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PM MODI TAKES POT SHOT AT LALU YADAV OVER HIS MAHA KUMBH REMARKS



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ZELENSKY WANTS PEACE IN 2025 ON 3RD ANNIVERSARY OF RUSSIAN INVASION



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NEW ZEALAND SPRINT TO SEMIS, BANGLADESH ELIMINATED

PM MODI TURNS SPOTLIGHT ON INVESTMENT POTENTIAL IN MP

Madhya Pradesh is on course to become a top-5 state, notes PM Modi

ABHINANDAN MISHRA
BHOPAL

The two-day high profile global investor summit was inaugurated by Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Monday who laid out a red carpet welcome to investors to invest in Madhya Pradesh, referred as 'Dil' of India.

Addressing a gathering of domestic and foreign delegates, he highlighted the state's remarkable infrastructure growth, industrial expansion and policy-driven reforms aimed at attracting large-scale investments.

His speech, which lasted almost 30 minutes, was accompanied by a major announcement from Adani Group Chairman Gautam Adani, who committed to investing Rs 1,10,000 crore across various sectors, in-



PM Narendra Modi inaugurates the Global Investors Summit 2025, in Bhopal on Monday. Madhya Pradesh Governor Mangubhai C. Patel, State Chief Minister Mohan Yadav also seen. ANI

cluding pumped storage, cement, mining, smart meters, and thermal energy, promising the creation of

over 1,20,000 jobs by 2030. Adani also revealed that discussions were underway for an additional Rs

1,00,000 crore investment in a greenfield smart city, a major airport, and a coal gasification project.

The PM, while beginning his speech, apologized for arriving late, explaining that he didn't want to cause traffic delays for students heading to their exams. His arrival from Raj Bhawan to the summit venue would have halted traffic due to security measures, and he chose to wait until the students had reached their examination centers before proceeding.

PM Modi lauded the state's progress under Chief Minister Mohan Yadav's leadership and unveiled 18 new policies of the Madhya Pradesh government aimed at making the state one of India's top investment destinations. He stressed that these policies would provide a conducive environment for investors, unlocking the vast potential

P3

Partap Bajwa sees an 'Eknath Shinde episode' in Punjab

Claims 32 AAP MLAs in touch with Congress

TARUNI GANDHI
CHANDIGARH

Leader of the Opposition in Punjab Assembly Partap Bajwa on Monday claimed that 32 AAP MLAs are in contact with him, expressing a desire to switch sides. He also accused the state government of failing to deliver on its pre-election promise of providing a monthly honorarium of 1,000.

Congress MLA Pargat Singh criticised the AAP government for not holding longer Assembly sessions and alleged that Chief Minister Bhagwant Mann would soon be replaced by the party.



Bajwa likened the situation to the "Eknath Shinde episode" in Maharashtra, where Shiv Sena MLAs defected to form a new government.

He further claimed that these MLAs are making 'advance bookings', just like people buy tickets for Diljit Dosanjh's show in advance. "There will be an 'Eknath Shinde episode' in Punjab in the coming months. These MLAs are doing 'advance booking' to join the Congress, just like people

P3

Farmers can hope for a rich harvest this year

NEERAJ MOHAN
CHANDIGARH

India is expected to harvest a bumper wheat crop for the second consecutive year, with production estimates ranging between 109 million tonnes (mt) to 112 mt. Experts attributed this to favourable weather conditions, the use of climate-resilient high-yielding wheat varieties and a slight increase in the area under cultivation.

Union Agriculture Minister Shivraj Singh Chouhan, while speaking at an event in Delhi, expressed optimism about the country's wheat production but did not provide specific figures. However, both farmers and industry experts believe that the output may even reach last year's record of 113.29 million tonnes.

"The wheat crop is looking

P3



FEBRUARY 28 2025 **MARCH 1 2025**

the future is next.



Chief Guest
Shri Narendra Modi
Prime Minister of Bharat



Guest of Honour
Rt. Hon. Stephen J. Harper
Former Prime Minister of Canada



Guest of Honour
Mr. Ranil Wickremesinghe
VIII President of Sri Lanka



Guest of Honour
Hon. Anthony J. Abbott
Former Prime Minister of Australia



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THE DAILY GUARDIAN SURVEY ON B'DESH PAK SURVEY

68% believe Bangladesh-Pakistan trade relations will impact regional politics

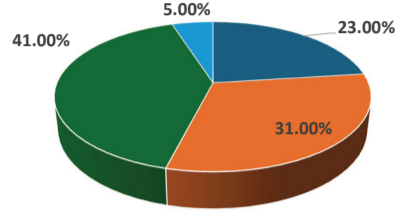
Bangladesh resumed direct trade with Pakistan for the first time since 1971, importing 50,000 tonnes of rice under a government

deal. Improved ties followed Nobel laureate Muhammad Yunus leading an interim government after Sheikh Hasina's exit. Bangladesh

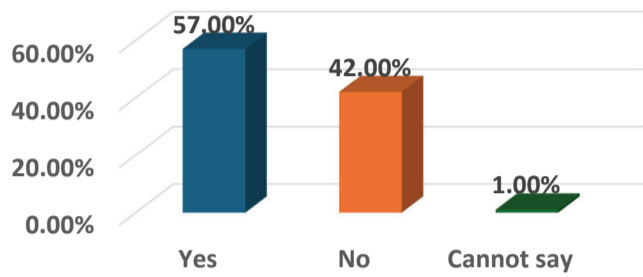
is purchasing rice at \$499 per ton, with the second shipment of 25,000 tonnes arriving in early March.

Q1.

What impact will trade between Bangladesh and Pakistan, starting after 54 years, have on India?



Trade between India and Bangladesh will decrease
Indian products' competition will increase
Demand for food products will decrease
Cannot say



Q2.

Can trade relations between Pakistan and Bangladesh pose a geopolitical challenge for India?

THE DAILY GUARDIAN SURVEY ON BANGLADESH-PAKISTAN FRIENDSHIP

77% believe Yunus govt is protecting criminals and extremists

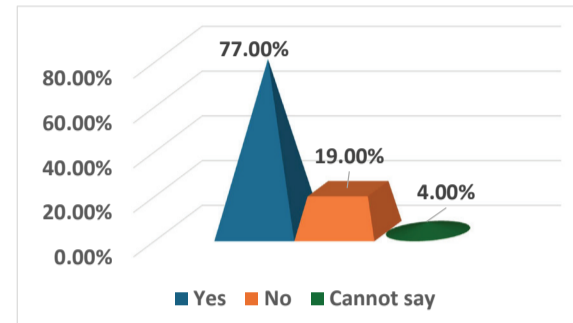
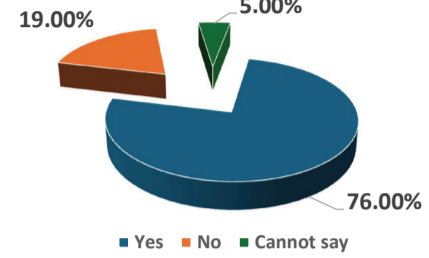
Bangladesh and Pakistan are strengthening ties, with a Pakistani businesswomen's delegation set to showcase products in Dhaka's

Gulshan Club. Trade, currently at \$700 million in Pakistani exports and \$100 million from Bangladesh, is expected to grow with a new ship-

ping line. Bangladesh approved Fly Jinnah's flights, and a 50,000-tonne rice import deal, with a Pakistani FM visit likely in April.

Q1.

1 Has sexual violence against women and children increased in Bangladesh after Yunus took power?

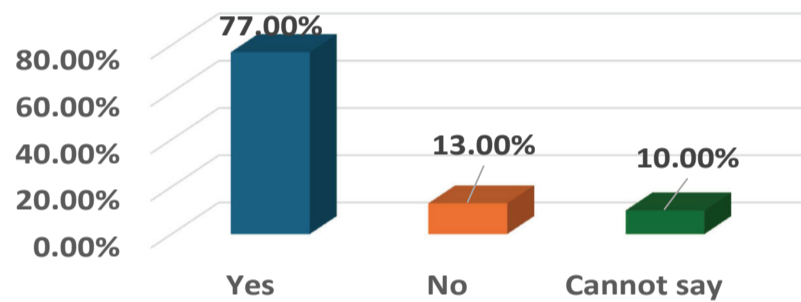
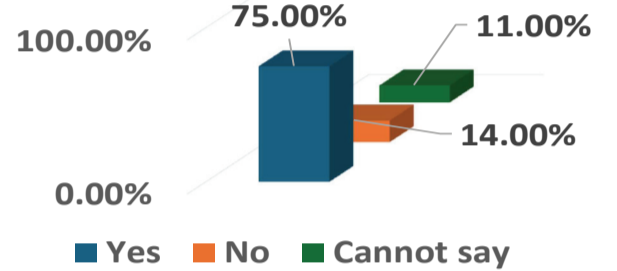


Q2.

Is the Yunus government protecting criminals and extremist groups?

Q3.

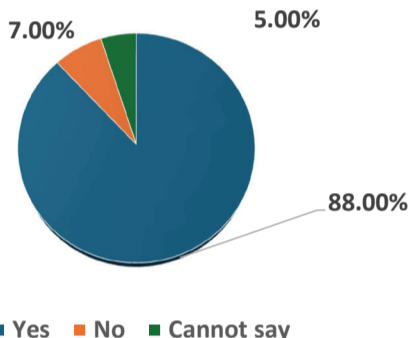
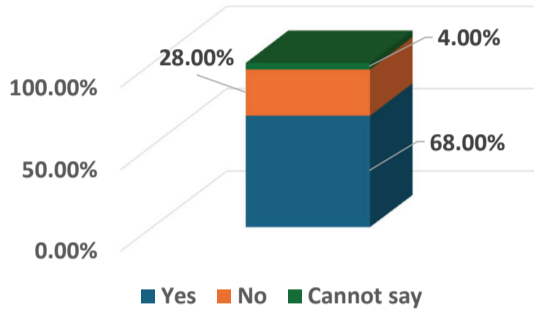
Student protests against Yunus are ongoing. Will Yunus also face a crackdown like Sheikh Hasina?



Q4.

Are the rising terrorist and extremist incidents in Bangladesh a result of friendship with Pakistan?

Q3.
Will strengthening trade relations between Bangladesh and Pakistan impact regional politics?



Q4.

Should India closely monitor the potential military-political relations between Pakistan and Bangladesh due to growing trade ties?

'Eknath Shinde episode in Punjab'

CONTINUED FROM P1

buy tickets in advance for Diljit Dosanjh's show," Bajwa said while referring to the breakup of Shiv Sena in Maharashtra.

Bajwa stated that these MLAs are leaving AAP because they see no future with the party. He emphasised that the Congress is not trying to destabilise the government; rather, the MLAs are coming to the party voluntarily.

"Our programme is not to destabilise the government. The (AAP MLAs) themselves are coming to Congress. They understand that they have no future. Once elections are called, we will call them," Bajwa told reporters, adding, "I am firm on my statement."

Speaking on its effect on the I.N.D.I.A bloc, he said,

"If they want to leave the party willingly, how would it affect the alliance?"

Bajwa also made shocking claims about Chief Minister Bhagwant Mann, alleging that he will soon join the BJP. He claimed that Union Minister Ravneet Bittu is mediating secret meetings between Mann and BJP leaders.

"Bittu is only pretending to protest outside the CM's residence, while in reality, he is arranging secret meetings between the CM and BJP leaders," Bajwa added.

The Congress leader predicted the fall of the AAP government in Punjab within the next four to five months, citing similarities with the Maharashtra political developments.

"The countdown of this government has begun. In the next four to five months,

what happened in Maharashtra will happen in Punjab. This government will fall," Bajwa added.

Meanwhile, following AAP's defeat in the Delhi Assembly elections, where the party lost its dominance after a decade in power, national convener Arvind Kejriwal has summoned Punjab Chief Minister Bhagwant Mann and MLAs to a meeting at Kapurthala House in Delhi. The BJP secured 48 seats, while AAP managed only 22, marking a significant setback.

The meeting has sparked speculation, with the BJP alleging that it is a move to replace Mann as Punjab CM. However, AAP has maintained that the session is intended to review the party's performance and analyze its shortcomings.

CONTINUED FROM P1

of sectors like renewable energy, manufacturing, logistics, and agri-business.

With these reforms, he asserted, MP was well on its way to becoming a top-five state in India's GDP rankings. The Prime Minister also highlighted India's position as the world's fastest-growing major economy, citing international confidence in the country's potential. He pointed to the World Bank's and OECD's optimistic projections and underscored the significant progress made in infrastructure, energy, and supply chain resilience.

Madhya Pradesh's rapid transformation over the past two decades was a central theme in Modi's speech. He noted that the state, once plagued by power shortages, poor infrastructure, and security concerns, had emerged as a model for industrial development. The expansion of highways, airports, and rail networks has made it a key logistics hub. The Delhi-Mumbai Expressway, a crucial corridor for trade

and connectivity, runs through the state, enhancing its attractiveness for industries. He also cited the electrification of MP's rail network and the modernization of 80 railway stations as major milestones in the state's development.

The Prime Minister underscored the state's achievements in the energy sector, particularly its shift toward clean energy. He noted that MP is now power surplus, with 31,000 MW of generation capacity, 30 percent of which comes from renewable sources. He highlighted projects like the Rewa Solar Park and the Omkareshwar Floating Solar Plant as examples of India's commitment to sustainable energy. Additionally, he mentioned the Rs 50,000 crore investment in the Bina Refinery petrochemical complex, which aims to make MP a hub for the sector.

Modi's speech also touched upon the government's efforts to boost investment by streamlining regulations. He emphasized the importance of the newly formed State De-Regulation Commission, which will

identify and eliminate bureaucratic hurdles that deter businesses. In line with the government's push for MSMEs, he announced new credit-linked incentives and supply chain development initiatives to strengthen local industries. The government's focus on ease of doing business, he noted, had already led to over 40,000 compliances being reduced nationwide, with similar efforts underway at the state level.

