ammunition and eatables." they said, adding that a case has been registered and an investigation taken up. Further details are await-

Earlier on Thursday evening, a man associated with a suspected terror group was apprehended by security forces in J-K's Poonch district for carrying a huge amount of explosive substance and grenades.

According to the J-K Police, a joint Naka was

the suspect tried to escape from the place but was apprehended by the security forces. During the search, the forces recovered a blue bag containing three HE-36 hand grenades, explosive substances and other incriminating material from his possession. After the preliminary in-

vestigation, it was found that the man identified as Mohd Shabir was a resident of Darvala, Nowshera and was in touch with a handler named Azim Khan, alias Mudeer, from Pakistan-Occupied Kashmir (POK).

Mudeer directed Shabir to collect these consignments from Surankote town. The police have taken cognisance of the matter and more arrests are expected

on this matter.

Kolkata rape-murder case: CBI seeks narco test of accused, moves court

TDG NETWORK KOLKATA

The Central Bureau of Investigation has moved the Sealdah court in Kolkata, seeking permission to conduct a narco-analysis test of Sanjoy Roy, the accused in R G Kar Hospital rape and murder

The accused was presented before the Sealdah court for a closed-door hearing on Friday. The consent of the accused is also being sought for the narco test as it is man-

Earlier Roy along with the principal of R G Kar College and others have undergone a polygraph test.

Meanwhile, junior doctors have continued to protest against the rape and murder of the second-year PG student in the seminar hall of the college on August 9. They held their protest in front of the Swasthya Bhawan.

On Thursday, Mamata Ba-

nerjee announced that she is ready to resign from her post amid the continued protest.

"I am ready to resign from the Chief Minister of West Bengal. I am not concerned about the post. I want justice for the victim, I am only concerned about ordinary people getting medical service."

She also assured that no action would be taken against the protesting doctors. Mamata Banerjee said, "I tried my best to sit with the junior doctors. I waited three days for them that they should have come and settle their problem. Even when they didn't accept the verdict of the Supreme Court, I waited 3 days with my highest officials, including Chief Secretary, Home Secretary, DG and my MoS. I am sorry. I apologize to the people of this country and the world who are supporting them (doctors), please give your support. I don't have any

problem. We want justice for the victim. We want justice for the common people. We want justice for the treatment of common people. We want that, as per Supreme Court instruction, they must join their duty. Though, 3 days passed after the Supreme Court verdict but we are not taking any disciplinary action because sometimes we have to tolerate. It is our duty to tolerate sometimes.'

Meanwhile, Bengal Governor C V Ananda Bose said that he would "socially boycott" Mamata Banerjee whom he dubbed as "Lady Macbeth of West Bengal".

"In solidarity with the Bengal society, I resolve that I will socially boycott the Chief Minister. Socially boycott means I will not be sharing any public platform with the Chief Minister nor will I participate in any public program which involves the Chief Minister.

Ration scam case: ED raids multiple locations in West Bengal

TDG NETWORK

The Enforcement Directorate (ED) on Friday carried out raids at several locations across West Bengal as part of its investigation into the Public Distribution System ration scam.

The ED conducted searches in Chakraberia, Kolkata, as well as in six other locations across various districts, including Basanti, Jaynagar, and Kalyani.

The fresh raids are part of an investigation into the alleged ration scam in the state, with former food and civil supplies minister Jyotipriya Mallick already in custody. Mallick was arrested in connection with the scam in October 2023 and remains behind the

In July, ED conducted raids on the residence of a

rice mill owner, allegedly a close aide of former TMC minister Jyotipriya Mallick, in connection with an

alleged PDS ration scam.

In April this year, the Enforcement Directorate (ED) in Kolkata attached 48 immovable properties worth over Rs 150 crore belonging to the then state minister Jyoti Priya Mallick and other accused in connection with the PDS ration scam in West Bengal.

These assets include two hotels and residential houses belonging to Jyoti Priya Mallick, then Minister-in-Charge of the Food and Supply Department of the government of West Bengal, Bakibur Rahaman (rice and flour miller), Sankar Addhya and others.

The value of the attached properties is Rs 50.47 crore, which the agency claimed was allegedly acquired out of Proceeds of Crime (PoC)

derived and obtained from the PDS ration scam by several persons, including Ivoti Priya Mallick.

ED's Kolkata Zonal Office provisionally attached these assets, which include 48 immoveable properties of different persons and entities, including a residential house in Salt Lake, Bolpur, of Jyoti Priya Mallick, several other 'Benami Properties' held in the name of his close associates, two hotels of Bakibur Rahaman each in Kolkata and Bengaluru and balances in various bank accounts and fixed deposits.

ED initiated the investigation based on various FIRs registered by West Bengal Police, wherein various private persons were found in unauthorised possession of ration meant for delivery through PDS and also found to be involved in bogus procurement of paddy.

After Sanjauli, protests break out in Mandi over alleged illegal mosque construction

TDG NETWORK

Hindu organisations staged a protest over an alleged illegally constructed mosque in Mandi on Friday. As the crowd tried to bring down the line of barricades, police resorted to firing water cannon to disperse the crowd.

laid down by the Jammu-

Kashmir Police, the Romeo

Force of 16 RR of the Indian

Army, and the 38 battalions

of the Central Reserve Po-

lice Forces at Potha bypass

At the Naka, the security

personnel noticed a person

coming from Surankote

towards Potha in a very

suspicious manner. On

arriving near the Naka,

in Poonch district.

The protests had been called for by Hindu organisations even after Mosque authorities demolished parts of the complex that were allegedly unauthorized. Large crowds of protestors gathered along the jail road in Mandi and shouted slogans against the state government demanding action against the alleged illegal construction.

Earlier in the day, the Himachal Pradesh Police tightened security and placed barricades in the Jail Road area in Mandi on Friday.

According to Mandi Su-

perintendent of Police Sakshi Verma, the heightened security was done following information received by the police of a gathering called by some organisation.

This protest followed those those that broke out over the illegal construction of a mosque in the Sanjauli area of the city on Wednesday. Around 300 police personnel were deployed across the city and police nakas were placed at the entrance of Mandi town, Verma added.

"Law and order will be maintained. Through different sources, we have information that some organisations have given a call to gather here, 300 police personnel have been deployed, and police nakas have been placed at the entrance of Mandi town. Action will be taken on violation of prohibitory orders under 163 BNS," SP Verma said.

However, BJP spokesperson Chetan Bragta criticised the Police for using force to disperse the protestors, "Another brazen attack on Hindus by the Congress government of Himachal, this time in Mandi. First Shimla, now this--using water cannons and force to suppress people. What exactly is this government trying to achieve?"

Earlier today, the police released the stone-pelting video of Wednesday's protest held in Sanjauli over the alleged illegal construction of a mosque in Shimla.

Eight FIRs had been registered so far and six policemen were injured in the protest, including a woman police officer who had vertebral fractures and is in a serious condition.

Earlier on Wednesday, protestors removed the first layer of barricading and clashed with the security forces while entering the Dhalli Tunnel East portal during their protest march. Police personnel used water cannons and resorted to lathi-charge to disperse protestors heading towards the Sanjauli area of Shimla.

Uttarakhand: IMD issues red alert, CM Dhami instructs SDRF to stay vigilant

TDG NETWORK

Chief Minister Pushkar Singh Dhami, upon receiving information from officials, has instructed the State Disaster Response Force (SDRF) teams and District Magistrates to stay alert due to heavy rainfall affecting various parts of Uttarakhand.

The Chief Minister has also urged residents to avoid unnecessary travel during this

The India Meteorological Department (IMD) has issued a red alert for several southern districts and an orange alert for other areas of the state. According to the IMD, a depression currently over northwest Uttar Pradesh is expected to move north-



northwest and weaken into a well-marked low-pressure area within the next 12 hours. This system, centred near Bareilly, will bring scattered to broken clouds with 'intense convection' to southern Uttarakhand and neighbouring Uttar Pradesh. 'Moderate to intense convection' is also expected over the rest of north Uttarakhand, east Rajasthan, and northwest Madhya Pradesh. Rainfall and gusty winds are anticipated in these regions. The depression, monitored by weather radars in Delhi and Lucknow, has a central pressure of 994 hectopascal (hPa) and maximum sustained wind speeds of 20 knots, gusting to 30 knots.

The depression's environmental conditions, including moderate to high wind shear and significant vorticity at the 850 hPa level, suggest that it will continue to weaken as it moves northeast.

In addition to these weather warnings, continuous rain in Nainital district has led to road closures. The Haldwani-Sitarganj road is currently closed due to excessive water flow in the Shernala area. Local residents, travellers, and drivers are advised

to use alternative routes and only travel when conditions

Also, IMD had earlier forecasted normal weather in Madhya Pradesh for the next two days. B.S. Yadav, Meteorologist at IMD Bhopal, explained that a system previously active in the state has moved to South West Uttar Pradesh, causing a decrease in rainfall, though sporadic showers may continue. "The effect will weaken within around six hours, leading to reduced rainfall activities." Yadav said.Damoh recorded the highest rainfall of 27 mm in the past 24 hours. A lowpressure system forming in the Bay of Bengal is expected to bring heavy rain back to eastern Madhya Pradesh afTDG NETWORK

In a joint operation, military intelligence and Maharashtra police arrested a man impersonating an army major for allegedly running a massive fake recruitment racket across several states.

He was running an army recruitment training camp in Dehradun and Aurangabad.

According to a senior officer, on specific input, Military Intelligence, Pune, and Bingar Camp Police station, Ahmednagar, have launched a joint operation Wednesday and arrested an accused Satyajit Barath Kamble at Belapur, Shrirampur, Ahmednagar Maharashtra, after chasing him from

The accused was impersonating an Army Major running a massive fake recruitment racket across Maharashtra, Telangana, and Karnataka. Uttar Pradesh, Bihar, Punjab, Haryana & New Delhi, etc., along with accomplices who have duped hundreds of candidates under the pretext of providing them jobs in the Armed Forces

Investigation revealed that Satvaiit Barath Kamble is the kingpin of the fraudulent recruitment module being run across the country along with his accomplices (a few of whose names surfaced during interrogation, including female touts who were spread over in the & and southern states of the country).

Further, the fraudulent recruitment module established a fake training camp at Dehradun, Uttarakhand and Shrigonda, Maharashtra, for hundreds of aspirant candidates by impersonating an Army officer and serving Army staff of recruitment zones and duping Rs 7-8 lacs from each candidate.

It has also come to light that the module approximately made Rs 3-4 crore out of a fake army recruitment racket till date, as the nexus was being run over across various states by the assistance of his accomplices.

The accused revealed that the modus operandi of the module was to allure candidates from across Maha-

Army recruitment racket busted, fake major arrested rashtra, Telangana, Karnataka, Uttar Pradesh, Bihar, Punjab, Haryana, and New Delhi by the assistance of academies located in different states and also approached candidates directly at recruitment rallies to allure them to join fake training camps as established by the module in the Dehradun and Shrigonda jungles and issued them counterfeit joining letters in the name of Ex Southern Army Commander, Chief Engineer Oficer & other appoint-

ments of Army. Further, the module has managed camping stores akin to military patternss from local markets in New Delhi and Dehradun and provided shelter to aspirant candidates during training and issued them identity cards as undertrained trainees. A senior officer added that the further details as to how many others from various states were involved in the module would come out in due course of investigation. As the module duped numerous candidates, which raises suspicion of involvement of a greater number of accomplices in the nexus.

Mayawati questions Akhilesh Yadav's explanation on alliance break-up in 2019

Bahujan Samaj Party (BSP) chief Mayawati on Friday questioned the credibility of Samajwadi Party chief Akhilesh Yadav's recent explanation about the alliance break-up in 2019 and challenged his explanation about the differences between their parties.

Mayawati was reacting to Yadav's comments, in which he accused her of making allegations to cover up her fail-

Reportedly, Samajwadi Party chief

Akhilesh Yadav on Thursday said Mayawati was making allegations to hide her shortcomings.

This came after Mayawati revealed in a booklet that the alliance broke down because Yadav had stopped taking calls from BSP leaders following the poor performance of their joint campaign.

Mayawati made the revelation in a booklet where she stated that she broke the alliance to protect the party's honour. SP and BSP fought the 2019 Lok Sabha elections together and secured only 15 seats, with Mayawati winning 10

seats and Akhilesh securing five seats in Uttar Pradesh."In UP, to stop BJP, Akhilesh Yadav, forgetting all the past mistakes of his party, talked of giving them another chance to form an alliance. But in the result of this election, BSP got 10 seats and SP got 5 because of this maintaining the alliance was a far-away thing but Akhilesh Yadav stopped taking up calls from BSP chief and Senior party leaders. Because of this, to preserve the honour of the party, we have to break the alliance with SP." Mayawati stated in the booklet.

2 more women injured as wolf menace continues in Bahraich **TDG NETWORK** attacked around 10 pm. Add-BAHRAICH

As the authorities in Uttar Pradesh's Bahraich continued their search for a sixth 'killer' wolf, two women in Mahasi village were injured in an attack allegedly by a wolf on Thursday night.

The two injured have been identified as 28-year-old Gudiya, who is a resident of Singhia Nasirpur in Mahasi, and 50-year-old Mukima, who is a resident of Nasarpur in Mahasi.

Speaking to ANI, a victim Gudiya claimed that she was

ing to that, she said, "I was lying down. My child was with me when suddenly the wolf came and held me by my neck. I screamed and started running away...It was a wolf... The door of the house was aiar."

Another victim, Mukima, told ANI that she was attacked by the wolf at around 11 pm.

"The incident occurred around 11 pm. I was sitting down outside my home when the wolf came and held me by my neck. I screamed. It was dark, so I couldn't see anything. Hearing my scream, everyone came to me," she said. Earlier on Wednesday, 50-year-old Pushpa Devi was severely injured after the

wolf attacked her. On Tuesday, an 11-year-old girl was injured after a wolf attacked her. As per the information, she has been admitted to the local government hospital in the Mahasi for treatment. The Uttar Pradesh Forest Department captured the fifth 'killer' wolf on Tuesday, while one remains elusive. The wolves had been behind several attacks on villagers in Bahraich.The Uttar Pradesh

wolf to a rescue shelter. The Uttar Pradesh Forest Department had initiated "Operation Bhediya" to apprehend a pack of wolves responsible for recent attacks in 25-30 villages under Mahsi tehsil in the Bahraich range of Bahraich Forest Division. The Forest Department in Bahraich had installed snap cameras at most of the probable habitats of wolves in the area to monitor any movement by them, which would also help the forest department to learn about the movement of the wolves in order to catch them.

Forest Department took the

'OUR GOVT IS COMMITTED TO GOOD GOVERNANCE': CHHATTISGARH CM

giving such cases the high-

est priority. Chief Minister

asserted that district expul-

sion orders and preventive

actions should not cease. He

stressed that preventive mea-

sures must be timely, and dis-

trict expulsion orders should

not merely exist on paper but

Crackdown on illegal li-

quor sales: The Chief Min-

ister expressed concern over

the rampant illegal sale of

liquor, for which the police

are often accused of offering

He stated this must not

be tolerated, and all ille-

gal liquor sales must cease

completely. In many places,

there is public outrage over

the investigation into such

sales, with complaints about

investigation teams' inef-

ficiency and absenteeism of

officers. Such negligence,

he remarked, would not be

tolerated. He also addressed

protection.

must be actively enforced.

TDG NETWORK

hhattisgarh Chief Minister Vishnu Deo Sai emphasized that fear of the law should be instilled in the minds of criminals, and justice should be ensured to the victims in a swift manner. He emphasized on the importance of maintaining the trust and confidence of public in police administration, ensuring that no citizen is harassed. The police must adopt a friendly attitude towards the common man, and police stations should foster an environment that assures citizens of assistance when they enter. He made these remarks while reviewing the law and order situation on the second day of the Collector-SP Conference at New Circuit House in the capital.

The CM urged the Collectors and Superintendents of Police to coordinate effectively to ensure robust action in controlling crime across the state. He highlighted that the Union Government has amended the Penal Code, now known as the Code of Iustice. Police officers must adapt themselves to the new laws and ensure their thorough implementation on the ground. He reaffirmed the government's commitment to good governance, noting that crime rates have



decreased compared to previous vears State needs to promote so-

cial policing anew: The Chief

Minister emphasized the necessity of promoting social policing across the state to curb crimes. He stressed the need to raise public awareness and instill confidence among the people that the police stand with them. Shri Sai also highlighted the pressing issue of cow smuggling and drug abuse in the state, calling for strict measures to ensure end-to-end action against such offences. He directed a campaign against the illegal transportation and sale of alcohol, gambling, betting, and cannabis smuggling, ensuring that legal action is taken against the culprits. He called for a vigilant eye on those spreading unrest or rumours in society, with prompt actions against them. In cases of

fraudulent activities in the Farmer's Honour Fund, calling for swift action in such cases The CM acknowledged that

while the crime rate has declined in the Bilaspur police range, there is still room for improvement in police efficiency. Similarly, he emphasized the need for greater efforts in the Durg police range, expressing dissatisfaction over unresolved murder and robbery cases persisting for over six months. Many culprits remain at large, and urgent action is required. Chief Minister lauded certain achievements in the Rajnandgaon police range, such as the effective implementation of the Trinetra app and actions taken in chit fund cases, but he remarked that more needed to be done. Chief Minister voiced concern over the increasing number of road accidents in the state and urged the police to educate the public on following traffic rules and the importance of wearing seat belts and helmets. The meeting also delved into potential measures to make policing more trustworthy, transparent, and accountable in the coming days. Close surveillance on land mafia: While reviewing the Raipur police range, the Chief Minister focused on the quality of policing in the capital. He stressed that Raipur, being the state capital, must uphold

the highest standards of policing. He expressed serious concern over complaints of land encroachment by land mafia on government and private properties and instructed the police and revenue department to jointly monitor the issue closely and take swift action.

Launch a campaign against drugs: The Chief Minister directed immediate stringent action against the sale of narcotic drugs. He urged the police to dismantle the ecosystem of this illegal trade by addressing its root causes. He also underscored the need for extensive awareness campaigns in schools and colleges in Raipur to protect youth from the harmful effects of

drug abuse. Night patrolling in the capital: Emphasizing the need to enhance night patrolling in the capital, the Chief Minister instructed continuous police patrols and strict action against organized crimes. He called for well-planned and sustained campaigns against criminals to ensure control over crime and improve-General of Police Shri Ashok Juneja, divisional commis-

ment in law and order. The Collector-SP Conference was attended by Chief Secretary Shri Amitabh Jain, Director

sioners, inspectors general of police, collectors, superintendents of police, and other senior officials.

state of gaining `enlighten-

ment'. The conference will consist of three sessions, namely "Role and Relevance of Buddha Dhamma in Modern Times," "Significance of Mindful Techniques," and "New Age Leadership and Implementation of Buddha Dhamma."

Bail to Kejriwal has confirmed faith in judiciary: Karnataka CM Siddaramaiah

TDG NETWORK

Karnataka Chief Minister Siddaramaiah lauded the decision of the Supreme Court to grant bail to Delhi Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal in a corruption case in the alleged excise policy scam stating that it has further confirmed faith in the country's judiciary.

In a post on X CM Siddaramaiah said, "The Supreme Court order granting bail to the Chief Minister of Delhi Arvind Kejriwal and releasing him from jail has further confirmed our faith in the country's judiciary. This order gives hope to all those fighting for truth and

He further hit out at the BJP and alleged it of misusing the constitutional insti-

"This order of the Supreme Court is a rebuke to the central BJP government, which is misusing the con-

stitutional institutions for their political nemesis. Let the Narendra Modi-led government, which has descended into politics of hatred, learn a lesson from

The Supreme Court on Friday granted bail to the Delhi Chief Minister in a corruption case registered by CBI in the alleged excise policy scam. The Supreme

Court said prolonged incar-

ceration amounts to unjust

this court order and wake

up. Ultimately truth will

prevail, justice will prevail.

Satyameva Jayate," Siddara-

maiah said.

deprivation of liberty.

Kejriwal was arrested by the ED on March 21, 2024, in connection with a money laundering probe relating to alleged irregularities in the now-cancelled Delhi excise policy 2021-22. On June 26, 2024, AAP Chief Arvind Kejriwal was arrested by CBI while he was in custody of the Enforcement Directorate in the excise case.

A bench of Justices Surya Kant and Ujjal Bhuyan granted bail to Kejriwal saying prolonged incarceration amounts to unjust depriva-

NCB Mumbai disposes about 982 kg of illicit drugs

The illicit drugs were seized in various

cases wherein numerous offenders,

including foreign nationals, were

arrested during the investigation.

TDG NETWORK

Mumbai Zonal Unit of the Narcotics Control Bureau (NCB) has disposed of about 982.100 kg of illicit drugs, which were earlier seized by the national nodal drug law enforcement agency. The illicit drugs were seized in various cases wherein numerous offenders, including foreign nationals, were arrested dur-

ing the investigation. A Regular Drug Disposal Committee (RDDC) was constituted in accordance with the guidelines, after which the cases were reviewed and only fit cases were selected for disposal. Accordingly, all legal terms were complied with, after which the seized drugs were finally disposed of

through incineration on Thursday (September 12) at Mumbai Waste Management Ltd., Taloja, Maha-

rashtra.

Among the disposal conducted, 20 kgs Mephedrone seized from Dongri Mumbai in June 2023 was also disposed of, wherein multiple accused persons with criminal antecedents, including kingpin, financiers, and key associates, were arrested and multi crore assets have seized

The disposed drugs include Ganja, Mephedrone, Ephedrine, CBCS, Nitrazepam tablets, Heroin, Cocaine, MDMA/Ecstasy, Methamphetamine, Charas, Opium, Zolpidem, Alprazolam, and Tramadol, totalling to 982.100 kg. These were seized from multiple international as well as interstate drug syndicates. NCB has been robustly engaged towards ensuring a drug-free society, in which it has clamped down the interstate as well as international drug syndicates by curbing the drug trafficking and bursting the financial linkages.

Conference on 'Buddha's Middle Path for Global Leadership' in Mumbai today `experienced', which is the

TDG NETWORK

The Ministry of Minority Affairs, Government of India, and International **Buddhist Confederation** are jointly organising a one-day conclave on "Buddha's Madhyama Marg/ The Middle Path to Guide Global Leadership" on

Saturday, September 14 at

the Nehru Science Centre, Worli. Union Minister of Minority Affairs, Kiren Rijiju, will be the chief guest at the event.

murder, he insisted on swift

The event aims to deliberate ways of disseminating and internalising universal values for the followers of Dhamma across the philosophical, academic, cultural, and national diversities; to work together in addressing the current challenges both within an individual and globally to offer a sustainable model for the future of the world. The conference will also honour the legacy of Babasaheb Bhimrao Ambedkar, whose contribution to modern Buddhism re-

mains indispensable. The Buddha's Madhyama Marg (Middle Path) and the Eightfold Path embrace every type of righteous conduct covering every aspect of life essential for the sustenance and welfare of the individual and society.

just a doctrine but includes the processes of `learning and understanding', `practicing' through practical application, and it is

Buddha Dhamma is not

BJP's Assam unit inducts 20 lakh new members in 9 days

TDG NETWORK

BJP's Assam unit has enrolled over 20 lakh new members in just 9 days in the state during the party's membership drive.

Assam Chief Minister Himanta Biswa Sarma said on Thursday that the BJP's membership drive in Assam has now crossed over 20 lakh. "The Bharatiya Janata Party, Assam Pradesh, has already enrolled 20.43,796 members in just 9 days. In fact, we have already surpassed the total membership enrolled in 2019. We will continue the membership drive with even greater dedication," Sarma said. In 2019, total members were 18 lakh and it was done in one and a half months. But in the last 9 days, the BJP's membership drive in Assam has crossed 20.43 lakh. The BJP's membership drive will be continued till September 25.



Former Tripura Chief Minister and Communist Party of India (Marxist) Politburo member Manik Sarkar pays tribute to party General Secretary Sitaram Yechury, in Agartala on Friday. ANI

Gujarat home minister flags off 20 new Volvo buses for GSRTC

TDG NETWORK
GANDHINAGAR

Gujarat Home Minister Harsh Sanghavi flagged off 20 new Volvo buses for Gujarat State Road Transport Corporation (GSRTC). Gujarat Home Minis-

ter said on Thursday that these are the first such buses in India that have the fire-prevention technology used in submarines and aeroplanes.

According to Minister Sanghavi, the bus contains all primary facilities like emergency windows, modular stairs and ultra-hi-tech hydraulics.