The Prime Minister identified textiles, tourism, and technology as three high-potential sectors poised to generate significant employment and economic growth. He praised MP's strong position in organic cotton production, which accounts for 25 percent of India's supply, and its leadership in silk production. With the state housing one of India's seven textile parks under the PM MITRA scheme, he urged investors to leverage the incentives offered.

On tourism, he pointed to the rapid expansion of MP's hospitality and wellness sectors, citing the success of

the Mahakal Mahalok project in Ujjain as a testament to the state's potential in attracting domestic and international visitors. "Madhya Pradesh has the potential to become a global tourism hub," Modi stated. "We are committed to making India the number one destination for investors and tourists alike."

Speaking at the summit, Chief Minister Mohan Yadav stated that Madhya Pradesh is committed to doubling the state's economy in the next five years and becoming one of the top five states in India. He described the event as a milestone in transforming the state's economy, adding, "Madhya Pradesh has all the necessary resources, from infrastructure to skilled manpower, to emerge as a top industrial destination." Yadav also emphasized that industrial growth would go hand in hand with preserving the state's cultural values and ensuring widespread economic benefits. "The objective of this summit is not just industrial development but ensuring that

every household benefits from economic progress," he said.

As the summit unfolded, leading industrialists, including Aditya Birla Group Chairman Kumar Mangalam Birla, Godrej Industries Chairman Nadir Godrej, Bharat Forge MD Baba Kalyani, and Sun Pharmaceuticals Global Head Rahul Awasthi, expressed keen interest in exploring business opportunities in the state. The total value of MoUs signed will be revealed on Tuesday, when the two-day summit concludes.

Speaking to The Sunday Guardian after the PM's address, Chief Minister Mohan Yadav hailed the summit as a game-changer for Madhya Pradesh's economy. "This event will bring in an era that will transform the state's economy, and the Prime Minister was very happy with the event," he said. With investment commitments pouring in and global confidence in India's growth story, Madhya Pradesh appears poised for a new phase of industrial and economic expansion.

Farmers can hope for a rich harvest

CONTINUED FROM P1

very healthy this year, and we expect yields to be around 22 to 24 quintals per acre. This could help farmers earn an additional Rs 5,000 to Rs 8,000 per acre," said Raghunath Singh, a wheat farmer from Karnal.

In the first week of February farmers in Punjab and Haryana were concerned about warm temperatures, fearing that early ripening could reduce yields. However, timely rainfall has brought a relief as the showers have not only lowered temperatures but also protected crops from pests and diseases like aphids and yellow rust.

The development has come as major relief for the government as the bumper produce may help to ease soaring wheat prices. Despite last year's record wheat harvest of 113.29 million tonnes, wheat and flour prices remained high in the open market. According to the Department of Food and Consumer Affairs, India had ample wheat stocks during Rabi 2024, yet prices soared above Rs 3,000 per quintal. This forced the central government to revise stock limits on wheat to stabilize the market. Dr. Virender Lather, Former Principal Scientist at ICAR-IARI New Delhi, said, "As of now, the wheat crop is in good health, and the weather remains favorable. However, the



final yield will largely depend on climatic conditions over the next three weeks. If the current weather pattern continues, the average wheat yield in Haryana is expected to be around 26 quintals per acre, or over 6 tonnes per hectare."

Scientists at the Indian Institute of Wheat and Barley Research in Karnal highlight that over 60% of the wheat acreage is now covered with high-yielding and climate-resilient varieties such as DBW 296, DBW 327, DBW 332, DBW 303, DBW 187, DBW 222, WHI270, and PBW 771. These varieties have not only boosted production but also helped reduce input costs by resisting diseases like yellow rust. With favorable conditions and better seed varieties, farmers remain hopeful for a strong harvest, which could ease supply concerns and bring some relief to consumers in the coming months.

Economic development should be above party politics: Tharoor

TDG NETWORK
NEW DELHI

Amid reports of asking for more prominent role in the party, Congress leader Shashi Tharoor on Monday said that economic development should, as far as possible, be above the petty divisions of party politics.

Tharoor, who has maintained silence over the reports of his displeasure with the party and seeking more prominent role ahead of the crucial assembly polls scheduled later next year in Kerala, in a post on X shared a news report

titled 'Left, BJP and Congress share stage during Kerala's investors meet'.

In his post, the four-time Lok Sabha MP from Thiruvananthapuram said, "Good to see this. Economic development should, as far as possible, be above the petty divisions of party politics."

His remarks came a day after he arrived in the national capital from Kerala.

The senior Congress leader had met Leader of Opposition Rahul Gandhi at his residence over the reports of Kerala state leadership raising eyebrows on him for praising Prime Minis-



ter Narendra Modi after US President Donald Trump described him as a better negotiator.

The state leadership had



also questioned Tharoor for praising the LDF government in the state in his article.

However, what the two

leaders discussed is yet unknown. But sources claimed that Tharoor during his meeting clarified to party leadership about his side of the story and also demanded for prominent role.

The senior Congress leader had contested the party's presidential polls against Mallikarjun Kharge.

He was replaced by Praveen Chakravarty as the chairman of All India Professional Congress.

Even as the crucial assembly polls in Kerala is scheduled in 2026, the party wants to go into the polls with a united face.

SC ORDERS NCR TO COMPLY WITH SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT RULES

TDG NETWORK
NEW DELHI

The Supreme Court on Monday said segregation of waste at source was of "vital importance" for the environment and asked the NCR states for the compliances made in adherence to the Solid Waste Management Rules, 2016.

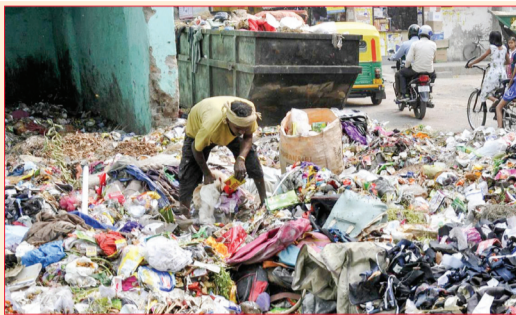
A bench of Justices Abhay S Oka and Ujjal Bhuyan said the non-compliance in adhering to the 2016 Rules had affected all cities in the country.

"In one of the orders, we have observed that all smart city projects are in progress. How the cities can become smart without compliance with the Solid Waste Management Rules?" the bench asked.

The National Capital Region (NCR) comprises

WHAT THE COURT SAID

- Court highlights the negative effects of not following Solid Waste Management Rules, 2016.
- Improper segregation could lead to more pollution from waste-to-energy projects.
- NCR states must submit compliance reports on waste management by March's end.
- Court directs states to present detailed plans for waste management with timelines.
- Court threatens drastic action if Delhi's untreated waste issue is not resolved.



Delhi and certain districts of Haryana, Uttar Pradesh and Rajasthan.

If there was no proper segregation of waste, the court said, even waste-to-energy projects would create more pollution.

Senior advocate Aparajita Singh, the amicus curiae

in the pollution matter, referred to solid waste management in the NCR while flagging the low percentage of segregation of waste.

She said sending unsegregated waste to waste-to-energy plants caused more pollution.

"As rightly submitted by

the amicus curiae, the segregation of waste at source is of vital importance for the environment.

If there is no proper segregation, even waste-to-energy projects will create more pollution," the bench said.

The NCR states were ordered to file affidavits deal-

ing with the compliances of all the urban local bodies with the provisions of the 2016 Rules so far. They have been asked to file the affidavits by end of March following which the matter would be taken up.

The bench has also asked the states to set out a comprehensive plan for waste management along with timelines and implementing agencies and said, "Needless to add that the affidavits will state compliance in relation to all urban local bodies within the NCR." The authorities were asked to set out the "best practices" they proposed to follow for solid waste management. The bench in the meantime directed the Central Pollution Control Board to submit a report on the impact of waste-to-energy projects on the environment.

GRAP 2 curbs revoked amid dip in pollution levels

TDG NETWORK
NEW DELHI



The India Meteorological Department and Indian Institute of Tropical Meteorology predict that the AQI will likely remain in the moderate to poor category.

The Centre's panel on Delhi-NCR's air quality on Monday revoked the Stage 2 curbs under the Graded Response Action Plan (GRAP) following a dip in pollution levels due to favourable meteorological conditions. Delhi's 24-hour average air quality index stood at 186 at 4 pm, significantly below the 300-mark that triggers Stage 2 restrictions.

The India Meteorological Department and Indian Institute of Tropical Meteorology predict that the AQI will likely remain in the moderate to poor category.

The Commission for Air Quality Management in NCR and adjoining areas attributes the improved air quality to better mixing height, ventilation coefficient, and "much favourable conditions for dispersion of pollutants".

With the revocation of Stage 2 curbs, inter-state buses from NCR states are now permitted to enter Delhi.

During winters, the Delhi-NCR region enforces restrictions under GRAP, which categorizes air quality into four stages Stage I (Poor, AQI 201-300), Stage II (Very Poor, AQI 301-

400), Stage III (Severe, AQI 401-450), and Stage IV (Severe Plus, AQI above 450).

Unfavourable meteorological conditions, combined with vehicle emissions, paddy-straw burning, firecrackers, and other local pollution sources, lead to hazardous air quality levels in Delhi-NCR during winters.

Court extends protection to AAP MLA Amanatullah Khan

TDG NETWORK
NEW DELHI

The Rouse Avenue court on Monday extended the interim protection granted to Aam Aadmi Party MLA Amanatullah Khan till February 25 after hearing arguments on his anticipatory bail.

Special Judge Jitendra Singh extended the interim protection to the Okhla MLA and listed the matter for hearing tomorrow.

On February 13, the AAP MLA was granted protection to Amanatullah Khan from any coercive action on February 24. The court had asked AAP MLA to join the investigation. Delhi Police filed the CCTV footage and statement of witnesses for the court's consideration.

At the outset, Delhi police



also filed a status report. The court also inquired about the power failure at the time incident on February 10.

The court pulled up Delhi police for not filing the supplementary charge sheet against Shavej Khan and not cancelling his Proclaimed Offender (PO) status even after he was granted anticipatory bail. Additional Public Pros-

ecutor (APP) Atul Shrivastava appeared for Delhi Police and submitted that custodial interrogation is required as there are contradictions in the facts narrated by Amanatullah Khan and what Shavej Khan has stated.

Delhi Police also stated that Section 111 BNS has been invoked against the accused as he is involved in continuing unlawful activities. Twenty-six cases were registered against him. On the other hand, advocate Rajat Bhardwaj along with Kaustubh Khanna and Irshad Khan arguing for Amanatullah Khan stated that Delhi police have already stated in the Status report that the PO status of Shavej Khan was not cancelled inadvertently.

3 Waste points in Jangpura closed, MCD informs NGT

TDG NETWORK
NEW DELHI

The Municipal Corporation of Delhi has informed the National Green Tribunal that three dhalaos (waste collection points) in Jangpura Extension here have been closed. The green body had earlier directed the MCD to take action on a plea claiming that the garbage dumps cause pollution and health hazards.

The report filed on Monday said that the collection of municipal and solid waste (MSW) one dhalao in the P/Q block had been earlier diverted to two dhalaos at the H and D blocks in Jangpura Extension.

"That is to state that the collection of MSW at the dhalaos in H and D blocks Jangpura Extension has been stopped from February 20 and the same has

The green body had earlier directed the MCD to take action on a plea claiming that the garbage dumps cause pollution and health hazards.

been diverted to the new Portable Compactor Transfer Station (PCTS) site in Pant Nagar from February 21," the report said.

It said that the concessionaire Dakshin Dilli Swachh Initiatives Limited (DDSL) of the central zone had been directed to start the operation of new PCTS at Pant Nagar and to stop the collection of garbage at H&D Block dhalaos in Jangpura Extension simultaneously.

EOW arrests property dealer in Rs 31-crore 'scam'

TDG NETWORK
NEW DELHI

The Economic Offences Wing (EOW) of the Delhi Police has arrested a property dealer for alleged cheating in connection with a Rs 31-crore south Delhi property deal scam, an official said on Monday. Accused Ravinder Bainsla, through his company Bainsla Housing Private Limited, allegedly misrepresented himself as the representative of property owner Ashok Kumar, Additional Commissioner of Police (EOW) Amrutha Guguloth said in a statement. "The case, registered under sections 406, 420 and 120B of the IPC, was filed on June 14, 2024 on a complaint from M/s Energy Building Solutions Private Limited through Anurag



Bajpayee," the statement read. Bainsla offered to sell a plot in Delhi's Samalkha for Rs 31 crore to the complainant, promising to resolve legal disputes and provide vacant possession.

The complainant paid Rs 3.7 crore for the deal between December 2021 and February 2022. However, Bainsla failed to deliver on his promises and did not comply with a subsequent

settlement agreement, the statement said.

Despite being served a notice to join the probe, Bainsla applied for anticipatory bail, which was denied by a court. He was arrested on February 20.

Bainsla is a post-graduate. He works as a property dealer and assists people in buying or selling disputed properties, the statement said.

30-year-old man shot dead in Farrukhnagar

TDG NETWORK
GURUGRAM

A 30-year-old man, Rohit, was shot dead by unidentified assailants on Monday evening in Farrukhnagar, just days after his release from jail.

Rohit, a resident of Khera Khurrampur village, had a criminal history, with more than 10 cases, including murder, registered against him.

Police suspect that his murder could be linked to an old enmity or rivalry. According to the police, the incident occurred around 4:30 pm in the fields behind World College, where Rohit was shot by the assailants who then fled the scene.

Rohit was immediately rushed to a hospital, but doctors declared him dead on arrival. Given his criminal background, police

believe the motive may be connected to a gang-related dispute. The investigation is still ongoing, and authorities are working to identify the perpetrators. Inspector Sandeep Kumar, the SHO of Farrukhnagar police station, confirmed that the police have been deployed in Khera Khurrampur village to prevent any further unrest and ensure peace.

The police have promised swift action and are determined to make arrests soon. As the investigation continues, police are focusing on gathering evidence and identifying the assailants. They have expressed confidence that the suspects will be caught and brought to justice.

The case is expected to reveal more details in the coming days as law enforcement intensifies its efforts.

Fair opportunity cannot be denied for speedy trial: HC in 2020 riots case

TDG NETWORK
NEW DELHI

The Delhi High Court in a February 2020 riots case has said expediting trial couldn't be at the cost of fairness as it was against "all canons of justice" and the accused had to be given a fair opportunity. Justice Anup J Bhambhani, in the order passed on February 16, said while it did not fault the trial court for attempting to proceed with the trial expeditiously, the right to cross-examine was "critical" to the petitioner's defence and there appeared a "disproportionate sense of expedition".

"We must not delude ourselves into believing that the purpose of expeditious trial would be served by denying to an accused a fair and reasonable opportunity to



cross-examine a prosecution witness on a critical issue," the court said.

The judge went on, "This court is of the view that adjourning the matter to the next day or to any day soon thereafter, would have been the balanced and appropriate course of action. Speedy trial is in fact more in the interest of an accused who claims innocence; but expedition in trial cannot be at

the petitioner was never put through a test identification parade.

His grievance was that the trial court declined to give even a day's time to cross-examine the witness after an adjournment was sought and curbed his opportunity.

The high court granted him "one and only one opportunity" to cross-examine the witness and said though unnecessary adjournments should never be granted, one should not forget that the purpose was to conduct a fair trial, and recording depositions expeditiously intended to subserve that purpose.

The prosecution defended the trial court's decision and said non-availability of a senior lawyer on behalf of an accused person was no ground for seeking an adjournment.

Cops arrests Baba Safidon Gang member in Mumbai

TDG NETWORK
NEW DELHI

Delhi Police's crime branch arrested a 'Baba Safidon' gang member, identified as Bhola Shankar. 26-year-old Shankar was wanted in relation to various cases in Haryana and Delhi, officials said on Monday.

According to the police, the arrested accused was wanted in five cases; one robbery case from PS Vasant Kunj, Delhi, and four cases from Haryana. He is



alleged to be a key member and primary arms supplier for the notorious Baba Safidon Gang.

According to the crime

branch, on February 14, around 11:30 AM, two accused individuals entered a currency exchange office

and robbed foreign cur-

rency notes worth approximately Rs 7.5 lakhs at gunpoint.

"The culprits fled in a car, accompanied by a third accomplice who had been waiting outside the office. In connection with the incident, an FIR under sections 309(4)/3(5) of the BNS & 25 Arms Act was registered at PS Vasant Kunj North, Delhi, and the local police initiated an investigation," read a statement from the police.

The police had arrested two suspects earlier, Di-

panshu and Gaurav Dhania, recovering four illegal firearms from them. The third accomplice was later identified as Bhola Shankar. The accused was on the run, and there were no leads on his whereabouts.

Based on technical surveillance, the team narrowed down the accused's hideout in Andheri East, Mumbai.

"A raiding team laid a trap and nabbed the accused, Bhola Shankar, from near a hotel in Andheri East, Mumbai.

Man's head smashed with brick for seeking repayment of Rs 100

TDG NETWORK
NEW DELHI

A 25-year-old man's head was smashed with a brick in Outer North Delhi's Narela area for demanding the repayment of Rs 100 that the accused borrowed from him, police said on Monday.

The incident occurred on February 15 and the accused Aman has been arrested, Deputy Commissioner of Police (Outer-

north) Nidhin Valsan said. A PCR call about the body was received at Narela Police Station.

Teams were immediately sent to the spot and further investigation was launched after registering an FIR.

"The body was found behind the rice mill in Vishal Bagh. Initially, teams could not identify the body, which led to a door-to-door drive for the identification," the DCP

said, adding the deceased was identified after two days of the investigation.

The deceased has been identified as Bunt, a resident of Dada Mai colony in Bankner. Valsan said the police reviewed 140 CCTV cameras and traced the movement of the accused.

Despite the accused trying to avoid detection by not using a mobile phone, he was nabbed.

INDIA MUST MAKE INDIGENOUS AI CHIPS FOR DEFENCE: UNION MINISTER RAJNATH SINGH

Encourages students to contribute to development, safety of country in an address at IIT Mandi

TDG NETWORK
MANDI

Union Defence Minister Rajnath Singh emphasised the necessity to make Indigenous AI chips for defence and firewalls to ensure the cyber security of the nation.

Addressing 16th Foundation Day of IIT Mandi in Himachal Pradesh, Rajnath Singh encouraged the students to contribute to the development and safety of the country.

"India needs to create its own AI-powered war doctrine. It is necessary to make Indigenous AI chips for defence. There is a need to develop firewalls to focus on cyber security. I believe that IIT Mandi can play an important role in this," Rajnath Singh said.

Additionally, the Defence Minister highlighted the need for a centre of excellence in every IIT to boost the drones and Aerospace sector.

'MUST HAVE OWN AI-POWERED WAR DOCTRINE'

■ "India needs to create its own AI-powered war doctrine. It is necessary to make Indigenous AI chips for defence. There is a need to develop firewalls to focus on cyber security. I believe that IIT Mandi can play an important role in this," Rajnath Singh said.

■ India is building its own fighter aircraft-Tejas. We are working to take the work of aircraft and engine development to the next level.



Defence Minister Rajnath Singh presents an award to a student during the 16th foundation day of IIT Mandi, in Mandi on Monday. IIT Mandi Director, Laxmidhar Behera and Chairperson of the Board of Governors (BoG) IIT Mandi, Lt. Gen. Kanwal Jeet Singh Dhillon also seen. ANI

You understand very well the importance of accelerating the drones

and aerospace sector, there should be a centre of excellence in at least every IIT," Singh said.

"India is building its own fighter aircraft-Tejas. We are working to take the work of aircraft and engine development to the next level. You understand very well the importance of drones. I believe that to accelerate the drones and aerospace sector, there should be a centre

of excellence in at least every IIT," Singh said. The Defence Minister lauded India's telecom sector and 'Startup Ecosystem', saying that India is "moving ahead and changing the world."

"India's telecom sector ranks second in

the world. India is also emerging as the second-largest manufacturer of mobile handsets in the world. With more than 1.25 lakh startups and 110 UNICORN, India has also emerged as the third-largest 'Startup Ecosystem' in the world. In the field

of technological revolution, India is also moving ahead with the changing world. Understanding the importance of Artificial Intelligence and Next Generation Technologies, the Government of India is also making proactive efforts in this direction," Singh said.

He highlighted government initiatives such as India Semiconductor Mission, India-AI Mission and Mission on Advanced and High Impact Research promoted technological development in the country.

"Our government is taking several initiatives to promote such critical and cutting-edge technological development.

Be it the India Semiconductor Mission launched in 2021 or the India-AI Mission. Similarly, the Government of India launched the National Mission on Quantum Technologies and Applications in 2020.

CM Mamata announces hikes in doctors' salaries in West Bengal

TDG NETWORK
KOLKATA

West Bengal Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee on Monday announced a salary hike for state government doctors and health staff.

She made the announcement, after holding a meeting at Dhanadhanya Auditorium, which was attended by the principals of medical colleges, district health officials, and other doctors.

This comes six months after the rape and murder case at the city's RG Kar Hospital, which had triggered nationwide outrage.

Further, the West Bengal Chief Minister speaking at the 'Chikitsar Arek Naam Seva' Program today expressed her heartfelt tributes to the victim of R G Kar Medical College and Hospital, who was raped and murdered on August 9, 2024.

Further, she urged male doctors to protect their female counterparts as both work together at the grassroots level.

CM Mamata Banerjee said, "I have walked on the streets after this incident, and the state government has passed Aparajita Bill. We want proper punishment for the culprits. So that such incidents are not repeated I give the responsibility to my brothers. You protect our sisters. Today men and women are practising together and they are at the grassroots level."

"I kept the Health Ministry with me since it is very vast, and its development is not possible for a state minister. Today, there are a lot of fake medicines and fake propaganda through social media. In government hospitals facilities have been started

The chief minister said, "Doctors will be required to provide a minimum of 8 hours of service in government hospitals. Doctors have made a huge contri-



"We want proper punishment for RG Kar culprits so that such incidents are not repeated. I give the responsibility to my brothers. You protect our sisters. Today men and women are practising together and they are at the grassroots level"

to provide treatment free of cost. We emphasised expanding the gates of the hospital and to provide night shelters," Banerjee said.

The Chief Minister announced that the stipend for interns, house staff, and postgraduate trainees has been increased by 10,000 rupees each. She announced an increase in the salaries of senior resident doctors across all levels by Rs 15,000. As a result, Diploma-holding senior resident doctors will now receive Rs 80,000 instead of Rs 65,000, while Postgraduate senior resident doctors will get Rs 85,000 instead of Rs 70,000.

Additionally, Postdoctorate senior doctors, who currently earn Rs 75,000, will now receive Rs 1 lakh.

The chief minister said, "Doctors will be required to provide a minimum of 8 hours of service in government hospitals. Doctors have made a huge contri-

buton to the success of Swasthya Sathi. Bengal now has the best public infrastructure in the country. The number of beds in government hospitals has already increased by 40,000. At the same time, the number of doctors has also increased significantly. The number of nurses has also risen by over 25,000. I tell the district hospitals not to refer patients suddenly. It becomes difficult to manage in Kolkata.

Further, she spoke about the security system of hospitals.

The Chief Minister said, "Ex-servicemen should be appointed for hospital security. The police also need to increase surveillance. The police should expand the use of mobile vans. Cyber crimes are happening often these days, and to prevent such crimes, the police need to be given cyber training. Watch towers should be installed at every corner of the streets."

Cong MP Gaurav Gogoi attacks BJP, calls it factory of 'jumlas'

TDG NETWORK
NEW DELHI

Congress MP Gaurav Gogoi on Monday hit out at the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) and said that the ruling party was a factory of "empty promises".

Gogoi labelled Prime Minister Narendra Modi as the "head of the Jumla factory" and said that Assam Chief Minister Himanta Biswa Sarma was the "regional manager of this factory."

Intensifying his attack, the Congress MP cornered the Prime Minister over claims that he won't tolerate corruption. However, he said, CM Sarma's family in Assam had landholdings in every district.

"The entire country



knows that BJP is a factory of Jumlas (empty promises). If Narendra Modi is the head of the Jumla factory, Himanta Biswa Sarma is the regional manager of this factory. PM Modi says: 'Naa khaunga aur naa khane dunga', but in Assam the CM's family has eaten up lands in every district," Gogoi said in a presser held at All India Congress Com-

mittee (AICC) headquarters.

"Narendra Modi calls himself a fakir (a saint), but around him, there are people who are continuously progressing," Gogoi added while referring to the allegations levelled by Assam Congress incharge Jitendra Singh Alwar, who accused CM Sarma of building an empire in the state.

The Congress MP further questioned Sarma over his failure as the convener of the North-East Democratic Alliance, given the "instability" in Manipur. He also asked about the delay in the committee's report related to Clause 6 of the Assam Accord, which talks about providing constitutional safeguards to protect the cultural, social, and linguistic identity of the Assamese people.

"Will Prime Minister Narendra Modi ask the CM of Assam how such instability occurred in Manipur despite him being the convener of the North-East Democratic Alliance? Now, is the responsibility of North-East not on Himanta Biswa Sarma? President's rule im-

posed in Manipur, violence and rift everywhere - is this Himanta Biswa Sarma's Chanakya Niti for North-East?" Gogoi remarked.

"Home Minister Amit Shah banged the table in the House and said that the work related to Clause 6 of the Assam Accord, which the late Rajiv Gandhi could not do, would be done by the BJP government. BJP formed a committee, but till date the report of that committee has not even been signed," he added.

Ahead of the upcoming Assam assembly session, Gogoi said that Sarma's biggest fear was that he would have to sit in the opposition. The Congress MP said that the Assam CM was in a weak position.

NGT reserves order on sanitation issues at Maha Kumbh

TDG NETWORK
NEW DELHI

The National Green Tribunal (NGT) on Monday reserved its order on a petition alleging that inadequate sanitation facilities at the 2025 Maha Kumbh Mela have led to open defecation along the banks of the Ganga river.

Meanwhile, the tribunal bench led by its chairman Justice Prakash Shrivastava directed the Uttar Pradesh government and concerned authorities to take immediate remedial action.

Nipun Bhushan, the petitioner, through plea has sought Rs10 crore in environmental compensation from the Uttar Pradesh government, claiming that the



state has failed to prevent large-scale pollution due to poor sanitary provisions at the Kumbh Mela site.

The petition alleged that many individuals and families are forced to defecate openly along the Ganga riverbank because of the lack of adequate facilities. To support his claim, Bhushan

has provided videos as evidence.

Moreover, the petition references a November 2024 water quality test that recorded Fecal Coliform levels at downstream Sangam at 3,300 MPN (Most Probable Number) per 100 milliliters, surpassing the per-

The application further claims that the state has breached its duty under Article 48A of the Constitution, which mandates the protection and improvement of the environment.

missible limit of 2,500 MPN/100 ml established by the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change (MoEFCC).

This level of contamination poses a risk of diseases like cholera, hepatitis A, and polio to the millions of devotees taking a holy dip in the Ganga, the petition argues.

The application further claims that the state has breached its duty under Article 48A of the Constitu-

tion, which mandates the protection and improvement of the environment. Allowing mass open defecation and failing to prevent pollution violates this constitutional obligation, it is submitted.

Despite official assurances regarding the installation of bio-toilets, the petition alleges that thousands of pilgrims still lack access to clean or functional facilities and are compelled to defecate in the open.

AgustaWestland PMLA case: Delhi HC questions ED on opposition to Michel's bail plea

TDG NETWORK
NEW DELHI

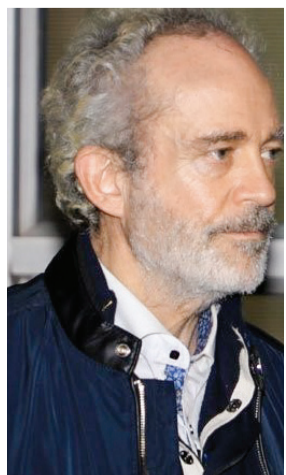
The Delhi High Court on Monday questioned the Enforcement Directorate (ED) on its opposition to the bail plea of Christian Michel James, the alleged middleman and British citizen in the AgustaWestland VVIP chopper money laundering case.