Speaking to reporters on Thursday, Gujarat Home Minister Harsh Sanghavi said, "20 hi-tech Volvo buses have been inaugurated. These are the first such buses in India that have the fire-prevention technology used in sub-



used for those who cannot use the stairs due to knee pain..." Sharing a video post on social media platform X, Harsh Sanghavi wrote, "Travel with comfort and happiness! #GSRTC #HitechBuses #Gujarat"

Meanwhile, Gujarat is set to witness a monumental leap in its public transportation infrastructure with the launch of the much-awaited Metro Rail Extension, an of-

ficial release statement said. This project, developed by the Gujarat Metro Rail Corporation (GMRC) in collaboration with the Government of Gujarat and the Government of India, will further expand the metro network, linking key locations between Ahmedabad and Gandhinagar like GNLU, PDEU, Gift City, Raysan, Randesan, Dholakuva, Infocity and

'Won't be surprised if he holds meetings with terrorists someday'

TDG NETWORK BENGALURU

Bharatiya Janata Party MP Tejasvi Surya slammed Congress leader Rahul Gandhi over his remarks and meetings during his visit to the United States and said that he would not be surprised if he held meetings with terrorists someday.

Addressing a press conference on Friday, the BJP MP from South Bengaluru said that the comments

LoP over the removal of reservations were quite damaging.

He further criticised Gandhi for meetings with "anti-India" elements like Ilhar Omar and alleged that the Leader of the Opposition in the Lok Sabha was holding meetings with Khalistan, Pakistan, China and Bangladesh agents.

" Rahul Gandhi's statements on the removal of reservations are quite dam-

made by the Lok Sabha aging... If you see, the kind of people he is meeting is also shocking. Ilhar Omar is anti-India... He is holding meetings with Khalistan, Pakistan, China and Bangladesh agents. It won't be a surprise if he holds a meeting with terrorists someday," Surya said.

During his visit to the US, Gandhi spoke of scrapping the reservations system in India when the country becomes a "fair place" during his interactions with students and faculty at Georgetown University in Washington, DC, on September 9 (local time). On the stone pelting

incident at a Ganapati procession in Mandya, Tejasvi Surya criticised Karnataka Home Minister G Parameshwara's remark and questioned if he would call it accidental if stones were pelted at Parameshwara's house.

"I want to ask the state Home Minister, G Parameshwara, if stones were pelted at your house during the Ganesh procession, would you call it accidental?" Surya added.

Earlier on Friday, former Karnataka Chief Minister and Union Minister HD Kumaraswamy visited the Nagamangala area of Karnataka's Mandya district after violence was reported from the area following an incident of alleged stone pelting at a Ganesh procession.

Met office predicts heavy rainfall again in parts of MP after Sept 15

TDG NETWORK

The Meteorological Department has predicted that the weather condition will remain normal for the next two days and predicted that heavy rainfall is likely to occur again in parts of Madhya Pradesh after Septem-

A regional meteorologist said the system which was active in the state moved

toward South West Uttar Pradesh as a result of which there was decline in rainfall though there were chances of sporadic rainfall in the state.

"A system which was active in Madhya Pradesh has now moved towards South West UP. The effect will weaken within around six hours, therefore there has been a downfall in rainfall activities. But there are

fall right now in the state," said B S Yadav Meteorologist, IMD Bhopal. Speaking about the rainfall activity in the last 24 hours in the state, he said that Damoh recorded the highest rainfall of 27 mm in the state. "There will be normal weather for two days in the state but again a low pressure system has formed in the Bay of Bengal.

chances of sporadic rain-

POLL FEVER GRIPS HARYANA, TOP LEADERS TO HIT CAMPAIGN TRAIL

NEERAJ MOHAN

aryana is poised for a high-octane Lpolitical showdown as the state's electoral landscape becomes the epicentre of national political activity over the next three weeks. The Supreme Court's recent decision to grant bail to Delhi Chief Minister and Aam Aadmi Party (AAP) leader Arvind Kejriwal has further ignited the campaign trail, intensifying the battle for Haryana's 90 Assembly seats.

Prime Minister Narendra

Modi is set to kick off the BJP's campaign from Kurukshetra on Saturday, underscoring the party's commitment to a high-profile

The BJP has unveiled a formidable roster of 40 star campaigners, including Union Home Minister Amit Shah, Defence Minister Rajnath Singh, and Uttar Pradesh Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath.

The campaign line-up also features Union Ministers Nitin Gadkari and Shivraj Singh Chouhan, among others. Besides, Union Ministers Nitin Gadkari, M L Khattar, Ar-



jun Ram Meghwal, Shivraj Singh Chouhan, Dharmendra Pradhan, Ravneet Singh Bittu, Rao Inderjit Singh and Krishan Pal Gurjar also figure in the

Other star campaigners include the party's chief

minister in Haryana Nayab

Singh Saini, Rajasthan's Bhajan Lal Sharma, Uttarakhand's Pushkar Singh Dhami and Assam's Himanta Biswa Sarma.

The Congress, not to be outdone, has mobilized its own heavyweights for



the upcoming polls. Party president Mallikarjun Kharge, Sonia Gandhi, Rahul Gandhi, and Priyanka Gandhi Vadra will spearhead the Congress campaign. The party has also enlisted wrestlers Vinesh Phogat and Bajrang Punia, who recently joined Congress, as key campaigners. The list extends to Himachal Pradesh Chief Minister Sukhvinder Singh Sukhu and former Chief Ministers Ashok Gehlot and Bhupesh Baghel, among other senior leaders.

Among other prominent campaigners are Himachal Pradesh Chief Minister Sukhvinder Singh Sukhu, party's Haryana affairs in-charge Deepak Babaria, State unit chief of the party Udai Bhan and Ajay Maken, Birender Singh, Anand Sharma and

Sachin Pilot. While former chief ministers Ashok Gehlot, Bhupesh Baghel, Charanjit Singh Channi also figure in the list of star campaigners.

The Aam Aadmi Party (AAP) is also making its presence felt with a roster of 40 star campaigners, including Delhi Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal, his wife Sunita Kejriwal, and Punjab Chief Minister Bhagwant Mann. AAP has already released its fourth list of candidates, fielding 61 candidates for the 90-member Assembly. The party's campaign will be bolstered by leaders such as Atishi and Manish Siso-

Further adding to the political fervor, BSP Supremo Mayawati will rally in support of BSP-INLD alliance candidates, while Chander Shekhar Azad will campaign for JJP-ASP candidates, bringing a diverse range of voices to the fray. Even, top leaders of the CPI (M) may also come to the state as the party was contesting the lone Bhiwani constituency.

With polling scheduled for October 5 and results to be counted on October 8, the stage is set for a dynamic electoral contest as the campaign to end on Oc-

Prominent OBC leader Karan Dev Kamboj quits BJP, joins Congress

TDG NETWORK

Morcha chief.

In a notable political shift ahead of the Haryana Assembly elections, former BJP leader and ex-minister Karan Dev Kamboj has officially joined the Congress Party. The departure of the BJP's OBC Morcha Incharge came after he was denied a ticket, a decision that led him to resign from his position as the state unit's OBC

Kamboj's formal entry into the Congress was marked by a significant event in New Delhi on Friday, where he was welcomed by Congress state president Udai Bhan and former Chief Minister Bhupinder Singh Hooda.

Agitated by the BJP's de-

The departure of the BJP's OBC Morcha Incharge came after he was denied a ticket

cision not to field him in Radaur and Indri, Kamboj has pledged his support to Congress's candidate for Indri, Rakesh Kamboj. He has also committed himself to working actively to defeat BJP candidates in both the

Indri and Radaur constitu-

Karan Dev Kamboj had previously voiced his discontent over the BJP's ticket distribution, particularly criticizing the party's choice of former MLA Shyam Singh Rana for the Radaur

Rana, who had left the BJP in 2019 to join the INLD, rejoined the BJP just before being awarded the ticket. Kamboj denounced this decision, labeling Rana as a 'traitor' and demanding a reconsideration of the ticket allocation. Despite efforts by Chief Minister Nayab Singh Saini to address his grievances, Kamboj's dissatisfaction remained unresolved, ultimately leading to his departure from the party.

Cong attacks Govt over 'tax terror' after FM's talk with a bizman goes viral

AGENCIES NEW DELHI

The Congress on Friday launched a multi-pronged attack on the government over a video of a restaurant chain owner purportedly "apologising" to Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman for voicing concerns about GST, with Rahul Gandhi saying "fragile

The opposition party also demanded an apology from the finance min-

egos" only deliver humili-

ister over the issue. Congress president Mallikarjun Kharge hit out at Sitharaman, saying the "disgraceful humiliation" of the owner of Sree Annapoorna restaurant chain smacks of "arrogance of power" and the minister "has been a repeat offender in such public interactions".

Tamil Nadu BIP chief K Annamalai said that on behalf of the party's state unit, he sincerely apologises for the actions of "our functionaries who shared a private conversation between a respected business owner and the finance minister".

Hitting out at the government, Kharge said it follows the policy of "tax terror" for poor and middle class and "tax cuts" for Prime Minister Narendra Modi's "crony friends".

"The owner asked a genuine question about Modi government's flawed GST and was first met with a condescending laugh by the FM and later forced to apologise to her on camera. MSMEs and Small Business owners are suffering the brunt of Modi government's repeated financial assaults in the form of a flawed GST and Demonetisation," Kharge said in a post on X.

The BJP is only committed to benefit Modi's large "crony friends", he alleged.

"From Day 1, the Congress party is saying that we need a simple, uniform, moderate and rational GST on essential items. In our 2024 Manifesto, we said, 'Congress will replace the GST laws enacted by the BJP/NDA government with GST 2.0. The new GST regime will be based on the universally accepted principle that GST shall be a single, moderate rate (with a few exceptions) that will not burden the poor'," Kharge

The Congress is strongly committed to this, he

The BJP's "loot small owners and shoot the messenger" policy spells a disaster for the nation's economy, Kharge said.

Former Congress president Rahul Gandhi also slammed the government over the issue and said that when "fragile egos" of those in power are hurt, it seems humiliation is what they will deliver.

Kejriwal walks out of jail

CONTINUED FROM P1

also be applicable here.

The top court, while granting him bail in the ED case, said that Kejriwal cannot visit his office or the Delhi Secretariat and not sign any official file unless abthe Lieutenant Governor's sanction. It said completion of trial was unlikely to occur in the immediate future and rejected the apprehension of tampering by Kejriwal. Justice Bhuyan, who wrote a separate judgement, concurred with Justice Kant on grant of bail.

However, Justice Bhuyan

questioned the timing of

Kejriwal's arrest by the CBI and said the agency's aim was to frustrate grant of bail to him in the ED case.

I fail to understand the CBI's urgency to arrest Kejriwal on cusp of release in do so for 22 months, Justice Bhuyan said.

He said the CBI can't justify arrest and continued detention citing evasive replies by Kejriwal, and added that non-cooperation cannot mean self-incrimination.

"The CBI must dispel notion of being a caged parrot, must show it is an uncaged parrot," Justice Bhuyan

It would be travesty of justice to keep Kejriwal in custody when he has got bail in the ED case on the same grounds, he said.

Justice Bhuyan said he has serious reservations on the the ED case when it did not conditions imposed in the bar him from entering the CM's office and signing

"I am not commenting on conditions imposed on Kejriwal due to judicial discipline as it was in separate ED case," he added.

The bench had on September 5 reserved its verdict on

Can't enter CM office

CONTINUED FROM P1

However, the relief in the present case cannot be enforced as a bench headed by Justice Sanjiv Khanna, on May 10, 2024 and July 12, 2024, had imposed these conditions and made clear that they can only be recalled or modified be a larger constitution bench.

The top court also imposes a slew of other conditions and directed that Kejriwal be released on bail upon furnishing bail bonds for a sum of Rs 10 lakh with two sureties of such like amount, to the satisfaction of the trial

"The appellant shall not make any public comments on the merits of the CBI case, it being sub judice before the trial court. This condition is necessitated to dissuade a recent tendency of building a self-serving narrative on public platforms.

"However, this shall not preclude the appellant from raising all his contentions before the trial court. The terms and conditions imposed by a coordinate bench of this court vide orders dated May 10, 2024 and July 12, 2024 are mutatis mutandis (with the necessary changes) in the present case," the bench said.

CONTINUED FROM P1

paign would invigorate the party's efforts. "We will now fight the polls with double energy. Kejriwal ji will soon start his campaign in Harvana," he added.

Gupta praised the court's

decision, noting that the people are eager to replace the current BJP government. "Development has come to a standstill under the BIP. People are waiting for October 5 to oust them from power," Gupta said. He further highlighted the demand for change, stating that voters are seeking an honest government that can provide quality education, healthcare, reliable power supply, and overall

Chandigarh grenade blast

A shot in the arm for AAP

Glock pistol along with ammunition from his possession, he added.

On Wednesday evening, two unknown persons lobbed a hand grenade in Sector-10, Chandigarh. The Police immediately reached the scene and conducted a spot investigation, revealing that two individuals arrived on an auto-rickshaw and one of

them hurled the hand grenade in a house. "The Hand Grenade used in this incident is a military grade equipment smuggled from across the border through drone with the help of ISI. Police have identified the other accused person as well, and raids are being conducted to nab him," said the DGP, while reiterating fulsome cooperation to the Chandigarh Police in this case.

Preliminary investigation has revealed that accused Rohan, who has been working in Jammu and Kashmir from last few years, knew Happy Passia from their shared village. Happy Passia instructed Rohan to carry out the attack, promising financial rewards. DGP Gaurav Yadav said that during questioning, accused Rohan confessed to involvement in the grenade blast, reveal-

ing he acted at the behest of Happy Passia, who provided the hand grenade and weapons through his associates. Happy Passia had also arranged finances and logistics for them, he added. He said that further investigation to unravel the entire conspiracy is being done jointly in coordination with the Chandigarh Police and Central Agencies.

Sharing more details, AIG State Special Operation Cell (SSOC) Amritsar Sukhminder Singh Mann said that after committing the crime, accused Rohan and his associate travelled first to Amritsar and thereafter, took their separate ways. Rohan initially went to his acquaintance in Khanna but had returned to Amritsar as he planned to further travel to J&K, he said, while adding that in the meantime he was

The AIG said that prima facie it appears that they were trying to target a specific person as the same terror group had attempted a similar attack at the same location last year. That attempt was successfully foiled by the Punjab Police with the arrest of two operatives identified as Bikramjit Singh alias Raja of Batala and Bawa Singh of Majitha, he added.

Protesting doctors seek PM's help

CONTINUED FROM P1

been the victim of the most despicable crime shall receive justice, and so that we, the healthcare professionals under the West Bengal Health department, may be able to discharge our duties to the public without fear and apprehension.

"Your intervention in these trying times will act as a beacon of light to us all, showing us the way ahead out of the darkness that surrounds us," they wrote. One of the agitating doc-

tors, Aniket Mahato, told The Daily Guardian that the letter was drafted earlier this month and sent on Thursday night after the talks with the Mamata Banerjee Government fell through since the State Government did not agree to live-streaming of the discussions in the interests of transparency.

Referring to the mob violence on the midnight of August 14, the junior doctors wrote: "It was under such odd hours that an unapprehended mob barged unabated into the premises of the R.G. Kar Medical College

and Hospital, ransacked the hospital campus, vandalised the Emergency department. tore through the make-shift protest site, and attempted to further destroy the sanctity of the alleged place of occurrence, threatening to do away with whatever evidence was left," the letter detailed

The doctors accused the State police of being passive during the attack, describing the atmosphere as one of "fear, distrust, and hopelessness." In response, they have been organizing medical camps under the Abhaya Clinics initiative to continue providing healthcare services to the public.

Meanwhile, Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee on Friday announced Rs 2 Lakh compensation for each of the 29 families of those who lost their lives due to the disruptions of health services following cease work by a

section of junior doctors. On Friday, Banerjee took to X and wrote: "It is sad and unfortunate that we have lost 29 precious lives due to disruption in health services because of long drawn cease work by junior doctors."

"In order to extend a helping hand to the bereaved families, the State Government announces a token financial relief of Rs. 2 lakh to family members of each deceased person..." she added.

Meanwhile, the junior doctors rubbished the claims by the State Government that the patients have died due to their 'cease work'. The protesters said senior doctors and resident doctors are working round-the-clock in the OPDs, emergencies and the wards. They also pointed out that the figures of the dead were based on "so-called media reports" as had been confirmed by the State Health Secretary

Narayan Swaroop Nigam. They also pointed out that the State Government had also placed the same "false, unconfirmed information" before the Supreme Court through its counsel Kapil

The doctors also quoted the official figures of deaths in Government hospitals during the same period in earlier years to demolish claims that people were dying since the junior doctors were on ceasework.

Hindenburg: \$311mn of Adani proxy frozen

Adani, dating back as early as 2021.'

"Prosecutors detailed how an Adani frontman invested in opaque BVI/Mauritius & Bermuda funds that almost exclusively owned Adani stocks," it said citing the report. The Adani Group has rejected and denied "base-

less allegations". It asserted that it has no involvement in any Swiss court proceedings, nor have any of the company accounts been subject to sequestration by any authority. The Adani Group said in a statement that the allegations are clearly preposterous, irrational, and absurd and it is yet another orchestrated and egregious attempt by the same cohorts acting in unison to inflict damage on

the group's reputation. "We unequivocally reject and deny the baseless allegations presented. The Adani Group has no involvement in any Swiss court proceedings, nor have any of our company accounts been subject to sequestration by

any authority. Furthermore, even in the alleged order, the Swiss court has neither mentioned our group companies, nor have we received any requests for clarification or information from any such authority or regulatory body," the statement said.

"We reiterate that our overseas holding structure is transparent, fully disclosed, and compliant with all relevant laws. These allegations are clearly preposterous, irrational, and absurd. We have no hesitation in stating that this is yet another orchestrated and egregious attempt by the same cohorts acting in unison to inflict irreversible damage on our group's reputation and market value," the statement added.

In a post on X, US-based short seller Hindenburg Research cited a news report by Swiss media outlet Gotham City and alleged that Swiss authorities have frozen over USD 310 million in funds across multiple Swiss bank accounts as part of an investigation into the Adani

Four Army soldiers injured

CONTINUED FROM P1

cordoned off the area and operations are still going on. More details awaited," said the officials.

Security has been heightened in Jammu and Kashmir's Kishtwar following the encounter between security forces and terrorists in the upper reaches of Naidgham

village. Earlier this evening, an encounter broke out between terrorists and security forces in the Kishtwar district of Jammu and Kashmir (J-K), officials said.

"Encounter underway be-

been heightened in Kishtwar following the encounter between security forces and terrorists.

Security has

tween security forces and terrorists at Pingnal Dugadda forest area, upper reaches of Naidgham village under the jurisdiction of Police Station Chhatroo, district Kishtwar," J-K Police said. Security forces had engaged in an exchange of fire with terrorists in the same forest area Friday evening. Meanwhile, two terror-

ists were neutralised and

large, warlike stores were recovered following a joint operation by troops of the Indian Army's Rising Star Corps and the Jammu and Kashmir police.

"In the joint operation launched on September 11 by troops of the Rising Star Corps and the Jammu and Kashmir police, two terrorists neutralised and large warlike stores recovered," posted Rising Star Corps

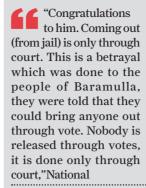
"Congratulations to AAP family! Kudos for staying strong Wishing also the soonest release of our other leaders," -Sunita



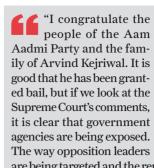
"This had to happen. This will happen in every case because all cases were fake, fictitious, and hatched in the Delhi BJP office. Power keeps transferring. Listen to High Court observation in the case of Hemant Soren, read it, and read

about today's case--it is a slap to not just ED, I-T, and CBI but also to those who plot this,"

-Manoj Jha, RJD MP



- Omar Abdullah, National Conference leader



are being targeted and the reprimand from the Supreme Court is significant,"

-Tejashwi Yadav, RJD leader

'THICK WALLS OF THE JAIL AND THE BARS CANNOT BREAK ME'

TDG NETWORK NEW DELHI

Kejriwal

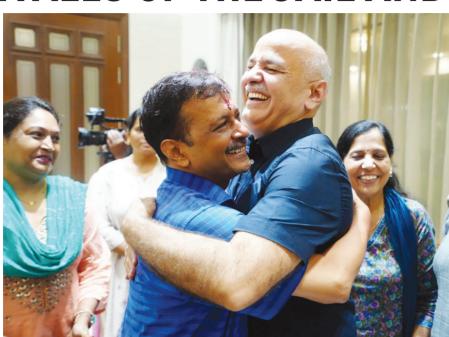
n his first remarks after being released from Tihar Jail on Friday, Delhi Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal said he will continue to fight against "anti-national" forces working to weaken the country and asserted that incarceration has only strengthened his resolve.

Hours after the Supreme Court granted him bail in the Delhi excise policy case, Kejriwal stepped out of jail to a resounding welcome by Aam Aadmi Party (AAP) leaders and supporters.

Addressing the party workers from the sunroof of a vehicle, Kejriwal, clad in a blue shirt, raised slogans such as "Inquilab Zindabad" and "Vande Mataram".

"These anti-national forces that are trying to weaken the country, divide it.... I have always fought against them and will continue fighting against them," he said and raised the slogan of "Bharat Mata Ki Jai".

The chief minister, who was arrested on March 21 by the Enforcement Directorate (ED) in a moneylaundering case linked to the excise policy and then



Delhi Chief Minister and AAP National Convener Arvind Kejriwal being welcomed by former Delhi Deputy Chief Minister and party leader Manish Sisodia as he arrives at his residence after being released from Tihar Jail on interim bail in New Delhi on Friday. (ANI Photo)

by the Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) in June in a corruption case linked to the policy, stressed that the time spent in jail has only strengthened his resolve.

"I have struggled a lot in my life and braved huge difficulties, but god has supported me in every step. He has supported me because I was truthful. They put me in jail. They thought that by

putting me in jail, they will

break my morale. My resolve has grown 100 times stronger and my strength has grown by 100 times.

"The thick walls of the jail

and the bars cannot break me," he said. He thanked those who prayed for his release from

"I want to thank god by whose blessings I came out today. Lakhs of people

prayed for me, went to tem-

ples, mosques, gurdwaras to pray for me. I want to thank all of them and those who came here braving rain. My life is dedicated to the country. Every moment of my life, every drop of my blood is dedicated to the country,"

he said. Hundreds of AAP workers and senior party leaders, including Punjab Chief Minister Bhagwant Mann and former Delhi deputy

chief minister Manish Sisodia, were waiting outside the prison to welcome Kejriwal.

Drenched in rain, Mann and Sisodia raised slogans from atop a truck hailing Kejriwal. Slogans like "Jail ke taale toot gave, Kejriwal chhoot gaye" and "Bhrastachaar ka ek hi kaal, Kejriwal, Kejriwal" rent the

After the court decision, AAP leaders lashed out BJP and the Modi government Manish Sisodia alleged them for arresting Delhi CM under "premeditated conspiracy".

Sisodia further said that this order judgement by the Supreme Court gives assurance that only the Constitution will run a country.

"This judgement is not only important for us but for all citizens.

The SC's order has given an assurance that if someone is a dictator or misusing the agencies, then the Constitution of India is there to protect and only the Constitution will run the country. The judgement also clears that the BJP was using ED and CBI as a caged parrot to hatch conspiracies against Arvind Kejriwal.

The Supreme Court itself said that the way CBI arrested the CM, it was clear that CBI arrested him knowingly.

It was the BJP's aim to keep him inside the jail. When Arvind Kejriwal was coming out of jail from the ED, he was arrested by the CBI. It was "Sochi-Samihi-Saazish," said Sisodia.

Calling ED and CBI a "caged parrot," Manish Sisodia said that it's a clear message from the Supreme Court for the BJP to stop their "dictatorial regime."

Addressing a joint press conference, Manish Sisodia said, "The bail granted by the Supreme Court to Arvind Kejriwal is important in several ways. First of all, this is a matter of relief and joy for AAP, the Delhi government and our families that our political guru Arvind Kejriwal will come out of jail despite several conspiracies of the BJP. The SC has given a message to the BJP that they have to stop their dictatorship. The SC has said that the BJP is misusing the agencies and has made them their caged parrot. The SC said in very clear words that the CBI is

'Jail wala' CM now 'bail wala': BJP's Gaurav Bhatia takes dig at Kejriwal

TDG NETWORK

Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) leader Gaurav Bhatia on Friday took a jibe at Delhi Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal saying the 'jail wala' CM has become a 'bail wala' CM now. His remarks followed the decision by the Supreme Court today granting bail to Kejriwal in a corruption case related to the alleged

excise policy scam. Speaking at a press conference on Tuesday, Bhatia said, "The Supreme Court has shown a mirror to 'kattar beimaan' AAP convenor Arvind Kejriwal once again... He has got conditional bail... The 'jail wala' CM is now a 'bail wala' CM." Bhatia further attacked Kejriwal for his past statements that politicians should resign if faced with allegations, adding that Kejriwal won't resign because he lacks even a drop of morality.