The bench of Justice Swarna Kanta Sharma questioned the Enforcement Directorate

after James' lawyer, Aljo K Joseph, mentioned the Supreme Court's bail ruling and stated that the Supreme Court granted James bail last week due to delays in the CBI's corruption trial.

After counsel representing ED asked for a later hearing, Justice Sharma set the matter for Tuesday.

On February 18, the Supreme Court granted bail to Christian Michel James, the alleged middleman in the AgustaWestland chop-



On February 22, the trial court granted the Enforcement Directorate (ED) permission to separate the trials of the accused in the AgustaWestland chopper case.

per scam, stating that "the trial may not be completed in the next 25 years at this pace." Michel was arrested and extradited on December 4, 2018, while the FIR was registered in 2013. The Rs3,600-crore scam

involves the purchase of 12 VVIP helicopters from AgustaWestland.

On February 22, the trial court granted the Enforcement Directorate (ED) permission to separate the trials of the accused in the

AgustaWestland chopper case. The ED sought to begin the trial against individuals who received summons and participated in the investigation separately from those who have not been served summons or have evaded investigation. Special Judge Sanjeev Aggarwal noted that separating the trials would be in the interest of justice and ensure a fair and speedy trial, as per Article 21 of the Constitution of India. Consequently, files

of the accused persons who have yet to be served will be separated from those who have already been served or are currently facing inquiry before the court.

The case, investigated under the Prevention of Money Laundering Act, involves a total of 60 accused, 21 of whom have neither joined the investigation nor been served summons by the ED to date. The court observed that the first prosecution complaint was filed on No-

vember 24, 2014, while the latest, dated November 21, 2024, represents the 12th supplementary prosecution complaint, highlighting a decade-long gap.

Judge Aggarwal expressed concern over the significant time lapse and the uncertainty about when the trial will commence, which prejudices the rights of other accused persons awaiting a speedy inquiry/trial, a fundamental right under Article 21 of the Constitution.

SUPREME COURT SETS ASIDE HIGH COURT ORDER CANCELLING BAIL: COURTS SHOULD NOT LIGHTLY INTERFERE WITH PERSONAL LIBERTY

TDG NETWORK
NEW DELHI

The Supreme Court in the case Kailash Kumar And State Of Himachal Pradesh And Anr observed and has set aside the ruling cancelling bail of an accused under an attempt to murder charge.

The court in the case observed that an individual's liberty is a precious right under the Constitution, and courts should be cautious before interfering with it.

The court stated that since there being no evidence showing that the accused's conduct after bail warranted deprivation of his liberty, thus, the High Court had no valid reason to cancel the bail.

The bench comprising of Justice Dipankar Datta and Justice Manmohan was hearing the present matter.

The bench in the case observed that, 'Suffice to observe, liberty of an individual being a precious right under the Constitution of India, thus, the Courts ought to be wary that such liberty is not lightly interfered. This court is satisfied that there being no valid reason for the High Court to



cancel the bail without there being any material to show, even prima facie, that conduct of the appellant post grant of bail has been such that he should be deprived of his liberty. There are also no allegations of influence being exerted or threat extended to the witnesses or of tampering the evidence. Material to demonstrate that dilatory tactics have been adopted to procrastinate the trial is also conspicuous by its absence.'

In the present matter, the appellant-accused was charged under section 307, the attempt to murder under the Indian Penal Code,

IPC and since the trial was ongoing and out of 43 witnesses, 17 witnesses had been examined by the prosecution and the appellant was in jail for two years, he applied for bail. The same was granted; however, in appeal, the High Court cancelled the bail.

Aggrieved with the same, the appellant approached the Apex Court.

The court referred to the case of Ajwar v. Waseem and Anr., wherein the court had discussed certain factors to consider, while cancelling the bail. This included misusing liberty, influencing the witnesses, tampering with

evidence, resorting to delaying tactics or if the order granting bail is perverse or illegal. The court also noted that the High Court did not consider any of these factors.

The court stated that what the High Court did was to embark upon conducting sort of a mini-trial at the stage of considering whether the bail should be cancelled or not. As per the High Court, presence of the appellant and the co-accused at the scene of occurrence and causing of injury to the complainant-PW1 by the appellant being undisputed and notwithstanding that the injury caused

by him is simple, there was common intention for which Section 34 of the Indian Penal Code, IPC is attracted.

The court while considering the facts and circumstances of the case noted that the High Court erred and was unjustified in cancelling the bail. The court set aside the impugned judgment and has restored the order granting bail to the appellant.

Further, the court made it clear that it has not gone into the case's merits.

The court stated that the appellant is required to appear before the Trial Court on the dates fixed. Therefore, any failure on the appellant's part will lead to the cancellation of his bail.

Accordingly, the court allowed the appeal. The counsel, Mr. Rajiv Rai, Adv. Mr. Subhash Chandran K.R., AOR Ms. Krishna L.R., Adv. appeared for the Petitioner. The counsel, Mr. Vaibhav Srivastava, A.A.G. Ms. Sugandha Anand, AOR Mr. Amrinder Singh Rana, Adv. Mr. Vivek R. Mohanty, Adv. Mr. Ankit Anandraj Shah, AOR, Mr. Rahul Yadav, Adv. Mr. Vishwam Dwivedi, Adv. represented Respondent.

Delhi High Court Passes John Doe Order Against Rogue Websites Infringing Online Gaming Company Baazi Group's Trademark

TDG NETWORK
NEW DELHI

The Delhi High Court in the case Moonshine Technology Private Limited vs. Ashok Kumar & Ors observed and has issued a temporary injunction against 'rogue websites' from accessing and using the domain names infringing the trademark of Moonshine Technology Private Limited, the parent company of Baazi Group of Companies providing online gaming products and services.

The rogue websites are operating under different names which includes baazi247, baazi365 and lotus-baazi.

The plaintiff i.e., Moonshine Technology Pvt Ltd stated that the Baazi group has registered various trademarks which includes BAAZI, BAAZI GAMES, BAAZI MOBILE GAMING and POKERBAAZI. Moonshine stated that it has been using the Baazi mark since 2014.

It has also been stated by plaintiff i.e., Moonshine Technology Pvt Ltd that it is well-known for its products and services under the brand and trademarks of BAAZI and that it has acquired immense goodwill, reputation and popularity amongst customers, members in trade and public at large.

It has been stated before the court that it has over 3.5 lakh

monthly active users across its different verticals and that its PokerBaazi brand has received immense engagement on social media with over 2 million subscribers on its YouTube channel and over 4 lakh followers on the Meta platforms.

On the other hand, Moonshine submitted before the court that unknown defendants i.e., defendant no. 1 to defendant no. 5 have been committing offence of cyber-squatting, where the users are redirected to rogue websites which offer illegal gambling and betting services.

It has also been stated before the court that in collusion with the Domain Name Registrants (defendant no. 6 to defendant no. 8), the unknown or registrant defendants are offering infringing domains for sale, resale or at a premium pricing and reaping undue profits.

Further, it is stated that the rogue websites are infringing its registered trademarks and hosting illegal gambling and casino websites under the infringing domain name or branding.

It has also been stated before the court that the defendants registered the infringing domains with mala fide intent to deceive users about their association with Moonshine.

It has been stated before the court that the infringing websites create a false sense of

legitimacy, causing harm to its well-established brand.

The petitioner submitted that the unauthorized adoption and illegal use of its trademarks is patently illegal, unfair and amounts to unfair business practices.

It was also stated before the court that the webpage of GoDaddy i.e., the defendant no. 6, is offering for sale domain names similar to it.

It has been pointed out that GoDaddy is the same Domain Name Registrant who has registered its domain name.

The bench headed by Justice Mini Pushkarna in the case is of the view that a prima facie case for grant of ex-parte ad-interim injunction was made out.

The Court stated that the balance of convenience lies with Moonshine and that irreparable harm would be caused if an interim injunction is not granted. The court in the case restrained the unknown defendants, the defendant no. 1 to defendant no. 5 from accessing, using, modifying or transferring the infringing domain names.

The court ordered that GoDaddy and other Domain Name Registrants, the defendant no. 6 to defendant no. 8 to suspend the access and use of the infringing domain names by their registrants.

Supreme Court Rejects PIL Seeking Regulation Of Internet Prices: 'It's A Free Market'

TDG NETWORK
NEW DELHI

The Supreme Court in the case Rajat Versus Union Of India, UOI observed and has dismissed the Public Interest Litigation, PIL filed seeking regulation of internet prices.

The court in the case granted liberty to the petitioner to seek alternative statutory remedies. The bench comprising of Chief Justice of India, CJI Sanjiv Khanna and Justice Sanjay Kumar was hearing the present

matter.

The bench in the case was hearing the Public Interest Litigation, PIL filed by petitioner-in-person, Rajat.

The bench of Chief Justice of India, CJI pointed out that consumers have multiple options for availing internet services. He in the case explained that, 'It being a free market, you get LAN, you get wired internet, there is other internet, BSNL and MTNL is also giving you internet.'

The petitioner underlined that while other options may be available, thus, the majority of the market chunk is presently with Jio, Reliance.

It has been stated by him before the court that, 'They are giving, but see the market share your lordship- 80% of the market share is with Jio (Reliance).'

The bench of Chief Justice of India, CJI interjected, wherein stating that, 'No please, then go to the Competition Commission of India, CCI.'

The bench in its order stated that:

'This court is not inclined to entertain the present petition under Article 32 of the Constitution of India, petition is dismissed. However, this court clarify that in case the petitioner wants to take any recourse to appropriate statutory remedy he is at liberty to do so, we make no comments in this regard.'

Accordingly, the court dismissed the petition.

Supreme Court Asks Petitioner To First File Representation Before Bar Council Of India: Plea Challenging AIBE Fees

TDG NETWORK
NEW DELHI

The Supreme Court in the case Sanyam Gandhi Versus Union Of India And Anr was hearing the petition filed by Advocate, appearing as petitioner-in-person, wherein challenging the fees and other incidental charges of the All India Bar Examination, AIBE.

The petitioner in the plea states that the Bar Council of India, BCI charges an amount of Rs.3,500 for the All India Bar Examination, AIBE which being in violation of the Supreme Court's judgment in the case of Gaurav Kumar v. UOI, 2024.

The Supreme Court's judgment in the case of Gaurav Kumar v. UOI, the three-judge bench comprising of former CJI DY Chandrachud and Justice JB Pardiwala and Justice Manoj Misra held that the

enrolment fee cannot exceed an amount of Rs.750 for advocates belonging to the general category and Rs.125 for advocates belonging to SC or ST categories as stated in Section 24 of the Advocates Act, 1961.

The bench comprising of Justice Pardiwala and Justice R. Mahadevan was hearing the present matter.

The bench in the case passed an order wherein the court granted liberty to the petitioner to first make a representation before the BCI. Thus, if the petitioner does not get a response from the BCI without a reasonable time, he can approach the Court.

The bench headed by Justice Pardiwala orally remarked that Bar Council of India, BCI needs funds from somewhere to continue surviving.

The bench of Justice Pardiwala stated that, 'You want the Bar Council to survive

or not? We have otherwise also chopped of their both upper limbs and lower limbs. You are referring to my judgment? Now, they are also to survive. They have a staff to maintain. They have to recover something. Once you pay this amount of Rs.3,500, you will start earning 3,50,000. What is the problem in initially paying Rs.3,500 to Bar Council of India, BCI?'

The bench of Justice Pardiwala also questioned why the petitioner invoked Article 32 jurisdiction.

He also said that, 'You should have gone to some High Court.'

The court in its order stated that, 'The said petition is filed in public interest is one which relates to the fees of the All India Bar Exams. To be precise, the pray in this writ petition reads as under... The petitioner, a practising Advocate, appearing in person invited

the Court's attention to the decision in the case of Gaurav Kumar v. Union of India..The petitioner would submit that in view of this decision, the recovery for an amount of Rs.3500 plus other incidental charges as a condition precedent for appearing in AIBE is violative of Article 14, Article 19(1)(g) and Section 24(1)(f) of the Advocates Act, 1961. We are of the view that the petitioner should bring it to the notice of the Bar Council of India, BCI that this amount of Rs.3500 plus incidental charges are violative or rather contrary to the judgment rendered by this Court. Therefore, it shall be open for the petitioner to prefer an appropriate representation and wait for the response of the BCI. If there is no response without reasonable time, he may come back. Even if there is a negative response, he may come back.'

Supreme Court Clubs Multiple FIRs Against YouTuber Savukku Shankar Over Online Interview

TDG NETWORK
NEW DELHI

The Supreme Court in the case A. Shankar @Savukku Shankar v. State of Tamil Nadu And Ors observed and has allowed the clubbing First Information Report, FIRs registered against YouTuber Savukku Shankar over his online interview.

Police Station.

The court also directed Shankar to abide by its previous order dated November 11, 2022, wherein the bench comprising of Justice Sanjiv Khanna and Justice JK Maheshwari suspended the sentence of 6 months imprisonment imposed by the Madras High Court for contempt of court.

The court also directed that till the next date of hearing, Shankar shall not make any videos or comments regarding court proceedings.

The counsel, Senior Advocate Siddharth Luthra appearing for the State of Tamil Nadu informed the Court that Shankar had violated the previous order of the Court for not commenting on Court proceedings.

It has been stated:

'He was told not to make any statement, but he is incorrigible! cannot hold himself back.'

On the other hand, the counsel Advocate Balaji Srinivasan appearing for the petitioner informed the court that 'he has tendered an unconditional apology for what he has said.'

The counsel, Senior Advocate Mukul Rohatgi also appearing for the State urged the Court to dismiss the petition of Shankar, 'I don't think your lordships should have entertained this petition, he is mak-

ing allegations against sitting High Court judges, against the police department, journalists - all types of people my lords, he is a dismissed constable'

Advocate Balaji Srinivasan interjected, 'See what the High Court says, what the state has done...they go and meet the judge and tell him not to decide the case'

The bench in the case passed the following directions:

SC Summons Rajasthan Chief Secretary: 'How A City Can Become Smart Without Protecting Water Bodies/Wetlands?'

TDG NETWORK
NEW DELHI

The Supreme Court in the case State Of Rajasthan And Ors Versus Ashok Malik And Ors observed and has expressed the displeasure with the State of Rajasthan's failure to comply with its earlier order with regards to the restoration of wetlands in Ajmer City as part of the Union's Smart City Development Mission and warned of potential contempt proceedings if the orders remain unfulfilled.

The court in the case observed that in view of non-compliance with the order dated December 01, 2023, before we consider of initiating action under the Contempt of Courts Act, 1971, this court direct the Chief Secretary of State of Rajasthan to appear before the Court through video conferencing on Monday i.e., March 17, 2025.

The bench comprising of Justice Abhay S Oka and Justice Ujjal Bhuyan was hearing the present matter.

The court stated that the direction issued under the impugned order dated Dec. 1, 2023 was for restoration of wetlands, and the Court also directed the authorities to report compliance.

However, the court observed that instead of showing compliance with the impugned order, the authorities reported defiance of the order, attracted the criticism of Court. he bench after noting defiance of the Court's order stated that, 'This court wonder how a city can become smart without protecting the water bodies or wetlands in the city and how cities will become smarter by making encroachments on the water bodies or wetlands.'

The court observed that, 'Instead of filing an affidavit indicating the extent to which

the State can comply with directions contained in the impugned orders and the time span within which the same are proposed to be complied with, an affidavit has been filed by Mr. T. Ravikanth, holding charge of Principal Secretary LSG, Jaipur, in which the stand is of defiance and not compliance. However, an additional affidavit has been filed by Mr. Deshal Dan, holding charge of Commissioner cum CEO, Ajmer Smart City Limited. Both the affidavits indicate clear defiance on the part of the State of Rajasthan.'

Adding to it, the court stated that if the State wishes to avoid contempt of court proceedings, the Chief Secretary should file a personal affidavit demonstrating compliance with at least some of the directions in both the original impugned judgment and the order dated December 13, 2021. The court while considering

the facts and circumstances of the case stated that if the State of Rajasthan is seriously interested in purging the contempt, this court expect the Chief Secretary for filing his personal affidavit reporting compliance with at least some of the directions issued under the impugned judgment as well as under the order dated December 13, 2021 passed by the National Green Tribunal, NGT. The counsel, Mr. Shiv Mangal Sharma, A.A.G. Mr. Abhishek Sharma, Adv. Ms. Nidhi Jaswal, AOR appeared for the Appellant(s).

The counsel, Mr. Rameshwar Prasad Goyal, AOR Caveator-in-person, AOR Mr. Anand Shankar, AOR Mr. Nishant Awana, Adv. Ms. Rini Badoni, Adv. Ms. Rebecca Mishra, Adv. Mr. G.S. awana, Adv. Mr. Sahil, Adv. Mr. Mayank Chaudhary, Adv. Mr. Niteen Kumar Sinha, AOR represented the Respondent(s).

RUNWAY FINALE



Models walk the runway at at 180 Studios during the finale of the Ashish show at London fashion week. London, UK. Agencies

US backs Israel's decision to halt release of 620 Palestinians

AGENCIES
WASHINGTON

The White House said on Monday that it backed Israel's decision to delay the release of 620 Palestinian prisoners, citing the "barbaric treatment" of Israeli captives by Hamas, as reported by Al Jazeera.

Delaying the prisoner release is an "appropriate response", Al Jazeera quoted a statement from National Security Council spokesman Brian Hughes as saying.

US President Donald Trump is prepared to support Israel in "whatever course of action it chooses regarding Hamas", he added.

Two senior Hamas leaders say the Palestinian group will not engage in

further discussions with Israel through mediators until it releases the 620 Palestinian prisoners supposed to be freed on Saturday, as per Al Jazeera.

The remarks came as the Gaza truce talks seem to be in troubled waters as Hamas announced earlier it shut down negotiations until the Palestinian prisoners are released as promised.

Israel postponed the release of 620 Palestinian prisoners despite Hamas setting free six Israeli captives.

Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu called the captive handover ceremonies in Gaza "humiliating" and accused Hamas of using the captives for "propaganda". Aid groups are questioning

Israel's unkept promises under the first phase of the ceasefire, as per Al Jazeera.

Al Jazeera reported that the Palestinian Prisoner's Society said that Israel is practising "state terrorism against the prisoners and their families" after it refused to follow its Gaza ceasefire obligations and free 620 inmates.

Egypt and Qatar are reportedly pressing Israel to release the 620 Palestinian prisoners it promised to after Hamas released six captives from Gaza, as per Al Jazeera.

Meanwhile, Israeli Prime Minister Netanyahu faced new criticism over the war on Gaza while speaking at a military graduation.

As he held up a picture of captives Shiri Bibas and her young boys, Ariel

and Kfir, whose remains were returned from Gaza last week, to demonstrate "what we are fighting against", audience members called out, "Shame!" and "Why didn't you save them?" Al Jazeera reported.

Netanyahu warned that Israel is "ready to return at any moment to intensive combat. The operational plans are ready," The Times of Israel reported.

Throughout his address, he promised total victory, The Times of Israel reported.

"All of our hostages, without exception, will return home," he says. "Hamas won't rule Gaza. Gaza will be demilitarized, and its fighting force will be dismantled," The Times of Israel quoted Netanyahu as saying.

Musk's demand deepens rift in Trump administration

AGENCIES
WASHINGTON

Elon Musk's order to U.S. government workers to justify their jobs opened divisions in President Donald Trump's administration, as some agencies told workers to respond to the chainsaw-wielding billionaire by Monday night and others said to ignore him.

Musk's directive to the nation's 2.3 million civil-service workers to provide a five-point summary of their work by 11:59 p.m. Eastern time (0459 GMT) raised questions about how much authority the world's richest person can wield in Trump's government as he leads an effort to slash the federal payroll.

The countermanning of his order by some agency officials was also the first known internal pushback against Musk's blunt-force approach to overhauling the federal government.



Explosion at Russian consulate in Marseille, Moscow calls it terrorist attack

AGENCIES
MARSEILLE

An explosion took place at the Russian consulate in France's Marseille, which the Russian Foreign Ministry spokesman Maria Zakharova said resembles a terrorist attack. Around 30 firefighters arrived at the site of the blast.

However, no casualties have been reported in the incident, TASS reported citing France's BFMTV. Unidentified individuals must have thrown two Molotov cocktails into the consulate's garden, TASS reported, citing a reporter for the Valeurs Actuelles magazine. A stolen car was found near the blast site.

Zakharova said Russia demands an immediate and thorough investigation into the incident and measures to improve the security of Russia's foreign facilities.

"The blasts at the Russian consulate general in Marseille exhibit all the signs of a terrorist attack. We demand

Zakharova said Russia demands an immediate and thorough investigation into the incident and measures to improve the security of Russia's foreign facilities.

that the host country take immediate, thorough action to investigate the incident, as well as measures to improve the security of Russia's foreign facilities," Maria Zakha-

rova said. On February 19, Russia's Foreign Intelligence Service (SVR) warned that the Ukrainian authorities were considering the possibility of conducting terrorist attacks on Russian diplomatic facilities in Europe, especially in Germany, the Baltic, and Scandinavian countries, as per the report.

According to the SVR, the Ukrainians could also attack Slovakia or Hungary as such a choice offers an "additional advantage," enabling them to discredit members of the European Union with a special position on the Ukraine conflict.

CONSERVATIVES WIN GERMAN ELECTION, AFD SURGES TO SECOND SPOT

AGENCIES
BERLIN

Germany's mainstream conservatives led by Friedrich Merz won Germany's national election, ensuring that Ukraine has an even stronger supporter in the European Union's largest country and creating hopes for renewal in an economic powerhouse that has been badly battered in recent years.

The far-right, anti-immigrant Alternative for Germany (AfD) surged to become the nation's second-largest political force, gaining from a backlash against the high numbers of migrants and refugees the nation has absorbed over the past decade and a string of extremist attacks that has shaken its sense of security.

Merz, who is promising to unite Europe in the face of challenges from both Russia and the United States, is expected to become the country's next leader.

His first comments Monday after his party became the highest vote-getter in national elections were words of support for Ukraine, which is marking the third anniversary of Russia's full-scale invasion.

"Europe stands unwaveringly by Ukraine's side," Merz posted on X. "Now more than ever, it holds true: We must put Ukraine in a position of strength."

"For a just peace, the attacked country must be part of peace negotiations," Merz added, in an apparent rebuke of the Trump administration, which has begun talks with Russia on ending the war that has so far cut out Ukraine and Europe.

Merz will likely partner with the center-left Social Democrats, who suffered a stinging defeat after their coalition collapsed. But the results were seen a rebuke for mainstream parties as AfD notched its best results ever — and the strongest for a far-right party since World War II.

The campaign was dominated by worries about large-scale migration, with Merz also vowing a tough approach, as well as the yearslong stagnation of Europe's biggest economy.

The markets welcomed the victory of the fiscally conservative party, with stocks in major German companies rising Monday morning on hopes for a stable coalition government that could end policy gridlock and tackle the country's economic problems.



FRIEDRICH MERZ, THE CANDIDATE OF THE MAINSTREAM CONSERVATIVE CHRISTIAN DEMOCRATIC UNION PARTY, ADDRESSES SUPPORTERS AT THE PARTY HEADQUARTERS IN BERLIN, GERMANY.

Merz calls for 'independence' from US

AGENCIES
BERLIN

Germany's Friedrich Merz has pledged to achieve "independence" from the United States after his centre-right alliance won parliamentary elections held amid doubts about US President Donald Trump's commitment to Europe's security.

Merz, who faces complex negotiations with his party's traditional centre-left rival to form a coalition government after ruling out the second-placed hard-right Alternative for Germany (AfD), said on Sunday that it would be his "absolute priority" to strengthen Europe so it does not have to rely on Washington for its defence.

"I never thought I would have to say something like that on a TV programme, but after Donald Trump's latest comments in the last week, it is clear that the Americans, or at least this portion of the Americans, this government, care very little about the fate of Europe," the chancellor-in-waiting told a televised roundtable of political leaders.

Merz said he was not sure that NATO would exist in its "current form" by the time of the next meeting of the transatlantic military alliance in June, "or whether we will have to establish an independent European defence capability much more quickly".

"That is my absolute priority, I have no illusions at all about what will come out of America," Merz said.

He also took aim at tech billionaire Elon Musk, Trump's close ally and head of the newly created Department of Government Efficiency, for intervening in the election campaign to support the AfD, which secured its best-ever result in a national poll.

"The interventions from Washington were no less dramatic and impertinent than the interventions we have seen from Moscow, so we are under massive pressure from two sides," Merz said.

Merz's Christian Democratic Union-Christian Social Union (CDU/CSU) alliance won 208 seats with 28.6 percent of the vote in Sunday's election, preliminary results showed, followed by the AfD with 152 seats and 20.8 percent of the vote, doubling what it polled in the last election.

Outgoing Chancellor Olaf Scholz's centre-left Social Democratic Party (SDP), which had governed in a widely unpopular three-party coalition, took 120 seats, its worst result since the end of World War II.

The Greens won 85 seats, followed by the democratic socialist Die Linke, or The Left, with 64 seats and left-wing populist Bündnis Sahra Wagenknecht (BSW) with one seat.

The pro-business Free Democratic Party, a member of the outgoing coalition that

has traditionally alternated between partnering with the CDU/CSU alliance and the SDP, failed to win a seat after falling short of the 5 percent threshold to enter the 630-member Bundestag, the German parliament.

The election result in the European Union's most populous country, and its biggest economy, comes as the Trump administration's efforts to negotiate an end to the war in Ukraine with Russia have prompted concerns that Washington is moving closer to Moscow at the expense of the transatlantic alliance.

Trump has stoked concerns that he is inclined towards a peace deal that is favourable to Russia with his comments in recent days, including suggesting that Ukraine had started the conflict and labelling its President Volodymyr Zelenskyy a "dictator".

The US president earlier on Sunday welcomed the election outcome as a "great day" for Germany and the US, and said it was proof that the German public "got tired of the no common sense agenda, especially on energy and immigration, that has prevailed for so many years".

Merz, a longtime supporter of transatlantic ties, campaigned on a conservative platform promising to curb unauthorised migration and slash taxes and red tape amid widespread discontent with immigration and the economy.

Merz, a longtime rival of former Chancellor Angela Merkel who has led the CDU in a more conservative and pro-business direction, will need the help of the SDP to form a governing majority in the Bundestag.

"If we have one partner, it will be easier; if we need two partners, it will be harder, but even in that case, it will have to be successful," Merz said.

"The main thing is to create a government in Germany that is capable of acting as quickly as possible, with a good parliamentary majority. Because, dear friends, the world out there is not waiting for us and it is not waiting for lengthy coalition talks and negotiations.

In a speech hailing her party's "magnificent campaign", AfD leader Alice Weidel, who has been shunned by the mainstream parties as part of a "firewall" against the resurgence of far-right politics, suggested it would only be a matter of time before her party holds power.

"Our hand remains outstretched to form a government," she told supporters, adding that it would be tantamount to "electoral fraud" if the first-placed conservatives chose to govern with left-wing parties rather than them.

If that happened, Weidel said, "next time, we'll come first".

Putin, Xi Jinping hold talks to boost strategic partnership

AGENCIES
MOSCOW

Russian President Vladimir Putin and Chinese President Xi Jinping on Monday held a telephone conversation to strengthen and discuss further development of their comprehensive partnership and strategic cooperation.

They explored ways to expand mutually beneficial cooperation in various sec-

tors, including economy, trade, investment, culture, education, and sports.

Sharing the information of the conversation, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Russia wrote on X, "Russia's President Vladimir Putin & President of China Xi Jinping spoke by phone, exchanged views on current issues regarding the further development of the comprehensive partnership & strategic cooperation between

the two countries." According to the President of Russia's official statement, during a lengthy telephone conversation, "They discussed ways to expand mutually beneficial cooperation in the economy, trade, investment, culture, education, and sports."