"The most important is that Arvind Keiriwal CM should resign as per the voice of the people of Delhi... But he will not do that because he does not have even a drop of morality... He used to say that a politician should resign even if there is an allegation. And now he is out on bail, he was in jail for 6 months, but he is not resigning... Bhrashtrachaar yukt, CM abhiyukt... Now, he is in the category of an accused," the BJP leader said. Bhatia also slammed the AAP for celebrating the bail order and said that Kejriwal has not been acquitted.

Court puts Jagdish Tytler on trial in Pul Bangash riots case

AGENCIES

The Rouse Avenue court on Friday put Congress leader Jagdish Tytler on trial in the Pul Bangash rioting and Sikh killings case. The court has listed for the recording of prosecution evidence after formally framing charges against Tytler. Congress leader Jagdish Tytler appeared before the court and he denied charges framed against him. This case pertains to the killings of three Sikhs near Gurudwara Pul Bangash on November 1, 1984. Special judge Rakesh Syal has listed the matter for trial and recording of evidence on October 3. The first witness called for evidence is Lakhvinder Kaur, whose husband Badal Singh was killed during riots. On August 30, the court said that there are sufficient grounds to presume that he abetted the killing of three Sikhs by instigating the mob that attacked Gurudwara Pul Bangash, and some of them set it on fire. Special CBI Judge Rakesh Sval said, "There appears to be sufficient grounds to presume that the accused has committed offences



punishable under Sections 143, 147, 188 and 153 A IPC, Sections 295, 436, 451, 380 read with Section 149 IPC, and Section 302 r/w Section 109 IPC." The Rouse Avenue court directed to frame charges against Congress leader Jagdish Tytler in the Pul Bangash Sikh Killings case. The court directed to frame charges under sections 143, 153A, 188, 149, 380, and 436 IPC read with 302 and 109 IPC. He has been discharged under Section 148 IPC. This incident occurred after the assassination of then-Prime Minister Indira Gandhi. The CBI had filed a supplementary charge sheet against Tytler on May 20, 2023. On July 26, 2023, the court

issued a summons to Congress leader Jagdish Tytler after taking cognisance of the supplementary charge sheet filed by the CBI against him. A supplementary charge sheet has been filed by the CBI in the case of killings in the Pul Bangash area in 1984. Additional Chief Metropolitan Magistrate (ACMM) Vidhi Gupta Anand had issued a summons to Jagdish

"I have gone through the supplementary charge sheet, case record, statement of eyewitnesses, and other witnesses. There is sufficient material to proceed further," ACMM Vidhi Gupta Anand said. Tytler was granted bail on August 5, 2023, after his appearance before the court.

working as a caged parrot." HC grants bail to co-owners of basement, asks them to deposit Rs 5 cr with Red Cross

TDG NETWORK

The Delhi High Court on Friday granted interim bail to four co-owners of a basement linked to the tragic deaths of three IAS aspirants in Old Rajinder Nagar. The bail will be in effect until January 30, 2025, said the court.

The bench of Justice DK Sharma also requested the Lieutenant Governor (LG) of Delhi to form a committee, which will operate under the supervision of a retired High Court judge, to ensure that no coaching centres are run in basements without sanction across Delhi.

Justice DK Sharma,

while delivering the verdict, remarked that the actions of the four co-owners were "unpardonable" and demonstrated their "greed." Additionally, the court directed the four coowners of the basement to deposit Rs 5 crore to the Red Cross Society. On Thursday, the Delhi High Court asked the CBI to submit a status report addressing the primary causes of waterlogging



in the area and the rainfall data from that day. Recently, the trial court denied bail to the four coowners and said that the liability of the co-owners stemmed from their illegal act of allowing the basement to be used as a coaching institute. Their bail plea moved in Delhi High Court stated that the trial court failed to consider that the applicants were not named in

Additionally, the plea highlights that the coowners voluntarily reported to the police station and cooperated with the investigation, demonstrating their bona fides despite not being called in by the investigating officer. Their plea further contends that the trial court overlooked the principle

that vicarious liability does not apply in criminal jurisprudence.

Their plea stated that strict criminal liability pertains only to the person who directly commits the criminal act, which, in their view, does not apply to the current applicants. In their earlier bail application, the accused argued that the tragic incident was caused by heavy rain, which they described as an "act of God."

They also attributed part of the blame to the civic agency for the area's dysfunctional sewer system. Before trial court, the Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI), which is handling the case, has stated that the basement was designated solely for storage, not for educational

High Court drops contempt proceedings against man who used abusive language in court

TDG NETWORK

The Delhi High Court dropped contempt proceedings against a man who was frustrated after separation from his son after accepting an apology. During a hearing, he used abusive language in trial court. Division bench of Justices Prathiba M Singh and Amit Sharma dropped the contempt proceedings against the contemnor after accepting apology by subject to depositing Rs. 25000 to the Delhi High Court Legal Service Com-

mittee with a week. "Keeping in mind the overall facts and circumstances, this court accepts the apology of the contemnor subject to the condition that the contemnor shall deposit a sum of Rs. 25.000 to the Delhi High Court Legal Services Committee within 1 week," the division bench ordered on September 11. The Division Bench observed that the conduct of the Contemnor, though completely unbecoming, appears to have taken place in a circumstance



of frustration and in the midst of a matrimonial spat with his wife where his son's custody was also involved.

This Court is of the opinion that the contemnor may not have had any intention to show disrespect to the court. The contemnor has admitted, in a moment of anger and frustration, had misbehaved with the learnt Family Court, the High court noted. The contemnor had filed an affidavit cum reply before the High Court.

The High Court said that there can be no doubt that a litigant cannot be allowed to indulge in contemptuous conduct against a court. However, a perusal of the affidavit filed shows that the said conduct occurred at a time when the son of the contemnor was being separated from him, it ob-

students, faculty bid farewell to famous alumnus Yechury

TDG NETWORK NEW DELHI

Hundreds of students and faculty members of Jawaharlal Nehru University paid tribute to late CPI(M) general secretary Sitaram Yechury, as his body was kept at JNUSU office for paying homage on Friday. Yechury (72), a pragmatic Communist and one of the

key architects of the Left

bastion in JNU, died on

Thursday at a hospital here after battling a lung infec-

With the famous "Laal Salam" slogan, Left supporters paid respect to the Left stalwart, whose mortals where kept in a casket adorned with flowers.

"Long live comrade Sitaram Yechury" read a banner placed above the garlanded photograph of the veteran leader surrounded with the students and faculty mem-



People pay their last respects to the mortal remains of Communist Party of India (Marxist) General Secretary and former JNU Students' Union President Sitaram Yechury, at Jawaharlal Nehru University in New Delhi on Friday.

As a student at JNU, Yechury was a part of the Students Federation of India (SFI).

As a student at JNU, Yechury was a part of the Students Federation of India (SFI), which he joined in 1974 and was arrested a few months later during the Emergency. He served

as the president of the Jawaharlal Nehru University Students Union (JNUSU)

Yechury was elected as All-India Joint Secretary of SFI in 1978 and later became its All India Presi-

thrice during 1977-78.

dent. When he became SFI

president in 1978, he was the first person who did not belong to either West Bengal or Kerala to occupy the post.

Yechury is survived by his wife Seema Chishti and his two children, Akhila and Danish. His elder son. Ashish Yechury, passed away due to Covid in 2021. Yechury was earlier married to Indrani Mazumdar.

RAIN LASHES THE CITY; WATERLOGGING, TRAFFIC SNARLS REPORTED

TDG NETWORK

ain lashed the Delh-National Capital Region on Friday, causing waterlogging and traffic snarls in several areas.

The India Meteorological Department (IMD) has issued an orange alert for Friday in the national capital.

At many places in Delhi, vehicles could be seen making their way through the waterlogged roads.

According to the IMD, a combination of factors will likely keep Delhi wet. It may cause waterlogging, especially in low-lying areas, and possible traffic disruptions.

The IMD has predicted more rainfall accompanied by gusty winds reaching speeds of 30 kmph for the national capital until Friday.

The maximum temperature in Delhi on Friday is expected to hover at 28 degrees Celsius, six notches below normal, according to the weather department.

A depression that formed over the Bay of Bengal and is now in central Uttar

Former Deputy Chief Min-

ister of Delhi and Aam

Aadmi party leader Manish

Sisodia on Thursday offered

prayers at the Ganesh Puja

Pandal in Delhi's Patparganj

"In our society, Lord Ga-

nesha is called Ganaad-

hipati. I work on education.

I pray to Ganpati every-

where that every child of

Delhi and the country gets a

good education. I come here

every year, except last year

I could not come," Sisodia

on X. wrote. "Vakratunda

Mahakaya Suryakoti Sam-

prabhah" - The glory of

Lord Ganesha is limitless!

Today, in Patparganj As-

sembly, I participated in the

worship in various Ganesh

TDG NETWORK





AAP's Manish Sisodia offers prayers at Ganesh

Pradesh is one of the factors for the downpours that Delhi and other places in North India are receiving.

"Depression over central Uttar Pradesh lay centered at O530IST of 13Sept over northwest Uttar Pradesh

Mandals and performed

the aarti of Ganpati. Vigh-

naharta, Gajanan Lord Ga-

nesha is the factor of aus-

piciousness and the god of

wisdom and discretion. We

pray to Bappa to provide

ity and wisdom to all the

countrymen. Remove the

obstacles of all the people".

Earlier, on Wednesday.

Prime Minister Narendra

Modi participated in the

auspicious Ganesh Puja at

Manish Sisodia, in a post happiness, peace, prosper-

Puja Pandal in Patparganj area

& NBD. about 20km southsouthwest of Bareilly(UP), 70km west-northwest of Shahjahanpur(UP). Likely to continue moving nearly north-northwestwards & weaken gradually," IMD

The IMD predicted heavy to very heavy rain, with extremely heavy rain at isolated places over Uttarakhand and west Uttar Pradesh, heavy rain at isolated places over Himachal Pradesh and Delhi, heavy to very heavy

with happiness, prosperity

and wonderful health," the

PM also said in a post on X.

Ganesh Chaturthi, a 10-

day festival, will continue

until Anantha Chaturdashi.

This festival is also known

as Vinayak Chaturthi or Vi-

During Ganesh Chatur-

thi, Lord Ganesha is wor-

shipped as the god of new

beginnings and the remover

of obstacles. Devotees across

India and abroad celebrate

Lord Ganesha's wisdom and

Homes and pandals are

adorned with elaborate dec-

orations, and the air is filled

with prayers, music, and

festive chants. The streets

come alive with vibrant

processions and traditional

rituals as people prepare

delicious offerings and visit

the beautifully decorated

nayak Chavithi.

intelligence.

pandals.

rain at isolated places over Harvana, Chandigarh, east Uttar Pradesh and east Rajasthan, and thunderstorms and lightning at isolated places over north-west India except Haryana for to-

Gym owner shot dead in Greater

TDG NETWORK

A gym owner was shot dead by some assailants in south Delhi's Greater Kailash on Thursday night, according to Delhi police.

The deceased was identi-

"He was immediately rushed to the hospital by his friends but was declared dead. A case under relevant sections is being registered, and further investigation is underway," the Delhi police

received a PCR call about a firing incident. We got the information about the firing incident in the E-block of GK (Greater Kailash). He was identified as Nadir Shah and runs a gym in partnership. Around 7-8 rounds of bullets were fired," DCP (South) Ankit Chauhan said.

Kailash area

fied as Nadir Shah.

Crucial issues related to land reforms in the city's lands were acquired. villages have remained These concerns are now be-

Delhi villages demand

TDG NETWORK

Delhi's villages are cur-

rently in a sorry state, lack-

ing basic infrastructure for

the inhabitants and turn-

ing into slums with water-

logged streets, improper

drainage, and inadequate

sewerage systems. Several of the city's villages do not

even have functional sewer

systems, forcing people to

live in poor conditions with

broken roads, dirty streets,

and a long list of civic woes.

unresolved for a long time.

ing voiced by the rural lead-

ers of the Khap Panchayats,

led by the Palam 360 Khap.

The Khap has brought these

issues of Delhi's farmers to

the forefront by organiz-

ing a Maha Panchayat last

year. On September 15, an-

other Mahapanchayat will

be held at Jantar Mantar to

raise the pending issues of

the city's villages, according

to the Pradhan of Palam 360

Khap, Chaudhary Surender

Chaudhary Solanki has

been holding regular meet-

ings with farmers from all

of Delhi's villages, garner-

ing support for their cause,

which is crucial for the pres-

ervation of their native land.

The key demands of the

The resumption of land

mutation processes, which

have stalled in the city's vil-

Solanki.

infrastructure, development

ahead of assembly elections

Implementation of the

into smart villages. The repeal of Sections 81

and 33, with cases under Section 81 withdrawn. An end to sealing and de-

A stop to MCD interference and bullying by power

ters to residents. viously recruited home guards, who should be kept in service until the age of 60,

that their residents are treated with less respect than

Ownership rights for poor farmers who were allotted land under Section 74/4.

Allotment of alternative plots, as per the government scheme, to those whose

Ownership rights for ancestral property should be granted to villagers without any stamp duty under the government's Swamitva Scheme.

GDA policy, notification of the 2041 Master Plan, and an amended land pooling policy to develop villages

molition drives.

companies in villages, with immediate provision of me-The reinstatement of pre-

with necessary benefits and facilities.

Village leaders have expressed frustration, stating those in urban areas. While urban areas are undergoing beautification, the villages are deprived of basic amenities. The poor state of the villages' water bodies and the Sahibi River, which has turned into a drain, is also a matter of grave concern.

This neglect has not only affected the native residents but also the large migrant population living in the city's villages, who face similar issues due to the lack of civic work. The situation worsened during the recent rains, with waterlogged roads and damaged infrastructure disrupting traffic and daily life.

In strong words, the leader of the Khap declared that the villagers will no longer tolerate empty promises. They demand that the pressing issues of the villages be addressed before the upcoming Assembly elections. Solanki emphasized that villagers are done with exploitation, particularly as their lands were acquired at lower prices without the promised facilities being provided.

Man killed, 2 injured as house wall collapses

TDG NETWORK

Khap include:

Amidst rains in several parts of the national capital, a wall of the house collapsed in central Delhi's Nabi Karim area on Friday morning leaving one dead and two injured, an official

Police said the deceased had been identified as erickshaw driver Rehmat, 35, from Uttar Pradesh's

IIT Delhi experts to investigate causes

of fire in CNG and E-buses

A call regarding the incident was received at 7 am



pressed into service, an official of the Delhi Fire Service (DFS) said. The official said that two

persons were rescued but a few people were fear trapped under the debris of the wall. The fire officials, local police and other rescue teams were on the spot.

The rescued operation was underway, the official

Salesman assaulted over liquor credit, 15 accused booked

TDG NETWORK

A group of 15-20 youths attacked a liquor shop salesman after he refused to provide alcohol on credit. The incident escalated when the assailants attempted to drag the salesman out of the shop. The shop owner intervened to save the salesman but was also assaulted and left seriously injured. The attackers fled when passersby arrived, but one suspect was caught at the



According to Inspector Renu Shekhawat, SHO of City Police Station, Mainpal Rawat, a resident of Raipur village, lodged a complaint stating that he owns shops on the Palwal-Hathin Road, one of which is rented to a liquor contractor. Around

8:15 PM last night, the salesman called him, reporting that a group of youths was creating trouble and trying to drag him out of the shop. Rawat rushed to the scene and tried to reason with the attackers, but they struck him with the butt of a gun, leaving him bleeding.

the residence of Chief Justice

of India, Justice DY Chand-

The Prime Minister

prayed to Lord Ganesh to

bless us all with happiness,

prosperity and wonderful

health. The CJI, along with

his wife Kalpana Das, wel-

comed the PM at his resi-

"Joined Ganesh Puja at the

residence of CJI, Justice DY

Chandrachud Ji. May Bhag-

wan Shri Ganesh bless us all

The attackers reportedly shouted, "Shoot him." When Rawat's brother Chaman tried to intervene. he was also beaten. The commotion attracted the attention of nearby villagers and passersby, causing

the attackers to flee. During the escape, one youth, identified as Shivam from Rajpura village, was caught by the crowd. Shivam revealed that others involved were Saurav, Gaurav, Vikas, Nitin, Sanju, Lokesh, Kuldeep, Arun, and a few other unnamed individuals, all from nearby villages.

Based on Rawat's complaint, a case has been registered against 15 individuals, including 10 named suspects. The police have launched a manhunt, and arrests are expected soon.

A team of experts from IIT Delhi has been assigned to investigate recent incidents of fires in electric and CNG buses in the capital. A six-member team has been formed to determine the causes of the fires and provide recommendations

TDG NETWORK

to prevent such incidents in the future. The team is expected to submit its final report to the Transport Department within eight This decision follows two

recent incidents of bus fires on May 19 and August 29. Delhi's Transport Minister Kailash Gahlot had directed the Transport Department to conduct a detailed investigation, after which the department sought assistance from IIT Delhi. The investigation team will be led by Professor Anjan Ray from the Mechanical Engineering Department. Other members include Professor A.K. Saroha from Chemical Engineering, Pro-



The Transport Department officials stated that the team will analyze the reasons behind the bus fires.

fessors Krishnakant Aggarwal, Sumit Kumar, Saurabh Saxena from Electrical Engineering, and Professor Rahul Goyal. Investigation Focus and

Key Areas of the Report The Transport Department officials stated that the

to prevent future incidents. The report will also explore whether there is a need to install technical devices in buses to alert drivers in case of fire. Additionally, the team will assess the need for special training for drivers and conductors to handle such emergencies effectively. These key aspects will be included in the final report.

sons behind the bus fires.

If any negligence in main-

tenance is found in the case

of CNG buses, the team will

recommend necessary steps

Man strangles wife over social media use, surrenders to police

In a shocking incident in Prashant Vihar, a man strangled his wife to death after being frustrated with her frequent activity on social media platforms. The victim, identified as Kanchan, was killed by her husband, Ram Kumar, who later surrendered to the po-

Following his confession, the police accompanied the man to his residence, where they recovered Kanchan's body. A case of murder has been registered against Ram Kumar, and he has been taken into custody.

During the investigation, it was revealed that the couple had been married for seven vears but had no children. The husband reportedly doubted his wife's loyalty, which often led to arguments between them.

Delhi court grants bail to accused in cyber fraud case gation against the accused vour which the applicant

TDG NETWORK NEW DELHI

Delhi's Rohini court has recently granted bail to a man accused of selling financial details of customers to fraudsters who allegedly use this to defraud credit card holders. This case pertains to an FIR registered at Cyber Police

Additional Sessions Judge (ASJ) Shefali Sharma granted bail to accused Kshitij Raghuvanshi on furnishing of bail bond for a sum of Rs 50,000 with two sureties of the like amount.

While granting bail, the court noted the only alle-

connecting him in the present offence is that four pages of screen shots regarding the customer information had been taken by the accused, Manish, from the laptop of the applicant for some money

The court said, "The Investigation qua the present applicant is however complete and charge-sheet has been filed. No other recovery of any electronic evidence or other evidence has to be effected from the applicant. There is no previous involvement of the applicant. He is a boy of

young age. "There is no beneficial fa-

might have taken allegedly for exchange of information which has been brought forth. There are no details of any merchant investigation which have been procured by the Investigation Officer (IO)," the court ob-

The court also noted that there is no cheated amount from any customer, which the IO has been able to show went into the account of the applicant.

The court held that the screen shots of the customer information, if any, were taken by the applicant himself or by the co-accused Manish from the laptop of the applicant is a matter of trial and cannot be decided at this state, especially when the IO has failed to interrogate the co-accused Manish till date. "It is impressed upon that

the area ACP/SHO monitors the investigation in the present case, especially because a number of customers are involved," the court said in the order dated September 10.

Advocate Shilpesh Chaudhary, along with Himanshu Yadav, appeared for the accused and argued that the accused is an innocent person and he has been falsely implicated in the present case.

INDIA'S FOREIGN EXCHANGE RESERVES CONTINUE TO RISE HITTING FRESH HIGH OF \$689.2 BILLION

TDG NETWORK

'ndia's foreign exchange reserves increased by USD 5.248 billion, touching a fresh record high of USD 689.235 billion, during the week that ended on September 6, according to data released by the Reserve Bank of India on Friday.

The previous record high was USD 683.987 billion.

The reserves have been on an upward trend for some time. In 2024 alone, they have risen by over USD 65 billion cumulatively. This buffer of foreign exchange reserves helps insulate domestic economic activity from global shocks.

According to the latest data from the RBI released today, India's foreign currency assets (FCA), the



largest component of forex reserves, rose by USD 5.107 billion to USD 604.144 bil-

Gold reserves during the week increased by USD 129 million, bringing the total to USD 61.988 billion. As per estimates, India's foreign exchange reserves are now sufficient to cover about a year of projected imports. In the calendar year 2023,

The RBI closely monitors the foreign exchange markets and intervenes only to maintain orderly market conditions, aiming to con-

The RBI frequently interof the rupee.

tain excessive volatility in the exchange rate without reference to any pre-determined target level or band.

venes in the market through liquidity management, including the sale of dollars, to prevent a steep depreciation

Govt notifies foreign exchange rules 2024 to simplify investments and ease of doing business

TDG NETWORK

NEW DELHI

THE DAILY GUARDIAN REVIEW SATURDAY | 14 SEPTEMBER 2024

> The Ministry of Finance on Thursday notifies the new Foreign Exchange (Compounding Proceedings) Rules 2024 to simplify rules and regulations for foreign investments.

> The new rules are aimed at streamlining and rationalising existing rules and regulations to further facilitate ease of doing business.

The Finance Ministry said in a statement, "As part of a broader initiative to streamline and rationalise existing rules and regulations to further facilitate ease of doing business, the compounding proceeding rules were comprehensively reviewed in consultation with the Reserve Bank of India."

The new rule will replace the existing Foreign Ex- ambiguity and clarify the

MINISTRY OF FINANCE

change (Compounding Proceedings) Rules 2000.

The ministry said that the government is emphasising simplifying the provisions to expedite and streamline the processing of compounding applications.

The finance ministry is also working to introduce digital payment options for application fees and compounding amounts, with a focus on simplification and rationalisation of the provisions to eliminate process.

"These amendments indicate the commitment of the government towards promoting 'ease of investment' for investors and 'ease of doing business' for businesses," the ministry said.

The Compounding of Foreign Exchange (FEMA) Proceedings Rules, 2000 govern the process of resolving or settling offences related to violations of the Foreign Exchange Management Act

SEBI disposes of co-location case against NSE and others without any further action

TDG NETWORK

The Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI) has disposed of proceedings against the stock exchange NSE, its former Vice Chairman Ravi Narain. former Chief Executive Officer Chitra Ramakrishna, former Group Operating Officer Anand Subramanian, and others in the colocation case.

In an order released on Friday, September 13, the market regulator says, "There is no dispute to the fact that NSE did not have a detailed defined policy for the use of Colo (co-location) facility. It even failed to monitor the use of the secondary server by TMs without having sufficient reason.

"The defence put forward by NSE about the issuance of welcome email in the form of 'registration enablement mail' at the time of providing Colo facility to TMs, can't be said to be justifying its role as a first-level regulator. The issuance of guidelines without proper

SEBI EMPLOYEES PROTESTED AGAINST REGULATORS STATEMENT THAT THEY ARE MISGUIDED

Mumbai: The employees of the Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI) on Thursday gathered at the SEBI office and protested against the statement released by the regulatory body on Wednesday evening The Wednesday statement of SEBI said that its employees were being misguided by external elements to undermine the credibility of the institution and its leadership SEBI released the statement amidst reports that SEBI employees have written a letter to the finance ministry complaining of 'toxic work culture' in the organisation. As per reports, SEBI employees have made a complaint to the finance ministry last month, accusing the regulator's leadership of fostering a 'toxic work culture' and setting unrealistic targets for employees.

monitoring demonstrated a However, the order clariwas collusion between OPG

fied that these findings do not address whether there

Private Limited and its directors with NSE and its

SEBI chief terms all recent allegations as 'false, incorrect, malicious and motivated'

According to the latest data from the RBI

released today, India's foreign currency

assets (FCA), the largest component

of forex reserves, rose by USD 5.107

billion to USD 604.144 billion.