The leaders also reviewed upcoming high-level meetings, including celebrations for the 80th anniversary of Victory in the Great Patri-

otic War and the Shanghai Cooperation Organisation summit.



reaffirmed the schedule of upcoming meetings at the highest level in the context of the celebrations of the 80th anniversary of Victory in the Great Patriotic War, the upcoming summit of the Shanghai Cooperation Organisation, and festivities in Beijing to mark the 80th anniversary of Victory over Japan and the end of World War II," the statement.

briefed Xi on recent Russia-US talks, and Xi expressed support for the dialogue and China's willingness to help resolve the Ukraine conflict peacefully and about the recent Russian-American contacts.

"The President of China expressed his support for the dialogue initiated between Russia and the United States, as well as China's readiness to help find ways to settle the Ukrainian con-

flict peacefully," the statement read.

Both leaders emphasized the importance of Russian-Chinese political ties as a stabilizing factor in global affairs, describing their relationship as strategic, unbiased, and not aimed against any third-party.

"The two leaders emphasised that the Russian-Chinese political ties are an essential stabilising factor in global affairs.

PICTURE PERFECT



Kareena Kapoor Khan poses for her social media. (Instagram)

'CHHAAVA' STARRING VICKY KAUSHAL EARNS OVER RS 400 CRORE

TDG NETWORK
NEW DELHI:

Vicky Kaushal-starrer "Chhaava", which released on February 14, has earned over Rs 400 crore at the box office to become the highest grossing Hindi film of the year.

The movie, based on the life of Maratha warrior Chhatrapati Sambhaji Maharaj, features Kaushal in the titular role. Actor Rashmika Mandanna plays his wife, Yesubai.

Directed by Laxman Utekar, the film has been produced under Dinesh Vijan's Maddock Films.

According to industry tracker Sacnilk, Chhaava collected an estimated Rs 40 crore on its 10th day



(Sunday), taking its total domestic earnings to Rs 326.75 crore. The film had amassed Rs 219.25 crore in its first week and carried strong momentum into its

second weekend.

On Friday, Chhaava raked in Rs 23.5 crore, setting the stage for an extraordinary Saturday surge, where collections

jumped by 87.23% to Rs 44 crore. Although Sunday saw a minor dip, the film still managed to comfortably cross the Rs 300 crore milestone.

Preity, Akshay Kumar and Katrina Kaif visit Mahakumbh

TDG NETWORK
PRAYAGRAJ

The Maha Kumbh has brought a huge influx of pilgrims to Prayagraj. Bollywood stars also arrived in huge numbers to seek spiritual blessings.

On Monday, we saw stars like Akshay Kumar and Katrina Kaif participating in sacred rituals at Maha Kumbh. Preity Zinta, too, visited Prayagraj to attend the Maha Kumbh mela, which will culminate on the occasion of Maha Shivratri on February 26.

Actress Katrina Kaif visited Prayagraj on Monday to participate in the Maha Kumbh Mela, a major religious event drawing



millions of devotees from across the world.

During her visit, the actress met Swami Chidanand Saraswati, president of Parmarth Niketan Ashram, and took his blessings.

Speaking to ANI, Katrina expressed her gratitude and excitement about being part of the sacred event.

"I am very fortunate that I

could come here this time. I am really happy and grateful. I met Swami Chidanand Saraswati and took his blessings. I am just starting my experience here. I like the energy, beauty, and significance of everything. I am looking forward to spending the whole day here," she said.

On February 13, Katrina's

husband and actor Vicky Kaushal visited Maha Kumbh, ahead of release of his film 'Chhaava'.

Maha Kumbh Mela, taking place at the revered Triveni Sangam, continues to attract devotees and celebrities.

Earlier in the day, Bollywood actor Akshay Kumar also participated in the revered ritual, taking a dip in the Triveni Sangam.

He expressed his appreciation for the well-organized arrangements at the venue.

"I thank CM Yogi ji for making such good arrangements here... The facilities are excellent, and everything is so well-managed," he said.

Imtiaz Ali Onir's anthology film 'My Melbourne' trailer released

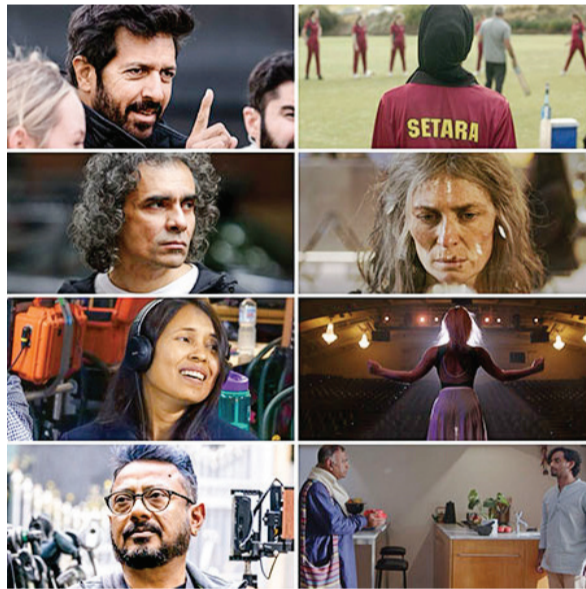
TDG NETWORK
MUMBAI

The trailer for the anthology film 'My Melbourne' has been released. It includes four powerful stories directed by filmmakers Kabir Khan, Imtiaz Ali, Rima Das and Onir.

Set in Melbourne, Australia, the anthology film 'My Melbourne' offers a glimpse into a unique, thought-provoking tales of human connection, resilience, and identity. It is scheduled to be released in theatres across India on March 14, 2025.

As per the press note shared by the makers, the movie delves into the diverse experiences of four characters, each facing their own personal journey. The four stories are all inspired by true incidents. 'My Melbourne' addresses universally relevant themes of race, gender, sexuality, and disability.

The stories featured in 'My Melbourne' include, NANDINI - Directed by Onir, tells the story of Indraneel, a queer Indian man who reunites with his estranged father in Melbourne to complete a cer-



emonial ritual. The film explores the complexities of their fraught relationship, the power of forgiveness, and the healing process amid grief.

JULES - Directed by Arif Ali along with the creative direction by Imtiaz Ali. It tells the story of a newly married Sakshi who forms an unexpected bond with Jules, a homeless woman.

Together, they navigate their personal struggles and discover the power of connection despite their differences.

EMMA, Directed by Rima Das, tells the story of a talented deaf dancer who grapples with self-doubt and discrimination until a chance meeting with another deaf dancer inspires her to embrace her uniqueness and find her inner strength.

SETARA - Directed by Kabir Khan, is a real-life story of a 15-year-old Afghan girl who rebuilds her life in Melbourne after fleeing the Taliban. She finds her sense of belonging through cricket and resilience amid family tensions and past trauma.

BRAIN PICKING



The bottom line is to have fun and enjoy life.

- REKHA
(Indian Actress)

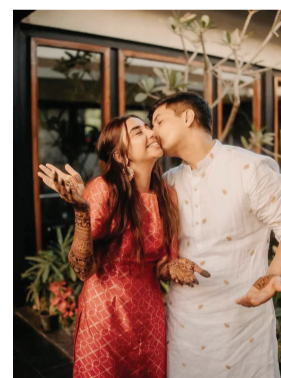
Prajakta Koli, Vrishank Khanal share mehendi ceremony pictures

TDG NETWORK
MUMBAI

Actress Prajakta Koli is all set to tie the knot with her longtime boyfriend, lawyer Vrishank Khanal.

Ahead of their big day, the couple shared adorable photos from their intimate mehendi ceremony.

The dreamy photos, posted on Instagram, show Prajakta



SRK, Madhuri, Karisma-starrer 'Dil To Pagal Hai' to be re-released

TDG NETWORK
MUMBAI

Movie buffs, get ready to conclude February, the month of love, on a romantic yet nostalgic note by rewatching Shah Rukh Khan's blockbuster 'Dil To Pagal' on the big screen.

Hopping on the trend of re-releases, Yash Raj Films on Monday announced that Dil To Pagal, which also stars Madhuri Dixit Nene and Karisma Kapoor in the lead roles, will hit the theatres again on February 28.

"The era of pure romance and love is coming back to the theatres this week! Rewatch Dil To Pagal Hai from 28th February



Adam Brody opens up on his character in 'Nobody Wants This' season 2

AGENCIES
WASHINGTON

Actor Adam Brody, who is known for his performances in Mr. & Mrs. Smith, Thank You for Smoking, In the Land of Women, and Jennifer's Body, got candid about season 2 of the romantic comedy TV series Nobody Wants This. On the SAG Awards red carpet, he opened up about his character.

Adam Brody plays Rabbi Noah Roklov in the Netflix comedy 'Nobody Wants This'.



While teasing about season 2, he shared, "I think repercussions from [Noah] choosing maybe love over work. He's going to grapple

with that. To be honest with you, that's about as much as I know," reported Deadline. The Netflix series showcases the unlikely romance be-

tween a recently single rabbi (Brody) and a non-Jewish sex podcast host (Bell). The first season was released earlier this year and emerged as one of the hit shows on the streaming platform.

'Nobody Wants This' garnered one of the most impressive launches for any Netflix original comedy series to date, premiering at #2 on the streamer's Top 1 and climbing to the #1 slot in its first full week, with an impressive 26.2M views in its first 11 days on the service, as per Deadline.

The shooting for the second

season of Adam Brody and Kristen Bell-starrer 'Nobody Wants This' is very soon to begin.

Adam Brody made a triumphant return to the spotlight at the 2025 Critics Choice Awards, where he won Best Actor in a Comedy Series for his role as Rabbi Noah Roklov in the Netflix comedy 'Nobody Wants This'.

"This is such a thrill," Brody said during his acceptance speech, adding, "Thank you so much to the Critics Choice for this honor."

and Vrishank surrounded by loved ones, enjoying the festive atmosphere.

In one romantic moment, Vrishank is seen giving Prajakta a loving kiss on the cheek.

Other photos capture the couple's joyful moments, including Prajakta getting her mehendi done, Vrishank and Prajakta's parents dancing, and the cou-

ple sharing sweet glances.

Prajakta looked radiant in a red suit, while Vrishank could be seen wearing a white kurta pyjama for the ceremony.

Prajakta kept the caption simple, adding a heart and an evil-eye emoji to the photos.

The couple's mehendi ceremony was an intimate affair, with close family and

friends in attendance.

Prajakta and Vrishank have been dating for several years and announced their engagement in 2023. The couple has been together since before Prajakta's rise to fame.

On the work front, Prajakta was recently seen in season 3 of her web series, 'Mismatched' co-starring Rohit Saraf.

Beyond the plate: Conversations that matter

TDG NETWORK
NEW DELHI

Embarking on the journey of "The Suvir Saran Show: Where Conversations Never Fade" fills me with a profound sense of gratitude and excitement. This endeavour is not merely a new chapter in my life but a harmonious blend of the myriad experiences, lessons, and relationships that have shaped my path thus far. As I step into this venture, I am profoundly aware that its foundation is built upon the unwavering support and



collaboration of remarkable individuals and esteemed organizations.

Reflecting upon my culinary voyage, I am enveloped by the warm memories of those who

graced my restaurants with their presence. Each patron brought with them a unique energy, turning every meal into a shared celebration of flavors and stories.

BEYOND THE USUAL FLU: WHY PREVENTION MATTERS

TGG NETWORK
NEW DELHI

The pandemic etched images of chapped hands and isolated homes into our collective memory. But as the world adapts, new challenges arise. While the flu often feels like a common ailment, the emergence of viral strains that mimic its symptoms has increased post-pandemic, bringing fresh concerns. Studies from the National Institute of Health reveal that the long-term psychological and social impacts of the pandemic continue to cast a shadow, leaving behind lingering fear and unease.

Prevention remains our strongest ally. Early recognition of symptoms, maintaining hygiene, and vaccination can significantly reduce risks. In a world where the ordinary flu could mask extraordinary threats, staying prepared is key to safeguarding health.

RECOGNIZING FLU SYMPTOMS: WHAT YOU SHOULD KNOW

Flu symptoms can vary, but early recognition is key to managing the condition effectively and preventing further spread. Here's what to look for:

Symptoms in Young Children - Look for fever, runny nose, and cough. Severe



symptoms like wheezing or difficulty breathing may require medical attention.

Impact on Healthy Adults - Expect mild cold-like symptoms—sore throat, fatigue, and nasal congestion. While most recover quickly, older adults and those with underlying conditions may face more severe symptoms.

KEEP SAFE AND HEALTHY DURING FLU SEASON

Flu season brings an increased risk of infections

as viruses spread through respiratory droplets or contaminated surfaces. Close contact with infected individuals further heightens this risk. Taking proactive measures can significantly reduce transmission and keep you healthy.

Good hygiene and a strong immune system are your best defenses. A healthy body is better equipped to fight infections. Follow these essential steps to stay protected:

- Maintain proper hand

hygiene. Regularly wash your hands with soap or handwash to minimize the spread of germs. Using a handwash like Savlon Deep Clean Handwash, formulated to effectively eliminate 99.9% of germs* and is also made of 90% natural origin content*. The handwash is enriched with orange essence and has an easy wash off formula to remove tough dirt & grime.

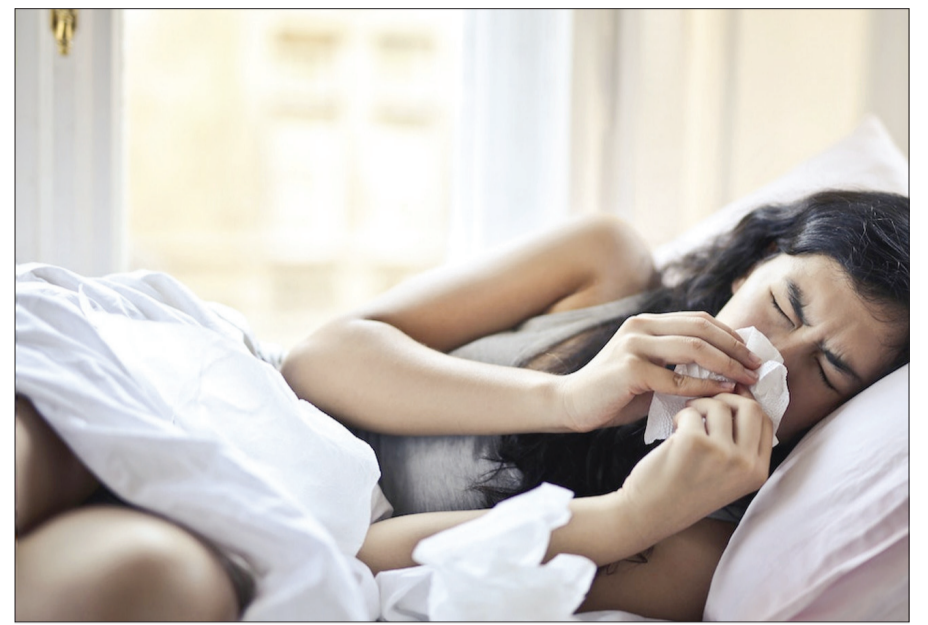
● Avoid close contact with sick individuals and maintain social distancing.

● Strengthen your immune system with a balanced diet and regular exercise.

● Prioritize prevention to minimize the impact of flu season on your health and well-being.

This season, regular handwashing can be a helpful step in maintaining overall hygiene and is the first step to prevent flus and infections.

(*Basis lab study on sample microbes. Washes away germs. #Basis applicable standards.)



Fueling Recovery: How Nutraceuticals and Functional Foods Enhance Post-Surgical Healing

TGG NETWORK
NEW DELHI

Recovery after surgery is a critical phase that requires optimal nutrition to enhance healing, reduce complications, and restore strength. Nutraceuticals and functional foods play a pivotal role in supporting the body's recovery mechanisms by providing essential nutrients that aid in tissue repair, immune function, and metabolic balance.

Surgical procedures induce metabolic stress, leading to increased energy demands, muscle protein breakdown, and heightened inflammatory responses. Ensuring adequate nutrition helps counteract these effects and facilitates recovery. Functional foods and nutraceuticals contribute to this process by enhancing immune function, reducing inflammation, and promoting tissue regeneration.

Proteins are crucial for wound healing, muscle repair, and immune support. Specific amino acids such as arginine support immune function and enhance nitric oxide production, which improves blood flow to healing tissues. Glutamine aids in intestinal health and immune function, crucial for reducing



infection risk post-surgery. Branched-chain amino acids (BCAAs) help maintain muscle mass and reduce muscle wasting during recovery.

Omega-3 fatty acids in fatty fish, flaxseeds, and walnuts possess strong anti-inflammatory properties. They help modulate the immune response, reduce

postoperative inflammation, and promote faster recovery. Supplementing fish oil or plant-based sources like chia and flax seeds can benefit.

Zinc plays a crucial role in cell division, immune function, and collagen synthesis, making it essential for post-surgery healing. Foods rich in zinc include

pumpkin seeds, chickpeas, lean meats, and nuts.

Surgery-induced oxidative stress can delay healing. Antioxidant-rich foods help neutralize free radicals and support immune function. Key antioxidants include Vitamin C (Citrus fruits, bell peppers) for collagen synthesis. Vitamin E (Almonds, sunflower

seeds) for skin and tissue repair. Selenium (Nuts, seafood) for immune enhancement.

A healthy gut microbiome is essential for immune function and reducing post-surgical infections. Probiotics (yoghurt, fermented foods) and prebiotics (garlic, onions, bananas) support digestive health,

improving nutrient absorption and immune resilience.

A well-rounded diet incorporating these functional foods and nutraceuticals can significantly enhance post-surgery recovery. Patients should focus on:

- Hydration: Adequate water intake supports nutrient transport and detoxification.

● **Balanced Macronutrients:** Ensuring an appropriate mix of proteins, healthy fats, and complex carbohydrates.

● **Micronutrient Sufficiency:** Supplementing when necessary to address deficiencies.

Nutraceuticals and functional foods serve as powerful tools in post-surgery

recovery, promoting tissue repair, reducing inflammation, and strengthening the immune system. Before starting any supplement, consult your doctor. Incorporating these evidence-based dietary strategies can optimize healing outcomes and improve overall well-being during the critical post-operative phase.



Is silence really golden?

The group therapy sessions of Dr. Bose had, of late, gained traction among her patients. It developed empathy in them when they heard other stories similar to theirs. That day, when each one had narrated their ordeal, they found multiple stories intertwined intricately. While Anju endured physical abuse by her husband, Savio had stories of his girlfriend emotionally manipulating him, Sneha told how her mother and her sister deserted her during her ordeal while pretending to help and Mahesh expressed anger at his boss for tormenting him and ruining his career. Six other stories followed, each potent enough to turn the room as eerie as a graveyard.

asked them as they settled down after their outpourings. They all came up with answers like 'trauma,' 'ill-treatment,' 'betrayal of trust,' 'cheating,' 'deception' and 'depression.'

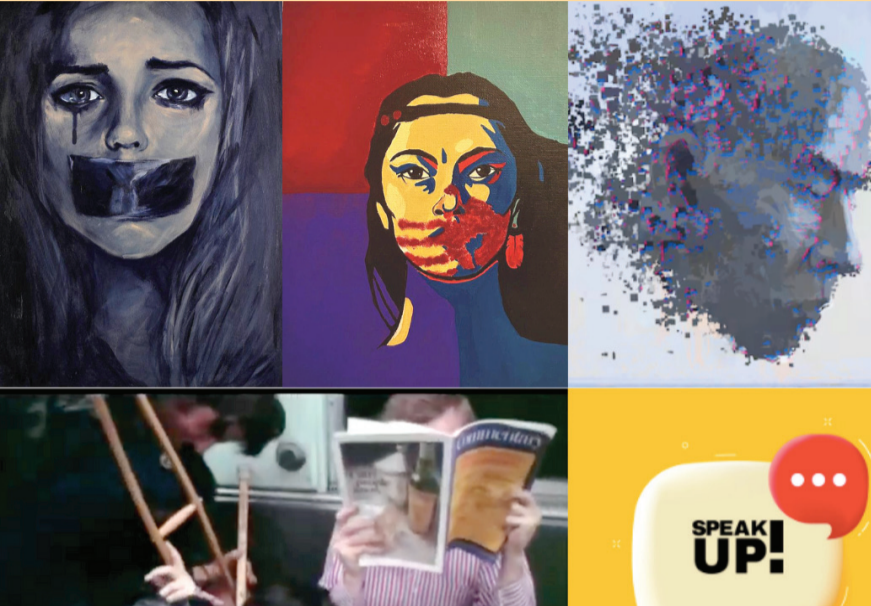
Dr. Bose explained, "Those are all true. But there's a bigger connection. It's silence. There's an idiom: 'Silence is golden.' I say that silence isn't always golden. Silence isn't golden when someone is bothering you or anyone else and you keep quiet. Not golden when someone is cheating you or anyone else and you keep quiet. The long silence that has traumatised each one of you is not golden."

A sense of foreboding overpowered the patients as teary eyes exchanged awkward glances. Many psychoanalysts would have avoided such an ap-



MYSTIC MUSING

RAJESH M. IYER



Remember that silence is not always golden. It's not golden when speaking up would make the difference. Silence must be shattered when injustice takes place, to ourselves and to others.

proach, fearing guilt and self-reproach. Not Dr. Bose, who was known for her unconventional methods.

"But by breaking the silence what you've done is not merely commendable. It's an extraordinary feat," Dr. Bose added, prompting an exchange of reassuring glances.

"However, it's not only your silence while you suffer, but also the silence of others around you that is the issue. The silence of your closest confidant, who tells you to 'bear the

pain,' the silence of your family where everyone is instructed to remain quiet as it involves 'family's reputation,' and the silence of your relatives, colleagues, friends and neighbours who say, 'None of our business, why meddle in others' affairs?'

'From individuals to groups, the society displays sickening apathy, an unbelievable cowardice. People look the other way when injustice is committed. None of them realise that one day they too will

suffer and those around them will turn their heads away exactly like they once did.'

Remember that silence is not always golden. It's not golden when speaking up would make the difference. Silence must be shattered when injustice is happening, to ourselves and to others. If we don't speak for ourselves, injustice will continue to be heaped upon us. And, if we don't speak up for others, they will be quiet when we need them to speak up.

Rudraksha: Divine tears of Lord Shiva

The Origin of Sacred Beads of Rudraksha: As Described in Shrimad Devi Bhagavat Purana



JYOTSNA G BANSAL

Rudraksha as sacred beads, are believed to carry the divine energy of Lord Shiva. Rudraksha, the name itself tells a tale—"Rudra" means Shiva and "Aksha" means tears.

STORY OF ORIGIN OF RUDRAKSHA AS IN PURANS

According to Shrimad Devi Bhagavat-Purana (Gita Press, Gorakhpur), the powerful demon Tripur defeated all the gods, including Brahma and Vishnu. In distress, the gods prayed to Lord Shiva for help. As Lord Shiva meditated for a thousand divine years, tears fell from his eyes, giving birth to Rudraksha trees. From these trees, 38 types of Rudraksha beads emerged for the welfare of all beings by Shiva's divine will.

12 varieties of Kapilacolor Rudraksha beads emerged from Lord Shiva's right eye (the Sun-eye), 16 types of White Rudraksha from His left eye (the Moon-eye) & 10 types of Black Rudraksha from His third eye (the Fire-eye). White Rudraksha is known as

Brahmin type; Red one as Kshatriya; Mixed-colored one as Vaishya and Black one as Shudra type.

The face of a Rudraksha is called Brahma and its upper part (the dot) represents Rudra, lower part or tail, represents Vishnu. Rudraksha grants both material benefits (bhoga) and spiritual liberation (moksha).

While stringing mala, the face of one bead should connect with the face of the next and the tail of one bead should link with that of the next. Sumeru bead's face should be positioned upward, with the Nagapasha placed above it.

A bead that naturally has a hole is considered superior, while one that is drilled to make a hole is of average quality. Rudraksha beads that are uniform, smooth, strong and clearly marked with well-defined lines are considered the best.

TYPES OF RUDRAKSHA

Rudraksha beads are classified based on the number of natural lines or "mukhis" on their surface. Each type of Rudraksha serves a specific purpose and is chosen based on spiritual goals, health needs and/or astrological/numerological requirements.

1-MUKHI RUDRAKSHA

Represents Lord Shiva himself. It balances ego, brings enlightenment, supreme consciousness and detachment



from material desires.

2-MUKHI RUDRAKSHA

Represents the union of Shiva-Shakti (Ardhnarishwar)

Promotes harmony and balance, mental peace, unity, understanding, controls emotional turbulence.

3-MUKHI RUDRAKSHA

Linked to Agni (Fire element).

Known to release past karma and increase confidence, inner strength & self-belief with purification and transformation.

4-MUKHI RUDRAKSHA

Represents Lord Brahma, the creator.

Enhances creativity, clarity in thought & expression, communication, intellectual abilities.

5-MUKHI RUDRAKSHA

Linked to Lord Kalagni Rudra, a form of Shiva.

Most commonly worn Rudraksha, associated with

wisdom, spiritual growth, good health and peace of mind. It balances knowledge and intuition

6-MUKHI RUDRAKSHA

Represents Lord Kartikeya

Promotes love, beauty and material comforts. Enhances willpower, confidence, focus and mental clarity. Balances emotional and physical energies.

7-MUKHI RUDRAKSHA

Linked to Goddess Mahalaxmi.

Brings abundance, wealth and success. Reduces the impact of hardships and stabilizes energy during challenging times. Helps overcome financial issues.

8-MUKHI RUDRAKSHA

Represents Lord Ganesha, the remover of obstacles.

Removes obstacles, provides clarity in decision-making, wisdom and stability in life, protection from negative energies and unexpected challenges.

9-MUKHI RUDRAKSHA

Represents Goddess Durga.

Represents power, courage and spiritual awakening. Provides protection from negativity and aids in overcoming challenges, fears and achieving transformation.

Apart from these there are several other variants of Rudraksha like from 10-Mukhi to 21-Mukhi rudraksha, Gaurishankar Rudraksha, Ganesh Rudraksha which are rare. They hold special spiritual significance with powerful energies and are associated with harmony, wealth, spiritual mastery or divine blessings. By wearing the appropriate bead, one can harmonize planetary influences and promote holistic well-being.

Proper energization and wearing rituals further amplify their benefits & can enhance positive energies and reduce planetary imbalances.

Disclaimer: Please consult a professional astrologer or numerologist before choosing any Rudraksha for wearing purposes, as there are lots of other factors to be considered. Information & the views expressed in this article reflect the author's personal understanding, learning and interpretation from the Vedic scriptures.

Jyotsna G Bansal is a Reiki Grandmaster, Vedic Scholar, Author, Numerologist, Researcher, Counselor, Crystals & Spiritual Guide, Dowsing & Switchwords Practitioner.

Nishkama Karma



P.V. LAXMI PRASAD

In Sanskrit, Nishkam means 'action without motive'. It is selfless service. Work without desire is the motif of this principle.

Nishkama karma is practicing selfless action in everyday life. It is a central theme in the Bhagavad Gita.

An important philosophical concept in Karma yoga, it means to act unselfishly, or without personal gain in mind. In fact, it is a fundamental concept in Hindu philosophy. It focuses on doing something for others and at the same time without expecting any gains in return from them.

This selfless approach to action is rooted in the ancient Indian texts. One of the key principles is detachment from outcomes.

All selfless actions bring rewards and recognition. For example, Nature offers unmeasured fruits to the world.

All flora and fauna are naturally performing actions without expectations. In return, they contribute to the world in different forms. The flowers and fruits that they offer symbolize selfless action in the universe. Man enjoys them. Honeybees produce nectar for mankind without any expectation in return.