58 billion to its foreign ex-

In contrast, India's forex

reserves saw a cumulative

decline of USD 71 billion in

2022. Forex reserves, or for-

eign exchange reserves (FX

reserves), are assets held by

a nation's central bank or

These are generally held in

reserve currencies, typically

the US Dollar and, to a lesser

extent, the Euro, Japanese

Yen, and Pound Sterling.

monetary authority.

change reserves.

TDG NETWORK

In a joint statement on Friday, SEBI Chairperson Madhabi Puri Buch and her husband Dhaval Buch out rightly termed the allegations labelled against them in the recent past as "false, incorrect, malicious and motivated".

The allegations themselves were based on their Income Tax Returns, the six-page joint statement said, asserting there was no merit in those allegations.

"In other words, all these matters are a part of our income tax returns in which all these matters have been fully disclosed and taxes have been duly paid," the joint statement read.

Madhabi and Dhaval Buch asserted that their income tax returns have been obtained by the accusers by illegally and by adopting fraudulent means.

"This is a clear b not only our right to privacy (which is a fundamental right) but also a violation of the Income Tax Act. The facts, transparently reflected in our income tax



returns, have been twisted deliberately to create a false narrative. Further, going by the pattern of creating a false narrative at periodic intervals, it appears that the allegations are being made in instalments, only to keep the pot boiling," the statement read.

"If the objective had been to arrive at the truth rather than to malign individuals and institutions with distortions of facts, we wonder why all allegations would not be brought out, in public, at one go, we would then have given all the facts at one go. If, howis motivated, to achieve some other objective, then the possibility of further allegations being made repeatedly in instalments in the future may not be ruled out," they added.

Adani Group rejects allegations concerning Swiss bank accounts, terms them baseless

TDG NETWORK

The Adani Group has rejected and denied "baseless allegations" over reports concerning freezing of some funds in Swiss bank accounts.

The Business conglomerate asserted that it has no involvement in any Swiss court proceedings, nor have any of the company accounts been subject to sequestration by any authority.

The Adani Group said in a statement that the allegations are clearly preposterous, irrational, and absurd and it is yet another orchestrated and egregious attempt by the same cohorts acting in unison to inflict damage on the group's reputation.

"We unequivocally reject and deny the baseless allegations presented. The Adani Group has no involvement in any Swiss court proceedings, nor have any ever, this false narrative of our company accounts been subject to sequestration by any authority. Furthermore, even in the alleged order, the Swiss court has neither mentioned our group companies, nor have we received any requests for



clarification or information from any such authority or regulatory body," the statement said.

"We reiterate that our overseas holding structure is transparent, fully disclosed, and compliant with all relevant laws. These allegations are clearly preposterous, irrational, and absurd. We have no hesitation in stating that this is yet another orchestrated and egregious attempt by the same cohorts acting in unison to inflict irreversible damage on our group's reputation and market value,"

the statement added.

In a post on X, US-based short seller Hindenburg Research cited a news report by Swiss media outlet Gotham City and alleged that Swiss authorities have frozen over USD 310 million in funds across multiple Swiss bank accounts as part of an investigation into the Adani group.

Adani Group said it re mains steadfastly committed to transparency and compliance with all legal and regulatory requirements and condemned any such effort at baseless allegations.

India's priorities in SCO shaped by PM's vision of SECURE, says Commerce Secy

TDG NETWORK

In the 23rd meeting of Ministers from the Shanghai Cooperation Organisation (SCO), Commerce Secretary Sunil Barthwal noted that India's priorities within the SCO align with Prime Minister Narendra Modi's vision of a 'SECURE' SCO. which stands for Security, Economic Development, Connectivity, Unity, Respect for sovereignty and territo-



rial integrity, and Environmental protection.

In his virtual address, Barthwal highlighted India's active contributions to the SCO's development agenda since becoming a member in

He also emphasised the SCO's importance in the global economic landscape, congratulating Pakistan for its Presidency of the SCO Heads of Government and welcoming Belarus as a new member.

Barthwal said that digitalisation holds the promise for rapid economic development and prosperity. It was reiterated that India had successfully created a strong digital public infrastructure platform for financial inclusion,

education, and improving overall governance in the country.

The use of digital technology as 'public goods' has led to widespread benefit across the population irrespective of their position in the economic hierarchy, which can be replicated in the area of green energy transition, which is a necessity to meet our net zero targets and in our common pursuit to reduce carbon footprints for sustainable growth.

DFPD and FCI sign MoU to boost efficiency in food grain distribution

TDG NETWORK

The Department of Food and Public Distribution (DFPD) and the Food Corporation of India (FCI) have signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) for the fiscal year 2024-25 to improve the efficiency and accountability of food grain procurement and distribu-

According to the Ministry of Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution, the MoU details specific performance benchmarks and



accountability measures designed to optimise public fund utilisation in food security operations.

These benchmarks include evaluating FCI Depots on criteria such as capacity utilisation, operational losses, security measures, and the modernization and automation of depot processes. The MoU represents the

Central Government's dedication to improving the Public Distribution System (PDS) and ensuring the efficient management of food subsidy funds through enhanced performance of FCI operations and its depots. Established in 1965 under

the Food Corporations Act, 1964, FCI is responsible for the purchase, storage, transport, distribution, and sale of food grains.

Operating on a public service mandate from the Department of Food and Public Distribution (DFPD), FCI has no independent revenue sources and is entirely funded by food subsidies from the Government of In-

in funding to accelerate growth and innovation TDG NETWORK velop the brand services.

Bengaluru-based startup Trip Cabinet secures \$6.5m

Bangalore-based travel startup, ⊾Trip Cabinet , raised USD 6.5 million in a recent funding round. This investment will fuel the company's growth plans and drive innovation in its travel offerings. From strategising efficient travel solutions to focusing on the client's needs, the company can optimise its deliverables with the help of this substantial financial transfusion.

The founder, Vijay Arora, welcomed the funding, stating, "This investment will effectively boost our next level of growth. We aim to improve our technological strength, expand our market presence, and develop new, sophisticated, and personalised travel packages."

Furthermore, the visionary founder elaborated on how the funds will be effectively utilised to strengthen the company's basic functioning and products. "A good percentage of the capital expenditure will be directed towards developing a better online envi-



ronment for Trip Cabinet clients," Arora explains. "Upgrading this chain will allow the customer to take a smooth journey throughout the planning phase right through to implemen-Leveraging over 12 years

of experience in the travel industry, Arora built Trip Cabinet to simplify travel planning. His deep understanding of destination management has helped him establish this brand as a customer-centric venture. He is continually looking for innovative ways to de-

Thus, his firm specialises in curating exceptional travel experiences to exotic destinations such as Singapore, Malaysia, Maldives, and Mauritius.

One of the rising brands in the travel industry, Trip Cabinet plans to diversify its product offerings, introducing unique travel products tailored to specific market segments. "Innovation is our evergreen working principle," the founder emphasised. "This funding will help us expand our range of services and develop novelties that set us apart from competitors."

The investment will bolster marketing efforts, enabling comprehensive branding campaigns both nationally and internationally. This expanded outreach will significantly increase the company's visibility and market share.

Trip Cabinet's business model revolves around providing personalised itineraries, quality accommodations, seamless logistics, and 24/7 customer support. The company

prides itself on its commitment to responsible travel and its ability to offer authentic, locally-informed experiences through its network of partners and guides. With the travel industry's continuous evolution, Trip Cabinet's successful funding round signals strong investor confidence in the company's vision and strategy. Its focus on tailored experiences and customer satisfaction allows the company to capitalise on the growing demand for unique, hasslefree travel solutions. Vijay Arora concluded,

"This funding is not just an endorsement of our business model, but also a vote of confidence in our vision for the travel industry. We are committed to optimising these funds to deliver our customers the best travel products and services."

As Trip Cabinet embarks on this new chapter of growth and innovation, travellers can look forward to an enhanced range of options and an even more streamlined experience in planning their dream vacations.

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MENACE OF ONLINE APP SCAMS IN DIGITAL LANDSCAPE: A REALITY CHECK

OPINION

DR.S.KRISHNAN AND **RAJVARDHAN SINHA**



22-year-old student in Bengaluru allegedly ended his life at his house in HMT Layout, Ialahalli, in 2023 after being harassed by a loan app company. Tejash Nayar, a 6th-semester engineering student, had reportedly borrowed 46,000 using a loan app. When he was unable to repay the loan, the company executives allegedly harassed him. Unable to bear the harassment, he ended his life, after leaving behind a note apologising to his parents.

In another case, Shivani Rawat, a 23-year-old college receptionist in Delhi, faced her own ordeal. In June 2023, she applied for a 4,000 Rupees (\$48) loan through an app called "Kreditbe", since her salary was delayed. Her loan request remained pending, with no funds received. Yet, within a week, she began receiving 10-15 calls demanding 9,000 Rupees (\$108) for repayment. Kreditbe's name is a rip-off of a legitimate loan app called KreditBee, a common modus operandi for these illegal loan apps which often choose names to create a sense of authenapps. These apps promise



ticity.

In both above mentioned cases, Nayar and Rawat had borrowed money from lending apps, which offer loans to users in a convenient, few clicks and without the extensive documentation that a traditional bank loan requires. The money is credited to the borrower's account within a few minutes, unlike the five to seven days that a bank loan takes for borrowers who meet the high eligibility bar.

These online apps lend small sums to people, charge high interest rates and often resort to torture and incessant mental harassment to make the borrowers pay up. The proliferation of fraudulent loan apps on social media platforms poses a significant risk to borrowers, with instances of outrageous interest rates and mental harassment on the rise. Despite the rapid growth in digital lending, a regulatory vacuum allows scam apps to thrive, exploiting unsuspecting users.

COMMON TYPES OF ONLINE APP SCAMS

documentation but charge exorbitant interest rates and processing fees. They often access the user's contacts and harass them with constant calls and messages for repayment. Another type of online app scams is that of E-commerce Scams. Fake e-commerce apps lure users with attractive discounts on popular products. Once the payment is made, either the product never arrives, or a substandard item is delivered. In some cases, these apps disappear after collecting payments, leaving users with no recourse.

The scammers use another method such as the Phishing Apps, wherein these apps mimic popular services like banking, social media, or email platforms. They trick users into entering sensitive information, such as login credentials and financial details, which are then used for fraudulent activities. Scammers also target users through gaming and entertainment apps that require in-app purchases. These apps may overcharge users or collect personal data under the guise of providing enhanced gaming experiences. Fake investment apps promise high returns on investments in a short period. Users are lured into investing large sums of money, only to realize that the app is a scam when they try to withdraw their funds.

MODUS OPERANDI

An entire digital ecosystem has shaped up to take on such fraudulent loan-issuing apps. It was also found that borrowers use artificial-intelligence-generated 'information packs', which include fake governmentissued ID cards (Aadhaar and PAN cards), a text message folder, a contact list and One of the most prevalent a gallery full of images, to similar to reputable brands scams involves fake loan set up their fake profiles on these apps.

The average loan tickets in these apps range between victims losing thousands 10,000 Rupees to 25,000 of rupees. Beyond the im-Rupees (\$120 to \$300) with mediate financial loss, the emotional and psychologimonthly interest rates of 20 percent to 30 percent and cal toll on victims is severe. a processing fee that can Many users feel embarbe as much as 15 percent. rassed and guilty for falling prey to these scams, which Loan app representatives typically begin the recovcan lead to a loss of trust ery process 15 days after in digital platforms and financial services. Moreover, approving the loan. However, in many cases, they these scams can have broadhave been known to start er economic implications, as harassing people just four they undermine consumer to six days after disbursing confidence in online transthe loan, and in Rawat's case, actions and digital financial it was even before she actuservices. This distrust can ally received the loan. Apart slow down the adoption of digital payment systems from the information packs used to create a fake digital and other online services, trail, another requirement hindering the progress toto scam the lending apps is wards a digital economy. an empty phone where the

forged documents (Aadhaar

and PAN cards) are loaded.

All that this job requires is

minimal editing skills on

platforms like Photoshop

and entry-level computer

knowledge to create a data-

base of contacts on an Excel

sheet and convert it into the

vCard (a Virtual Contact

File) format so that Android

The fake digital history is

created in such a fool-proof

way that the apps are tricked

into issuing the loan, which

often ranges between Rs

5,000 and Rs 20,000 per

week. The repayment of the

money is usually sought

around the fifth day after

the loan is issued. These

apps then threaten borrow-

ers with the personal data

collected from their phones

during the loan application

process. Apart from access

to borrowers' contact lists,

text messages, call logs and

photo galleries, the apps also

have access to their Aadhaar

and PAN card details. If

borrowers default, they are

abused and harassed during

the recovery process.

THE IMPACT OF

ONLINE APP SCAMS

The financial impact of these

phones can read them.

COMBATING ONLINE

APP SCAMS Addressing the issue of online app scams requires a multi-faceted approach involving technology, regulation, and user awareness. The government banned 94 lending apps, which included names like BuddyLoan, CashTM, Indiabulls Home Loans, PayMe, Faircent, and RupeeRedee. These apps had been flagged by the RBI for various reasons, and many of them had either Chinese investors or had been involved in harassing borrowers. Some of these apps, including RupeeRedee, have said that they were being impersonated by scammers. Despite the action taken, the government and regulatory bodies need to enforce stringent regulations for app stores and developers. Ensuring that all apps undergo rigorous verification processes before being listed can help reduce the number of fraudulent apps. The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) and other financial regulators should also monitor and act

against fake financial apps. taken is that Advances in

accentuate the broader ten-

intelligence and machine learning, can help detect and prevent fraudulent apps. App stores can employ these technologies to scan for malicious code and suspicious behavior patterns. Additionally, cybersecurity firms can develop tools to identify and report fraudulent apps in real-time.

Educating users about the risks associated with online apps and how to identify potential scams is crucial. Campaigns through social media, traditional media, and community programs can raise awareness. Users should be encouraged to download apps only from official app stores and to check reviews and ratings before installation.

A collaborative effort between the government, tech companies, financial institutions, and cybersecurity experts is essential. Sharing information about new scams and developing joint strategies can enhance the overall security of the digital ecosystem.

WAY AHEAD

Online app scams in India represent a significant challenge in the digital age. While technology and regulation play crucial roles in combating these scams, the importance of user awareness and education cannot be overstated. By adopting a comprehensive approach that combines regulation, technology, and public awareness, India can create a safer digital environment for its users and ensure the continued growth and trust in digital services.

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PERSPECTIVE

HOODA, MAKEN STAMP ON CONGRESS TICKETS **FOR HARYANA**

It is very evident now that the Congress has decided to fully stand by former Chief Minister Bhupinder Singh Hooda in Harvana, as the party declared its names, many of them, hours before the last date for nomination ended on Thursday. Out of the 89 out of 90 constituencies, the Congress is contesting in the state where the BJP has been in power for the past 10 years, Hooda's loyalists were allotted 72 seats, with the 19 going to others. In addition, if the ticket distribution did not lead to a demonstration outside the AICC, as it has happened in the past so far as Haryana is concerned, the credit should go to Ajay Maken, whose strategic and tactful handling of the situation was for all to see. In fact, Ajay had convinced the High Command to release the lists in phases, seven, perhaps, and the last one, where there were contentious seats, only towards the end, so not many got the opportunity to demonstrate at the AICC headquarters. In fact, the disgruntled leaders, also had left for their areas, and many out of them filed their nominations as Independents. The exercise has now commenced to persuade the dissidents to withdraw their names by September 15th, which is the last date of withdrawal and by a coincidence also happens to be Bhupinder Singh Hooda's birthday. The Congress went about its task methodically and Ajay Maken's homework on the basis of surveys and the data he collected, was instrumental while taking the final decision. The broad analysis of the Congress list shows that despite fierce infighting till the very end, the Central leadership stood by Hooda.

There are 27 Jats, who have been given the tickets, the same as last time, and other communities have been accommodated, depending on their winnability. The Punjabis, who have a population scattered all over the State, and have a dominant presence in many urban areas have been given six seats, as compared to two last time. This is where Ajay Maken could have played a role, since he is considered even by Rahul Gandhi, as someone, who takes up the Punjabi cause, given that they get ignored in many places, and thus need to have their voices in Legislative Assemblies and Parliament. The difference in ticket distribution this time as compared to 2019 is that there were no quotas which were allotted to various state leaders going by the previous experience, where those who were selected by some of the top functionaries lost the polls. The instructions were to choose from the applicants and only identify those who had winnability on their side. Even though many believe that the Congress has an edge in the State polls, the High Command was not willing to allow any wrong choices to impact the outcome. At the last minutes. at Hooda's insistence, many experienced leaders got the preference though there were many deserving candidates, who thus got overlooked. For instance, in Bawal (Reserved) which the Congress has not won in 32 years, Dr ML Ranga, was selected though the expectation was that Delhi University lecturer and young aspirant. Dr Teena Karamvir would get the seat. It is obvious that the party may have other plans for the likes of Teena and therefore she got overlooked. In fact, the Congress has fielded 12 women, more than any other party and this could help in the campaign. In deciding the seats, the party has accommodated the sons of Randeep Surjewala, Chaudhury Birendra Singh and some others.

The BJP which was also facing dissensions from those who have been denied tickets is also trying to sort out the differences. The issues across the State concern elementary matters related to job and existence. For instance, the slogan of Jai Jawan, Jai Kisan, has Jai Pehalwan added to it, in view of Vinesh Phogat contesting the polls and her colleague, Bajrang Punia joining the Congress. The opposition to the Agniveer scheme, the farmer's agitation and the wrestlers' protests, shall be factors in the elections. The BIP is aware of this and has asked Brij Bhushan Sharan Singh, the former boss of the Wrestling Federation to not open his mouth and refrain from giving statements that could have an adverse impact on party nominees. Brij Bhushan had stated that it was good that Vinesh Phogat did not win the gold medal at the Olympics, a remark, which was widely condemned,

even by many in the BJP. How could a sports lover speak like this and observe that it was good for the country not to have won the Gold in respect of Vinesh Phogat. In Haryana, it is being seen as pure blasphemy. The break-up of talks between the Congress and the Aam Aadmi Party too, has been welcomed by many in the Congress. However, what is not understandable is the decision of AAP to field nominees on all the seats. The question is that the party has negligible presence in the State from where Arvind Kejriwal hails, and why would it spend so much money and resources, knowing fully well, that the chances of victory of the nominees were very low. It is also a matter of debate whether the presence of the AAP candidates, most of whom would forfeit their deposits perhaps, would harm the Congress or the BJP. The outcome would determine how the people voted in the end. However, like always, Independents shall emerge victorious on some seats while smaller parties too may win a few in the contest which is largely between the Congress and the BJP.

PANKAJ VOHRA

Mercedes front wing concept: Formula 1 legal controversy

OPINION

ANINDYA JENA

The Formula 1 (F1) world has stirred up in the last couple of months with the latest developments of the Mercedes-AMG Petronas Formula One Team, the ground-breaking front wing design that has stated to revolutionize the aerodynamics of the cars in the sport. What has been spectated is that this innovation might just be potential to give Mercedes a competitive edge, which has driven the spark for the legal controversy for the emotive balance between technological progress and the adherence to the F1 regulations.

REGULATORY SCRUTINY AND COMPLIANCE DISPUTES

The debut of the Mercedes' new front wing at the 2024 Canadian Grand Prix, made a big-note on the series of aerodynamic modifications that it brought, a feature that aimed at providing a more rebalanced downforce

in comparison to the old wings (Straw). However, this innovative design came under the immediate radar of the Fédération Internationale de l'Automobile (FIA) the governing body of motor sports

The technical regulations of the FIA have always been dubbed as being notoriously stringent, which have placed exceptionally detailed specifications on the material to be used, the dimensions and the prohibition of movable aerodynamic devices in F1 motor-cars. The Technical Regulations of the FIA under Article 3 explicitly define these parameters. Under the subsection of Article 3, that is 3.2 which talks about the General Principles and Legality Checking, 3.2.1 talks about the Objective of Article 3, which is an important objective of the Regulations in Article 3 is to enable cars to race closely, by ensuring that

the aerodynamic performance

loss of a car following another car is kept to a minimum (2024 Formula 1 Technical Regulations). Keeping this in mind an initial assessment of the Mercedes' wing suggested a breach of the boundaries of these rules.

PATENT BATTLES AND INTELLECTUAL **PROPERTY PERTINENCE**

The cutting-edge innovation brought out by Mercedes along with regulatory compliance also raises significant intellectual property (IP) disputes as well. Concerns have always surrounded almost every sport where the teams have spent millions on research and development. To protect these crucial and much needed investments patents are generated. One might instinctively assume that patent protection would be the national resource for safeguarding F1 teams' intellectual property, given that traditionally, a patent grants exclusive rights to inventive and "non-obvious" creations. providing a limited monopoly over their use (Dhamsania).

However, even after Mercedes filing several patents in regard to their new front wing design, many rival teams, especially Red Bull Racing and Scuderia Ferrari are monitoring their

situation to spot any kind of patent infringements. And statements have built that in the hypothetical situation of Mercedes infringing on any existing patents then legal charges could be set on them, resulting in modification in the design or ban.

COMPETITIVE DYNAMICS AND POTENTIAL PROTESTS

The front wing design has inevitably stirred the competitive pot for all F1 teams. It is well aware that even a marginal aerodynamic advantage of any car can result in significant gains on the track. And through reports, many teams have considered lodging formal protests against the Mercedes design with the FIA.

Any protest involves a process of detailed review by the FIA, resulting in hearings before the International Court of Appeal. This has set multiple questioning in relation to whether the legalities of the sport are being followed. Much adversities can follow, with the element of uncertainty in the compe-

BROADER IMPACT FOR THE FUTURE OF F1 What the main highlights of

front wing issue has been to

sion between innovation and the regulations that limit some of these possibilities. The Mercedes saga has undoubtedly created a challenge for the FIA to assess the thin grey line between innovation and the maintenance of safety and fairness. Most importantly, mid-season directives, could become a reality to address the new developments, with the controversies we have seen so far. With the progress of this season, there is no doubt that all eyes would be on Mercedes and their performance alongside handling the legal challenges that they faced. As the technology evolves, driving will be seen with a new era of aerodynamic innovation which needs to be incorporated in the rules and regulations of

The legal interest in this case would definitely be influenced by all the factors enlisted above and much more, setting precedents for the future of moto racing as well. This intersection would absolutely provide competition to all the teams participating in the race, because of the intersection of the critical aspects of technology and law in the Formula 1 races.

CONCLUSION To conclude is to say that the

front wing dispute of Mercedes is more than just a dispute based on technical regulations. This case threads on many levels, with issues at just the concept design of the new car, to the infringement cases based on IP law that could adversely effect Mercedes this season. On some not the developments in such manner would definitely strengthen other teams to look into such enhancements for healthy and fair competition. But at the same time speaking conversely, if it is held non-compliant then it is natural that all the teams will have to be cautious in the innovations that are done, encouraging a clear framework. At the same time the growth and popularity that Formula 1 has seen in the recent years, has also led to fans, sponsors, and stakeholders, keenly observing the disputes, issues and developments. Hence it is pre-emptive to balance the reputation and regulation of the sport with the developments that are done. At this crucial juncture it is the unique blend of law, technological prowess, and competitive spirit that drives the dynamic sport to the glory it is.

KEJRIWAL OUT, ALLEGATIONS PERSIST: DELHI EXCISE POLICY PROBE CONTINUES

riday marked a significant turning point in the ongoing political and legal battle surrounding Delhi Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal. His release from Tihar Jail, following months of legal proceedings, highlights the complexity of the case, involving charges of corruption and money laundering in the Delhi Excise Policy.

The Delhi Excise Policy case has drawn significant attention, involving allegations of corruption against top officials in the Delhi government, including Kejriwal. The Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) and the Enforcement Directorate (ED) have led parallel investigations, focusing on irregularities in implementing the Delhi Excise Policy introduced in 2021.

The CBI's investigation into the Delhi excise policy was prompted by a recommendation from Delhi's Lieutenant Governor, V.K. Saxena, in July 2022. He raised concerns about potential irregularities and corruption in the policy's formulation and implementation.

THE MAIN TRIGGERS FOR THIS **RECOMMENDATION INCLUDED:**

Allegations of favouritism and corruption: There were accusations that the Delhi Excise Policy of 2021



AAP leaders and workers celebrate the release of Delhi CM Arvind Kejriwal ANI



Manish Sisodia



THE DAILY GUARDIAN REVIEW SATURDAY | 14 SEPTEMBER 2024

NEW DELHI

Sameer Mahendru



Vijay Nair

and ensuring that contracts were awarded to companies willing to pay kickbacks.

CBI spokesperson (on the chain of command): "The policy was designed and executed at multiple levels, with each participant playing a distinct role in ensuring that illegal benefits reached certain businesses.'

WHAT IS THE CONSPIRACY ACCORDING TO AAP AND KEJRIWAL?

Kejriwal and his party, the Aam Aadmi Party (AAP), have repeatedly claimed that the entire case is politically motivated. They allege that the central government, led by the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP), is using the CBI and ED to discredit AAP and prevent its political rise, particularly expanding and challenging the central government. We have done nothing wrong, and the people of Delhi know that."

COURT PROCEEDINGS

Since the investigation began, there have been several key moments in the legal pro-

Arrests and bail pleas: After Manish Sisodia's arrest in early 2023, the focus shifted to Kejriwal. He was questioned several times before his arrest by the ED in March 2024. His subsequent bail applications were initially denied by lower courts.

Supreme Court intervention: Kejriwal's legal team moved to the Supreme Court, challenging the legitimacy of his arrest and the evidence against him. The Supreme Court eventually granted him bail on

Aspect	Details	Quotes
Policy Introduction	November 2021: Delhi Excise Policy introduced, intended to restructure the liquor industry	Arvind Kejriwal: 'This policy was designed to promote fairness and transparency in the liquor industry.'
CBI Investigation Initiation	July 2022: CBI begins investigating alleged irregularities and corruption in the policy	CBI Spokesperson: 'We have substantial evidence of irregularities in the formulation of the excise policy.'
ED Investigation Initiation	August 2022: ED starts probing money laundering linked to the excise policy	ED Officer: 'Our probe into money laundering revealed suspicious financial links between liquor vendors and political figures.'
Key Evidence (CBI)	CBI claims documents and WhatsApp chats show manipulation of the policy for kickbacks	CBI Official: 'We conducted thorough raids and seized digital evidence, including WhatsApp chats, indicating kickbacks.'
Key Evidence (ED)	ED traces financial trails, alleging money was laundered through shell companies	ED Officer: 'We traced proceeds of crime through bank accounts and shell companies used to launder money.'
Key Witnesses	Key witnesses include Manish Sisodia and various liquor businessmen and aides in the Delhi government	Prosecutor: 'Testimonies from key figures in the industry highlight the intricate workings of this conspiracy.'
Court Proceedings	March 2024: Kejriwal arrested; September 2024: Granted bail by the Supreme Court	Supreme Court: 'Prolonged incarceration without trial would amount to an unjust deprivation of liberty.'
AAP Allegations	Kejriwal and AAP claim the case is politically motivated, alleging a conspiracy by the central government	Arvind Kejriwal: 'This is a politically motivated plot to halt AAP's rise. We have done nothing wrong.'

distributors in exchange for kickbacks. These allegations suggested that certain businesses were given preferential treatment, leading to an unfair distribution of liquor

licenses Revenue losses: Critics claimed that the Delhi government's policy resulted in significant losses to the state's exchequer. The policy was believed to have favoured specific companies at the expense of government revenue, raising concerns about financial

mismanagement. Complaints from the opposition: The Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) and other opposition parties in Delhi had been vocal about the alleged malpractices in the excise policy, pressuring authorities to investigate the matter further.

Audit findings: Certain reports, including from the Delhi government's bodies, highlighted discrepancies ports suggested that there were irregularities in how the policy was executed, prompting further scrutiny.

WHAT PROOF DID THE CBI AND ED HAVE **AGAINST KEJRIWAL?** Financial trail of kick-

The ED uncovered signifi-

backs:

cant money transfers from companies like IndoSpirit, with much of the funds moving through shell companies controlled by figures such as Sameer Mahendru. These transactions were reportedly part of a broader scheme to launder kickbacks received in exchange for preferential treatment under the excise policy.

Forensic financial audits: Audits on liquor vendors, intermediaries like Dinesh Arora, and shell companies revealed discrepancies in financial transactions, linking these directly to the kickbacks tied to the excise

had been designed to benefit in the implementation of policy. The audits helped to launder money. The evidence the intricate workings of this CBI has not directly charged in national politics. private liquor retailers and the excise policy. These retrace the money flow and points to a larger conspiracy." conspiracy." provided insight into the illegal payments.

Digital evidence:

The ED recovered WhatsApp chats and emails between Sameer Mahendru, Vijay Nair, and others, showing discussions about funnelling money for favourable policy outcomes. These digital exchanges were crucial in demonstrating the manipulation of the policy for personal gain.

Statements from key fig-

Arrested individuals, including Sameer Mahendru and Dinesh Arora, provided statements that supported the ED's findings. They explained how money was funneled through shell companies to bribe officials and secure favorable treatment.

ED Officer (on financial transactions): "We have traced the proceeds of crime through bank accounts and shell companies that were used

CBI official (on investigative methods): "We conducted thorough raids and seized digital and physical evidence, including detailed financial statements that highlight an elaborate system of kickbacks and manipulation."

WHO ARE THE KEY WITNESSES WHO SPOKE AGAINST KEJRIWAL?

Several key individuals have provided testimony or been named as witnesses against the Delhi government. These include:

Manish Sisodia: Former Delhi Deputy Chief Minister and a key figure in the excise policy, Sisodia was arrested and interrogated. Although he has denied the allegations, investigators claim his statements suggest a deeper political conspiracy.

Liquor businessmen and middlemen: Certain liquor businessmen have reportedly admitted under questioning that they paid bribes to secure favourable contracts. Their statements form a crucial part of the ED's investigation.

Aides in the Delhi government: Some lower-ranking officials in the Delhi government have been questioned, with investigators claiming that they provided details about how the policy was drafted and who benefited from it.

Prosecutor (on witness statements): "We have gathered crucial testimony from individuals directly involved in the policy's implementation. Their statements shed light on

WHAT IS THE CHAIN **OF COMMAND IN** THE EXCISE POLICY **ACCORDING TO CBI** AND ED?

According to the CBI and ED, the conspiracy surrounding the excise policy involved multiple levels of government and external actors:

Arvind Kejriwal: At the top of the chain, the Delhi Chief Minister is accused of sanctioning the policy changes that favoured private liquor distributors. Though the him, the ED maintains that **Political vendetta:** Keiriwhe played a significant role

in orchestrating the policy.

Manish Sisodia: As the Deputy CM, Sisodia is alleged to have been the key facilitator of the excise policy changes. He is accused of directly liaising with business interests to ensure favourable outcomes for select vendors.

Middlemen and Bureau**crats:** These individuals reportedly acted as intermediaries between the Delhi government and liquor businesses. They are accused of facilitating bribes

al has argued that the excise policy was designed with the best interests of Delhi in mind and that the charges are fabricated to undermine his governance.

No direct evidence: AAP leaders claim that there is no direct evidence linking Kejriwal to any wrongdoing. They assert that the financial allegations are based on manipulated testimonies and circumstantial evidence.

Arvind Kejriwal (in public statement): "This is nothing but a plot to stop AAP from

September 13, 2024, noting that prolonged detention without a trial could be seen as a violation of his rights.

Prolonged legal battle: While Kejriwal is currently out on bail, the investigations by CBI and ED continue. Both agencies have indicated that more evidence could surface, potentially complicating his defence in the future.

Supreme Court (on granting bail): "Prolonged incarceration without trial would amount to an unjust deprivation of liberty. The balance of justice requires that bail be granted."

Compiled by Ruchira Talapatra

inginighted discrepancies	KICKDACKS tied to the excise	siscu compunics usui were useu

Arvind Kejriwal being welcomed at his residence ANI

Aspect **Details** Quotes Favourable Contracts Liquor vendors such as IndoSpirit allegedly received ED Officer: "We traced proceeds of in Exchange for preferential treatment under the policy, reportedly crime through multiple layers of fi-Kickbacks paying kickbacks to government officials. nancial transactions involving shell companies." Use of Intermediaries ED Official: "Bribes were disguised Key intermediaries, including Vijay Nair (AAP and Shell Companies communications head), were involved in funnelling as business deals and funnelled bribes through shell companies to conceal the through a network of intermediaries." Money Transfers to Funds were eventually transferred to individuals ED Officer: "Funds were directed to Close Associates of with close ties to officials like Manish Sisodia ndividuals with close ties to govern-**Government Officials** (former Deputy CM), who allegedly facilitated these ment officials.' transactions. Magnitude of the Kickbacks are estimated to be in the hundreds ED: "Kickback amounts could be in Financial Kickbacks of crores, involving firms like Pernod Ricard, the hundreds of crores, involving both with funds used for personal gain or political personal gain and political reinvestreinvestments. ments." The ED collected bank records, forensic audits, ED: "We have detailed forensic **Evidence Collected by** the ED WhatsApp messages, emails, and statements audits, digital communication, and from individuals like Sameer Mahendru, a liquor testimonies that reveal the moneybusinessman. laundering scheme." **Key Liquor Vendors** Companies like IndoSpirit, represented by Sameer ED: "Key liquor vendors benefited Involved Mahendru, are alleged to have paid bribes in from the policy in exchange for illegal exchange for monopolizing the liquor market in payments.' Delhi.

SUPREME COURT'S 'CAGED PARROT' REMARK TO CBI ON ARVIND KEJRIWAL'S BAIL

REACTIONS ON ARVIND KEJRIWAL BAIL

he AAP Leader will now leave jail - after nearly six months in prison without a trial - after having secured bail in a case filed by the Enforcement Directorate, ED

The Supreme Court in the case Arvind Kejriwal v. Central Bureau of Investigation, CBI and other connected matters observed and has granted bail to Delhi Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal in connection with the CBI FIR in the Delhi liquor policy case

The court pronounced the judgement wherein the petition is filed by Delhi Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal challenging his arrest and seeking bail in the case registered by the Central Bureau of Investigation, CBI over the alleged Delhi Liquor Policy scam.

The bench comprising of Justice Surya Kant and Justice Ujjal Bhuyan had heard the present matter.

The bench reserved the judgement of September 05, 2024. Both the judges delivered separate judgments.

The bench of Justice Kant held that the arrest of Arvind Kejriwal was legal and he did not suffer from any procedural irregularity.

The bench of Justice Kant held that there being no

merit in the contention that the Central Bureau Investigation, CBI in the case failed to comply with the mandate of Section 41 of the Code of Criminal Procedure, CrPC.

The bench was unanimous in the decision to grant bail to Arvind Kejriwal which considering the fact that the chargesheet has been filed in the case and that the trial is unlikely to be completed in the near future.

The coordinate bench imposed the same condition wherein the court granted interim bail in the Enforcement Directorate, ED case will apply in this case too. This would mean that Arvind Kejriwal cannot visit the office of the Chief Minister and Delhi Secretariat.

The bench of Justice Bhuyan questions the Central Bureau Investigation, CBI

While Justice Kant upheld the arrest, Justice Bhuyan had a differing view with regards to the needs and necessity to arrest Kejriwal for 22 months and arrested Keiriwal on the cusp of his release in the ED case.

The bench of Justice Bhuyan stated that, 'It appears only after the Trial Court granted regular bail to the appellant in the ED case, that CBI became active and sought custody. It did not feel the need to arrest

Truth can be troubled, but not defeated Thank you very much

Satyamev Jayate

broke down under the prison, @Arvindkejriwal got released. Inquilab Zindabad. **GOPAL RAI** AAP leader

Supreme Court.

Dictatorship will not work in democracy. It will not work.

Dictators bow down, someone who fights is needed. Modi's

tyrannical rule could not break the spirit of @ArvindKejriwal . The prison locks were broken @Arvind-Kejriwal and released. A mountain of lies is falling, ED, CBI, BJP's false case has been exposed.

Satyamev Jayate! **SANJAY SINGH** AAP leader

Glad that our beloved leader Shri @ArvindKejriwal Ji got bail in Supreme Court. This will definitely rejuvenate the party workers and

give wings to @AamAadmiParty campaign in Haryana. He will continue to dedicate himself to serve the people.

HARBHAJAN TURBANATOR AAP leader

There is delay in God's house but there is no injustice! The prison locks were broken and Kejriwal was released! Congratulations to everyone!

SOMNATH BHARTI



Satyameva Jayate - The locks of the dictator's prison are broken by the power of truth.

MANISH SISODIA AAP leader

The bench of Justice

Bhuyan observed that when

Arvind Kejriwal got bail in

the money laundering case

despite the stringent condi-

tions under the Prevention

of Money Laundering Act,

PMLA, Kejriwal further

detention in the predicate

'... I thank the Supreme Court... He (Arvind Kejriwal) is not just a name, but a brand of honest politics. He had to go to jail for 6 months because of his increasing popularity... AAP will get more strength...

I welcome the decision... Welcome Back Arvind Kejriwal... We will make the further strategy after reading the final order of

the Supreme Court to understand the conditions under which the bail has been given... There is a wave of joy in Delhi and the country... Arvind Kejriwal will lead the campaign for the AAP in the upcoming Haryana elections now...

RAGHAV CHADHA AAP MP

One thing is clear from Delhi Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal's bail that the foundation of democracy in the country is

still strong. The

fight for so long started today on the path of truth. Kejriwal's bail confirmed the feeling that a conspiracy to overthrow someone in a lowly way will never succeed in a democratic country. **SHARAD PAWAR**

> The bench of Justice Bhuyan also expressed reservations about the bail condition that Arvind Kejriwal should not visit the Chief Minister's office or the Secretariat. He in the case

chose not to pass any direc-

regard to judicial discipline and reverence for a direction passed by a coordinate bench.

The bench of Justice Bhuvan also reminded the Central Bureau Investigation, CBI of its duty to ensure that its investigations are fair.

Justice Bhuyan said that, 'CBI is a premier investigating agency. It's in public interest that CBI must be seen to be above...effort must be made to remove the perception that investigation is not carried out fairly. In a democracy, perception matters.'

The petition is filed by Arvind Kejriwal challenging the Delhi High Court order dated August O5, 2024 wherein his petition filed against CBI arrest was dismissed by a Single Judge bench with liberty to approach the trial Court for bail.

Arvind Kejriwal also filed another special leave petition challenging the High Court's refusal to consider his bail plea.

On June 26, 2024, the AAP chief was formally arrested by CBI, while he was in custody of the Enforcement Directorate in the money laundering case arising out of the alleged liquor policy scam.

On July 12, the Supreme Court granted Kejriwal tion in that regard having interim bail in the money

laundering case, while referring his petition challenging ED arrest to a larger bench.

Arvind Kejriwal continued to remain in custody (which commenced on March 21) due to his arrest by the CBI.

The Supreme Court while granting bail listed some conditions for the Delhi Chief Minister to follow, including those set when he got relief in the ED case. These include:

1. Arvind Kejriwal will not make any public comment on merits of the case. Conditions imposed in ED matter shall apply in this case also. (Point 3-6) He shall fully cooperate with TC.

2. Supreme Court has directed to furnish a surety of Rs. 10 lakhs

3. He shall not visit the Office of the Chief Minister and the Delhi Secretariat,

4. He shall be bound by the statement made on his behalf that he shall not sign official files unless it is required and necessary for obtaining clearance/approval of the Lieutenant Governor of Delhi; 5. He will not make any comment with regard to his role in the present case; 6. He will not interact with any of the witnesses and/or have access to any official files connected with the case.

Supreme Court: Alleged involvement in crime no ground to demolish Establishment of Gram Nyayalayas: Supreme legally constructed property, such demolition against rule of law

for over 22 months. Such

action raises serious ques-

tions on the arrest itself....I

fail to understand the great

urgency on part of CBI to

arrest appellant when he

was on cusp of release in

ED case...Belated arrest of

appellant unjustified.'

TDG NETWORK

The Supreme Court in the case Javedali Mahebubmiya Saiyed v. State of Gujarat & Anr. observed that the alleged involvement in a crime is no ground for demolishing a legally con-

structed property. The court stated that the court in the case cannot ignore such demolition threats in a nation governed by the rule of law.

in a country where actions issued notice which is reof the State are being governed by the rule of law, the transgression by a family member cannot invite action against other members of the family or their legally constructed residence. The Alleged involvement in crime is no such ground for

demolition of a property. Moreover, the alleged crime needs to be proved through due legal process in a Court of law. The court cannot be oblivious to such demolition threats inconceivable in a nation where law is supreme. Otherwise, such kind of actions may be seen as running a bulldozer over

the laws of the land. The bench comprising of Justice Hrishikesh Roy, Justice Sudhanshu Dhulia, and Justice SVN Bhatti in turnable in four weeks on a petition filed by a man against potential demolition of his family home by municipal authorities due to alleged involvement of a family member in a crime. Further, the court directed

that status quo be main-

tained regarding the petitioner's property until further orders are issued.

On September 01, 2024, the First Information Report, FIR was registered against a family member of the petitioner. The municipal authorities allegedly threatened to demolish the residence of petitioner.

Therefore, the petitioner approached the Supreme Court.

The Senior counsel Iqbal Syed appearing for the Pe-The court observed that, the case observed and has titioner highlighted before the court that the recent order of the Supreme Court which indicates that similar threats of demolition would be addressed with pan-India action.

> Therefore, Syed cited revenue records wherein it shows that the petitioner is a co-owner of the land in Vil-

lage Kathlal, Kheda District. Syed also referred to a resolution from the Kathlal Gram Panchayat dated August 21, 2004, which

granted permission for the construction of residential houses on the land. The petitioner in the plea stated that his family has resided in these houses for approximately two decades. It has also been informed by Sved to the court that the

plaint under Section 333 of the Bharativa Nyava Sanhita, 2023, BNS to the Deputy SP, Nadiad, Kheda District on September 6, 2024. The petitioner in the complaint stated that the law should take its course against the accused but

there bein no reason to

threaten or demolish the pe-

titioner's legally constructed

petitioner has filed a com-

and occupied residence. The Supreme Court in the case observed and has stressed that any alleged criminal activity must be addressed through due legal process, and such threats of demolition being contrary to the rule of law.

offence (CBI Case under the

Prevention of Corruption

Act) has become untenable.

It being a ravesty of justice

to keep the appellant in

custody on these grounds,

especially as he has been

granted bail in a more strin-

gent PMLA case.

The Another bench of Supreme Court expressed concerns about the demolition of properties based on criminal allegations.

On September 02, 2024, the bench comprising of Justice BR Gavai and Justice KV Viswanathan was hearing the batch of petition filed challenging 'bulldozer actions' indicated that the Court is considering framing pan-India guidelines in order to address the issue of authorities demolishing homes as a punitive mea-

Court warns states/High Courts which have not filed compliance affidavits

Mishra and Justice KV

TDG NETWORK **NEW DELHI**

The Supreme Court in the case National Federation Of Societies Foe Fast Justice And Anr. Versus Union oF India And Ors observed wherein the Public Interest Litigation, PIL is filed seeking establishment and effectuation of Gram Nyayalayas in the country as per the mandate of Gram Nyayalayas Act, 2008.

The court in the sued a warning to states or UTs and High Courts which did not file affidavits (on the establishment and functioning of Gram Nyayalayas) pursuant to its last order.

The court stated that, 'If the affidavits are not filed by the next date, this court would be constrained to take a serious view of the matter.' The bench comprising of Justice BR Gavai, Justice Prashant Kumar

The Supreme Court in the

case Superwhizz Profes-

sionals Pvt. Ltd. v. Union

of India & Ors observed

wherein the Vishakhapat-

nam Bar Association has

filed an affidavit undertak-

ing that it would not boy-

cott and/or encourage law-

yers to abstain from court

Viswanathan also appointed Senior Advocate Nidhesh Gupta and Advocate Suhasini to assist the Court in the matter. The counsel, Advocate

Prashant Bhushan informed that pursuant to the Court's last order, 41 affidavits had been filed.

The counsel, Advocate Prashant Bhushan subthat out of the total Gram Nyayalayas required at the intermediate Panchayat level, only 5 to 6% percent have been effectuated. Some states are saying that they do not need Gram Nyayalayas because they have Nyava Panchayats, even though the two are markedly different (note: Gram Nyayalayas have judicial officers). Therefore, in some other states, the High Courts are saying that they

have framed the rules and asked state governments to effectuate Gram Nyayalayas but state governments are not doing anything.

On the other hand, the counsel, Senior Advocate Huzefa Ahmadi, appearing for High Court of Himachal Pradesh, submitted that in spite of repeated reminders to the state government for establishment of Gram mitted before the court Nyavalavas, the state was

not taking any steps.

The court in the case observed and has directed the state of Himachal Pradesh to file a response. Insofar as states and High Courts which had not filed their affidavits pursuant to the last order, the court directed that the Chief Secretaries of the state governments and Registrar Generals of the High Courts shall file the responses within the period of 3 weeks.

Supreme Court sets aside High Court condition that accused who got bail can furnish bail bonds only after spending 6 months in custody

TDG NETWORK

The Supreme Court in the case Vikash Kumar Gupta Versus the State Of Bihar observed and has set aside the bail condition imposed by the Patna High Court to the effect that the bail bonds needs to be furnished by the accused after completion of 6 months in custody which being from the date of the order. The condition in effect put on hold the implementation of the bail order for the period of six months.

The bench comprising of

Justice Surya Kant, Justice Dipankar Datta and Justice Ujjal Bhuyan was hearing the present matter.

The bench in the case finds no valid reason for the High Court to impose the condition as contained in paragraph 7 of the impugned order whereby the bail bonds will have to be furnished by the petitioner after completion of six months in custody which being from the date of the High Court order.

In the present case, the petitioner was named as an accused in an First Information Report, FIR lodged under Section 30(a) of the Bihar Prohibition and Excise Amendment Act. The allegations were made that around 231.6 liters of country-made and foreign liquor was recovered from three motorcycles and he was driving one of them. After his arrest on June 14, 2024, the petitioner applied for bail, which was declined by the Trial Court. The petitioner then approached the High Court. Vide impugned order,

(subject to furnishing bail bonds etc.), but imposed a further condition that 'the petitioner shall furnish his bail bonds after completion of six months in custody from today'.

The petitioner approached the Supreme Court, aggrieved by the same.

The Supreme Court in the case allowed his petition and has set aside the impugned condition, wherein directing the trial Court to release the petitioner forthwith on furnishing of bail bonds. In addition to the bail conditions imposed on the petitioner, it was directed:

The petitioner shall remain present in Court on each and every date of hearing.

Since the petitioner has a track record of his involvement in cases under the Excise Act, wherein the court directed that in case the petitioner is found involved in such like cases in future, it shall be taken as a misuse of the concession of bail.' The bench of Justice Bhuy-

work in future. an orally remarked that The bench comprising of 'the process itself should not become punishment'.

Justice Abhay S Oka and Justice AG Masih in the case observed and has issued a contempt notice to the Association in July for abstaining from court work and thus preventing the Debts Recovery Tribunal, DRT in Vishakhapatnam

The order was passed in an SLP challenging the Andhra Pradesh High Court's order wherein the court disposed of the petitioner's writ petition, which claimed that the

from functioning.

of 2022 despite urgency.

The court in the case noted that the Vishakhapatnam Bar Association repeatedly called for abstention from court work and an affidavit is filed by the Association through its General Secretary, while undertaking that no boycott calls would be made by it in future.

The affidavit filed states that the Association's current Executive Committee took charge on April 10, 2024 and the boycott call was resolved to be made by the previous Executive Committee (which being between December, 2023

Association's General Secretary stated that, 'I hereby affirm, state and undertake that the Vishakhapatnam Bar Association will not encourage or call for Boycott or to abstain from the Courts hereafter and in future also.

The Association has requested that the contempt notice be discharged.

Background of the Case The challenge in the writ plea filed before the High Court was to a Sale Notice dated February 27, 2024, issued by the Assets Care & Reconstruction Enterprise Limited, proposing to auction the subject property on March 18, 2024.

When the Assets Care & Reconstruction Enterprise Limited issued the impugned Sale Notice on February 27, 2024, the petitioner filed an interim application in March 2024, wherein seeking a stay of further proceedings pursuant to the notice.

BJP on Arvind Kejriwal's bail: Supreme Court has shown mirror to Delhi Chief Minister, he should resign

the High Court directed

him to be released on bail

TDG NETWORK

The BJP stated that the Delhi Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal should immediately resign from his post as the Supreme

only conditional bail and that he continues to be an accused in the corruption case linked to the excise policy 'scam'.

and said that prolonged incarceration amounts to unjust deprivation of

Court has shown a mirror to 'kattar beimaan' (outright dishonest) Arvind Kejriwal while granting

granted him conditional bail.

ues to be an accused in

the case as the court has

acquitted.'

DRT did not consider its Securitization Application

Vishakhapatnam Bar Association undertakes

before Supreme Court not to abstain from

court work in future, after contempt notice

to January, 2024).