The Bhagavad-Gita emphasizes the performance

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of duties in life without any desire for fruits and without attachment, aversion and other selfish emotion. It involves activism—Action is better than inaction.

Life depends upon action. Lord Krishna teaches that performing one's duties without attachment to the results is the essence of Nishkama karma. Nishkama karma involves mastering the senses through mindfulness and offering one's actions to the Divine as a sacred Yajna.

Thus, it becomes altruistic service. The attitude of the person will decide the Karma whether selfish or selfless. Self-reflection, self-intentions, self-awareness prepare one for doing Nishkam karma.

It mandates that volunteer work and daily activities like meditation or exercise without attachment to specific results. The more one is attached the more one becomes selfish.

He looks into material gains all the while. Such actions bring down man and his position. According to Sri Satya Sai Baba,

"Nishkama karma, or selfless service, is the fragrant flower of altruistic love. It is not to be performed for the satisfaction of the person rendering the service or the person at whose bidding it is done. Man should regard Nishkama karma as the purpose for which he is given

life". In Chapter II, Arjuna basically hands over the steering wheel of his mind to the all-powerful Lord Krishna.

This predominantly holds the forceful moral that, "But whoever controls the senses with the mind, O Arjuna, and without attachment, engages the organs of action in the path of work, he is superior".

Voluntary work, selfless service, trust and giving away are the predominant practices. A man feels happy when he gives away something to others which will come to him in the form of rewards.

He who gives will be the happiest man in the world than he who accepts from others. A karma Yogi develops a pure mind and intellect.

He is never affected by such good practices. He remains free from the shackles of birth and death since he performs all actions without any selfishness.

The emphasis is more on detachment rather than attachment. The more one gets detached the more one gets closer to the realization of God. It is non-attachment to all personal actions in life. True happiness lies in serving others. That is Nishkama Karma.

P.V. Laxmi Prasad is the author and editor of 44 well deserved books in English Literature.

'Dalai Lama's Secret to Happiness'

TDG NETWORK

On this once-in-144-years Mahakumbh, a sacred confluence of spirituality and enlightenment, Sadhvi Bhagawati Saraswati launched Dr. Dinesh Shahra's latest book, 'Dalai Lama's Secret to Happiness'. This profound work reflects His Holiness the Dalai Lama's global vision of compassion, inner peace, and universal harmony—values that have deeply inspired Dr. Shahra on his own spiritual journey.

Sadhvi Bhagawati Saraswati, who penned the foreword for the book, praised Dr. Shahra's dedication to spiritual consciousness and his mission to integrate leadership with selfless service. She acknowledged his long-standing association with Parmarth Niketan Ashram and his commitment to promoting wisdom that transcends borders and faiths.

Esteemed leader K. Annamalai was also present for the book launch, adding to the significance of this



The book, 'Dalai Lama's Secret to Happiness,' explores His Holiness's profound insights on attaining true happiness through simplicity, service, and inner fulfillment, offering timeless lessons for seekers across the world.

momentous occasion. Expressing his gratitude, Dr. Dinesh Shahra shared, "The Dalai Lama's teachings on happiness, compassion, and mindfulness have been a guiding force in my life. This book is my humble

tribute to his extraordinary wisdom, which holds the power to transform lives globally. Having Sadhviji launch it at the sacred Mahakumbh makes this moment even more special."

The book, 'Dalai Lama's

Secret to Happiness,' explores His Holiness's profound insights on attaining true happiness through simplicity, service, and inner fulfillment, offering timeless lessons for seekers across the world.

Launched at the Mahakumbh—a historic confluence of faith and spiritual awakening—this book stands as a beacon of wisdom and global unity, bridging the essence of Sanatan and Buddhist traditions in their pursuit of universal peace and enlightenment.

NEW ZEALAND SPRINT TO SEMIS, BANGLADESH ELIMINATED

TDG NETWORK
RAWALPINDI

Rachin Ravindra's sublime century helped New Zealand book their place in the semi-finals of the Champions Trophy with a comfortable five-wicket win over Bangladesh in Rawalpindi.

Rachin Ravindra (112) and Tom Latham (55) have helped New Zealand defeat Bangladesh in a group stage game of the Champions Trophy. It's a result that secures New Zealand's spot in the semis, along with India. It also ends defending champion Pakistan's chances of making it to the semis in an event they're hosting. Bangladesh too are out of the semis race from Group A. For Bangladesh,



Shakib Al Hasan hit a 44-ball 70 against New Zealand on Wednesday

Najmul Hossain Shanto was the top scorer with 77 runs, while Jaker Ali scored 45 as they set a target of 237. New Zealand's hero for the innings was Michael Bracewell, who claimed four wickets.

New Zealand captain Mitchell Santner said at the toss: "We are gonna bowl. It looks a good surface and hopefully, it gets better under lights. We have got two changes. Kyle Jamieson comes in place of Nathan

Smith. Unfortunately, Daryll Mitchell is unwell and Rachin Ravindra replaces him." Bangladesh have picked speedster Nahid Rana for this match. Najmul Shanto said: "I would have bowled first as well

but it looks a pretty good wicket. Batting will not be an issue. We have made two changes. Mahmudullah Riyad & Nahid Rana back into the side in place of Soumya and Sakib."

Playing XIs
New Zealand XI: Devon Conway, Will Young, Kane Williamson, Rachin Ravindra, Tom Latham (wk), Glenn Phillips, Michael Bracewell, Mitchell Santner (c), Matt Henry, Kyle Jamieson, William O'Rourke

Bangladesh XI: Najmul Hossain Shanto (c), Tanzid Hasan, Mehidy Hasan Miraz, Towhid Hridoy, Mushfiqur Rahim (wk), Mahmudullah Riyad, Jaker Ali, Rishad Hossain, Taskin Ahmed, Mustafizur Rahman, Nahid Rana



Mohun Bagan Super Giant players celebrate their win against Odisha FC during Indian Super League 2024-25 match, at Salt Lake Stadium in Kolkata on Sunday. ANI

Veer finishes 67th at Magical Kenya Open despite final round 68

TDG NETWORK
NAIROBI

India's Veer Ahlawat closed the week with a fine 3-under 68 that included an eagle, his second of the week, but he still finished only 67th at the Magical Kenya Open here. His 68 on the final day of the tournament was his best card of the week, which saw him suffer a 6-over 11 in a single hole, the seventh one on the second day. That messed up his tournament.

Ahlawat, who earned a status on the DP World Tour by topping the PGTI Order of Merit, as per the alliance with the Indian body, was the first to tee off on the final day. He played alone and birdied the first, the third and then added an eagle on the fourth. He was four-under through the first holes.

He then had two more birdies against three bogeys



for his 68. South African Jacques Kruswijk claimed his maiden DP World Tour title after an impressive display. He won by two shots. Kruswijk did not put a foot wrong in the final round as he carded four birdies in a sublime 67 to finish two shots clear of Englishman John Parry and reach 18 under par, complete a bogey-free weekend and become the second South African winner of this event since it became part of the DP World Tour's Global Schedule.

The 32-year-old Deon Germishuys was three shots further back in third, one ahead of fellow South African Jayden Schaper in fourth, while Italy's Gregorio de Leo and Englishman Jamie Rutherford, who came agonisingly close to a closing albatross, shared fifth place on 11 under. Kruswijk had to hang in there in the early stages of his round, producing a magnificent par save from ten feet on the third to keep hold of his one-shot lead.

'Kind of been my weakness but...': Virat on his 'catch 22' shot

AGENCIES
DUBAI

India's batting maestro Virat Kohli opened up on his match-winning 82nd international hundred against Pakistan and said how his favourite cover drive shot presents a 'catch 22' situation for him, as it has been his weakness lately but he has also scored a lot of runs with that.

Kohli completed 14,000 runs in ODI cricket, becoming only the third cricketer to do so, during the ICC Champions Trophy match against arch-rivals

Pakistan at the Dubai International Stadium on Sunday.

"It's a 'catch-22'. I mean, it's kind of been my weakness as well over the years, but I've scored a lot of runs on that shot. I think today was just about backing my

shots and I think the first couple of boundaries I got were cover drives on the rise, so I really had to just let it go a little bit and take a bit of risk and follow through with my shots, because when I hit that kind of shots, then I feel in control when I bat out there, so it was a good innings for me personally and it was a great team win," the former India

skipper said in a video posted by Indian Cricket Team on Instagram.

Further in the video, the stalwart batter opened up on batting at number three and said that his main motive at that time is to put his team in the winning position.

"One thing that I've always thought of batting at three is to minimise risk and make sure that I put my team in a winning position and if you have a chance to finish off the game in a chase, obviously, that's much better and I always preferred that kind of a situation, but yeah, my role over the years has remained the same, whatever the demand of the game, I put my head down and try to do that," the 36-year-old player added.

Kohli slammed unbeaten 100 runs off 111 balls, laced with seven fours, was a treat to watch. His knock came at a strike rate of 90.09, helping India easily

chase down Pakistan's total of 241. This was Kohli's sixth century in ICC ODI events and his first in the ICC Champions Trophy.

He is the third batter after Sachin Tendulkar (18,426 runs in 463 ODIs) and Kumar Sangakkara (14,234 runs in 404 matches) to reach the landmark. In 299 ODIs, Kohli has scored 14,085 runs at an average of 58.20, with 51 centuries and 73 fifties.

Coming to the India-Pakistan Champions Trophy clash, Pakistan won the toss and elected to bat first.

Pakistan was off to a fine start, with Babar Azam (23 in 26 balls, with five fours) unleashing some fine drives in the 41-run opening partnership.

After two quick wickets, Pakistan was 47/2. Skipper Mohammed Rizwan (46 in 77 balls, with three fours) and Saud Shakeel (62 in 76 balls, with five fours) had a 104-run partnership, but they took up a lot of deliveries. After the end of this part-

nership, Khushdil Shah (38 in 39 balls, with two sixes) did put up a fight with Salman Agha (19) and Naseem Shah (14), but they were bundled out for 241 runs in 49.4 overs.

Chasing 242 runs, India lost skipper Rohit Sharma (20 in 15 balls, with three fours and a six) early.

Goalkeeper Savita joins elite club with 300th international cap

TDG NETWORK
BHUBANESWAR



Hockey India congratulated Indian women's hockey team goalkeeper Savita Punia on completing 300 international caps on Monday.

The Arjuna Awardee achieved this landmark during India's match against the Netherlands in the FIH Hockey Pro League 2024/25 at the Kalinga Hockey Stadium in Bhubaneswar, Odisha. Savita now joins Vandana Katariya as one of only two Indian women to have played 300 international matches.

Savita is only the second Indian goalkeeper, male or female, to achieve this feat after the legendary PR Sreejesh. A stalwart of Indian hockey, Savita made her senior team debut at the age of 20 and has since established herself as one of the finest goalkeepers in the world.

She played a key role in India's historic fourth-place finish at the Tokyo Olympics, a campaign that elevated the team's global stature. Her experience also proved invaluable in the Rio Olympics 2016 and the 2018 Vitality Hockey Women's World Cup, where India reached the Quarter-Finals. Savita has led India to remarkable achievements as captain, including a bronze medal at the 2022 Birmingham Commonwealth Games and a title-winning campaign at the FIH Nations Cup. Under her leadership, India also clinched back-to-back gold medals in the Women's Asian Champions Trophy in 2023 and 2024. Recognized for her outstanding contributions, Savita was honoured with the Arjuna Award and has twice received the Hockey India Balbir Singh Senior Award for Player of the Year (2022, 2023).

Her excellence between the posts has also earned her the FIH Goalkeeper of the Year award for three consecutive seasons (2020-21, 2021-22, 2022-23).

Savita expressed her emotions on the milestone, as quoted from HI, "Playing 300 matches for India is an incredibly special moment for me. It has been an unforgettable journey. I am deeply grateful to Hockey India, Sports Authority of India, my family, teammates, and support staff who have stood by me throughout.



Social media flooded with memes after Pak defeat

TDG NETWORK
ISLAMABAD

Following the defeat against arch-rivals India in the ongoing ICC Champions Trophy 2025 at the Dubai International Stadium, fans of the Pakistan Cricket Team expressed disappointment following their team's loss.

In a thrilling match at the ongoing marquee event, Indian legend Virat Kohli stole the show with a brilliant century, leading Men in Blue to a four-wicket victory over Pakistan. "We had a lot of hopes from our team that they will play well. We thought that they would



reach a score of at least 315, but they did not even reach 250.

Even if we lost, they should have at least stopped Kohli's century. If they could not bat

well, they could have saved the match by bowling properly. I request the PCB to give a chance to new faces so that our team may improve...." a fan said.

Another Pakistani fan said that the team should train better to improve their fielding.

"The performance was very poor even in fielding.

They should undergo better training, and there should be some accountability for playing with the sentiments of the people....," another fan said.

Sneha Singh tees up in 4th leg with an eye on hat-trick of wins on Hero WPGT

TDG NETWORK
MUMBAI

Sneha Singh will attempt a hat-trick of wins as she tees up in the fourth leg of the Hero Women's Pro Golf Tour at the Bombay Presidency Golf Club on Tuesday. The Hyderabad girl, who plans to play events in Europe this summer, won the second and the third legs of the 2025 season and leads the Hero Order of Merit with two wins and one fifth place finish in three starts.

Sneha, who now has 10 wins on the Hero WPGT, was a convincing winner in the third leg and hopes to carry on with the same form. Sneha is trying to emulate Vidhatri Urs, who won the 10th, 11th and 12th legs of the Tour in 2024. The strong field of 40 players,



including six amateurs, has multiple winners like Vani Kapoor, who was runner-up last week, Hitaashee Bakshi, winner of the Order of Merit in 2024, Amandeep Drall, Jasmine Shekar, Rhea Purvi Saravanan, Ridhima Dilawari, Gaurika Bishnoi and Neha Tripathi among others.

The six amateurs include Mannat Brar, Saanvi Somu, Anuradha Chaudhuri, Keerthana Rajeev, Aradhana Manikandan and Bhuvika Bhise. The fourth leg being held at the Bombay Presidency Golf Club carries a prize purse of Rs 16 lakhs.