The court directed to file an affidavit by office bearers of the Association, the **Executive Committee held** a meeting, where it 'unanimously resolved not to boycott the courts at any time in future'.

The affidavit filed by the

The BJP Leader added During a press conference bail to him. He should The BJP's reaction came at the party headquarters immediately resign after that, 'Neither have the after the Supreme Court here, BJP national spokescharges against him been Gaurav Bhatia added that granted bail to Kejriwal in person Gaurav Bhatia quashed nor has he been Court has granted him the case lodged by the CBI stated that, 'The Supreme Arvind Kejriwal contin-

CHINA PLANS TO RAISE RETIREMENT AGE FROM NEXT YEAR, TRIGGERS BACKLASH

Chinese government on Friday passed a legislation announcing plan to increase the retirement age of employees in the country. The entire laid-out plan by the administration will be implemented during the tenure of 15 years,

starting from January 2025,

CNN reported.

Notably, the Chinese economy currently faces a severe crisis of shrinking workforce alongside its dipping economy and a pension funding crisis for its old-aged citizens. The move has received severe backlash from its citizens on social media with citizens claim that it is a tactic to extend their work years and stop them from accessing their pension as unemployment levels in the country's



According to the latest rules, the retirement ages will be gradually pushed back to 63 years for male employees and from 55 to 58 years for females as per their occupation. Previously, men in urban areas were allowed to retire at 60 and receive pensions, whereas women at 50 or 55, depending on their occupation

The CNN report also

claimed that the government's top lawmakers also plan to extend the minimum working period for the country's employees to receive a monthly pension from 15 to 20 years, by 2030.

According to the same report, "Delayed retirements just means you can't get your pension until you hit 63, but it doesn't mean everyone will have a job until then!" wrote one user.

China's old individuals

currently constitute more than 20 per cent totaling about 297 million citizens of the country's population, according to a report by the Ministry of Civil Affairs of China. Demographers in China estimate that the elderly population will make up to 30 per cent of the total Chinese population between 2030 and 2035. And this number could likely increase to 40 per cent by

The CNN report also quoted a 2019 report published by the Chinese Academy of Social Sciences, a government think tank which had claimed that China's state pension fund would run dry by 2035 due to its dwindling workforce and years of strict pandemic-related restrictions which have shrunk the coffers of local governments.

Pakistan MP Saadullah Baloch abducted

AGENCIES ISLAMABAD

Saadullah Baloch, a current member of the Pakistani Parliament, has been allegedly abducted under alarming circumstances. This incident follows a disturbing pattern, as his wife and daughter had previously gone missing.

Baloch's earlier abduction, involving his wife and sister, drew significant public and political attention. Lawyer Salman Akram Raja expressed grave concerns about Baloch's abduction in a post on X, stating, "The disgraceful abduction of Saadullah Baloch continues. Earlier, his wife and daughter were abducted. Saadullah was being pressured to vote for the amendment meant to extend the tenure of Chief Justice of Pakistan

Oazi Faez Isa.'

In the same post, Raja quoted Pakistan's opposition leader Omar Ayub, who said, "Today is the third day since Saadullah Baloch, a member of the Pakistan Assembly, was abducted. First, his wife was targeted, then his daughter. The agencies behind this might include the ISI, Military Intelligence, Field Intelligence

Unit, or the Special Branch. Regardless of which agencies were involved, this act is extremely heinous. Saadullah Baloch is currently in custody and is being pressured to vote in favour of Qazi Faez Isa.'

Omar further added, "He is a very brave man. Despite any situation, he is not going to break at any cost. We salute Saadullah and demand, as the leader of the opposition, that all agency director generals release him immediately. The ill governance and mismanagement should end. The role of intelligence agencies is to protect the country from its enemies, not to attack members of Parliament. These agencies have already undermined the principles of democracy, and I condemn this type of attack." Reports of alleged disap-

pearances in Balochistan are frequent. This region, marked by active separatist movements and a heavy military presence, often sees accusations of abductions by security forces. The situation in Balochistan urgently requires international attention and intervention to address these serious human rights violations.

CHINESE SHIPS APPROACH RESTRICTED ZONE **NEAR TAIWAN; 39TH INCIDENT THIS YEAR**

AGENCIES

On Friday, September 13, Taiwan monitored four Chinese coast guard ships approaching a restricted zone south of Kinmen, according to Taiwan News. The Coast Guard Administration (CGA) unit responsible for Kinmen, Matsu, and Penghu quickly deployed four patrol vessels to instruct the Chinese ships to leave. The CGA reported that this marked the 39th such incident near Kinmen this year.

The report also noted that while this was the first incident of its kind in September, Chinese coast guard ships have frequently entered restricted waters

near Kinmen since the beginning of the year. China claims it has no obligation to respect patrols around Taiwan-held islands close to Fujian province.

In February, two Chinese fishermen died when their unregistered speedboat was pursued by the CGA near Kinmen. In a separate incident in March, two Taiwanese fishermen were detained by China after drifting into Chinese waters due to adverse weather conditions.

This recent Chinese military activity is part of a broader pattern of provocations by Beijing in recent months. China has intensified its military presence near Taiwan, with frequent air and naval incursions into Taiwan's Air Defense Identification Zone (ADIZ) and ongoing military exercises near the

On Monday, Taiwan's Ministry of National Defense (MND) reported detecting 21 Chinese military aircraft, seven naval vessels, and one official ship operating near Taiwan between 6 am (local time) on Sunday and 6 am (local time) on Monday.

According to a report by Taiwan News, since September 2020, China has escalated its use of gray zone tactics by increasing the number of military aircraft and naval vessels operating near Taiwan. Grav

zone tactics are described as "an effort or series of efforts beyond steady-state deterrence and assurance that attempts to achieve one's security objectives without resorting to direct and sizable use of force," the report said.

Earlier, on September 3,

Taiwan's MND accused China of launching a satellite over Taiwan, with its flight path passing over the southwestern Air Defense Identification Zone (ADIZ) of the island. Taiwan has been governed independently since 1949; however, China considers Taiwan part of its territory and insists on eventual reunification, by force if necessary.

Tibet rights body flays Chinese

propaganda centre in Lhasa

Quetta police official kills incarcerated man accused of blasphemy, arrested

AGENCIES

A police officer from Pakistan's Quetta allegedly murdered a man being held in the Kharotabad police station on the charges of blasphemy, Pakistan-based daily, Dawn reported.

Quetta Senior Superintendent of Police (SSP) Muhammad Baloch said on Thursday that the police officer accused of the murder was arrested, Dawn re-

The arrested officer pretended he was a relative of the deceased before he shot him, Dawn reported.

As per the complaint, the blasphemy-accused man allegedly used objectionable words against the Prophet on a phone call. Dawn reported that his alleged conversation went viral on social media, triggering sharp criticism and protests. The



police official said that an FIR was registered against him under Sections 295C and 34 of the Pakistan penal code and investigation was underway.

"We have registered an FIR (first information report) against the blasphemy suspect and arrested him soon after receiving information about the incident," Dawn quoted a senior police officer as saying.

The man was then taken under custody earlier this week and was taken to a fortified station as an angry mob demanded that he be handed over to them. Protesters from the Teh-

reek-i-Labbaik Pakistan (TLP) and other religious parties had blocked traffic on the western bypass by placing burning tyres on the road and staged rallies and also targeted the police station with a hand grenade.

No one was harmed in the attack. District administration and senior police officers negotiated with the TLP leaders and managed to open the western bypass. Jamiat Ulema-e-Islam shot him, Dawn reported. Pakistan (JUI-P) Senator Abdul Shakoor Khan, in a Senate meeting expressed solidarity with the police of-

ficial, saying that he would

bear all his legal expenses.

The arrested officer

pretended he was

deceased before he

a relative of the

"The police officer shot him because he expressed distrust in the legal system. It is wrong in terms of Shariat and the law. I don't blame the police official, I blame the legal system. We will not toletate anyone issuing blasphemous remarks against the Holy Prophet (peace be upon him)," Dawn

World Law Day celebrates value of justice: UAE Attorney-General

Chancellor Hamad Saif Al Shamsi, UAE Attorney-General, affirmed the significance of World Law Day as a global commemoration of justice. He underscored justice as a fundamental value that guides a righteous and equitable society.

In a statement marking World Law Day on 13th September, Al Shamsi highlighted the UAE's unwavering commitment to upholding justice since its

At a time when Karachi is

already facing a severe gas

crisis, Sui Southern Gas Com-

pany (SSGC) announced that

gas supply will be temporar-

ily suspended in certain areas

of the port city, ARY News re-

According to an SSGC rep-

resentative, the Bus Rapid

Transit (BRT) project's relo-

cation of a gas pipeline close

to Safora Chowrangi is the

reason for the supply inter-

The spokesman went on to

confirm that there will be a

gas supply interruption from

11 PM to 4 AM in Karachi,

affecting Gulistan-e-Johar

Blocks 1, 2, 3, 14, and 15, as

well as the neighbouring

It is important to note that

the suspension has occurred

ported on Thursday

ruption.

suburbs

Amid severe crisis, gas

in parts of Karachi

supply remains suspended

inception. He noted that the UAE's founding fathers recognised the paramount importance of law and justice in safeguarding human dignity and ensuring societal stability, thereby fostering sustainable development and progress.

Al Shamsi emphasised that the UAE's celebration of World Law Day aligns with the nation's decadeslong pioneering efforts to enhance access to justice and promote its effective

during a period when Karachi

is already experiencing a seri-

ous gas crisis as a result of an

Low gas pressure was ob-

served in numerous houses;

with some residents resorting

to cooking on wood stoves, ac-

However, a number of loca-

tions' leaky gas meters and

pipelines are also making

residential and commercial

The Nimat Busal plant ex-

perienced a power outage

late Saturday night, which

further interrupted the city's

gas supplies, according to

The protracted gas shortag-

es, which have gotten worse

over the past few weeks and

are seriously inconvenienc-

ing Karachi's residents, have

drawn complaints from the

cording to ARY News.

users more irate.

SSGC officials.

SSGC system deficit.

AGENCIES China's attempt to boost its efforts at controlling the world narrative on Tibet was witnessed yet again when the Chinese government recently

ternational Communication Center" in Lhasa Such a step by the Chinese administration is another way to promote the country's ongoing campaign to reshape global public opinion on Tibet, a report by the Interna-

tional Campaign for Tibet

(ICT) stated.

inaugurated the "Tibet In-

The ICT claimed that the establishment of such institutions in Tibet is a boost to China's propaganda on Tibet, which it had previously pointed out. And it expects further escalation by China in the future in an attempt to dominate the global conversation with China's propagandistic narrative and

storytelling. In an earlier report released in January this year titled 'China's External Propaganda on Tibet: Erasing Tibet to tell a good Chinese story', ICT claimed that "China's Tibet policy has been a subiect of international scrutiny ever since its invasion and subsequent occupation of Tibet in 1959. The Chinese government knows that there is a political problem in Tibet. But rather than resolve it, one of its approaches is to falsify the situation and employ various methods to control the narrative around Tibet, aiming to reshape its portrayal in global discourse. This report examines China's recent external propaganda efforts concerning Tibet, highlighting the objectives

According to the ICT report, the latest propaganda centre by China was established after a "Roundtable Meeting on Building an Effective International Communication System for Tibet" which was jointly organised by the Propaganda Department of the Tibet Autonomous Region Party Committee and the China Foreign Language Bureau. This cen-

and the tactics".

tre is an outcome of the group study session of the Political Bureau of the CCP Central Committee in May 2021.

The ICT claimed that the immediate outcome of the Politburo CCP Central Committee appears to be the CCP's push to replace the internationally recognised country name "Tibet" with the sinicised term "Xizang" on the global conversation.

Furthermore, the same report claimed, that such a renaming policy, discreetly initiated in late 2021 during the height of the COVID-19 pandemic, aligns with the CCP's General Secretary Xi Jinping's decade-old vision to "tell a good Chinese story" on the global stage.

The report also claimed that soon, China is likely to intensify its use of state-controlled media platforms to spread its narrative on Tibet.

The ICT also raised concerns that such an institution will be used to marginalize Tibetan voices and obscure the ongoing oppression in

Pakistan Airlines official in Dubai removed after sexual harassment allegations

KARACH

An official of Pakistan International Airlines (PIA) in Dubai is under investigation following multiple harassment complaints, local media reported.

ARY news outlet reported that the Pakistan Airlines removed Sales Regional Manager, against whom they had received several complaints.

Among the complainants included a female employee who presented evidence of harassment, ARY News re-

As per the news outlet, a woman in Dubai has filed a formal application against the sales manager with the Federal Ombudsman for harassment, which is currently under review.

The sales manager has been removed from his position following the complaints.

PIA spokesperson said that the airline has a zerotolerance policy towards workplace harassment and is committed to taking appropriate administrative



action if the allegations are substantiated. The investigation into the conduct of the sales manager is ongo-

Earlier on August 4, PIA took action against the **Deputy Station Manager** based in Birmingham after an investigation revealed discrepancies in their educational qualifications, ARY News reported.

The airline's Deputy Station Manager, Javed Iqbal Bajwa, was found to have submitted a fake intermediate certificate.

This discovery was made after PIA sent Bajwa's educational documents to the relevant authorities for verification, prompting the airline to issue a show-cause

notice to him, as per ARY News.

Meanwhile, the PIA is going to be privatised soon, the National Assembly's standing committee on aviation informed on July 6 that the process is almost complete.

According to a statement issued, the Civil Aviation Authority (CAA) currently operates 22 out of 43 airports, including 13 international ones, and has been experiencing budget constraints on the development side for several years.

As a result, the CAA was using second-generation equipment, whereas developed countries are utilising the latest third-generation

Israel's Police Commissioner pledges to 'settle score' after Ramle car bombing

"I am stating here that we will settle the score with ev-

eryone responsible for this injustice against those innocent civilians who were injured and had no involvement in anything," said Levi. "As the Israel Police, we promised and will keep that promise: we will not let any criminal get away with it--anyone who tries to harm civilians or innocent people."

"Once someone does that, we will be there," he added.

"We will pursue them until we catch them, as we know how to do. Again, it's

very sad what happened here today, that people just going to a grocery store

"I am stating here that we will settle the score with everyone responsible for this injustice against those innocent civilians who were injured and had no involvement in anything," said Levi.

were attacked. There is no place for this in Israel, especially when Israel has made it its mission to address this issue."Ramle is a

low-income city in central Israel with a mixed Jewish and Arab population. It is known as a center for organized criminal activity.

AGENCIES

Israel's Police Commissioner Dani Levi pledged Thursday night that the area in the city of Ramle will be reinforced with additional security after a car bombing related to criminal gang activity in the city killed four people on Thursday afternoon.

THE PRESIDENT



US President Joe Biden speaks during an event honouring the 30th anniversary of the Violence Against Women Act in

Trump refuses another presidential debate with Harris

AGENCIES

The possibility of a second meeting between the two US Presidential candidates before election day was dashed on Thursday when former President Donald Trump announced

He asserted that he won Tuesday's debate with Harris despite some polls

showing otherwise.

he would not take part in another

debate with Vice President Kamala

"When a prizefighter loses a fight, the first words out of his mouth are. 'I WANT A REMATCH'. Polls clearly show that I won the debate against Comrade Kamala Harris, the Democrats' Radical Left Candidate, on Tuesday night, and she immediately called for a Second Debate," Trump posted on Truth Social.

The former president claimed that subjects like immigration and inflation were covered "in great detail" both in Tuesday night's discussion with Harris and in his June debate with President



Trump, in a strong attack on the Biden-Harris administration, said that they have 'destroyed' the country.

"She and Crooked Joe have destroyed our country, with millions of criminals and mentally deranged people pouring into the USA, totally unchecked and unvetted, and with inflation bankrupting our middle class. Everyone knows this, and all of the other problems caused by Kamala and Joe. It was discussed in great detail during the first debate with Joe, and the second debate with Comrade Harris," the former US President said.

"She was a no-show at the Fox debate and refused to do NBC & CBS," Trump said in his post, adding "KA-MALA SHOULD FOCUS ON WHAT SHE SHOULD HAVE DONE DUR-ING THE LAST ALMOST FOUR YEAR PERIOD. THERE WILL BE NO THIRD DEBATE!"

Both Donald Trump and Kamala Harris are the official presidential candidates of their respective parties, after they accepted the nomination at the conventions earlier this year.

The US presidential elections are scheduled to be held on November 5 this year. Notably, the first presidential debate was held in June between President Biden and Trump, where the former's performance expressed concerns over his age. Following this, Biden made an exit from the race and endorsed Harris.

It is pertinent to note that Trump and Harris debated on Tuesday this week. It was their first meeting since Harris became the Democratic presidential nominee in late July, The Hill reported.

The ultimate face off between Trump and Harris took place during the presidential debate conducted by ABC News on Tuesday (local time).

NASA ASTRONAUT SUNITA WILLIAMS TO ADDRESS EARTH FROM ORBIT

AGENCIES

TASA astronauts Sunita 'Suni' Wil-'Butch' Wilmore will put a call to Earth and participate in a press conference aboard the International Space Station in low Earth orbit, the US space agency said.

The space call is scheduled at 2:15 p.m. EDT (local time) on September 13 to the newsroom at NASA's Johnson Space Centre in

The pair had launched aboard Boeing's Starliner spacecraft on June 5 for its first crewed flight, arriving at the space station on June 6. A decision was made to return Starliner to Earth without its crew and the



spacecraft successfully returned on September 6 after more than three months in space. It made a safe landing at White Sands Space Harbor in New Mexico.

Both astronauts Sunita Williams and Butch Wilmore called down to flight controllers to thank teams for their support before the uncrewed Starliner spacecraft returned to Earth.

"You guys it's time to bring Calypso home. We have your backs and you have got this. Bring her back to Earth," Sunita Williams said in the radio message referring to the spacecrafts nickname. Both the astronauts will remain on the international space station as part of the Expedition 71/72 crew and return home in

February 2025 aboard the

SpaceX Dragon spacecraft with two other crew members on NASA's SpaceX Crew-9 mission.

Meanwhile, crew of the Polaris Dawn the Elon Musk-led private charted spaceflight created history when they completed the first commercial spacewalk.

Donning newly-designed SpaceX extravehicular activity (EVA) suits, the crew began their approximately two-hour operation at 3:12 a.m. EDT while traveling at 17,500 miles per hour in an elliptical orbit of 190 x 700 km above the EarthThe spacewalk represents an important milestone of the Polaris Program, a developmental program designed to further the advancement of human spaceflight.

Russia expels 6 British diplomats it accuses of spying, UK calls it 'completely baseless'

AGENCIES

Russia on Friday accused six British diplomats of spying and said it decided to expel them. The U.K. said the "completely baseless" move came weeks ago and was linked to its action in May to revoke the credentials of an attaché at the Russian Embassy and limit Moscow's diplomatic activities in London.

The latest East-West tensions unfolded as British Prime Minister Keir Starmer visits Washington for talks that will include Ukraine's request to use Western-supplied weapons to strike targets inside Russia. President Vladimir Putin has warned that Kyiv's use of long-range weapons would put NATO at war with Moscow.

Russia's Federal Security Service said in an online statement that the Foreign Ministry withdrew the British envoys' accreditations, and Russian TV quoted an FSB official as saying it was decided to expel them.

The FSB said it received documents indicating the diplomats were sent to Russia by a division of the U.K.'s Foreign Office "whose main task is to inflict a strategic defeat on our country," and that they were involved in "intelligencegathering and subversive activities." It did not identify the

long-range missiles inside Russia

Ukraine wants to use western

AGENCIES

Ukraine is pushing for permission from its western partners to use the long-range missiles they have provided to strike targets deep inside Russia, as Ukrainian forces struggle to hold back Russian advances in eastern Ukraine.

Kyiv officials argue the weapons are vital to weaken Russia's ability to strike Ukraine and force it to move its strike capabilities further from the border.

Russia has warned that it would consider allowing such long-range strikes an act of war, and Ukraine's Western allies are wary of antagonizing the country with the world's largest nuclear arsenal.

The issue is likely to weigh

heavily on White House meetings Friday between President Joe Biden and British Prime Minister Keir Starmer, as well as with Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelenskyy later this month.

WHAT ARE THESE WEAPONS? The longrange missiles include systems like the British-led Storm Shadow and the similar French-made SCALP or the U.S.-made Army Tactical Missile System, ATAC-

'Rule of law is gaining ground,' EAM Jaishankar tells Indians in Geneva

AGENCIES

External Affairs Minister S Iaishankar while addressing the Indian diaspora in Geneva said that the cause of social justice, the idea of inclusive growth, of rule of law is gaining ground and is today very central to the policies and activities of the government.

Iaishankar said that activity of paying homage to Dr Ambedkar and naming of a hall after Hansa Mehta reflects modern India. He said that it reflects the idea of social justice.



"This morning I had the privilege of paying homage to Dr Babasaheb Ambedkar, whose statue is just outside this hall policies and activities of hall after Hansa Mehta. In a way I also want you all to think of all these as reflecting on what is also happening at home in India. Meaning, just like we have built a chancery, modern India is also getting built, brick by brick, step by step, building by building. Just as we paid homage to Dr Ambedkar here- the cause of social justice, the idea of inclusive growth, of rule of law is gaining ground and is today very central to the

and the naming of this—the government," he said Naming of a hall after Hansa Mehta reflects the ideal of women-led development.

"Just as we honoured Hansa Mehta, today in India, not just the idea of gender equality or gender justice, the idea of womenled development- this was actually our big push during the G20 Presidency last year. We were really very pleased to see that it was a strain of thinking that we were able to successfully inculcate into the international community.

US imposes sanctions on suppliers to Pakistan's ballistic missile programme search Institute of Automa- under the missile sanctions statement read further. The

AGENCIES

The US State Department imposed sanctions on Chinabased firms, for their supply to Pakistan's ballistic missile programme under the missile sanctions laws on Thurs-

"The Department of State is taking action against five entities and one individual that have been involved in the proliferation of ballistic missiles and controlled missile equipment and technology. Specifically, the Department of State is designating the Beijing Re-

Industry (RIAMB) pursuant to Executive Order 13382, which targets proliferators of weapons of mass destruction and their means of delivery," State Department spokesperson Matthew Miller said in a press statement. Notably, RI-AMB has worked with Pakistan's National Development Complex (NDC), -which the United States assesses is involved in the development and production of Pakistan's long-range ballistic missiles.

"Additionally, the United States is imposing sanctions Control Act [AECA] and the Export Control Reform Act [ECRA]) on three PRCbased entities, one PRC individual, and a Pakistani entity for ballistic missile proliferation activities: PRC-based firms Hubei Huachangda Intelligent Equipment Company, Universal Enterprise Limited, and Xi'an Longde Technology Development Company Limited (aka Lontek); PRC individual Luo Dongmei (aka Steed Luo); and Pakistani-based entity Innovative Equipment," the press

tion for Machine Building laws (i.e., the Arms Export State Department spokesperson further added that the US 'will continue to act' against proliferation and associated procurement activities of concern, wherever they occur.

"These sanctions are being imposed because these entities and individual knowingly transferred equipment and technology controlled under the Missile Technology Control Regime (MTCR) Annex, in support of MTCR Category I missile programs, to a non-MTCR country," he said in a state-

PUTIN WARNS NATO NATIONS; NORTH KOREA SHOWCASES ITS NUCLEAR CAPABILITIES

fter days of regional and international politics returns to its usual this week. This week remained steady in terms of developments and events. However, the nuke alert from North Korea raised the eyebrows of the global leaders. On the other hand, the Russian President Putin has warned the NATO nations that if they permit Ukraine to launch aerial strikes on Russian territory using their missiles, it would constitute their direct confrontation with Russia and would take the war to a different direction. This week, amid the intensification of war between Russia and Ukraine, Russian President Vladimir

Putin has asserted that if

the West permits Ukraine

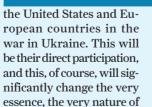
to launch aerial strikes on

Russian territory using

Western-supplied longrange missiles, it would constitute a direct confrontation with Russia. fundamentally changing the nature and extent of the

For several months, Ukrainian President Zelenskyy has been urging Ukraine's allies (read: NATO nations) to provide Ukraine with the capability to deploy Western missiles, such as the long-range ones, into Russian territory to diminish Russia's capacity for offensive operations. Putin emphasized that such actions would involve the nations in to the war who would be supplying longrange missiles to Ukraine in the conflict. Putin stated while making his address, "If this decision is taken, it will mean nothing less than the direct involvement of NATO countries,

WORLD RECAP ANSHU JOSHI



the conflict. This statement makes the situation more complicated as already many nations are involved indirectly into the war and facing serious repercussions. Their direct involvement would take the war and the entire world to a different tangent altogether. Indian Prime Minister Modi's trip to Russia and Ukraine generated great hope that the

leaders might come to the

diplomatic table to end the war. However, the war has further intensified and has taken unexpected twist after Zelenskyy's plea to the NATO nations.

More than a war between Russia and Ukraine, this war seems to be going on between the NATO led by the US and Putin. We must not forget what Russia-Ukraine war brought to this world thousands of civilians' casualties and military casualties, displacement of people, food crisis, energy crisis, economic issues, extensive environmental damage, intensification of lobby politics in global affairs and more. Both the leaders should have had realised by now the brunt and cost of this war. Why they are still adamant not to stop the war remains a relevant question.

Another alarming news came from the Korean Peninsula this week. This week, North Korea has publicly displayed the images of its centrifuges utilized in the production of nuclear bomb fuel for the first time. During his visit to a uranium enrichment facility, North Korean dictator Kim Jong Un emphasized the need for increased production of weapons-grade material to enhance the country's arsenal. The state media's coverage of Kim's tour at the Nuclear Weapons Institute and a facility dedicated to the production of weapongrade nuclear materials included these unprecedented photographs of the centrifuges, offering a rare a mutual defence pact in glimpse into North Korea's nuclear programme, which is prohibited by several **United Nations Security** Council resolutions.

It is widely believed that North Korea possesses multiple facilities dedicated to uranium enrichment. Analysts have indicated that commercial satellite imagery has revealed construction activities in recent years at the Yongbyon Nuclear Scientific Research Centre, particularly at its uranium enrichment facility, which may indicate a potential expansion of operations. This news raises alarm for the regional as well as global security as it is supported by China and Russia. Russia and North Korea have further strengthened their bilateral relations by signing

pact enables them to provide immediate military assistance to each other in the event of any armed aggression This significant pact was signed during Russian President Vladimir Putin's first visit to North Korea in 24 years this week, and is considered as the revival of 1961 mutual defence pact between the two nations, which was cancelled when the Soviet Union established diplomatic relations with South Korea in 1990. The comprehensive strategic partnership agreement, signed by President Putin and North Korean leader Kim Jong Un represents one of Russia's most highprofile diplomatic initia-

June this year itself. This

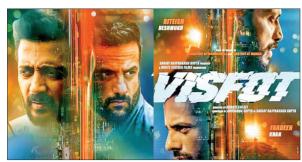
tives in Asia in recent years. Both Russia and North Korea oppose the 'West lobby' and share same political ideology. Russia is already engrossed in war with Ukraine presently to stop the 'NATOfication' of Ukraine in specific and Europe in general. On the other hand, North Korea stays aligned with China in opposing the US and its allies in Asia. Though the leaders remain concerned, where is the solution still remains a question.

Russia-Ukraine war ignited a very critical debate - Is world getting sharply and clearly divided in to two lobbies day by day? Or, was it always like this? Meanwhile it can only be wished that the leaders understand the consequences that the lobby politics brings along, and choose to remain lobbyneutral and developmentoriented.

The author is Professor, School of International Studies, JNU

REVIEW: VISFOT ******

VISFOT



PRAVEEN NAGDA

Longish, gripping and fast moving, and keeping you fully engaged is the plot of Kookie Gulati directed crime, thriller VISFOT, that is released on Jio Cinema as a Digital Release. Fardeen Khan has given some good performances in the recent times and here is one more in this film written by Abbas Dalan and Hussain Dalal. In the lead roles are Riteish Deshmukh, Fardeen Khan, Priya Bapat, and Krystle D'Souza in this film set in the radically opposite socio-economic side of Mumbai.

The film opens up with

two old friends Shoaib (Fardeen Khan), a taxi driver and Manya (Nachiket Purnapatre), a drug addict cum peddler talking to each other. Shoaib was a good student, had been to Australia but destiny threw him back to Dongri, the infamous slum of Mumbai for the sake of her ailing mother. Manya, the notorious one landed into the gang of Acid Tai (Seema Biswas). As the police comes around, Manya leaves his green jacket with the drug consignment in his car and flees but the cops pick him up and torture him. Meanwhile, Shoaib visits his girlfriend Lucky (Krystle D'Souza) leaving that jacket in his room. While he is away, a fire breaks out in his house, he returns into the chaotic scene at home only to find that the green jacket is missing.

Akash (Riteish Deshmukh) is a high flying pilot living with his wife young son Parth (Prithviraj Sarnaik) is unable to give enough time to his family. In the process his wife drifts away and starts seeing Javed (Arjun Aneja), something he discovers while driving to his son's school with his son before catching a flight. Akash is shattered by this

accidental discovery of the adultery and wants to confront Tara and Javed. He leaves Parth, also called Paddy with Lucky at Bombay Coffee House where she works and goes to catch Tara and Javed red-handed.

Meanwhile Manya is back with his goon friends demanding his jacket and lands at Shoaib's house and threatens to harm his mother Roshan (Seema Chaddha), so Shoaib rushes to pick up Lucky and brings her home, where Lucky brings Parth along. Things get murkier when Acid Tai, the dreaded gangster lands at a Shoaib's home and grabs the opportunity of kidnapping Parth and collecting ransom from his family using Shoaib. Lucky, Roshan, and Parth are held captive at Shoaib's home, where Shoaib's mother Roshan is killed by one of the goons.

Akash involves one suspended police officer Ajay Waghmare (Satyajeet Kadam) seeking help in the matter who liaises with the cop Fernandes (Purnendu Bhattacharya) for solving the matter. Fernandes hatches a plan to loot the booty and kill the Acid Tai gang members along with Akash and Parth. While the ransom is exchanging hands from Akash to Shoaib at the agreed venue, Lucky escapes from captivity, keeping Parth safe. In the end, all bad boys die, Shoaib survives to live happily with Lucky and Akash walks away from the lives of Tara and Javed with a promise to meet Parth everv weekend.

While the item number After captivating audience Purnapatre have put up splendid performances. Fardeen Khan, Priya Bapat and Krystle D'Souza also fit well in their roles.

Praveen Nagda, Festival Director of KidzCINEMA and CultureCinema Film

ITS' A GIRL! CARDI B, OFFSET WELCOME THIRD CHILD AMID ESTRANGEMENT

AGENCIES

Rapper Cardi Bhas recently announced the arrival of her third child, a baby girl, weeks after her separation from husband Offset.

The 'WAP' artist took to Instagram late on Thursday to share the joyful news, revealing that she welcomed her daughter on September

In her Instagram post, Cardi B, 31, is seen beaming with happiness as she holds her newborn in a colourful hospital robe.

Offset, 32, who is currently estranged from Cardi B, is also featured in the photos, tenderly cradling their new

Cardi captioned the post, "The prettiest lil thing 9/7/24," celebrating the ar-

rival of their daughter. The couple, who have been navigating a separation since Cardi filed for divorce in July, are also parents to son Wave, 3, and daughter

Kulture, 6. The Instagram update included heartwarming images of the family together in the hospital room, with Kulture hold-



ing her baby sister and Cardi B looking lovingly at her children.

Earlier in August, Cardi B had confirmed her pregnancy in an Instagram post, expressing her gratitude

and excitement. She wrote, "With every ending comes a new beginning! I am so grateful to have shared this season with you, you have brought me more love, more life and most of all renewed my power!" She added, "It's so much easier taking life's twists, turns and test laying down, but you, your brother and your sister have shown me why it's worth it to push through!"

PICTURE PERFECT

Actors N. T. Rama Rao Jr and Saif Ali Khan during the trailer launch of their upcoming movie 'Devara: Part 1', in Mumbai on Tuesday. (ANI Photo)



KATRINA RETURNS TO MUMBAI IN STYLISH ALL-BLACK ATTIRE

TDG NETWORK MUMBAI

ollywood actress Katrina Kaif turned heads at Mumbai Airport with her elegant and casual all-black attire.

The 'Ek Tha Tiger' actress, known for her impeccable fashion sense, was spotted arriving back in Mumbai, effortlessly combining style with comfort.

Katrina's ensemble featured a classic black t-shirt paired with comfortable black pants, accentuated by an oversized denim jacket.

She completed the look with black shoes and sunglasses, and her natural beauty was highlighted by a no-makeup look and flowing open hair.

Photographers captured her radiant smile and friendly wave as she made



her way to her car. On September 12, Katrina's husband, Vicky Kaushal, was seen visiting

Lalbaugcha Raja in Mumbai to seek blessings from Lord Ganesha.

During his visit, Vicky also

met actress Esha Deol, who took the opportunity to send her best wishes to his wife Katrina and his parents.

On the professional front, Katrina Kaif's latest film, 'Merry Christmas', premiered on January 12, 2024. Directed by Sriram Raghavan, the film features Kaif in the role of Maria, alongside South actor Vijay Sethupathi. The mystery thriller has been well-received, with critics praising Kaif's performance and the gripping storyline that unfolds on Christmas Eve.

On the other hand, Vicky Kaushal will be next seen in 'Chhaava'. The historical drama, directed by Laxman Utekar and produced by Dinesh Vijan's Maddock Films, stars Kaushal as Chhatrapati Sambhaji Ma-

Alia Bhatt, Diljit Dosanjh come together for 'Jigra'

TDG NETWORK

in the film doesn't much with the soulful track 'Ikk Tara (Priya Bapat) and his impresses much Riteish Kudi' from film 'Udta Pun-Deshmukh, and Nachiket jab', actors Alia Bhatt and Diljit Dosanjh are all set to reunite and enthrall their fans in former's upcoming movie 'Jigra'.

Keeping fans on their toes, Alia announced her reunion with Diljit for the film with a glimpse from set.

The picture captures Alia and Diljit sitting on chairs, with a witty caption written on it. Diljit's chair reads "sings about Kudi," while Alia's chair says "the said Kudi." Sharing the post, Alia wrote, "chairs say it

After the post was shared, fans couldn't resist from sharing their excitement on the duo's reunion and chimed into the comment



One of the users wrote, "The most awaited duo is

Another user commented, "OMG woahhh. what a wholesome crossover!!! can't waittt." "Alia Bhatt x Diljit Dosanjh.The heart winning collaboration of the year is coming y'all," another comment read.

Another user posted, "the 'ik kudi' duo is back y'all."

Alia Bhatt and Diljit Dosanjh had last collaborated in Udta Punjab, directed by Abhishek Chaubey.

The duo gave their voice to the reprised version of Ikk Kudi which received immense love from the au-

Directed by Vasan Bala, 'Jigra' is all set to release on October 11, 2024.

Makers recently unveiled the teaser trailer video on their Instagram handle.

The video begins with Alia having a drink in a restaurant and sharing a story about her brother and life with someone.

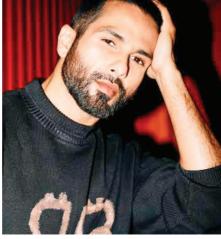
SHAHID TO REUNITE WITH VISHAL BHARDWAJ FOR NEW FILM; TRIPTII DIMRI JOINS CAST

Shahid Kapoor is all set to reunite with producer Sajid Nadiadwala and director Vishal Bhardwaj for the upcoming project.

Adding to the excitement, Triptii Dimri will also be a part of this much-anticipated project. It is touted to be the big action commercial entertainer.

This untitled film promises to deliver a perfect dose of entertainment for the au-

Sajid Nadiadwala's production house Nadiadwala Grandson shared this exciting news on their X



The post read, "I'm thrilled to join forces with the genius director, my dear friend @ #NGEFamily!' VishalBhardwaj, and the phenomenal powerhouse@

shahidkapoor! It's an honor

to welcome the incredibly gifted @tripti_dimri23to the

Excited to be part of the project, Shahid re-shared announcement post on

his Instagram story and wrote, "Super pumped for this one.Can't wait to begin... @vishalrbhardwaj @nadiadwalagrandson @ tripti dimri."



I make films from the heart. I want to concentrate on the job of doing great and honest performances, and I'm gonna get better with every performance of mine, with every film of mine.

- JOHN ABRAHAM

(Indian Actor)



AYUSHMANN KHURRANA VISITS LALBAUGCHA RAJA FOR GANPATI DARSHAN

TDG NETWORK

Bollywood actor Ayushmann Khurrana visited the renowned Lalbaugcha Raja to seek blessings from Ganpati Bappa as part of the ongoing Ganesh Chaturthi celebrations.

Khurrana, known for his roles in films such as 'Barfi'. embraced the festive spirit in a traditional white kurta paired with a multicoloured

Khurrana took to Instagram late on Thursday, to share a moment from his visit, posting a picture of himself in front of the iconic Ganesh idol along with a sticker reading 'Ganpati Bappa Morya'.

The Lalbaugcha Raja, a



significant landmark during the Ganesh Chaturthi festival, continues to attract thousands of devotees each

SHAH RUKH KHAN PAYS VISIT TO NEW PARENTS DEEPIKA AND RANVEER



TDG NETWORK

Bollywood's beloved star Shah Rukh Khan made a special late-night visit to joyful news. Sir H N Reliance Foundation Hospital in Mumbai to congratulate new parents Deepika Padukone and Ranveer Singh.

The visit took place on Thursday night, following the couple's recent arrival of their first child.

Video images captured Shah Rukh Khan's car entering and leaving the hos-

pital premises. Deepika Padukone gave birth to a daughter on September 8. The news was officially confirmed by the

couple via a heartfelt Insta-

gram post.

Following the arrival of their baby girl, a flurry of celebrities and fans took to social media to celebrate the

Privanka Chopra shared her joy with "Congratulations" accompanied by heart emojis. Ananya Panday commented, "Baby girl! Congratulations," while Sara Ali Khan expressed her happiness with, "Ranveer and DeePee..congratulations on your baby girl!!! Only joy and bliss to both of you."

Bipasha Basu offered her blessings with, "Durga Durga..Blessings to the little bundle of love and many, many congratulations to you, Ranveer and family."

RANBIR KAPOOR SPOTTED AT THE MUMBAI AIRPORT

TDG NETWORK

Actor Ranbir Kapoor was seen arriving at Mumbai airport on Thursday evening.

The actor looked stylish in a white kurta as he waved at the paparazzi stationed outside the airport.

Earlier on Wednesday, Ranbir and his mother, Neetu Kapoor, were spotted performing the Ganpati Visarjan for their family's Ganpati idol on Wednesday.

The mother-son duo came together to celebrate the special occasion during the Ganesh Chaturthi festival.

In the video captured by paparazzi, the 'Brahmastra' actor was seen wearing a white floral print kurta set, while



looking dashing as al-

On the work front, Ranbir was last seen in 'Animal' alongside Triptii Dimri and Rashmika Mandanna. The actor also has the sequel of Animal, titled Animal Park. Apart from this, he has Sanjay Leela Bhansali's Love And War.

Neetu returned to acting in 2022 with 'Jugjugg Jeeyo' alongside Anil Kapoor.

Meanwhile, Ganesh Chaturthi, a 10-day festival that commenced on September 6, will continue until Anantha Chaturdashi.

THE POWER OF INNER VISION



SARAH FITZGERALD

"We see things not as they are but as we are" - Immanuel Kant What we see is shaped by our inner world. Our inner vision is like becoming aware of the lenses through which we perceive reality, and spirituality introduces a new dimension to that perception. Our beliefs, knowledge, experiences, current emotional state, and our personality are the basis of our interpretation of what we see and hear. If we become more aware of what our inner

state of consciousness is, then

we are able to perceive the

deeper meaning of what lies

beyond our physical sight. In

the same way as specialists in

their subject have a deeper understanding of what they see. A doctor understands patterns of physical conditions and can diagnose accurately. An engineer can see a blueprint and understand deeper structural issues. A lawyer looks at a document in a completely different way from a layman, and understands the nuances and interprets them with a deeper understanding of the law.

Many of us have come to understand that under the law of physics, a solid table is not really as solid as it seems. It is made up of atoms, and is in fact, 99.9 per cent vacuum, yet even having that understanding, we are unable to perceive that constantly, and treat the table as a solid piece of matter. Our physical world is so much more dynamic than we can perceive through our physical eyes. We go about our daily life locked into roles of parent, teacher, our place in society, our nationality, and behave accordingly. If we could hold our inner vision in the awareness of who we really are and what we are really doing, our



lives would be so much richer.

lives would be so much richer. especially what is happening stand that life is really just a the theatre. Just like all actors, The way to become free of our limited awareness is to understand that life is really just a theatre.

More than that, we would really see the deeper meaning in everything that is happening, directly around us. The way to become free of our limited awareness is to under-

theatre. All of us have roles to play, but we are not the roles. We do not even originate from

we have a home to which we will return. We actors are higher beings, extremely subtle

points of consciousness, light, similar to stars. We sparkling entities come onto the stage and adopt our costumes and masks, and initially experience it all to be a glorious and joyful game. However, just as those who like to experiment with virtual reality begin to experience that virtual reality as real, and the longer the headset is on and the game is playing, the more likely they are to 'forget' they are human beings, so too, over time we have also lost sense of what is 'real'. On stage, actors know who they are. Some are very clever at observing themselves as actors while acting their parts - they do not buy into the story and the roller coaster of emotions they are being asked to play out. They keep themselves above and give a perfect performance while understanding what is happening and appreciating the other actors and their roles. In the same way, the more we can hold on to the awareness of who we really are, the more we are free to play our parts with the full depth of experience

and with love and compassion

for others. Everyone is good, everyone's truth is beautiful, whatever is happening, because it is all an immense and seemingly chaotic drama. But, as with all dramas, there is a plan and all is working exactly as it should. We are all on a journey and when we are 'awake' to what is really happening, the love we generate transcends all the limitations of the stage.

As with all good plays, there is One who remains beyond all the action. The One who is in a position to remind us that we are not of the stage, but on the stage, as actors. That is the One bright star of Supreme consciousness that cannot be seen with physical eyes. This Friend can be felt and perceived through meditation, and because He constantly sees us in our own perfection, we can define ourselves not through our roles, but through His vision.

Sarah Fitzgerald is an interior designer, English language teacher, and Raivoga teacher with the Brahma Kumaris in Cambridge,

The mindset for changing times



B.K. SHREYA

One way we can live life is to have everything happen according to our wishes. If that transpires, how do we feel? Peaceful, content, and happy. But how often does everything go according to our plan - there are no challenges, and everyone does exactly what they are told to do? Most people say they do not see a single day like that. And what happens when problems crop up? Do we get stressed, angry, depressed, or remain in control of our-

selves and the situation? Take this example: many people get irritated when they encounter heavy traffic on the roads. Is traffic inherently irritating or do we get annoyed by it? It is important to make the distinction, because situations all around us are changing, often unpredictably, and if we are hostage to them, then there will be little peace and happiness in our life.

The certainties we took for granted in an earlier age are fast vanishing. Not too long ago, people used to retire from the company they joined as a trainee. Once you got a job, it was more or less assured that you would work there until you retired. But now there is no such certitude. Even if you do well in your job, you may be laid off because the employer has decided to downsize and cut

A cloud of uncertainty hangs over nearly every sphere of human life, including our health. Those in their twenties and thirties are being diagnosed with diseases that used to be seen only in senior citizens earlier.

Relationships are also taking unexpected turns all too often. In India, divorce used to be rare a few decades ago and was seen as a disaster in one's life. The few cases that did occur, usually had major reasons behind them which were mitigating factors. But now couples decide to part ways simply because they



The key to facing any challenge is a positive and strong mind.

find that they do not think emotional state amidst the alike. Can two people ever think exactly the same way?

These developments are often attributed to the increasing challenges and complexities of modern life. Going by the current trends, the problems will only increase in future. If I believe that I can be happy only when everything out there is to my liking, then what will be my mental and

growing troubles?

Many people believe that it is natural to be stressed in difficult times - thoughts of fear and worry arise automatically, they say. Do thoughts emerge on their own in response to circumstances? If that were the case, every individual facing a particular situation would have the same kind

of thoughts. But that does not happen, and we find different people reacting differently. That is because we choose what to think in every situation. The choice is made in a fraction of a second, and is determined by our perception, beliefs, and tendencies. If we want to be masters of our destiny, not its victims, this is the first thing we need to recognise: our thoughts are our choice and, in our control, not the result of what is happening around us. We can magnify a problem or shrink it with our perspective. As the nature of our thoughts, so are our feelings and vibrations. If I think that a challenge is no big deal, I can cope with it, it will be resolved, then I will feel confident and light. My vibes will reassure those that we are calm, stable, and around me and everyone even happy while dealing will look at the matter with a positive frame of mind. On the other hand, if I panic and start thinking, "What will I do now", "How can I deal with this", "What will happen", I can very well imagine how I am going to feel. Those around me will be similarly worried, everyone's energy level will be low, and decisions made in that state of

mind would not be the best. Fear and worry constrict our mental horizon and restrict our choices, often stopping us from taking steps that offer a way out of the problem.

The key to facing any challenge is a positive and strong mind. I cannot control other people or events in the world, but I can certainly choose how I respond. The practice of meditation helps a great deal in this. It improves our mental focus and clarity, allowing us to think better, see all the options before us, and take the best

We may not have all the resources needed to deal with the issue at hand, and it may not be resolved entirely to our satisfaction, but a strong mind ensures with it – we come away from it unscarred. And that is what matters, because problems come and go, but what remains for the rest of our lives are the memories, the experience, and the lessons from how we coped.

B.K. Shreya is a Brahma Kumaris Rajyoga teacher based in

A THOUGHT FOR TODAY

Gentleness is a great power. Gentleness is sometimes seen as a lack of strength because it does not force or disturb. The true weakness is to become aggressive when frustrated or unfulfilled. It requires spiritual power to remain gentle in a world of injustice and violence. Today let me experience the strength of gentleness.

Your life is right now!



CHYRIA RISELY

Your life is right now! It is not later! It is not in that time of retirement. It is not when you have moved into the new house, or when you get a better job. Your life is right now. It will always be right now. You might as well decide to start enjoying your life right now, because it is never going to get better than right now - that is, until it gets better right now!

When someone greets us, let us not ignore, nod, mumble or casually say 'morning'. Saying 'Good Morning'should not be difficult.

Rather, be in the moment, experience the energy of the meeting, and the one who has greeted us gets our message plus our pure energy. No matter what mood the person is in, happy, sad, silent, but regardless of their response, in those two seconds we can make their experience of meeting us a good one. Let us not wait for others to greet us on the basis of hierarchies, of age, position, or power. We often overlook the power of simple gestures that add happiness, like making eye contact, smiling, paying a compliment, or waving a greeting. By helping others feel good about themselves, our own happiness significantly grows. Everyone is looking to be

acknowledged, that they

matter, through our words and actions. Sometimes, this is all that people need from us. When we greet an old friend, hold the door open for a stranger, or thank a family member, how do we



Our responses to situations determine our happiness, and the response begins with the thoughts our mind creates.

feel? Our kindness in action will let others know we understand their value and importance. Each day, we

can have unconditional acceptance of others and give good wishes.

tions determine our happiness, and the response begins with the thoughts Our responses to situaour mind creates. We can

take time early each morning to sit and experience the self as a soul, meditate, and count our blessings, and in

this way program our mind with only positive thoughts for a perfect day. Feeding the mind with good thoughts first thing in the day is like planting healthy seeds in fertile ground.

Our inner mental preparation, done with care, creates beautiful outer realities for us. Situations and people may be imperfect, but our state of mind should remain perfectly calm, happy, and peaceful. The outer environment is a reflection of our thoughts. There is no point in trying to change the outer environment - it is only change 'within' that will produce the change 'without'. There's no time like the present, and the present is all we have. Let us be still and appreciate what is right in front of us, be present, pay attention, really be with the people we are with, because in a flash, it is gone and a new moment has taken its place. 'In-joy' each day, moment by moment, right now!

Chirya Risely is a Rajyoga meditation teacher based at the Brahma Kumaris Peace Village Retreat Center, USA.

DESPITE TALK OF DIVERSITY, WOMEN STILL A MINORITY IN INDIAN BOARDROOMS: HOW CAN WE CHANGE THE STRUCTURE?

MANJARI DAS

The call for gender diversity in Indian boardrooms has gained momentum over the past few decades. To fuel this change, India introduced the Company Act in 2013, which acknowledges the importance of gender neutrality in boardrooms and mandates the appointment of at least one female director in the different classes of companies. However, including women in boardrooms is more than just a matter of numbers. Instead, it concerns what companies and societies need to acquire the diverse perspectives women can bring.

Following a report titled 'Women on Boards' published by the International Labour Organization, increasing women's participation in the business sector would increase the world GDP by \$5.8 trillion by 2025. The report further discusses the advantages of having women on board. Because women make most consumer decisions in households. they develop a deeper understanding of customer behavior and needs. Consequently, they are most likely to bring this knowledge to the commercial board, improving the standard of commercial decisions and transforming them to be in touch with cus-



tomer requirements.

How Gender Diversity Can Be Achieved in Boardrooms? It is the need of the hour for organizations to focus on acquiring diverse candidates. They need to correspond with other institutions that can help them find suitable candidates through new pipelines. Companies need to identify the flaws in their existing systems that have prevented boards from being diverse and introduce new practices and approaches in the future. For instance, companies can curate a matrix of current board members and their characteristics

Enterprises must adopt a new paradigm to establish gender equity in leadership

to identify gaps.

positions. They can develop effective strategies to establish gender equity on the board. Companies should actively strive to ensure that women candidates are included in the pool for board positions. They can identify senior women executives within the organizations who have the potential to become board members and encourage them for board membership.

Furthermore, firms need to set targets for diversity, such as the introduction of numerical goals for female representation on the board and at the executive level. Also, they need to ensure that women in the organization feel accomplished, valued and competent in

country ranked 142 among contributing to its success. However, this change can-146 countries in gender parity but now stands at 129 as not be achieved overnight. Only after continuous and of 2024. However, the counsustained efforts of compatry still has a long way to go nies to develop mentorship to fill the gender gap. and leadership opportuni-One reason women are

ties for women can this be

accomplished in the long

run. The government and

regulatory bodies can also

play a colossal role in driv-

ing this change by imple-

menting quotas for women's

representation on boards

and investing in early child-

While a large section of so-

ciety still perceives women

as caretakers and home-

makers, there has been a

considerable improvement

in India's ranking in terms

of gender parity. In 2022, the

hood education and care.

still a minority in boardrooms is that the boards are primarily composed of men. These members then hire individuals like them, which leads to a self-perpetuating cycle. Also, owing to the corporate culture in India, women who tend to take time off from work are not considered suitable candidates for executive positions. The burden of childcare, policies, and working hours prevent women from balancing work and home life in a way expected of a lack of awareness about the significance of establishing gender diversity on boards. Many organisations do not condone the benefits of gender diversity, thus boards rarely address this issue. The current lack of gen-

Furthermore, there is a

der diversity in corporate boards is appalling. While numerous studies have pinpointed the benefits of having diverse leadership, India needs to move faster in addressing this issue. Both private bodies and federal policymakers should work to cultivate equitable systems to improve board diversity. It is essential to identify suitable candidates, reform the selection criteria, and institute regulatory and legislative measures to direct board rooms to reflect the diversity of India. Data from a leading financial advisory company, Deloitte, reveals that women only account for less than a quarter of boardroom seats worldwide, i.e., 23%. Despite the extensive efforts to diminish gender disparities in boardrooms, it is difficult to anticipate when the world will be ready to implement gender neutrality in these settings.

Manjari Das is an Associate Vice President at WD Partners

Diet and lifestyle factors in the success of IVF

DR. SHEETAL JINDAL

In the field of reproductive medicine, in vitro fertilization (IVF) represents a vital lifeline for numerous individuals and couples aspiring to parenthood. Fertility treatments are advancing rapidly, with major improvements in medical technology and a better understanding of contributing fac-



tors. For example, India's fertility market has grown by 20% over the last five years, with IVF success rates reaching 60-70%. This increase in both demand and success emphasizes the critical need to optimize all aspects of the IVF process. While advanced medical treatments are essential, growing data suggests that nutrition and lifestyle choices play key roles in enhancing IVF success.

THE NUTRITIONAL FOUNDATION

The adage "you are what you eat" holds significant relevance in the context of fertility. Emerging research indicates that specific dietary patterns can markedly influence IVF success rates. The Mediterranean diet, celebrated for its rich inclusion of fruits, vegetables, whole grains, and healthy fats, has gained notable attention in fertility discussions. Studies suggest that adherence to this nutrient-dense eating regimen can enhance IVF success rates, especially among women under 35 who maintain a healthy weight. This association highlights the potential of tailored nutritional interventions in improving fertility treatment outcomes.

LIFESTYLE FACTORS - SMALL CHANGES,

Beyond nutritional factors, other lifestyle choices have a substantial influence on IVF success:

1.Alcohol Consumption: The impact of alcohol on fertility cannot be overstated. A 2011 study revealed a stark 21% reduction in live birth rates among women who consumed more than four alcoholic drinks per week during IVF treatment. Interestingly, this adverse effect was also observed when both partners exceeded this consumption level, highlighting the critical importance of moderation for both prospec-

2.Tobacco Use: The detrimental effects of smoking



on overall health are well-documented, and fertility is no exception. Both active and passive smoking can significantly diminish the chances of IVF success, affecting everything from egg quality to implantation

3. Body Composition: Maintaining an optimal body mass index (BMI) is crucial for reproductive health. Both extremes of the weight spectrum can disrupt hormonal balance and egg quality, potentially compromising IVF outcomes.

4.Stress Management: The emotional rollercoaster of infertility and IVF can be overwhelming. Implementing effective stress-reduction techniques not only enhances the quality of life during treatment but may also contribute to improved success rates.

5. Physical Activity: Regular, moderate exercise provides numerous health benefits that can positively influence fertility. However, it is crucial to strike a balance, as excessive physical exertion may have adverse effects on treatment outcomes.

THE AGE FACTOR

While lifestyle modifications can notably influence IVF success, it's imperative to acknowledge the paramount importance of maternal age. Fertility naturally declines with advancing years, particularly after the mid-30s, with a more pronounced drop after 40. This age-related decline stems from reductions in both egg quantity and quality, factors that play crucial roles in IVF outcomes.

Thus, achieving parenthood through IVF involves a multifaceted approach that extends beyond medical interventions alone. Integrating advanced medical treatments with strategic lifestyle adjustments can enhance the prospects of IVF success for individuals and couples alike.

Dr. Sheetal Jindal is an MBBS, MD (OBG), EPHM (IIM Kolkata), Senior Consultant, and Medical Director at Jindal IVF, Chandigarh.

The role of women in driving circular economy solutions at home and beyond



Women are emerging as powerful champions of the circular economy, a concept focused on reducing waste, reusing materials, and recycling resources. From kitchens to communities and corporate boardrooms, women are leading the charge to create a more sustainable and equitable future.

Sustainable Solutions at Home

Women are transform-

of sustainability by embracing circular economy practices in their everyday lives. They are adopting sustainable cooking methods, such as meal planning and creative use of leftovers, which significantly reduce food waste. Many are turning to composting kitchen scraps, using natural cleaning products, and opting for reusable containers over single-use plastics. By prioritizing zero-waste living, they are showing that sustainability starts at home and inspiring others to follow suit.

Women are also playing a crucial role in educating their families about environmental responsibility. They instill in children the importance of reducing, reusing, and recycling, nurturing a new generation of eco-conscious citizens. Through these ing their homes into hubs efforts, women are driv-



ing a cultural shift toward mindful consumption, where every choice made in the home contributes to a larger, global impact.

Community Advocacy and

Grassroots Leadership Beyond their homes, women are at the forefront of community-driven initiatives that promote circular economy principles. As community leaders, they organize local recycling drives, advocate for waste reduction policies, and lead grassroots movements focused on sustainability. Women-led community groups often champion initiatives such as community gardens, clothing swaps, and repair cafes, which encourage sharing, repairing, and reusing goods.

Womenare also harnessing the power of social media to spread awareness, educate others, and rally support for sustainable practices. By sharing their journeys

toward zero-waste living, they inspire countless others to make small changes that collectively make a big difference. Pioneers in the Workplace

In the business world, women are making strides in driving the circular economy agenda forward. As entrepreneurs, they are launching businesses that focus on sustainable products and services, such as eco-friendly packaging, biodegradable materials, and sustainable fashion lines.

In leadership roles, women are pushing companies to adopt green policies, integrate circular practices into supply chains, and set ambitious sustainability targets.

Women's contributions to the circular economy also extend to policy-making and advocacy. They are influencing environmental

For many years, poker

was seen as a male-domi-

legislation, supporting initiatives that promote sustainability, and fighting for the inclusion of marginalized voices in environmental decision-making. Their leadership is proving that sustainable practices can drive both profitability and social equity.

A Catalyst for Change

Womenare not just participants in the circular economy; they are vital drivers of change. By leading by example, advocating for sustainable practices, and shaping policy, women are making the circular economy a reality. Their efforts are crucial in building a more resilient, equitable, and sustainable world for future generations.

Pallavee Dhaundiyal Panthry is the Chief Communication Advisor at WOCE-World of Circular Economy.

a unique set of strengths

to the poker table. As

more women continue to

excel in this mental sport,

they are not only redefin-

ing what it means to be a

successful poker player

but also paving the way

for future generations of

women to follow in their

Poker and the female mind: How women excel in this mental sport

TDG NETWORK

Poker has long been considered a game dominated by men, but the tide is turning as more women break into the world of professional poker. This shift isn't just about numbers; it's about the unique strengths that women bring to the table, making them formidable opponents in this mental sport.

EMOTIONAL INTEL-LIGENCE AND PA-TIENCE

One of the key attributes women often excel in is emotional intelligence, a vital skill in poker. Reading opponents' tells, gauging the atmosphere at the table, and understanding subtle cues are essential for making strategic decisions. Women are often more attuned to these

emotional nuances, giving them an edge in anticipating opponents' moves and bluffing strategies.

Patience is another area where women shine. Poker is a game of endurance, where waiting for the right moment can make or break a player's success. Women are often more disciplined in their approach, carefully selecting their hands and avoiding impulsive decisions. This patience allows them to stay focused and maintain control over the long stretches of play that can wear down less disciplined opponents.

STRATEGIC THINK-**ING AND ADAPT-ABILITY**

Women are also known for their ability to think strategically and adapt to changing situations. In poker, adaptability is crucial, as the game is dynamic, with each hand presenting new challenges. Women often approach the game with a long-term perspective, focusing on the bigger picture rather than short-term gains. This strategic mindset helps them navigate the complexities of the game, adjust to different playing

their opponents. Moreover, women are adept at balancing risk and

styles, and outmaneuver

reward. In poker, knowing when to take calculated risks is essential for success. Women are often more cautious, but when they do take risks, they are well-considered and informed by a deep understanding of the game. This careful risk management can lead to significant payoffs, especially in high-stakes situations.

BREAKING STEREO-TYPES AND BUILD-ING CONFIDENCE

nated space where women were often underestimated. However, as more women excel in this arena, they are not only proving their skills but also inspiring others to follow in their footsteps. Confidence plays a crucial role in this transformation. As more women succeed in poker, they gain the confidence to compete at higher levels, enter prestigious tournaments, and challenge the status quo. This confidence is contagious, encouraging more women to take up the game and pursue professional careers in poker.

CONCLUSION

From emotional intelligence and patience to strategic thinking and confidence, women bring

footsteps. Nikita Luther is the Brand Ambassador at Natural8 India. Nikita Luther

HISTORIC PERFORMANCE IN PARIS PARALYMPICS

A VICTORY FOR TEAMWORK AND DEDICATION

RUPINDER SINGH

ndia's Paralympic athlete's performance in Paris recently was a historic achievement. Of course, the centrepiece of the excellence came from the athletes themselves, the back-to-back gold medal list Sumit Antil and Avani Lekhara led the charge of the team towards the PCI president's prediction of 25 medals.

There were some minor disappointments on the way, but the superlative efforts of Harwinder Singh in archery-India's first gold medal in that discipline and Kapil Parmar's first medal for the Blind Judo discipline was a landmark achievement.

Athletics and athletes stole the showing contributing 17 of the 29 medals and women overall contributed 10 medals up from the one in the 2016 Paralympics- a massive gain. The High jump



javelin and club throw gave us gold through Praveen Kumar, two silver by Nishad and Sharad and a bronze by Mariyappan. In javelin Navdeep in the F 41 category, surprised us all with his feisty performance to win a gold in addition to Sumit Antil and many silver and bronze in other categories.

Preeti Pal with two bronze in 100m and 200 m, Simran with a bronze in 100m T12 and Deepti Jeevanji in 400 m T20 gave India their first medals on the track at Stade de France. Nilesh Kumar an engineer by profession gave India its only gold in bad-



minton. While the athletes were the central piece their performance was backed up by the great support team behind them. Leading the Paralympic Committee of India its president Devendra was a huge boost to the athletes. Devendra put India's name on the Paralympic athletics map with a javelin gold medal and world record at the 2004 Athens Paralympics. He then waited patiently for 12 years before his event was repeated and again claimed a second gold. At the Tokyo

Paralympic, he won a sil-



ver. He has been awarded the Khel Raha award and Padma Bhushan.

Now he is continuing his association as the Paralympic Committee of India president. Having been a triple medalist and with his wealth of experience, he ensured that the athletes had access to all necessary facilities and resources, encouraging them to focus on performing their best without being burdened by the outcome. Also Crucial to this success was the role of CSR projects and the IPC Program for the development of technical manpower,



Sumit Antil

which has been instrumental in fostering the growth of para-sports from the grassroots level. One notable contributor to this movement is Rahul Swami, who joined the Paralympic Committee of India in 2017 and is currently the CEO of PCI. His efforts in developing and expanding CSR initiatives have provided critical support to hundreds of athletes. A prime example of this is Sheetal Devi, whose journey from the early stages of her career to becoming a medal-winning para-archer has been directly supported by one such CSR initiative.

for first Test against Bangladesh TDG NETWORK It is back to business for Ro-

hit Sharma's side following its much-deserved monthlong break, as the team began its preparations in right earnest under new coach Gautam Gambhir here on Friday, for the upcoming two-Test series against Bangladesh. With the first Test against Bangladesh scheduled here from September 19, the entire squad, including Rohit and batting stalwart Virat Kohli, assembled at the MA Chidambaram Stadium with new bowling coach, South African great Morne Morkel, and assistant coach Abhishek Nayar also in attendance.

BCCI posted images of the first day of practice and wrote, "The countdown starts as Team India begin their preps for an exciting home season."

The images showed the entire squad listening attentively to Gambhir, his support staff and skipper Rohit. Earlier, India skipper Ro-



hit arrived in Chennai on Thursday, while Virat flew in directly from London for the opening Test.

Team India begins practice in Chennai

Wearing a yellow jersey, Rohit was seen emerging from the airport escorted by security personnel, in a PTI Video on Thursday night, while Kohli came from London in an earlymorning flight.

The likes of India pace spearhead Jasprit Bumrah, KL Rahul and wicketkeeper-batter Rishabh Pant had earlier reached the city on Thursday. The players are returning to the field after a much-needed break of more than a month and would look to put behind the disappointment of losing the ODI series against Sri Lanka in August and get back to winning ways quickly under Gambhir.

This will be India's first Test under Gambhir and his new support staff, and it would be interesting to see how Rohit's side approaches the game against a Bangladesh side, which is riding a wave following their 2-0 Test series win over Paki-

Vital World Test Championship (WTC) points are at stake in the two-match series as India get ready for a a gruelling 10-match Test season, which also includes a three-Test series at home against New Zealand and the five-match Border-Gavaskar series later this year

Neeraj Chopra and Avinash Sable set to compete in Brussels Diamond League Final

TDG NETWORK

The Brussels Diamond League Final 2024 is set to feature India's two-time Olympic medallist Neeraj Chopra and steeplechaser Avinash Sable.

Avinash Sable will compete in the 3000m steeplechase, with his event scheduled for 12:39 AM IST on September 14 as per Olympics.com.

Meanwhile, Neeraj Chopra will participate in the javelin throw event, which is set to begin at 1:52 AM IST on September 15.

This marks the first time that two Indian athletes have qualified for a Diamond League Final.

Neeraj Chopra has had a successful history in the Diamond League, winning the Final in 2022 and securing second place in

In the 2024 season, Chopra accumulated 14 points over two meets, finishing



fourth in the overall stand-

He placed second in both the Doha leg in May and the Lausanne event last month.

Grenada's Anderson Peters topped the javelin standings with 29 points, followed by Germany's Iulian Webber with 21 points, and the defending champion, Jakub Vadlejch of Czechia, who finished

third with 16 points. Pakistan's Arshad Nadeem, the gold medallist at the Paris 2024 Olympics, only competed once in the Diamond League this year and did not qualify for the Brussels final. Avinash Sable finished 14th in the Diamond League standings for the 3000m steeplechase, with three points from two

meetings.

TDG NETWORK

Rafael Nadal, a 22-time

Grand Slam singles champion from Spain, has announced his withdrawal from the upcoming Laver Cup due to ongoing fitness issues.

The Laver Cup confirmed the news at X on Thursday. 'A statement from Rafael Nadal regarding Laver Cup Berlin 2024: "I'm really disappointed to share that I won't be able to compete at the Laver Cup in Berlin next week.

This is a team competition and to really support Team Europe, I need to do what's best for them and at this moment there are other players who can help the team deliver the win.

emotional memories from playing Laver Cup and I was really looking forward to being with my teammates and with Bjorn in his final year as Captain.



Nadal withdraws from Laver

'A statement from Rafael Nadal regarding Laver Cup Berlin 2024: "I'm really disappointed to share that I won't be able to compete at the Laver Cup in Berlin next week.

be cheering them on from pion, Novak Diokovic. afar." '

Nadal's last competitive appearance was at the 2024 Paris Olympics, where he exited in the second round

I wish Team Europe the of the men's singles, defeat-I have so many great, very best of luck and will ed by the eventual cham-

> Nadal also competed in the men's doubles alongside fellow Spaniard Carlos Alcaraz, but the pair were eliminated in the quarter-

The Laver Cup has yet to announce who will replace Nadal in Bjorn Borg's Team Europe, which currently includes Alexander Zverev, Carlos Alcaraz, Daniil Medvedev, Casper Ruud, and Stefanos Tsitsipas.

This year, Nadal's Grand Slam participation was limited to the French Open. Despite his historic success at Roland Garros, where he has claimed 14 titles, Nadal was defeated in the first round by Alexander Zverev.

The Spaniard has been battling injuries since the 2023 Australian Open, which forced him to miss most of the 2023 season as he focused on rehabilitation. His aim was to prepare his body for a final competitive year on the tour. In 2024, Nadal participated in only seven tournaments, including the French Open and the Olympics.

Pakistan clinch 5-1 win over hosts China

TDG NETWORK

Pakistan continued to remain unbeaten in the tournament as they registered a well-earned 5-1 win against hosts China at the ongoing Asian Champions Trophy here at the Moqi Hockey Training Base in Hulunbuir, China. With this win, Pakistan have moved up to the second spot in the points table. With another day's play remaining in the league stage, Pakistan continue to stay in contention for a spot in the semifinal.

Goals were scored by Rehman Abdul (23'), Ahmad Nadeem (36', 56') and Hannan Shahid (46', 60') in Pakistan's win while Jiesheng Gao (48') scored the lone goal for China.

the prestigious event. India continues to lead the points table with Pakistan placed second, Korea is placed third while Malaysia have managed

to squeeze past China after today's win. Pakistan were a little sluggish with their attack in the opening quarter as they allowed China to make easy forays into their striking circle. The hosts, motivated by the home crowd support, made six circle entries and took four potential shots on goal in the opening minutes but could not beat the resilient Pakistan defence.

After the first quarter ended in a stalemate, Pakistan bounced back in the game with speed and vigour to create chances in the circle. They made as many as eight circle entries which resulted in them fetching the first PC of the match but could not convert from it. However. At the end of day four at Abdul was successful in scoring a field goal in the 23rd minute to put Pakistan ahead by 1-0. They further extended the lead to 2-O in the 36th minute

after Nadeem scored.

TN breaks men's 4 x 100m medley record in 77th Senior National Aquatic Championships

TDG NETWORK MANGALURU

Nithik Nathella, Danush Suresh, B Benedicton Rohit, and Adhithya Dinesh created a national meet record for Tamil Nadu by clocking 3:45.66 in the men's 4 x 100 m medley relay on the third day of the 77th Senior National Aquatic Championships 2024.

They eclipsed the record of 3:47.22 set by the Services Sports Control Board (SSCB) back in 2022. Karnataka's Akash Mani, Vidith S Shankar, Kartikeyan Nair,



and Srihari Nataraj also broke the record, clocking 3:46.09, but finished second today

The International Aquatic Complex in Yemmekere, Mangaluru, also witnessed

Boxer Gurseerat Kaur wins gold at

Asian School Boxing Championship

Karnataka's Aneesh S Gowda pull away from the rest of the pack as early as the second lap of the men's 1500m freestyle. Dharshan S, also from Karnataka, followed him while the rest of

the participants gradually fell behind. With five laps left in the race, Aneesh had opened a fair advantage and went on to finish first comfortably with a time of 16:06.11. Dharshan S came in second at 16:16.83.

In the Women's 800m Freestyle, Telangana's Vritti Agarwal pulled the trigger in the very first lap and went on to claim the top spot in 9:16.14. Bhavya Sachdeva, Shirin, and Sri Charani Tumu were neck and neck behind Vritti till the final lap

TDG NETWORK HULUNBUIR (CHINA)

A semifinal berth already secured, unbeaten India will look to continue the winning run and supremacy over arch-rivals Pakistan in their last and mostawaited round-robin match of the Hero Asian Champions Trophy here on Saturday. With four wins out of as many games, defending champions India are leading the points table, followed closely by Pakistan.

Starting the tournament as clear favourites, Paris Olympics bronzemedallists India haven't disappointed so far, beating hosts China 3-0, Japan 5-1, trouncing Malaysia 8-1 before registering a 3-1 victory against Korea in their

hand, have been resilient in the campaign. Playing under the guidance of legendarv forward Tahir Zaman, the Ammad Butt-led side has improved with every passing game.

Pakistan drew 2-2 against Malaysia and Korea, before beating Japan and China 2-1 and 5-1 respectively to climb to the second spot.

Going by recent results, India enjoy an upper-hand



Asian Champions Trophy: Favourites India

look to continue supremacy over Pakistan

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In their last meeting at the Hangzhou Asian Games last year, India thrashed Pakistan 10-2. A few months before that, the Indians beat Pakistan 4-0 when the ACT was held in Chennai.

At the Asia Cup in Jakarta in 2022, a relatively young Indian side held Pakistan to a 1-1 draw while at the 2021 ACT in Dhaka, India beat Pakistan 4-3 to clinch the bronze medal.

India captain Harmanpreet Singh, regarded as one of the best drag-flickers

in the world, is continuing his good form from Paris, and is excited to resume the rivalry against Pakistan.

"I have been playing with some of the players in the Pakistan team since my junior days and we share a special bond with them. They are like my brothers. Of course, on the field, we will go about the match like we would against any other opponent and make sure we keep our emotions in

check," he said. "In world hockey, the rivalry the two teams share is unparalleled and I am sure fans across the globe will be waiting for an India-Pakistan match."

Though India enjoys an edge over Pakistan, Harmanpreet is least bothered about past results.

"Past results will not matter when we take on a team like Pakistan. They are a tough side and have the potential to bounce back at any stage in the game," he said.

The Indians can also take heart from the fact that the team's young forward-line is living upto the expectations and scoring a lot of field goals, an area which

was a bit of concern in Paris. Pakistan's skipper Butt is also confident about Saturday's contest and said his side has improved with

each passing game. "India has undeniably

played like true favourites in the tournament so far. We will take heart from the matches we have played, and I must say, we have improved in every single game, not conceded cards and have played disciplined hockey. "The previous few games, we have defended very well against our opponents and against India too, we would want to defend well particularly in penalty corner defence," he added.

TDG NETWORK CHANDIGARH

For young boxer Gurseerat Kaur who clinched a gold medal at the recent Asian School Boxing Championship for India in Abu Dhabi, the journey into the sport began with the goal to shed some exess weight.

"When the national flag went up while I was on the podium, it was a proud moment for the country, for me, and my family," said Kaur, recalling the pride and honour she felt representing India on the



journey into boxing began in her childhood when her family decided to enroll her in a sports complex.

"My family chose boxing for me because they thought it would help me lose weight

quickly but once I started wearing the gloves, my interest grew," she told ANI. Her passion for the sport she

said was fueled by the unwavering support of her parents and coaches. "My mother is my backbone. She takes me to the academy and school, always supporting me. The credit goes to my mother. When I was out of the country for months, my studies were getting neglected. Thanks to her, I can still continue my studies. Otherwise, there are

many players who have had to

leave their studies for sports," Kaur said. Looking ahead, the boxer has set her sights on even greater achievements. "In every tournament, I par-

ticipate, I want India's flag to be at the top and for our national anthem to be played," she declared, expressing her aspirations for future victories on the global stage.

Kaur's dominant performance at the championship saw her winning the match 5-0 against Kazakhstan, showcasing her skill and determination.

last match. Pakistan, on the other